

**Bassetlaw Landscape Character Assessment
Magnesian Limestone Ridge: ML PZ 10**

Magnesian Limestone Ridge

Policy Zone 10: Worksop

POLICY: CREATE

Character Summary

The area lies between Worksop and Shireoaks. Chesterfield Canal follows the southern boundary, the A57 cuts through in the east and crosses the railway line from Mansfield which connects to the Sheffield to Lincoln line running along the northern boundary of the Policy Zone. Rhodesia lies at its south-eastern tip.

Generally the topography of the area is dictated by a former spoil heap which has created a rounded landform of engineered appearance within an otherwise flat landscape. The spoil heap rises from 45m to 79m and dominates most views.

The spoil heap occupies most of the area. This has been restored, with young woodland plantation, scrub and rough grassland present. Infrastructure features prominently immediately to the east by way of the railway and the A57. Tranker Wood [SINC] exists at the eastern corner and extends eastwards beyond the Policy Zone boundary.

Magnesian Limestone Ridge – Policy Zone 10: Worksop

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

Policy Zone: ML PZ 10
Land Cover Parcel[s]: ML13

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESTORE & CREATE	RESTORE

Low Moderate High

Sensitivity

CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES

- Former spoil heap, now restored and planted.
- Railway and A57 bisecting the area.
- Utilitarian industrial units.
- Tranker Wood [SINC].

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Condition

The landscape condition is very poor. There is an incoherent pattern of elements with many detracting features, including a spoil heap, a railway line, the A57 and industry. Overall this results in an area that is **significantly interrupted**.

A former spoil heap dominates the area therefore the historic field pattern no longer exists. Though it generally has an engineered appearance it has been restored and planted which is still establishing. Both the railway and the A57 cut through the Policy Zone interrupting the landscape east of the tip, industry flanks the railway and A57. The overall cultural integrity is considered **poor**.

Tranker Wood [SINC], mature deciduous woodland, encroaches into the area from the east, however the majority lies outside the Policy Zone boundary. The ecological integrity is described as **moderate** though the habitat for wildlife/functional integrity is **weak**. A visually significantly interrupted area with a weak functional integrity results in a very **poor landscape condition** overall.

Sensitivity

Features which give the area local distinctiveness are **characteristic** of the Magnesian Limestone region and the continuity/time depth is **recent** [50 years] giving a **weak** sense of place.

The **dominant** landform of the spoil heap creates a **high** visibility. A **weak** sense of place combined with **high** visibility results in **moderate landscape sensitivity** overall.

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition

Very Poor

Pattern of Elements:	Incoherent
Detracting Features:	Many
Visual Unity:	Significantly Interrupted
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Poor
Functional Integrity:	Weak

Sensitivity

Moderate

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Recent
Sense of Place:	Weak
Landform:	Dominant
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	High

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS

Create

Landscape Features

- **Create** new hedgerows where possible, along roads and railway lines, replace post and wire fencing with hedgerows as necessary.
- Enhance tree cover and landscape planting generally to **create** increased visual unity and connectivity across the Policy Zone.
- Create limestone grassland habitats where appropriate.
- Conserve Tranker Wood and **create** enhancements as appropriate.

Built Features

- **Create** small scale woodland and tree planting to contain and soften industrial development adjacent to the railway and A57 and potential future development within the Policy Zone.