

Sherwood

Policy Zone 31: Worksop

POLICY: CONSERVE

Character Summary

The area lies south of Worksop and predominantly east of the B6034 which forms part of the western boundary. Clumber Park is located immediately to the east. The A57 cuts through the north-eastern section of the Policy Zone. The Sheffield to Lincoln railway line runs east to west through Worksop north of the area.

Topographically the Policy Zone is gently undulating with low rounded hills. Higher ground is in the west, sloping down towards the east. The landscape affords medium distance views with frequent wooded skylines, being more enclosed in wooded areas. The Policy Zone is contained by coniferous plantations at the east, south and west. Northward, views are restricted by scrub upon the restored slopes of Manton Colliery [beyond the Policy Zone boundary], this also filters views of the urban edge of Worksop.

The area is dominated by interlocking blocks of woodland with some parkland [Welbeck] and arable fields both irregular and geometric. There is also some pasture adjacent to the Poulter valley. Broadleaved woodlands generally comprise oak, birch, sweet chestnut, hornbeam and yew, the mixed woodlands are dominated by Scots pine with birch. Hedgerow field boundaries are fragmented overall, some isolated hedgerow trees are apparent, post and wire fencing has been used to delineate the field pattern where hedgerows no longer exist.

Two golf courses are evident; Worksop Golf Course in the north [includes a SINC], and College Pines Golf Course in the west. Worksop College is an impressive architectural feature within the landscape, mature trees are evident within the grounds.

Sherwood – Policy Zone 31: Worksop

PHOTOGRAPH



CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES

- Mixed Scots pine and birch woodland blocks.
- Single species (Scots pine/birch) woodland blocks/plantations.
- Worksop College and grounds.
- Welbeck Parkland.
- Worksop Golf Course and College Pines Golf Course.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Condition

The landscape condition is **very good** with a coherent pattern of elements. There are few detracting features, the main one being individual dwellings along Ollerton Road which are not characteristic of the region. The Policy Zone is a **visually unified** area.

Much of the historic field pattern has been lost, where hedgerows exist around the arable land they are generally strong and well maintained although some are gappy. Hedgerows have been replaced by post and wire fencing where the land is grazed. Welbeck Park also falls within the Policy Zone, boasting parkland trees of mainly oak species. Worksop College is an impressive red brick building in the area, other buildings include farmhouses and cottages of both red brick and stone construction. There is no evidence of recent development. The cultural integrity is considered **good**.

Intensity of landuse is relatively low, the majority being mixed woodland [Scots pine and birch with some oak and hawthorn] with heathland understorey, and some commercial plantations of Scots pine and blocks of birch woodland. In general the woodland shows evidence of management, with felling of mature trees and planting of new trees. Two designated SINCS fall within the Policy Zone; Top Wood/Great Whin Covert and Coach Road Plantation and Kidney Clump. There is some intensive arable farmland along the fringes of the plantations and some small scale pastoral areas used for horse grazing. The ecological integrity is described as **moderate** which gives a **strong** habitat for wildlife/functional integrity. A **visually unified** area with a **strong** functional integrity gives a **very good landscape condition**.

Sensitivity

Worksop College and isolated farms are some of the features which give the area local distinctiveness and are **characteristic** of the Sherwood region and the continuity/time depth is **historic** [post 1600] giving a **moderate** sense of place.

Moderate visibility is afforded due to the enclosed nature of the Policy Zone. The landform has been assessed as **dominant**. A **moderate** sense of place combined with **moderate** visibility results in **moderate landscape sensitivity** overall.

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS

Conserve

Landscape Features

- **Conserve** the remaining historic field pattern, restoring hedgerow boundaries where necessary. Create new hedgerows to replace post and wire fencing.
- **Conserve** and enhance the wooded character of the area, in particular the single species blocks.
- Seek opportunities to create areas of heathland where appropriate.

Built Features

- **Conserve** the rural character of the landscape by concentrating new development to the north of the Policy Zone/southern fringe of Worksop.
- Contain new development within existing field boundaries.
- **Conserve** the character and architectural style of Worksop College and ensure this is respected in any new development.
- **Conserve** and protect the historic character and setting of Welbeck Park and its boundaries.
- **Conserve** the local built vernacular of red brick/stone construction in new development.

CONTEXT

Policy Zone: S PZ 31
Land Cover Parcel[s]: S37, S38, S67

Condition

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

Low

Moderate

High

Sensitivity

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition

Very Good

Pattern of Elements: Coherent

Detracting Features: Few

Visual Unity: Unified

Ecological Integrity: Moderate

Cultural Integrity: Good

Functional Integrity: Strong

Sensitivity

Moderate

Distinctiveness: Characteristic

Continuity: Historic

Sense of Place: Moderate

Landform: Dominant

Extent of Tree Cover: Enclosed

Visibility: Moderate