

S PZ 37 Hodsock Estatelands with plantations

Policy: Create

Character Summary

This is an area of gently undulating landform the highest point of which is 71 metres sloping down to valley of the River Ryton to the north and south of the LCP.

Views are open to surrounding wooded skylines from the higher areas, views are enclosed by landform in the lower valley areas and views to the west are enclosed by Worksop.

Land use is mainly intensive arable production of cereal crops with a medium to large geometric field pattern. A large golf course is located to the west of Worksop; a network of bridleways and agricultural tracks crosses the area. Bassetlaw District Council depot and yard, a working sand and gravel quarry, a disused sand and gravel quarry used as a household waste recycling centre, caravan storage and sales warehousing for lorry storage are all located on the B6045. There are isolated farms and isolated residential properties through out the LCP. Woodlands consist of plantations and shelter belts with small mixed woodland patches to steeper slopes.

Large coniferous plantation woodlands include Fifty Acres Wood and other small deciduous woodlands which include Beech, Sycamore, Oak, Birch, and Sweet Chestnut. Roadside hedgerows are well maintained mostly Hawthorn with Elder, Holly and heathy species to the base. Field boundary hedgerows are predominantly Hawthorn with some hedgerow trees including Oak. There are patches of heathland vegetation along trackways and non-native planting to the golf course.

The field pattern present in the Sanderson pattern is still recognisable but there has been removal of intervening hedgerows. Woodland boundaries are substantially the same but Fifty Acres Wood has expanded from its original boundary and been infilled with conifer plantation.

There are a number of listed buildings in the area around Hodsock but the development along the B6045 is recent.

Threats to the LCP include further loss of the historic field pattern due to agricultural expansion and further encroachment of coniferous plantations into farmland.

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PHOTOGRAPH



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Medium to large geometric field pattern
- Open views of wooded ridgelines from high points of LCP
- Coniferous plantation woodlands and shelter belts
- Small deciduous woodlands
- Low cut Hawthorn hedgerows
- Gently undulating topography
- Isolated brick built farms and estate cottages
- Straight roads with grass verges
- Patches of heathland vegetation particularly along lanes and trackways

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The condition of the PZ is assessed as **very poor**. The pattern of elements is **Incoherent**, and there are **many** detracting features along the B6045 such as disused and an active sand and gravel extraction site, warehousing and storage sheds, large caravan sales park and other light industrial uses many with tall palisade security fences Overall this gives a **significantly visually interrupted** area.

The cultural integrity is described as **variable** as there are limited cultural features but the overall pattern is reminiscent of the Sanderson Plan although much of the plantation planting within the woodland boundaries is recent. A golf course is a recent feature. In ecological terms this area forms a **moderate** network for wildlife There are 4 Bio SINC sites - Carlton sand quarry; Long Wood, Hodsock; Kegham End Plantation and Hundred Acre Wood; and a heathland register site - Red Barn disused sand pit which overall gives a **coherent** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife.

A **strongly visually interrupted** area with a **coherent** functional integrity/habitat for wildlife gives a **very poor** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

The sensitivity of the PZ is assessed as **Moderate**. There are a number of listed buildings around Hodsock but more recent development does not respect the vernacular character. Although features on the Sanderson map of 1835 is still recognisable many internal hedgerow boundaries have been removed. This area has features that are **characteristic** of the Sherwood LCA and of an **historic** time depth (Post 1600), overall the sense of place is **moderate**.

The landform is **apparent** with **intermittent** woodland giving a **moderate** visibility both in and out of the area.

A **moderate** sense of place with a **moderate** visibility leads to a **moderate** Landscape sensitivity.

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS - Create

Landscape Features

- Identify opportunities for new tree and woodland planting on suitable sites
- Identify opportunities for heathland creation where appropriate
- Promote measures for enhancing the ecological diversity of new and existing woodlands

Built Features

- Protect the sparsely settled and undeveloped character of the landscape concentrating new development to the north-east of the Policy Zone
- Screen existing development on B6045
- Create areas of woodland to contain and soften new development preferably in advance of development

CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Estatelands with Plantations
Policy Zone: S PZ 37
Land Cover Parcel: 61 and 65

Condition

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

Low Moderate High

Sensitivity

Where one criterion is 'very poor' this pushes the policy description into the next highest category.

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition **Very Poor**

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

Sensitivity **Moderate**

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Apparent
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	Moderate