

S PZ 57 Gamston Airport Village Farmlands Policy: Conserve and Create

Character Summary

The LCP has a gently undulating landform rising from east to west. The southern area on which Gamston Airport is located is much flatter. Distant views are contained by the undulating land form. There are distant views to the east as far as the Trent Valley. Land use is predominately intensive arable farming, mainly oil seed rape and cereals. The other mainland use is the airfield to the south which is surrounded by light industrial and commercial uses to its perimeter. There are several small woodlands, many dating back to at least 1835, with Oak as the dominant species; the exception being Eaton Bogs Wood which is more mixed species. Roadside hedgerows are generally dense and well maintained, consisting of Hawthorn with isolated standard trees including Oak and Sycamore. There are some areas of mixed species hedgerow on Ollerton Road and along farm tracks. Field boundary hedgerows are more variable in quality and mainly Hawthorn.

The only residential property in the LCP is the isolated Eaton Brecks Farm which is of vernacular style. The airport buildings are of recent development. The historic pattern present on the Sanderson Plan has been removed to the south due to the development of the airfield. To the centre and north many hedgerows have been removed, although the historic pattern is still recognisable. Threats to the area include the expansion of the airport and its associated development, agricultural intensification, further removal of woodland or additional coniferous woodland, or additional biomass planting.

S PZ 57 Gamston Airfield Village Farmlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES

- Gently rolling topography
- Airfield with associated infrastructure and commercial and light industrial development to perimeter
- Medium to large-scale semi-irregular field pattern
- Small deciduous woodlands
- Hawthorn road and field boundary hedgerows
- Views framed by rising ground and woodland edges

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **moderate**.

The PZ has a **coherent** pattern of elements with **some** detracting features. These include light industrial and commercial development around the perimeter of the airfield, and the airfield itself with its associated infrastructure. Overall the PZ is **visually coherent**.

The area consists mainly of small fragments of deciduous woodland surrounded by intensively farmed arable fields, used for cereal and oil seed rape production. There is a good network of hedgerows providing connectivity of habitats and a **moderate** network for wildlife.

Cultural integrity is **variable**. The field pattern present in the Sanderson Plan is still recognisable to the north but there has been some hedgerow removal. Most of the woodlands on the Sanderson plan are still present, and they have remained deciduous rather than being infilled with conifers. To the south of the PZ the historic pattern and a larger woodland has been obliterated by the development of the airfield.

A **moderate** ecological integrity with a **variable** cultural integrity gives a **coherent** functional integrity/habitat for wildlife. A **visually coherent** area with a **coherent** functional integrity/habitat for wildlife gives a **moderate** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **moderate**.

The elements of which the PZ is composed are characteristic of the Sherwood LCA and although there are recent features, such as the airfield development, overall the time depth is historic. The area has a **moderate** sense of place.

The landform of the area is **apparent** and the tree cover including hedgerows is **intermittent** giving a **moderate** visibility in and out of the area. There are longer distance views to the east including into the Trent Valley. Views to the north, south and west are more contained by landform. There are long distance views to the south from Gamston Airport.

A **moderate** sense of place with a **moderate** visibility gives a **moderate** sensitivity.

ACTIONS – Conserve and Create

Landscape Features

- **Conserve** hedgerows, **creating** new sections where these are gappy and in poor condition. Seek opportunities to restore historic field pattern/boundaries where these have been lost and introduce more hedgerow trees.
- **Create** tree and woodland planting as a means of enhancing the structure and unity of the landscape.
- **Create** heathland creation where appropriate.

Built Features

- **Conserve** the distinctive vernacular character of existing farm buildings.
- **Conserve** the sparsely settled character of the landscape by concentrating new development around Gamston Airfield.
- **Create** new woodland planting to contain and soften new development preferably in advance of development.

CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Village Farmlands

Policy Zone: S PZ 57

Land Cover Parcel: S 57

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Moderate	CREATE	RESTORE & CREATE	RESTORE
Poor			
	Low	Moderate	High
	Sensitivity		

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition

Moderate

Pattern of Elements: Coherent

Detracting Features: Some

Visual Unity: Coherent

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