

THE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER OF DERBYSHIRE

APPENDIX 2: PLANTING AND MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

'Planting and Management Guidelines' for both trees and woodland have been included at the end of each Landscape Character Type (LCT) description. These have been developed to give stakeholders an overview of tree and woodland character by LCT with some guidance relating to new planting proposals. The species lists have been produced utilising Derbyshire Wildlife Trust's 'Habitat Creation Guide'. Some of the terms and expressions used in these guidelines are set out in greater detail below, including some of the definitions.

Woodland Size

In order to apply some clarity and consistency to the size of new woodlands throughout Derbyshire, existing and proposed woodland is classified in the following size range:

- Small - 0 to 10 hectares
- Medium - 10 to 25 hectares
- Large - 25 to 50 hectares
- Very Large - >50 hectares

Woodland Pattern

Woodland patterns i.e. the typical shape or outline of woodlands is also an important factor in defining the character and perceptions of woodlands. Woodland pattern has generally been defined in the following ways:

- **Organic Woodlands** that tend to have irregular outlines often associated with natural topographical features or field patterns that themselves have irregular shapes. These are woodland patterns associated with landscapes with a high percentage of ancient semi-natural woodland, often with early enclosures created by woodland assarts (i.e. fields created from woodland clearance).
- **Regular Woodlands** that tend to have regular shaped outlines. These often occur within a planned landscape like those associated with Parliamentary enclosure or estate ownership.
- **Linear Woodlands** that tend to be long, narrow and particularly associated with other linear features such as rivers or steep valley sides. Wet woodland often has a linear character associated with the river corridor.

'Woodland and Tree Character' within the context of this report is an all-encompassing expression for each LCT and relates to the presence or absence of trees,

depending upon an area's defining characteristics. This is important when considering the vision statement and particularly in those landscapes where trees and woodland is not a key characteristic.

Subsequently it is hoped to produce a more detailed tree and woodland strategy, which will deal in more detail with these issues and consider what aspects of the 'Woodland and Tree Character' are to be conserved, enhanced or restored/recreated.

It is important to use locally sought native plants (local provenance) to conserve genetic characteristics. Locally sourced trees and shrubs will be better adapted to local soil and weather conditions.

Glossary of Terms (for woodland and tree character)

Amenity Trees - tree groups and small shelter belts associated with settlement

Dense or Densely Scattered - regularly occurring in the landscape to form a prominent feature

Hedgerow Trees - trees that occur along a hedgerow, through self-regeneration, planting or management

Localised or Occasional - trees/woodlands do occur but generally an open and unwooded landscape

Open/unwooded or Unwooded - occurring in upland regions or along river corridors, where shallow soils or heavy waterlogged soil or management practices inhibit woodland growth

Plantation - planned woodland often block shaped with a regular outline

Scattered or Thinly Scattered - variable or sparsely occurring in the landscape to form a noticeable feature

Treeless - occurring in upland regions where shallow soils or heavy waterlogged soil or management practices inhibit tree growth

Watercourse Trees - Trees that occur along a stream or river

Wet Woodland - a rare woodland habitat that occurs on soils prone to waterlogging

Widespread - extending over a wide area to create a strongly wooded character

Woodland - organic, with an irregular shape and outline, often associated with broadleaf semi-natural woodland including ancient woodland