

APPENDIX ONE: POLICY REVIEW

SUMMARY TABLE

	Economic Growth & Tourism	Health, Well being & Quality of Life	Climate Change	Social Inclusion & Community Cohesion	Accessibility of open spaces & PROW	Biodiversity & Culture	Promotes the provision of Green Infrastructure	Community Involvement	Relevant Policies / Comments
National									
<i>Securing the Future: The UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy, 2005</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	The integrated planning and delivery of green infrastructure and its functions are central to pursuing the four shared priorities of this document: 1) Sustainable Consumption & Production 2) Climate Change & Energy 3) Natural Resource Protection & Environmental Enhancement 4) Sustainable Communities
<i>Sustainable Communities: People, Places & Prosperity, ODPM, 2005</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Sustainable communities should be places where people want to live and work, now and in the future. The role of green infrastructure as high-quality, multi-functional physical environment is therefore considered to be an important factor in making somewhere a good place to live.
<i>Living Places, Cleaner, Safer, Greener, ODPM, 2002</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	- High quality green spaces encourage people to pursue healthier lifestyles. - Community involvement with public space schemes is essential and sustainable. - Good parks and green spaces make neighbourhoods, towns and cities attractive and appealing as well as supporting healthy living and fostering community pride and community cohesion.
<i>The Countryside In and Around Towns, Countryside Agency, 2005</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	The ten functions of Countryside in and Around Towns relate to the importance of green infrastructure.
<i>The State of the Countryside 2005, Commission for Rural Communities</i>	✓								Recreation and leisure – positive economic benefits, encourages people to be more active.
<i>The UK Forestry Standard: The Government's Approach to Sustainable Forestry, Forestry Commission & Forest Service, 2004</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	Standard Notes: 2,3 &6 -It is worthwhile involving the community in the planning and maintenance of a woodland. - When siting new community woodlands, give preference to sites with safe access that are within easy walking distance of where people come from.
<i>UK Forestry Standard: The Government's Approach to Sustainable Forestry, Forestry Commission, 2000</i>	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		Four key programmes of the Strategy: 1) Forestry for Rural Development 2) Forestry for Economic Regeneration 3) Forestry for Recreation, Access & Tourism 4) Forestry for the Environment & Conservation
<i>PPG17: Planning for open space, sport & recreation, 2002</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		Open spaces, sport and recreation all underpin people's quality of life. Well designed and implemented planning policies for open space, sport and recreation are fundamental to delivering the following Government objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting an urban renaissance • Supporting a rural renewal

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									<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotion of social inclusion & community cohesion Health & well-being Promoting more sustainable development
<i>Woodland – its contribution to Sustainable Development and the Quality of Life, Woodland Trust</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			Benefits of woodland: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity values Carbon sequestration Forest landscape & recreation Air pollution & flood alleviation Health benefits Education & employment Cultural history Rural development Social inclusion Urban regeneration Rehabilitation of derelict land
Regional									
<i>Sustainable Communities in the East Midlands, ODPM, 2003</i>							✓		- We see a continuing role for Green Belts and green wedges. - Community forests have started to make a difference in creating new identities in areas which suffer from multiple deprivation. -We will also improve public parks and green spaces through the New Opportunities Fund Green Spaces scheme and Heritage Lottery funding of which £33.5m is currently allocated for projects in the region.
<i>England’s East Midlands Integrated Regional Strategy, EMRA, 2005</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	Environmental objective: to enhance and conserve the environmental quality of the region by increasing the environmental infrastructure.
<i>Regional Spatial Strategy for the East Midlands, GOEM, 2005</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		Policies 27, 28, 29, 31, 32 & 36
<i>Regional Economic Strategy, Consultation Draft, EMDA, 2006</i>	✓	✓				✓	✓		Priority Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect Green Infrastructure Environmental Protection Improve Damaged Environments
<i>Regional Environment Strategy, EMRA, 2002</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		Policies ENV4 & ENV13
<i>SMARTgrowth: The Midlands Way, EMDA & AWM, 2005</i>	✓	✓					✓		One of the three action proposals is Renaissance which is defined as “to manage our urban environments and their rural hinterlands to develop a range of high quality, vibrant, attractive environments which are enjoyable places to live and are sustainable”.

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<i>Space4Trees, Regional Forestry Framework for East Midlands, FC, 2005</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	Four priority areas of this framework are: 1. Trees and People 2. Trees and the Environment 3. Trees and the Economy 4. Communication & Collaboration Within these is a regional priority to develop 'Green infrastructure'.
<i>Putting Wildlife Back on the Map, the East Midlands Biodiversity Strategy, EMBF & EMRA, 2004</i>	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	Chapter 8 is titled 'Sustainable Communities and Green Infrastructure' with the latter explicitly linked to quality of life indicators, community engagement, business and industry, tourism and recreation, amongst others.
<i>Destination East Midlands: The East Midlands Tourism Strategy, EMDA, 2003</i>	✓						✓		"Greenscape" is the theme of this strategy which recognises the importance of the environment to tourism development. Habitat restoration and seeking to enhance existing wildlife areas is seen as a major stimulus for sustainable development of tourism in the region.
<i>The Importance of Green Spaces to East Midlands Communities, English Nature, 2004</i>		✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	Participants in Leicester believed they should be involved in planning their local environment and the implementation of green projects. A key point from the discussion was that there are many social, mental and physical benefits that can be derived from access to nature and green spaces.
<i>Smart Growth, the Midlands Way, EMDA, AWM, 2005</i>							✓		Objective: to manage our urban environments and their rural hinterlands to develop a range of high quality, vibrant, attractive environments, which are enjoyable places to live in and are sustainable,
<i>Investment for Health, A Public Health Strategy for the East Midlands, EMRA, 2003</i>		✓			✓				The provision of safe recreational spaces within a community and easy affordable access to countryside and wildlife areas are important contributors to mental and social well being. Creating environments which are safe to exercise, such as green open spaces, cycleways and secure footpaths, particularly in regeneration areas.
<i>Change 4 Sport in England's East Midlands, A Regional Plan for Sport 2004 to 2008</i>		✓					✓	✓	People want clean, green, safe & healthy communities. Sport can play an important role in community-based initiatives to promote this.
<i>East Midlands Urban Action Plan 2005-2011, Urban Partnership Group</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			The countryside in and around towns can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be made readily accessible to most people • Contribute to the health, wealth and well-being of urban and rural communities • Underpin more sustainable living • Strengthen biodiversity in both town and country. Reference is also made to the government funded 'Green Infrastructure Pilot Project'.
<i>East Midlands Rural Delivery Framework, Consultation</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	The East Midlands Rural Delivery Framework identifies 7 rural priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving access to affordable rural housing • Increasing the quality of the region's green areas

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<i>Draft, GOEM, 2006</i>									<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving enterprise, innovation and employment opportunities Improving accessibility to jobs and services Developing active communities Supporting existing land-based and other rural business, and adapting to economic change Addressing climate change <p>Objective 3.3.2: Green Infrastructure is an essential component for creating sustainable communities.</p>
<i>East Midlands Rural Action Plan, Consultation Draft, EMRAF, 2006</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	<p>Overarching vision is that by 2013 rural areas within the region are “a vibrant place for people to live, work and visit, with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a thriving rural economy quality services, accessible to all a high quality environment sustainable and inclusive communities” <p>In order to achieve the vision, 7 priority actions are detailed within the document - the actions are directly related to the 7 rural priorities listed within the East Midlands Rural Delivery Framework (see above)</p>
County									
<i>Biodiversity Challenge: An Action Plan for Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland, Leicester & Rutland Wildlife Trust, 2002</i>						✓			
<i>Cultural Strategy 2003-2008, Love Leicestershire, LCC, 2003</i>		✓				✓	✓		Consultees said that the cultural aspects of Leicestershire that they want to see enhanced include the natural environment, country parks and allotments.
<i>Draft Leicestershire Rural Strategy 2004-2009, LCC, Feb 2004</i>					✓		✓		The strategy will promote and support measures that will enable sustainable access to the countryside, particularly where this will secure additional cross sector benefits.
<i>Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Landscape and Woodland Strategy, LCC, 2001</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One of the three main objectives is to identify appropriate opportunities for new woodland planting to increase the woodland cover of the Strategy area. Chapter 6 identifies new woodland planting as an objective for all character areas. Reference is made to the Stepping Stones Countryside Management Project and the possibility of developing a community forest within the countryside around Leicester to help increase woodland cover in the Strategy area (Strategic Objective 2, Guideline 2).
<i>The Leicester Urban Fringe Countryside Management Project, Project</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	Policy: Increase the area of woodland cover within the project area linking with plans for the National Forest where appropriate.

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<i>Strategy, 1995</i>									
<i>Improving life in Leicestershire, Consultation Draft, LCC, 2005</i>	✓	✓				✓	✓		- Key priorities are to improve quality of life in communities in relation to culture, leisure and the environment, and to enhance the county's museums and country parks. - Local people to have a say in planning the future of their community,
<i>Rights of Way Improvement Plan, Consultation Draft for Leicestershire 2006-2011</i>					✓				
<i>Leicestershire Community Strategy 2005-2008, LCC</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	The people of Leicestershire want access to the countryside, green spaces, biodiversity and built heritage to be conserved and enhanced.
<i>Leicestershire, Leicester & Rutland Structure Plan 2004-2009, adopted 7 March 2005</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓		Strategy Policy 5 Environment Policies 2 & 5
<i>Leicestershire Together Local Area Agreement, Draft Feb 2006</i>		✓				✓	✓		Local Area Agreement outcomes are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthier communities • Safer communities • Cleaner & greener communities
<i>Strategic Overview of Leicestershire's Environment, ENBLE, 2004</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		The landscape is an important component of local identity as well as a valuable resource for public recreation, tourism and the conservation of biodiversity. The maintenance of diverse and distinctive local landscapes is beneficial for social well being, biodiversity, economic regeneration and recreation.
Local									
<i>Leicester Environment Strategy, Leicester Environment Partnership, 2004</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	Aims 6.2, 7.2 & 7.3
<i>Charnwood Wildlife Biodiversity Action Plan, 1999</i>						✓			
<i>Harborough District Local Plan, adopted 5 April 2001, Harborough District Council</i>					✓	✓	✓		Policies EV/1 and EV/2
<i>Charnwood Borough Local Plan, 2004</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		Policies ST/1, ST/3, EV/18, EV/18, EV/24, EV/25 & RT/14.

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<i>Oadby and Wigston Local Plan 1999</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To maintain and promote the provision of green areas within the Local Plan area and to encourage ecological diversity. To safeguard and improve access to the countryside and green wedges
<i>Hinckley and Bosworth Local Plan, 2001</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓		Strategic Objectives: 3,4 & 6 Policies BE19, NE3, NE9, NE10, REC9 & REC26
<i>Blaby District Local Plan, 1999</i>	✓				✓	✓	✓		Policy C3
<i>The City of Leicester Local Plan, adopted January 2006</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	Policies GE03, GE05 & GE08.
<i>City of Leicester Climate Change Policy, Leicester Partnership, Leicester Environment Partnership, 2003</i>			✓				✓		Objectives 10 & 11.
<i>Green Space Strategy, Charnwood Borough Council, 2004</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		Green space provision can contribute to public policy across a range of cross cutting issues, notably: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health and well being Heritage and culture Environment and ecology Education and life long learning Crime and disorder Urban regeneration, economic development and tourism Social inclusion, community development and citizenship/
<i>Oadby and Wigston Green Wedge Strategy</i>					✓	✓	✓		The Stepping Stones Countryside Management Project represents a partnership that aims to improve access for all, enhance the environment, improve people's awareness and encourage community participation in the countryside and around Leicester.