

APPENDIX ONE

LANDSCAPE TYPOLOGY ANALYSIS

Purpose

The land-use typology map, Figure 20, has been prepared to provide a robust foundation to inform the development of future plans and policies for Charnwood Forest. The purpose of the typology map is to:

- Collate and present relevant baseline information to inform future policy making decisions;
- Determine the amount, distribution and content (i.e. land-use) of greenspace within the Charnwood Forest area;
- Inform the landscape character assessment of the Charnwood Forest area.

Method

Land within the study area was assigned one of fifteen land-use typology categories, as listed below:

Table 1: Land Use typology categories

Land – use Category	Description
Agricultural Land	Land actively managed for agricultural purposes – principally arable fields and land under pasture.
Sport	Greenspace with an obvious sports function (e.g. school playing fields, sports pitches, golf courses etc).
Woodland / tree cover	Includes woodlands, linear tree features (e.g. tree lines, hedges, street trees), small groups of trees and large individual trees. Most individual trees were not included within this category.
Grassland and scrub	Land that does not appear to be under any form of intensive management (e.g. not actively farmed, not actively maintained for public amenity, grassland and areas of scrub along roads, fields and motorways). This category only includes greenspace parcels with less than 20% tree cover.
Grassland with 20 – 60% tree cover	Land that does not appear to be under any form of intensive management (e.g. not actively farmed, not actively maintained for public amenity, grassland and areas of scrub along roads and motorways). This category only includes greenspace parcels with 20 – 60% tree cover.

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Amenity areas	Greenspaces that appear to be available to the public for amenity purposes (e.g. greenspace along footpaths, greenspace containing obvious desire paths, greenspace with open access adjacent to residential areas). This category only includes greenspace parcels with less than 20% tree cover.
Amenity areas with 20 – 60% tree cover	Greenspaces that appear to be available to the public for amenity purposes (e.g. greenspace along footpaths, greenspace containing obvious desire paths, greenspace with open access adjacent to residential areas). This category only includes greenspace parcels with 20 – 60% tree canopy cover.
Public parks and gardens	Urban parks, country parks and formal gardens open to the public.
Derelict land, quarries and landfill	Greenspace land parcels that are derelict in appearance, active and disused quarries and landfill sites. This category does not represent a definitive list of all derelict sites within the study area, as some sites may have been categorised as grassland and scrub.
Allotments	Land parcels that appear to under management as allotments, as confirmed by OS 1:10,000 mapping.
Cemeteries, churchyards and burial grounds	Land parcels that appear to be cemeteries, churchyards and burial grounds, as confirmed by OS 1:10,000 mapping.
Water	Water bodies (ponds and lakes) and water courses (river, brooks, streams, reservoirs).
Private gardens	Gardens associated with private houses.
Built environment	Land parcels that were not classified as greenspace (including private gardens) or water within General Land Use Database (e.g. areas of hard standing, buildings, roads, footpaths etc).
Other	Areas of greenspace with a land-use that does not fall into any of the above categories. Within the study area this primarily included areas of greenspace associated with water treatment works, reservoirs, telecommunications infrastructure and land surrounding other forms of infrastructure. The consultants assumed that greenspaces within this category would not be suitable for woodland planting or similar initiatives.

Mapping was undertaken using ArcView 9.2®, a Geographic Information System (GIS) software package. Base mapping was provided by Ordnance Survey MasterMap® under licence to Leicestershire County Council through the provisions of the Pan-Government Agreement. OS MasterMap provides the latest, most definitive and accurate detailed map of Great Britain. The advantage of MasterMap for this study lies in the fact that all

discrete parcels of land, buildings and infrastructure are available as complete polygons (TOIDS), to which a range of existing and user-specific data can be added.

The General Land Use Database (GLUD) was used to identify and isolate all areas of greenspace within the study area from the MasterMap dataset. GLUD is a database of land-use categories created by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (now the Department for Communities and Local Government) and the Office of National Statistics in 2004. It is data derived from, and therefore contiguous with, OS MasterMap. Within GLUD, all land parcels have been assigned one of nine land-use categories: water, domestic buildings, non-domestic buildings, roads, paths, rail, greenspace, gardens or 'other'.

Using GIS, the greenspace layer of GLUD was underlain by aerial photography (supplied by Leicestershire County Council). The most appropriate typology to be applied to each parcel of land was identified based on visual interpretation.

Land-use typologies were assigned to greenspace parcels based on interpretation of aerial photography. The aerial photographs used for this study were taken in 2006. The land-use associated with some of the greenspace parcels may have changed since 2006. However, given the relatively recent issue date of the aerial photographs and the rate of land-use change within the study area, it is unlikely that significant change will have taken place during the intervening period. Parcels of greenspace land measuring less than 50m² were excluded from the mapping work, primarily for reasons of expediency and resource-efficiency.

There were some limitations with the typology mapping. The allocation of typologies to land parcels was not always straightforward, with the requirement for assumptions to be made in some instances. For example, it was sometimes difficult to determine whether a greenspace land parcel was pasture land, rough land, rough grassland or an area of amenity, particularly when assessing greenspaces located adjacent to urban areas. In some cases, greenspace parcels covered areas of greenspace with different land-uses; where this occurred the dominant land-use was assigned to the greenspace parcel. Many small areas of tree cover were not separately digitised (i.e. assigned a separate polygon) within MasterMap. This occurred mainly where trees were located within private gardens, graveyards and small groups of trees within farmland (these trees are not accounted for within the woodland/tree cover category).

Possible Future Analysis Using the Typology Data

The greenspace typology data has been used to inform the landscape character assessment in this study. The information has other potential uses, especially in relation to the possible Regional Park aims. The typology data could also be used to:

- identify current and potential functions of greenspace
- help identify where greenspaces may play a role in addressing social, economic, recreation, historical and environmental needs within Charnwood Forest.
- identify areas of greenspace deficit;

This information could be used to develop Regional Park initiatives and concepts. Analysis could be undertaken considering:

- > Drive zones – a study of the drive times from the surrounding urban conurbations to assess which are in closest proximity to which areas of public open space. This would link with PPS17 recommendations for public access to open space.
- > Public Benefit Recording System (PBRS) – to identify where GI improvements are most needed within the Regional Park and where they would offer the most benefit.
- > Assessing feasibility of habitat restoration and networking e.g. certain types of landcover or landuse do not lend themselves to changes in management
- > Assessing which areas are most likely to provide multi-functional green infrastructure, and which may be more appropriately managed for single-function, safeguarded purposes such as biodiversity.

Typology data can also be used for monitoring purposes, to assess over time the extent of change in landuse/landcover towards desirable objectives; and also the effect of other external market forces on the way land is used and managed.

APPENDIX TWO

REVIEW OF LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT BEST PRACTICE

This section contains a review of existing landscape character assessments for areas with similar landscape values to that of Charnwood. It includes areas of landscape value, such as AONBs and National Parks, areas with undesignated but unique landscapes, and assessments undertaken for areas proposed for Regional Parks or containing existing Regional Parks. It is expected that assessments of areas with a similar landscape value will offer useful best practice examples to guide and inform the Charnwood Forest assessment.

Cotswolds AONB

- Provides an assessment of the character, distinctiveness and qualities of the Cotswolds AONB by summarising the key characteristics associated with each landscape type. This informs the principles and guidelines for landscape change. The LCA is divided according to landscape types, with a broad description of key characteristics of each type, and is then sub-divided into landscape character areas with a photograph and a short paragraph to describe the individual characteristics of the area. A summary table of all the landscape types and the landscape character areas within each type is presented.
- The assessment includes a description of the attributes of the landscape including: physical (geology, landform, drainage and soils); natural (trees, woodland and land cover); and cultural (archaeology, history, land use, enclosure patterns, settlement patterns and building styles). It also includes attributes of the landscape including an appraisal of past and present perceptions of the area, including those of national and local artists, musicians and writers.
- There is a detailed section on the evolution of the landscape, including geology, land form and drainage (physical influences) as well as human influences. The impact of each age of history on the landscape is described, from pre-historic to present and the section ends with an examination of the pressures on the landscape from present land use and management (quarrying, agriculture, infrastructure).
- Consultation with stakeholders to assist the team in understanding forces for change and perceptions of landscape character.

London Borough of Bexley, Groundwork South East London, Managing the Marshes (2006)

- This study assesses and records the existing landscape character of Erith, Crayford and Dartford Marshes, within boundaries defined in the Managing the Marshes project. It is a relatively small area with local landscape value but no national designation.
- Aims to clearly set out distinct and recognisable elements that make the marshes different from other landscapes and are most important in creating a 'sense of place'.

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- Assessment identified the existing quality of the landscape, any areas of different character within the site boundaries, any opportunities for enhancement and pressures that could impact in landscape character.
- The assessment provides a basis for the development of coherent plans that can increase the value of the marshes in terms of access, biodiversity and sense of place.

Exmoor National Park, Landscape Character Assessment (2004 - 2006)

- The landscape character assessment of the whole of Exmoor National Park was a result of the 'Moorlands at a Crossroads' study (2004). This study led to initial, and then more detailed, identification and mapping of landscape types, key characteristics and character areas for moorland areas.
- The aims of the assessment were to assist the creation of the LDF; underpin National Park planning policies, strategies and development control decisions; provide practical planning guidance for areas outside of planning control; and inform the Exmoor National Park Design Guide.
- It includes a diagram to represent visually the quality, strength of character and condition of the landscape. This is useful in informing the management strategy.
- The document is divided into landscape types, with the landscape character areas contained as sub-divisions. It is a clear format.

Dorset AONB, Draft Landscape Character Assessment and Management Guidance (Within AONB) (draft)

- The process of mapping and describing landscape character has followed the 'Landscape Character Assessment: Guidance for England and Scotland' (Countryside Agency, 2002).
- The key information-gathering steps used to inform the landscape character assessment were: desk study; field survey; classification and description (landscape types and character areas); evaluation and decision-making (landscape management guidelines).
- The assessment uses previous character assessments, updating desk and field surveys and landscape conditions and issues.
- Its purpose is to inform the AONB landscape management guidance, planning policy, development control decisions and the AONB management plan.
- The output consists of a report, including mapping and photographs.

Landscape Character Assessment of the Wyre Forest Project Area (2006)

CHARNWOOD FOREST LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

- Landscape Character Assessment was created to inform the Landscape Strategy and form part of the Landscape Partnership Bid for Heritage Lottery Funding alongside the Audience Development Plan.
- The main objectives of the assessment were to: describe the landscape character units and their condition; special features; opportunities for enhancement; define a boundary; prepare a vision and statement of significance; and agree the main themes to be covered in the Landscape Strategy. These are similar to the aims of the Charnwood study.
- Initial field work and desk top review confirmed a 'working boundary' informed by physical, ecology and habitat types, perceived character and historic character, remnants of ancient woodland and historic use. This was revised following community workshops.

Peak District Landscape Character Assessment (Draft for Consultation, December 2007)

- This draft of the Landscape Character Assessment is the first stage of the process of looking at management guidelines and actions. Landscape strategy will be developed alongside the character assessment.
- Includes a useful section on 'sense of place' which sums up the overall character of the area in a few paragraphs and leads into the section on landscape types and then landscape character areas.

Cornwall County Council, The Countryside Commission, Cornwall Landscape Assessment 1994

- The Cornwall Landscape Assessment 1994 is a detailed, further redefined county assessment of the Character Map of England's character areas.
- It identifies 28 individual character areas within Cornwall with generalised boundaries and indicates where there is transition rather than marked changes on the ground.
- The character areas brought together the components of landscape and historical aspects of the landscape to create a broad picture.
- One of the aims of the character assessment is to underpin designations including recognised national or international significance of the Cornwall AONB.

The East Midlands and the River Nene Regional Park: Environmental Character Assessment

- An objective process of character assessment was used to give a descriptive picture of the landscape to ensure that the important qualities were highlighted, retained and enhanced. This was an important part of the information-gathering process to inform Green Infrastructure development in the Region, especially in relation to the River Nene Regional Park.

CHARNWOOD FOREST LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

- It is a sub-regional level assessment, the top tier of a range of landscape character assessments. It is a succinct, non-technical description of the landscape character to enthuse and appeal to all. It is a portal to the more detailed studies which underpin it.
- It focuses on linking people and places; it clearly states its premise that it is people's perception which turns land into landscape. It aims to give people a strong understanding of the region to aid managers and decision-makers in making more confident and certain landscape decisions.
- A key objective of the assessment was to replace the 'special landscape designations' of the local level policy with a more objective character based assessment.

This character assessment is very similar to that of the Charnwood Forest assessment. The report follows a clear and succinct format which aims to give short, intrinsic overview of the landscape character areas. The descriptions include a map, photos, key characteristics and key management issues.

APPENDIX THREE

REVIEW OF RELEVANT CONSERVATION AREA APPRAISALS

This section provides a summary of the Conservation Area Appraisals available for settlements partly or wholly within Charnwood Forest. Designation as a Conservation Area recognises the special value certain areas contribute to the historic environment. The Appraisal document provides a historical context to the area and describes the unique characteristics of the built environment, explaining why they are valuable.

Ratby

Ratby is a relatively isolated village with panoramic views of the surrounding open countryside and woodland. It was primarily an agricultural settlement until the late 18th century with most of the land being owned by the Stamford family. The Enclosure Act of 1770 forced many tenant farmers in the area to become framework knitters in the hosiery industry and examples of stockingers cottagers, 19th century frameshops and a factory remain to this day.

Some timber framed farm buildings survive from the medieval period, making an important contribution to the character of the area. The Methodist Chapel, village school, Church Halls and a number of distinctive workers' cottages built around jitties and yards date back to the Victorian and Edwardian periods when the village was undergoing rapid expansion. Four original corner entry shops with traditional fronts have been retained. The main building materials used in the village are red brick and stone, with most of the roofs being slate covered.

Modern development, mainly detached bungalows dominated by garages and car parking has had an adverse impact on the appearance of the Conservation Area. This has also been affected by alterations to the historic buildings, for example the use of non-traditional roofing materials and plastic windows.

The village has two listed buildings, the Church of St Philip and St James, and Orchard Cottage.

Rothley

Rothley is situated in an attractive sheltered location among open fields and meadows in the Rothley Brook valley. The name is thought to come from the old English '*rothu leah*' which means a woodland clearing. The Mercian stone cross in the churchyard which is believed to be from the 9th or 10th century suggests that the settlement may date back to Saxon times. There is also evidence of a Roman presence in the area, including a Roman pavement discovered near the Old Vicarage in 1722, and Roman floor and roof tiles discovered more recently.

Within the historic core of the village there are many well-preserved examples of development from the medieval period through to Victorian and Edwardian times when the village underwent rapid expansion due to the arrival of the boot and shoe and hosiery factories, and the Great Central Railway (GCR). Until the beginning of the 18th century Rothley was an important coach stop between London and the north of England and the Old Red Lion and a building on Fowke Street may have provided accommodation for travellers at this time.

The village is characterised by terraces of houses which form streets and lanes with a sense of enclosure. This contrasts with the considerable number of greens and open spaces in the Conservation Area. Houses on the medieval streets tend to be set at irregular angles to each other and the street contributing to the interest of the area. Building materials most commonly used in the village are red brick and slate, with granite appearing less frequently. A number of timber framed buildings also survive. The village has around 30 listed buildings, including the Grade II* listed Church of St Mary the Virgin and St John the Baptist.

Quorn

Quorn is thought to have been founded following the Norman Conquest and is a relatively young settlement for the area. It has been suggested that the Lord of the Manor of Barrow built a hunting lodge and a chapel on the site in the 12th century and these were the first buildings to form the settlement. The name Quorn may originate from the Old English '*cweordun*' meaning a source of millstones.

In common with other villages in the area, Quorn underwent a period of rapid growth from the mid-18th to the mid-19th century in response to the introduction of the framework knitting industry, and later hosiery and lace factories which employed a large percentage of the population. However, an important source of employment unique to the village was the Quorn Hunt, established by Hugo Meynell in 1753. A number of cottages were built to accommodate the hunt workers in the village and these survive today.

Buildings in the Conservation Area tend to be in continuous rows of two or three storeys. A number of former knitters' workshops survive throughout the village from the framework knitting industry with their distinctive narrow upper floor windows. The Quorn Cross is a space marked by two old pubs which forms the focus for the village. Building materials traditionally used in the village include red brick, Welsh slate, Charnwood granite and Swithland slate.

There are over 30 listed buildings in the Conservation Area, including the Church of St. Bartholomew which dates from the 12th century and is Grade I listed. As well as the numerous listed buildings, there are many unlisted buildings of interest which contribute to the character of the village. These include the Quorn Mill, a former factory which has been converted to apartments.

Mountsorrel

Mountsorrel is thought to have developed as an informal trading post at the castle which was constructed in 1080 by Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester. The origin of the name Mountsorrel is not agreed but it is thought that it could either be a corruption of 'Mount Soar Hill', a reference to its location between the River Soar and Castle Hill, or of 'Montsoreau' a French village known to Robert le Bossu, Earl of Leicester in the mid 12th century.

The settlement has developed linearly along the banks of the River Soar, restricted by the steep edge of the rising landform to the west. This has

strongly influenced the pattern of streets in the village which follow a distinctive south-east to north-west alignment. The majority of modern 20th century development has occurred to the south of the Conservation Area preserving the historic centre as a distinct and relatively unspoilt area. Most of the historic commercial and domestic buildings remaining in the village date from the 17th though to the late 19th century.

Unlike other villages in the Soar Valley, Mountsorrel may not have been solely dependent on agriculture during its early development. There is evidence that from the mid-18th century hosiery was the primary occupation of villagers. It was also an important coaching stop on the route between London and the north of England during the 17th century and many of the larger historic buildings are former coaching inns. Mountsorrel was an important market town before the 14th century, but the market declined between the 14th and 17th centuries. It then began to thrive again with an increase in the population until the second half of the 19th century when it once more fell into disuse.

The main building materials used in the Conservation Area are Mountsorrel granite, Welsh slate and Swithland slate. The use of brick is also widespread, much of which was supplied by the local Britannia Brick Works, established in the early 19th century to the south of the village. There is also evidence of timber framing in some buildings.

There are 36 listed buildings in the Conservation Area, three of these are Grade II* listed, and the rest are Grade II. The carved granite war memorial on Castle Hill is a focal point which can be seen from many directions. There are also two Scheduled Monuments: Castle Hill and the Market Cross.

Anstey

Anstey is likely to have originated in the 9th and 10th centuries when Saxons settled on an area of land cleared from the ancient Charnwood Forest. The name is thought to be derived from the Old English '*hanstige*' meaning a high path or narrow forest track, perhaps a reference to the site of the original settlement at a crossing point of Rothley Brook in an open area or clearing in Charnwood Forest.

In the medieval period Anstey was predominantly an agricultural settlement, but in common with many other villages in the area, after the Enclosure Act of 1760 many inhabitants were forced to seek employment in the growing hosiery industry. In the 19th century when this industry went into decline, it was replaced by the boot and shoe industry with new factories and workers' cottages being built in the village. Unlike other historic villages in the area however, little evidence of the domestic workshops has survived. During the 19th century Anstey was a tourist centre with affluent people from Leicester and the surrounding area staying there for the summer.

Some of the older buildings in the historic core are constructed of local granite, including the church, the church hall and the former school buildings. A number of boundary walls in the Conservation Area are also made of the local stone and this contributes significantly to the character. Although many of the medieval buildings would have had timber frames, few of these survive. The most

common building material in the village is brick, with Welsh slate and the local equivalent, Swithland slate, as the roofing material.

In medieval times the village seems to have developed around two focal points: the Church and the Green, forming two separate centres. This can still be seen in the layout of the village today and forms the basis for the Conservation Area. Although the Nook is not included in the Conservation Area, as it has been significantly redeveloped in the 20th century, it is thought to have always represented the commercial centre of the village, as it is today, and an important meeting place on the road towards Leicester.

The majority of buildings in the historic core date from the 17th century through to the early 20th century. There are 17 listed buildings in the Conservation Area, all of which are Grade II. The most significant of these is St Mary's Church, an important visual element and landmark for the area. Also very significant for the character of the settlement is The Green. This is thought to be the oldest feature in the village and is a pleasant 2.5 hectare public area of grass and trees at the top of the hill to the west.

Groby

The name Groby (pronounced 'Grooby') is thought to come from the Saxon word '*grub*' (pronounced 'groober') which means a pit or mine and there are a number of small mines in the surrounding area. The settlement seems to have developed from an offshoot of Ratby village in the 9th century. It is situated to the south of Groby Pool which is one of the largest lakes in Leicestershire. The pool is thought by some to have been created for fishing by monks from Leicester Abbey in the 12th or 13th century although others consider it to be a natural waterbody.

Between 1832 and 1840 slate and granite quarries appeared around Groby, leading to an increase in population and the construction of new houses for labourers in the village. Some of the buildings in Groby are built of the local granite but the most common building material in the village is red brick. On the old cottages at Chapel Hill the traditional thatched roofs have been retained.

Groby has a number of listed buildings including Crown Cottage (Grade II listed) which dates from the 17th century and is thought to have once been an off-licence, the Old School (Grade II listed) dating from 1873, and the Blacksmith's Cottage (Grade II listed) which is one of the oldest buildings in the village and is timber framed throughout. Groby Manor House, which is known today as Groby Old Hall is a Grade II* listed building situated to the front of Groby Castle, which is now no more than a large mound of earth. The external brickwork and stonework of the Old Hall date from the late 15th and early 16th centuries respectively but these may conceal a much older building, possibly dating from the late 12th century when the castle was still standing.

Groby Conservation Area covers the historic core of the village and was designated as a response to the extensive inappropriate development that has occurred in the area in recent years.

APPENDIX FOUR

REVIEW OF RELEVANT VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENTS

This section summarises the available Village Design Statements for the settlements wholly or partly within Charnwood Forest. A Village or Town Design Statement is a practical tool to help influence decisions on design and development. It provides a clear statement of the character of a particular village or town and provides guidelines as to how development should be undertaken so as to respect the local identity.

Quorn

Quorn is a large village which retains many of the features and qualities of a traditional rural settlement including large green spaces, countryside walks and the use of local construction materials. New development which is not in keeping with the historic surroundings has occurred, but in general this is well screened or softened by planting and does not detract from the unique character of the village.

Quorn is thought to date from around 1153, when St Bartholomew's Church was built. The church is built from local granite and evidence of its Norman foundations can still be seen. Prior to the mid 19th century most inhabitants were farmers, however after farming declined around this time new hosiery and lace factories provided the main source of employment.

Parts of the village are built on a bed of sand and gravel, which historically has been excavated for building materials. Red clay is also found in the area and once supported a brickworks. Buddon Hill was until recently the source of high quality granite for construction.

Many of Quorn's historic buildings including workers' cottages and terraces, fine houses and great halls and traditional commercial and industrial buildings such as Wright's Mill have survived to the present day, and act as a reminder of its varied history. Today the village is a lively and thriving community, with shops, bars, restaurants, schools, nurseries and many interest groups which meet in the Church Rooms and Village Hall.

Guidelines

- A Traffic Impact Assessment must be carried out for any potential development which could affect traffic flow within the village.
- The existing open space between Quorn and Loughborough should be maintained to preserve its village identity.
- New developments must provide adequate off-street parking, particularly in the village centre where there is a parking shortage.
- The clear boundary between the built environment of the village and the surrounding countryside should be maintained.
- Developers wishing to carry out major building work in the area should be required to provide resources for enhancements to the village.
- Developments should not have an adverse impact on wildlife habitats and corridors and rare species should be considered in the application of any new development.

- It is desirable for new developments to create wildlife habitats and corridors as part of the project.
- New development should be diverse in design to avoid uniformity but must also harmonise with the character of the village.
- New housing developments should provide a mix of types, sizes and affordability.
- New developments should respect and preserve the traditional style in Quorn of varying roof heights, chimney stacks and pots, and narrow alleyways and ginnels contrasting with open spaces created by houses being set at varying distances back from the pavements.
- New developments should maintain the tradition of terracotta chimney pots in Quorn.
- Building extensions should match the style of the original building and any alterations to buildings which are not in keeping with the surrounding area should seek to improve the building's harmony with its surroundings.
- Large new developments in the village should be designed in a way which reflects the traditional style of existing buildings, for example open spaces, 'steps and staggers' and footpaths and terraces rather than individual executive style housing are preferred.
- New developments should maintain the existing green space and trees in the village, and seek to include landscaping using only native trees and plant species. Boundary walls and fences should be in keeping with existing examples in the village.
- The gradual increase in building density towards the centre of the village should be retained.
- Building materials traditionally used in Quorn are Swithland Slate, 'Tucker' red brick, Mountsorrel granite and rough cast render. New developments in the village should use these materials wherever possible. Where substitute materials are used, these should be chosen carefully to match the traditional materials.
- Traditional features such as dormer windows, decorative chimney pots and wooden doors and window frames with traditional dressings should be used in new buildings.
- Business fronts and signage should be of a style traditional to Quorn and maintained to a high standard.
- New road developments should seek to be as unobtrusive as possible through the use of planting, surface markings instead of pole signs, appropriate street furniture and heritage lamp posts.

Woodhouse Eaves

Woodhouse Eaves is a relatively recent settlement and was only a tiny farming hamlet until the late 18th and early 19th centuries when it rapidly expanded in response to the Industrial Revolution. In the 19th century the village became a tourist destination with tea rooms, bed and breakfast establishments and other services catering to holidaymakers. Quarry workers' and managers' cottages, artisans' houses and grand homes of the wealthy can also be seen in the village, dating from the same period.

20th century development has occurred with varying degrees of obtrusiveness and impact on the character of the village. The new houses built in the inter-war period tended to use traditional materials and were set back from the road so they were relatively unobtrusive, however houses which were built after the Second World War on Bird Hill to accommodate military personnel and civil service employees were highly visible and of a completely different architectural style. However, many people now think that these houses contribute positively to the distinctive character of Woodhouse Eaves.

Guidelines

- Vistas within and without the village should be maintained to preserve the sense of openness and landscape.
- New boundary walls and fences should use materials traditional to Woodhouse Eaves.
- New developments should include in their design provision for planting native tree species and retaining mature trees.
- New development should avoid uniformity and reflect the diversity of building styles found within the village, while respecting existing building styles in the area.
- A range of housing types, sizes and affordability is desirable in any large new development.
- A distinctive feature of the village is that houses along a street tend to vary in distance from the pavement, with some being set back and others positioned right at the edge of the pavement. New development should aim to retain this style.
- The green spaces in the village are valuable and should be retained. In particular, development should be avoided where this would dramatically alter the skyline.
- The gradual increase of building density towards the centre of the village should be maintained to keep the sense of the settlement blending gradually into countryside.
- The height of new development should not exceed the height of existing buildings in Woodhouse Eaves and roof heights should vary as in traditional developments.
- High quality innovative contemporary designs like the Baptist Church are encouraged in Woodhouse Eaves provided they do not detract from the character of the village.
- Extensive infill developments are discouraged as they destroy the sense of variety and contrast of buildings and open space.
- Extensions to existing buildings must be sensitively done to ensure they are in keeping with the character of the original building and surroundings.
- Off-street parking for new developments must be as unobtrusive as possible.
- New developments should use traditional building materials such as Swithland slate, local stone and brick wherever possible, but if this is not an option then alternatives should be chosen carefully to blend in with the surroundings.

- New buildings should be designed to incorporate traditional features, such as decorative chimney stacks, dormer windows with low eaves and wooden doors and window frames.
- Shop fronts should be in keeping with the character of the surroundings, avoiding obtrusive illuminated box signs, rigid bolt on blinds and canopies etc.
- Footpaths and bridleways in and around the village should be maintained and sizeable developments should include new footpaths, cycleways and bridleways.
- New developments should avoid damaging valuable wildlife habitats such as hedgerows, woodlands and water bodies, and impacts on protected species should be assessed and taken into consideration. Larger developments should consider habitat creation as part of the design.

Woodhouse

Woodhouse is thought to have been founded in medieval times although there is evidence of a much earlier settlement. Garats Hay manor house dates from 1067 – 1539 and St Mary in the Elms Church, which is a Grade II listed building, was built in 1338. Almost all buildings in Woodhouse are within the Conservation Area. The village is an Archaeological Alert Area, meaning it may contain important archaeological remains.

The village is linear in form, with short avenues projecting from the main Forest Road. Little new development has taken place and the village retains a distinctly traditional, and in places rustic, feel.

The geology of the surrounding area has had a significant effect on the character of Woodhouse, as the majority of the buildings are constructed from local granite and roofed with Swithland slate. Some of the older buildings are rendered and thatched roofs can still be seen in the village.

The natural environment is an important feature of Woodhouse, with streams running through the village, ancient hedgerows along the approach roads, and many mature trees in the village protected by Tree Preservation Orders. Mucklin Wood situated to the north of Woodhouse is defined as ancient woodland and has stood on the site since 1600AD or possibly even earlier.

Guidelines

- Wherever possible, trees should be retained to preserve the character and ecological diversity of the village. Where mature trees have to be removed, appropriate replanting will be recommended, and this will be compulsory where trees protected by a Tree Preservation Order are affected.
- All new development should respect the archaeological, ecological and historical heritage of the village. Developers need to be made aware of the ancient ridge and furrow fields present on the outskirts of Woodhouse.
- The extensive network of footpaths and bridleways in and around the village should be maintained and extended where possible.

- The green spaces surrounding the village should be preserved as these give the settlement its distinctive rural character.
- New development should be well spaced and softened by planting to blend in with traditional development in the village.
- The distinctive bends at either end of the settlement are historic features of the village, but are also accident spots. While it is recommended that these are retained as part of the heritage of Woodhouse, they must also be monitored and their safety improved.
- New developments which increase traffic flow in the village should also contribute to road safety solutions.
- Roadside verges and pavements should be maintained to enhance both safety and ecological diversity.
- Traditional building materials such as Swithland slate, timber, local granite and red/buff brick should be used, and where original materials are not available, suitable replicas should be found.
- New development should be low density to a maximum of two storeys, and irregularly placed to match the existing building styles.
- Garages should be unobtrusive and set back to blend in with the surroundings.
- Traditional features such as porches set at right angles to each other and distinctive chimney stacks should be incorporated into new designs.

Newtown Linford

Newtown Linford dates from the 13th century and is bordered by Bradgate Park, a 12th century deer park. The park has changed little since medieval times and is an important tourist attraction for the area. It also contains the ruins of Lady Jane Grey's Tudor home.

The settlement lies in the steep-sided Lin valley, which has contributed to its linear form. Its position as well as its numerous trees also means that it is relatively concealed from view from the surrounding area and has a 'hidden village' feel.

The older cottages in the village are constructed from local stone and brick, and roofed with the local Swithland slate or thatch. Although the village has grown slightly since the sale of the estate in 1925, it retains many of the original features and character of the estate village of the Grey family. The Conservation Area contains 51 listed buildings including the church which dates from the 14th century. Outside the Conservation Area there are some attractive 1930s houses which should be preserved and the rest are post 1960s infill development.

Guidelines

- Newtown Linford is situated next to Bradgate Park which brings many tourists to the area, therefore it is important to retain the traditional rural estate village character of the settlement.
- The existing views of the surrounding countryside from within the village should be retained and enhanced.
- Developments that may be seen from Bradgate Park should be avoided.

CHARNWOOD FOREST LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

- Affordable housing and sheltered accommodation may become necessary.
- New development should be in keeping with the character of the village and should use traditional materials wherever possible. Where this is not an option suitable alternatives which blend in with existing materials must be found.
- Land available for development in the village is limited by the development envelope and the Charnwood Local Plan.
- New buildings should not be too large for their plots to ensure that access for maintenance is possible and to avoid a terraced effect.
- Although a traditional architectural style should be maintained in the Conservation Area, high quality contemporary designs are acceptable elsewhere.
- The village and surrounding area has a high density of trees and these should be conserved and appropriate tree planting is encouraged.
- The distinctive features of the village such as the River Lin, churchyard, cricket pitches, and footpaths should be maintained.
- Local rural businesses should be encouraged to diversify the rural economy and provide employment in the village.
- The agricultural land around Newtown Linford which separates it from adjacent villages should be retained in order to preserve its identity as a small rural settlement.
- Roof heights may vary in new developments as this is an existing characteristic of the village, but should not be significantly higher than other houses in the immediate area.
- Building extensions should pay close attention to the style of the existing building.
- Extensive infill development and enlargement of existing buildings would destroy the open feel of the settlement and should be kept to a minimum. Breaks in the line of buildings should be retained and encouraged in new developments.
- Small village scale housing is preferred to large 'executive style' designs.
- Landscaping should be sensitive and respect the local topography and use native species.
- Larger developments should incorporate a variety of architectural styles to avoid uniformity while borrowing from local designs where possible.
- Drystone walls are a traditional type of boundary in the village and should be retained and encouraged in new developments.
- Plastic doors and window frames are inappropriate in the Conservation Area where traditional materials are preferred. In new building work, local styles of windows such as small casement windows should be used.
- Dormer windows can be used to lower the eaves of a building and give it a 'cottage' character.
- Local businesses should use small, professionally painted signage and discreet lighting.
- Street furniture, signs and lighting should be in keeping with the traditional rural character of the village.
- Trees, hedges and grass verges should be maintained with both safety and ecological diversity in mind.
- The numerous wildlife sites in the area must be preserved and development avoided.

CHARNWOOD FOREST LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

- Drystone walls and hedges are important for wildlife and should be retained wherever possible.
- Gardens should be retained and appropriately managed for both wildlife and the character of the village.
- The River Lin and Cropston Reservoir must be maintained as important drinking water sources and wildlife habitats.

APPENDIX FIVE

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT FIELD SURVEY SHEET

Site Location:		Grid Reference:				
Photo viewpoint reference(s):						
Views into site (Mark on map):						
Views from site (Mark on map):						
Use of site (Mark on map):						
LANDFORM / TOPOGRAPHY:						
Flat Undulating Rolling Steep Vertical	Plain Rolling Lowland Plateau Scarp / Cliffs / Ridge Hills Mountains	Deep Gorge Broad Valley Narrow Valley Floodplain Estuary Coastal				
LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS:						
Built Form	Land Cover	Farming	Field Type	Woodland /Trees	Hydrology	Communications
Scattered Farms	Parkland	Arable	Regular fields	Deciduous woodland	River – natural	Motorway
Village	Amenity / recreation	Pasture	Irregular fields	Coniferous plantation	River– engineered	A Roads
Urban	Scrub	Mixed	Field Scale	Mixed Woodland	Canal	B Roads / Lanes
Urban Fringe	Marsh	Rough Grazing	Large / Medium / Small	Shelterbelt	Stream	Access track
Industry	Bog	Set aside	Boundary Type	Hedgerow trees	Drainage ditch/ dyke	Public Footpaths
Military	Moor / heath	Dominant hedgerow species	Metal fences	Orchard	Reservoir	Railway
Earthworks	Meadow	Oak	Fence within Hedgerow	Copse	Lake	Disused railway
Ridge and Furrow	Agriculture	Ash	Timber fences	Coppice	Pond- natural	Canal
Ecclesiastic	Rough Grassland	Hawthorn	Hedgerows	Isolated trees	Pond- man made	Military
Country Houses	Forestry	Hazel	Walls	Avenue		Pylons
Farm buildings	Woodland	Field maple	Dry stone walls	Parkland		Telegraph poles
Estates	Horticulture	Dogwood	Boundary Height	Clumps		Cycleway
	Field scale gardens		Hedges above 1m	Scattered trees		Bridleways
	Horsiculture	Blackthorn	Hedges below 1m	Linear strips		Masts
	Active Quarry	Elm	Boundary Condition	Regenerating scrub		Bare ground
	Disused Quarry	Elder	Good	Pollarded trees		
	Wetland meadow		Fragmented			
	Derelict Land		Well managed			
	Bare ground		Not managed			
	Golf					
AESTHETIC / PERCEPTUAL ASPECTS:						
Scale Intimate Small Large Vast				Movement Dead Still Calm Busy		
Enclosure Tight Enclosed Open Exposed				Pattern Random Organised Regular Formal		
Diversity Uniform Simple Diverse Complex				Unity Unified Interrupted Fragmented Chaotic		
Texture Smooth Textured Rough Very Rough				Security Comfortable Safe Unsettling Threatening		
Form Vertical Sloping Rolling Horizontal				Stimulus Monotonous Bland Interesting Inspiring		
Line Straight Angular Curved Sinuous				Tranquillity Inaccessible Remote Vacant Peaceful Not tranquil		
Colour Monochrome Muted Colourful Garish				Pleasure Offensive Unpleasant Pleasant Attractive Beautiful		
Balance Harmonious Balanced Discordant Chaotic				Visual Dynamic Sweeping Spreading Dispersed Channelled		

CHARNWOOD FOREST LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER:			
Key Characteristics and Distinctive Features			
Brief Description:			
Rarity (within the district):			
Settlement form and setting within the landscape:			
Architecture (incl. vernacular style/local materials):			
Landscape Condition:	Poor	Moderate	Strong
Strength of character:	Weak	Moderate	Strong
Landscape Pressures / Possible management guidelines			
Green Infrastructure in the area			

APPENDIX SIX

CHARNWOOD FOREST LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

APPENDIX 6 – SETTLEMENT ASSESSMENT FIELD SURVEY SHEET

SETTLEMENT:				
VIEWS INTO SETTLEMENT FROM:				
CONFINED	OPEN	CHANNELLED	GLIMPSED	CHANGEABLE
VIEWS OUT OF SETTLEMENT TO:				
CONFINED	OPEN	CHANNELLED	GLIMPSED	CHANGEABLE
TOPOGRAPHY:				
FLAT	UNDULATING	HIGH GROUND	NARROW VALLEY	BROAD VALLEY
STREET AND BLOCK PATTERN:				
REGULAR	IRREGULAR	SINUOUS	GEOMETRIC	
PUBLIC REALM/ OPEN SPACE:				
SURFACED	PARK/ GARDEN	GRASS VERGE	AVENUE OF TREES	CEMETERY
PLAYING FIELDS	PRIVATE GARDENS	ALLOTMENTS	PLAY AREAS	SQUARES
COURTYARDS	INFORMAL OPEN SPACE	WATERSIDE:	LAKE	POND
CHURCHYARDS	TWITCHELLS	RIVER	STREAM	CANAL
FORM:				
CLUSTER	DISPERSED	GRID	IRREGULAR BLOCK	LINEAR
RIBBON	SPREADING	VARIED	CIRCULAR	CONTINUOUS FRONTAGE
AGE OF DEVELOPMENT:				
HISTORIC CORE	19 TH CENTURY	20 TH CENTURY	MIXTURE	
BUILDING TYPE:				
TERRACE	SEMI DETACHED	DETACHED	COTTAGE	FLAT/APARTMENT
OFFICE	INDUSTRIAL	FARM	COUNTRY HOUSE	CHURCH
LANDMARK BUILDINGS	CHURCH	SCHOOL	SHOP	BUNGALOW
MATERIALS:				
GRANITE	SLATE	SANDSTONE	BRICK	WOOD
METAL	RENDER	PAINTED	CLAY TILE	LIMESTONE
THATCHED				
COLOUR:				
BLUE	BLACK	DARK GREY	LIGHT GREY	RED
YELLOW	BEIGE	LIGHT BROWN	DARK BROWN	WHITE
GREEN	BUFF			
BOUNDARY TREATMENTS:				
STONE WALLS	BRICK WALLS	EVERGREEN HEDGEROW	ORNAMENTAL HEDGEROW	NATIVE HEDGEROW
METAL FENCE	TIMBER FENCE	NO BOUNDARY	WOODLAND	HEIGHT?
ROOF LINE (PICTURE):				
UNIFORM	VARIED	RISING	UNDULATING	FLAT
CHURCH SPIRES	PYLONS	COMMERCIAL	FLAT ROOF	PITCHED ROOF
CHIMNEYS	LANDMARK BUILDINGS	VEGETATION	INDUSTRY	
MOVEMENT:				
MOTORWAYS	A ROADS	B ROADS	RURAL LANES	TRACKS
FOOTPATHS	ALLEYS	RAILWAY	DISUSED RAILWAY	RIVER
STREAM	CANAL			
URBAN EDGE:				
DEFINED	FRAGMENTED	DISPERSED		
VEGETATED	URBAN	MIXED		
RECREATION	PASTURE	GRAZING	WOODLAND	PRIVATE
ALLOTMENTS	GOLF COURSE	ESTATE		
CONDITION:				
TIDY	UNTIDY	FORMAL	INFORMAL	FRAGMENTED
RELATIONSHIP OF EDGE TO SETTLEMENT CORE:				
STRONG	PARTIAL	NONE		
STREET SCALE:				
INTIMATE	SMALL	MEDIUM	LARGE	VAST
HERITAGE CONTRIBUTION TO CHARACTER:				
HIGH	MODERATE	LOW	FRAGMENTING	

CHARNWOOD FOREST LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

DESCRIPTION OF SETTLEMENT

Key characteristics / attributes
Settlement pattern and density
Description of greenspace (inc names where possible)
Gateway features
Landmark features
Settlement fringe characteristics North: South: East: West:
Topography and ridgelines
Overall setting of settlement within the landscape (include key views to / from the settlement)

PRELIMINARY JUDGEMENTS

Sensitivity of Settlement
Capacity to accommodate change

APPENDIX SEVEN

CHARNWOOD FOREST LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

THE FUTURE OF CHARNWOOD FOREST CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Organisation	Comment
Hathern Parish Council	Value in incorporating the whole of Garendon Park and its associated Estate Land into Charnwood Forest. This would afford protection to the flora, fauna and wildlife that occupy the site, allow continued use of the area for leisure and recreation by local communities and provide a balance to the 'urban reach' of Loughborough and the M1.
Ramblers' Association Leicestershire and Rutland (Area Executive Committee)	The boundary should be the inner ring but with a buffed delineated by the character boundary in which all development should be scrutinised.
Leicestershire and Rutland Rambler's Association (Countryside Officer)	If the boundary is to be used to define the limits of an authority, then the Landscape Character Area boundary should be used with possible amendments to include more defined boundaries on the ground, such as roads or a river. If the boundary is to be used to define the forest then the Local Plan boundaries are more appropriate. Suggests the inclusion of Holly Hayes Wood in Whitwick
Private respondent (Leicester University and LRWT Geology and RIGS Subcommittee member)	Recognised a Charnwood Forest Protection Area (CFPA) surrounded by a buffer zone (BZ) that would act as a wildlife corridor, leisure area and protect against unsuitable development. The CFPA geologically defined as a loose envelope of Precambrian/early Palaeozoic rock outcrops and Urban Zones (UZs). Also suggests: MGE (Mountsorrel Granodiorite Extension): Extension to the above area. SC (Swithland Corridor): Urban protected area connecting the CFPA and MGE. LCIE (Lower Carboniferous Inliers Extension): Extension to main protection area. UBZ (Urban Buffer Zone): Main urban zones that would be beyond the constraints of any protective measures.

CHARNWOOD FOREST LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

Shepshed Town Council	Preferred option for the boundary is the Local Plan boundary with an extension north, into an area of space between Shepshed and West Loughborough.
British Geological Survey	While both suggest different boundaries both are in agreement that boundaries need to be precise and not put through the middle of a field or hedge.
Shepshed Countryside Protection Group	Believes Shepshed not in need of protection but believes a number of landscape and ecological features should be included: Blackbrook Reservoir, High Sharpley, Iveshead and Garendon green wedge. Recommends the boundary also takes into account: Long Whatton, Hathern, older parts of Loughborough and Quorn, Mountsorrel and Rothley, Anstey and Groby, Ratby, Markfield, part of Coalville, Osgathorpe, and Belton.
Private respondent	Feels the boundary should exclude built up areas and as such should run outside of Loughborough, Quorn, Mountsorrel, Rothley, Anstey, Groby, Ratby, Merry Lees, Ibstock, Coalville, Whitwick, Thringstone and Shepshed. Also believes a tighter boundary with geological identification should be drawn for enhanced protection.
Friends of Charnwood Forest (Chairman)	Support the Local Plan boundary but to add an extension to the east so the boundary includes Rothley to encompass Rothley Brook and adjoining land. Also believe the villages within the Local Plan boundary are an intrinsic part of a regional park and must be included, not excluded as described by the Local Plan boundary.
Representative of Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society.	Historically, believes the settlements of Shepshed, Groby, Anstey and Barrow-upon-Soar should be included and the southern boundary should be marked by Rothley Brook as it separates Charnwood from Leicester Forest. Generally in favour of the Local Plan boundary but with amendments to include Stanton-under-Barton and to the north west, to include the area surrounding Fishpool Grange. Believes the exclusion of the Great Central Railway line between Rothley and Quorn makes no sense.

CHARNWOOD FOREST LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

<p>Private respondent (Officer from LCC Rights of Way Team)</p>	<p>Believes the boundary should, for landscape protection and recreational purposes, follow the policy for defining the boundaries of AONB and National Parks (should use easily distinguishable physical boundary, towns or villages should not be cut in two etc, land used for quarrying should be excluded, features of value on the margins should be included etc).</p>
<p>The Wildlife Trusts, Leicestershire & Rutland Wildlife Trust</p>	<p>Broadly happy with the Landscape Character Area boundary with minor changes: Extend the boundary northwards to include Hookhill Wood and nearby stream and stream-side woodland; extend the boundary to the southwest to include Thornton reservoir and old woodland; use of Rothley Brook as a boundary; removal of a small area to the south-east of Rothley Brook.</p>
<p>Open Spaces Society</p>	<p>Believes the boundary of the regional park should be precisely defined along settlement boundaries and that there is not the space to define a double boundary or a gradational boundary without compromising important areas of landscape. Also recommends the use of green access corridors, identifying 6; 2 to open countryside, 2 to the Soar Valley and 2 to the National Forest. The boundary for these would be the Landscape Character Area boundary. The society suggests the communities of Markfield, Ratby, Groby, Anstey, Cropston, Thurcaston, Rothley, Mountsorrel, Quorn, Thringstone and Whitwick be asked whether they wish to be within the boundary of the park.</p>
<p>Chief Executive's Department, LCC</p>	<p>Considers the boundary of the character area reflects the Charnwood Forest characteristics from Coalville to Ratby, however, from there it strays too far south east and across the Rothley Valley which is more allied to the Soar Valley landscape. The boundary may be better drawn through Groby, north of Anstey, through Cropston, and from there to Mountsorrel. Agrees with arguments about a 'buffer zone' and suggests the boundary take in the Rothley Valley.</p>

CHARNWOOD FOREST LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

<p>Woodhouse Parish Council</p>	<p>Council feels strongly that the whole parish should be included within the boundary of Charnwood Forest due to the number of listed buildings, Conservation Areas, SINC and Ancient Woodland.</p>
<p>National Farmers Union, East Midlands Region</p>	<p>Would like to see the smallest possible boundary area if it is going to be used to define restrictive planning policies. Farmers under pressure to install slurry stores under NVZ rules and these cannot be built in vernacular styles. Want to see a situation where farmers and landowners want to get within the park's boundaries, not outside.</p>
<p>Garendon Park & Countryside Protection Group (GPCPG)</p>	<p>As with Shepshed Countryside Group, GPCPG recommends that, to take in more ancient Charnwood Forest, historic parks and areas of wildlife, the boundary takes into account; Long Whatton, Hathern, older parts of Loughborough and Quorn, Mountsorrel and Rothley, Anstey and Groby, Ratby, Markfield, part of Coalville, Osgathorpe, and Belton.</p>

APPENDIX EIGHT

DRAFT LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION RESPONSES

The consultation focused on the draft landscape character assessment including the boundary of the Charnwood Forest and the individual landscape character areas. It did not include consultation on the main text of the document or the settlement character assessment.

Organisation	Comments
North West Leicestershire District Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content with the overall revised definition of the Landscape Character Area • Concerned that there is no justification for the inclusion of undeveloped land north of the A511 in the Bardon Active Quarries character area; • Concerned this part of the assessment concentrates on the Billa Barra/Bardon Hill area and not upon the urban sections; • Believe the regional park boundary should be different to the LCA boundary as one deals with landscape character, the other about an area requiring a policy approach; • Not appropriate to include urban areas of Coalville/Whitwick/Thringstone within the regional park boundary even though believe they should form part of the LCA
English Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wonder how the line through the built up area of Loughborough was defined; • Concerned that the HLC has not been taken into account during the production of the study; • Agree that the character areas names should reflect the character of the areas.
Government Office for the East Midlands (GOEM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Believe all areas have a landscape character and the definition of that landscape character is separate to the consideration of policy; • GOEM would object to any restrictive policies which are based on landscape character alone. Regional Parks should be set around positive policies. • GOEM is fully supportive of the Charnwood Forest Regional Park in context of the growth agenda and green infrastructure; • Believe a separate expression of what a regional park will be is needed and that maybe the regional park boundary should be different to the character area to support the agenda for growth; • The function of the regional park needs to be decided to inform the final boundary.
National Forest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on geology, Cliffe Hill should be included as the boundary appears to run through it; • The area around Thornton, including the woodland, should be excluded from the LCA as it is in the Leicestershire/South Derbyshire Coalfield; • Same for the area around Ratby Burroughs. If this is included the boundary should be drawn tightly to capture the mature ancient woodland sites; • Prefers short place names for the character areas with short supporting descriptions; • Final regional park boundary depends on its rationale.
Natural England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support a Garendon Park extension; • Believe the character areas should have shorter local names, maybe with a brief associated description.
Charnwood Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boundary Issues: Area to the west of Shepshed should be included in the Charnwood Forest Area. The Inspector's report into Charnwood Local Plan recommended this area be included in the Charnwood Forest Area. Garendon Park and the area to the north should be excluded and should remain in the Langley Lowlands. • Use of the A6 bypass as the eastern boundary of the LCA is not appropriate. • Support dropping the buffer zones; • Little recognition within the LCA of the impact of visitors to the area or the impact of recreational activities/facilities; • Would like to see recommendations which support positive policy towards managing pressure. • Would like to see more information in the 'pressures likely to effect change' section.

CHARNWOOD FOREST LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT