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Enhancing Natural Capital: lessons from Derbyshire & Beyond

Scott Blance, Advocacy Manager, Derbyshire Wildlife Trust
s.blance@derbyshirewt.co.uk



Enhancing Natural Capital:

- Nature Based Solutions (NBS) are the most effective way to enhance natural capital and address societal challenges
- NBS deliver multiple benefits for nature and people through the use of nature and natural processes
- NBS must be acceptable to local communities and equitable



‘Actions to **protect, conserve, restore**, sustainably use and manage natural or modified terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine **ecosystems** which address **social, economic and environmental** challenges effectively and adaptively, while simultaneously providing **human well-being, ecosystem services** and **resilience** and **biodiversity** benefits’.

United Nations Environment Assembly internationally agreed definition of Nature Based Solutions (Nairobi, 2022).



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How is Derbyshire Wildlife Trust Progressing Nature Based Solutions?



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Practical Delivery





Derwent Forest:

- EA modelling shows that peak flows in Derby could be reduced by 340mm with development of 60% woodland cover across the catchment, potentially avoiding flooding in the city.
- Aim is to create 30,000 hectares of wooded 'landscape', including woodland, hedgerow, wood pasture and orchards.
- **Natural Capital Outcomes:** Natural Flood Management (NFM), biodiversity, carbon sequestration air quality, food etc.
- How: land surveys, grant assistance, planting, community engagement and modelling. Where would NFM measures have greatest impact?
- Progress to date:
 - Implemented 91.5 hectares of NFM interventions, and led woodland creation management plans covering 50.5 hectares.
 - Project pipeline covering 73.9 hectares of NFM interventions and 47.3 hectares of woodland creation





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Contributing to the Evidence Base: Research Partnerships



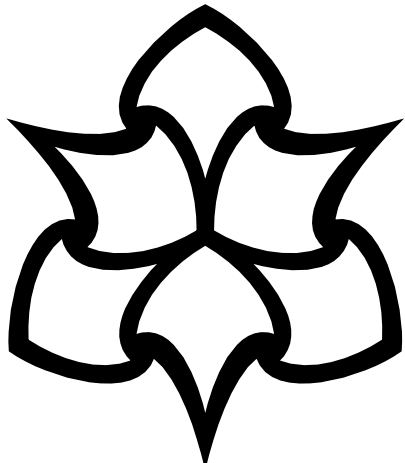
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Research Partnerships:



UNIVERSITY OF
DERBY



**Manchester
Metropolitan
University**

*'The KTPs are an exciting opportunity for academics and students at the University. **The BNG work is cutting-edge, in a highly technical area and will draw on the skills of our academic team in remote sensing, biodiversity analysis and ecological modelling** to support Derbyshire Wildlife Trust in this innovative endeavour. It also offers a **great learning opportunity for hundreds of our undergraduate and postgraduate students, from across business management, operations and supply chain, environmental management and sustainability courses. They will all learn a lot from the case studies, projects and guest lectures generated by this project**.'*

Dr Anne Danby, Course Director for the School of Built and Natural Environment at the University of Derby



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Collaboration with the Finance Sector

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Developing Markets:

- Huge finance gap in hitting the Government's long-term environmental targets - private finance is a necessity.
- Broader market and policy drivers stimulating market development – Biodiversity Net Gain, Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures etc
- Wave of Government interventions designed to develop private finance models that support nature recovery projects:
 - The Natural Environment Readiness Fund allocated grants of up to £100,000 to help organisations develop nature projects to a point where they can attract private investment.
 - Our scheme is called Derbyshire's Nature Recovery and Natural Capital Aggregator Project.

**NATURAL
ENVIRONMENT
INVESTMENT
READINESS
FUND**



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Financial Partnerships:

- Triodos' mission is to make money work for positive social, environmental and cultural change through provision of banking services, lending and investment
- At the forefront of developing commercial models for ecosystem services in the UK.
- Lead financial adviser to help us get the Aggregator Project 'investment ready' and can raise capital from investors:
 - Develop an investment case
 - Develop a pricing structure and review process for ecosystem services
 - Develop a financial forecast for the target project pipeline

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Leveraging the Natural Capital Strategy: Lessons from Greater Manchester

GMCA GREATER
MANCHESTER
COMBINED
AUTHORITY



Natural Capital Investment Plan:

- Used the authority's Natural Capital Strategy as the evidence base to create plan with 3 key components:
 1. A pipeline of potential project types which need investment;
 2. Finance models to facilitate private sector investment and the role of public sector, and
 3. Recommendations to put the plan into practice over the next 5 years.
- Identifying different sources of finance informs how the Council and other stakeholders can work more efficiently in terms of funding and policy/governance effort. It also informs choices between traditional environmental spending and regulation (which remain crucial) and innovative financing approaches. Some environmental priorities will always require public funding.
- Identified project types and investment opportunities aligned with the vision for Greater Manchester, and the role of local Government.





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Recommendation to Cabinet:

- *That the Committee notes the work of Derbyshire Wildlife Trust in enhancing natural capital and welcomes their continued and close involvement in developing the Local Nature Recovery Strategy*
- *Recommends the Council use the Natural Capital Strategy as the basis to develop a Natural Capital Investment Plan for Derbyshire.*