

The Arc
High Street
Clowne
S43 4JY

To: Chair & Members of the Climate
Change and Communities Scrutiny
Committee

Contact: Angelika Kaufhold
Telephone: 01246 242529
Email: angelika.kaufhold@bolsover.gov.uk

Monday, 6th October 2025

Dear Councillor

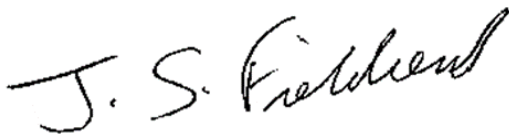
CLIMATE CHANGE AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Climate Change and Communities Scrutiny Committee of the Bolsover District Council to be held in the Committee Room 1, The Arc, Clowne on Tuesday, 14th October, 2025 at 10:00 hours.

Register of Members' Interests - Members are reminded that a Member must within 28 days of becoming aware of any changes to their Disclosable Pecuniary Interests provide written notification to the Authority's Monitoring Officer.

You will find the contents of the agenda itemised on page 3 onwards.

Yours faithfully



Solicitor to the Council & Monitoring Officer

Equalities Statement

Bolsover District Council is committed to equalities as an employer and when delivering the services it provides to all sections of the community.

The Council believes that no person should be treated unfairly and is committed to eliminating all forms of discrimination, advancing equality and fostering good relations between all groups in society.

Access for All statement

You can request this document or information in another format such as large print or **language** or contact us by:

- **Phone:** [01246 242424](tel:01246 242424)
- **Email:** enquiries@bolsover.gov.uk
- **BSL Video Call:** A three-way video call with us and a BSL interpreter. It is free to call Bolsover District Council with Sign Solutions, you just need WiFi or mobile data to make the video call, or call into one of our Contact Centres.
- Call with [Relay UK](#) - a free phone service provided by BT for anyone who has difficulty hearing or speaking. It's a way to have a real-time conversation with us by text.
- **Visiting** one of our [offices](#) at Clowne, Bolsover, Shirebrook and South Normanton

CLIMATE CHANGE AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Tuesday, 14 October 2025 at 10:00 hours taking place in the Committee Room 1, The Arc, Clowne

Item No.		Page No.(s)
	<u>FORMAL PART A</u>	
1.	Apologies for Absence	
2.	Urgent Items of Business To note any urgent items of business which the Chairman has consented to being considered under the provisions of Section 100(B) 4(b) of the Local Government Act 1972.	
3.	Declarations of Interest Members should declare the existence and nature of any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and Non Statutory Interest as defined by the Members' Code of Conduct in respect of: a) any business on the agenda; b) any urgent additional items to be considered; c) any matters arising out of those items; and if appropriate, withdraw from the meeting at the relevant time.	
4.	Minutes To consider the minutes of the Climate Change and Communities Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 23 rd June 2025.	5 - 12
5.	List of Key Decisions and Items to be Considered in Private <i>Members should contact the officer whose name appears on the List of Key Decisions for any further information). NB: If Members wish to discuss an exempt report under this item, the meeting will need to move into exempt business and exclude the public in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 and Local Government Act 1972, Part 1, Schedule 12a for that part of the meeting only.</i>	13 - 18
6.	Carbon Reduction Plan: Draft Actions Update	
7.	Review of Energy in Local Housing - Post-Scrutiny Monitoring (Second Interim Report)	19 - 31
8.	Review of the Council's Approach to Environmental Despoilment	32 - 45

Education and Enforcement - Post Scrutiny Monitoring (Second Interim Report)

9.	Bolsover Tree and Woodland Strategy: Proposed Consultation Draft	46 - 106
10.	Work Programme 2025/26	107 - 112

CLIMATE CHANGE AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Climate Change and Communities Scrutiny Committee of the Bolsover District Council held in Committee Room 1, The Arc, Clowne on Monday, 23rd June 2025 at 14:00 hours.

PRESENT:-

Members:-

Councillor Ashley Taylor in the Chair

Councillors Anne Clarke (Vice-Chair), Cathy Jeffery and Sandra Peake.

Officers:- Steve Brunt (Strategic Director of Services), Samantha Bentley (Service Manager (Residential and Technical Support) Environmental Health), Richard Winter (Climate Change Officer), Thomas Dunne-Wragg (Scrutiny Officer) and Matthew Kerry (Governance and Civic Officer).

Also in attendance at the meeting, observing, was Councillor Rob Hiney-Saunders (Portfolio Holder for the Environment).

CLI1-25/26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received on behalf of Councillor Catherine Tite.

CLI2-25/26 URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

There were no urgent items of business to be considered.

CLI3-25/26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

CLI4-25/26 MINUTES

Moved by Councillor Cathy Jeffery and seconded by Councillor Ashley Taylor

RESOLVED that the minutes of a Climate Change and Communities Scrutiny Committee held on 8th April 2025 be approved as a true and correct record.

CLI5-25/26 LIST OF KEY DECISIONS AND ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN PRIVATE

The Committee considered the List of Key Decisions and Items.

RESOLVED that the List of Key Decisions and Items to be considered in the private document be noted.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

CLI6-25/26

COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMME - MEMBER UPDATE

The Service Manager presented the report to the Committee to provide Members with an update on the Community Outreach Service delivered by the Environmental Health Team.

The Community Outreach Service (the 'Service') was a well-established, longstanding service delivered by the Council.

The Service was ultimately aiming to assist residents to live or remain in a safe and healthy home, and to assist their overall health and wellbeing. The Service delivered support across the District to some of the Council's most vulnerable residents.

The Service delivery focussed on the following themes:

- Support to ensure residents were receiving any financial help available;
- Help with budgeting to reflect residents' individual circumstances;
- Referral to debt advice agencies;
- Support in tackling food and fuel poverty;
- Help to deal with letters and forms;
- Referral to specialist agencies to meet the resident's needs;
- Help with improving physical, mental and emotional wellbeing;
- Close working with partner agencies to support families in need of additional support; and,
- Interventions.

Whilst the Service was flexible to the needs of residents in need of help and support, the demand for the Service had predominantly been around advice and support for financial assistance.

It was intended to provide a friendly, approachable Service focussing on individual assistance. While telephone assistance could be provided, the aim was to provide face-to-face, in person connections via outreach or home visits.

Mobile phone numbers were used rather than customers accessing the Service through the Council's telephonic services – to avoid wary customers being deterred from making contact and accessing the help they might need.

The Service received a substantial number of service requests. In the 2024/25 financial year, the number of service requests equated to approximately 13 cases per week, between 2 FTEs. The table below demonstrated how the number of cases had risen significantly since the COVID-19 Global Pandemic (and also perhaps as a result of the Cost of Living crisis).

Number of Cases Received by the Service by Financial Year	
Financial year	Number of cases
2018/19	499
2019/20	450
2020/21	438
2021/22	599
2022/23	777

CLIMATE CHANGE AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

2023/24	703
2024/25	682

Due to the increased demand for the Service over recent years, the Council had to make minor changes to the Service to accommodate current needs. However, during the busiest times, it was likely that customers could wait up to two weeks for an appointment. This did depend on priority and risk though, with the most urgent cases being brought forward.

Customers were generally satisfied with the appointment times being offered – to date, the Council had never received a complaint about the Service.

For each case received, there were a wide range of interventions that might be delivered. Cases could often result in more than one visit due to their complexity. Interventions such as assisting in the completion of forms for Personal Independence Payment (PIP) meant a visit could take approximately 2 hours.

Therefore, of the 13 cases received on average per week, there would be cases that were ongoing with multiple interventions and could range from those completed within an hour or two, to those requiring multiple hours of input.

The most frequently recorded actions during 2024/25 were inevitably ‘visit’ and ‘telephone call’. However, when considering the types of interventions made, most frequent interventions included:

- Benefit checks;
- Discretionary Housing Payment applications;
- Council Tax;
- Financial advice referral;
- Housing applications;
- Payment Plans;
- Pension Credit;
- PIP & Disability Living Allowance;
- Housing Benefit & Universal Credit;
- Housing issues; and,
- Assisting customers completing forms.

These intervention types demonstrated how the demand for the Service was predominantly around customers’ finances.

The Service was very well integrated with the range of other services provided by the Council, as well as from external organisations. These strong links meant that cases were easily cross referred, ensuring that customers received a wide suite of intervention and support, as opposed to a narrow, focussed intervention which dealt with only finite matters.

These strong links were evidenced by the source of the Service requests, summarised in the table further below. As the Service was so well established (and despite limited publicity), approximately one third of all cases in 2024/25 were self-referrals and the customer directly requesting support.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Almost one quarter of cases were referred by external professionals. These were mainly from Derbyshire County Council (DCC) Adult Care and Children's Services. It was also notable that approximately 20% of all cases handled were referred from the Housing Department and were the Council's social tenants. This was a disproportionate figure when considering the housing tenures across the District. However, it did demonstrate how well the Service was integrated and received.

Referrals into the Service during 2024/25	
Source of referral	Approximate percentage of all cases received
Housing Department	20%
Contact Centre	12%
Other internal services (Benefits and Environmental Health)	4%
External professionals incl. Social Care, DCC, Community Health, Schools	24%
Self-referral	30%
Other (incl. not recorded)	10%

Almost all service requests resulted in a visit to the home or a meeting place in the community. This face-to-face support provided officers insight into customers' circumstances, allowing them to identify interventions over and above those initially requested by the customer.

Unlike some other services which were often simple referral schemes, the Service aimed to deliver direct support by being present with the customer. This direct support could include assisting in completing forms, handling telephone calls, and helping customers better equip themselves to handle their affairs. The case studies attached in Appendix 1 showed the breadth and detail behind the Service.

It was accepted that promotion of the Service could be an area of development moving forward. However, this had to be finely balanced with the level of resources available so as not to create a backlog of referrals and mismanage customer expectations.

A Member thanked the Community Outreach Service Team for their excellent work. Noting that while it was important to not promote the Service too much (and demand outstretch resources), the Member asked if outreach could take place additionally at one location in Shirebrook. The Service Manager agreed to investigate outreach at the indicated site.

To a question from the Chair on the Service collaborating with similar external service providers, the Service Manager informed the Service did make referrals to these organisations and vice versa – if one service was struggling with enquiries, they could refer to ensure customers were assisted / advised in appropriate time.

Moved by Councillor Sandra Peake and seconded by Councillor Anne Clarke
RESOLVED that the Committee note the report.

The Service Manager left the meeting at 14:32 hours.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

CLI7-25/26

REVIEW OF COUNCIL'S APPROACH TO CARBON REDUCTION - POST-SCRUTINY MONITORING AND UPDATE FROM THE CLIMATE CHANGE OFFICER

The Scrutiny Officer presented the Post-Scrutiny Monitoring Report on the recent Review of Council's Approach to Carbon Reduction to the Committee.

The Committee had put together 9 recommendations, as outlined in Appendix 1, which would enable the Council to clarify immediate priorities for action as well as longer term planning to ensure the Council and District had achieved Net Zero by 2050.

6 out of 9 recommendations had been achieved – 2 were on track and 1 had been extended. The outstanding recommendations were on track to be completed in late 2025. It was noted that the Council had established a Climate Change Officer in July 2024, who was overseeing the completion of the outstanding recommendations.

Revised target dates and detail on the actions and progress taken were set out in Appendix 2.

The Climate Change Officer informed the Council's transportation emissions would increase due to additional vehicles in the fleet. The Strategic Director of Services explained functions previously delivered by North East Derbyshire District Council were now in-house. The Climate Change Officer added the use of Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) in lieu of diesel from April 2025 would result in around a tenth of emissions – actual emissions and savings would be reported when available from April 2026. This equated to 841 tonnes CO2 reduction to 12 tonnes (approx.).

The Strategic Director of Services informed the use of HVO had been delayed due to the higher cost of the fuel in previous years – it was currently 8-9 pence more per litre, but the environmental benefits outweighed this cost.

The Committee was informed that while Battery Electric Vehicles had been considered, the initial upfront price per vehicle and their high devaluation did not offset the lower running costs.

The Strategic Director of Services left the meeting at 14:44 hours.

The Scrutiny Officer noted the Portfolio Holder for the Environment was meeting with the Climate Change Officer monthly. Considerations were being made for Local Government Reorganisation and the Council's future corporate plans.

The other recommendations and their current statuses were discussed by the Committee.

The Climate Change Officer offered Members could request meetings be arranged at any point to discuss any / all climate change issues.

Moved by Councillor Sandra Peake and seconded by Councillor Anne Clarke

RESOLVED that: 1) Scrutiny Members note the progress against the review recommendations;

- 2) Scrutiny Members acknowledge any exceptions to delivery and clarify the additional action required by the service;

CLIMATE CHANGE AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

- 3) Scrutiny Members make its report and findings public, in accordance with Part 4.5.17(4) of the Council's Constitution; and,
- 4) Officers continue to implement the recommendations and submit a further report in six months' time highlighting progress and any exceptions to delivery.

CLI8-25/26 REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S APPROACH TO ENVIRONMENTAL DESPOILMENT EDUCATION AND ENFORCEMENT - FORMAL APPROVAL BY COMMITTEE

The Scrutiny Officer presented the completed report for the recent Review of the Council's Approach to Environmental Despoilment Education and Enforcement to the Committee.

The Committee had agreed to undertake a review of the Council's approach to environmental despoilment education and enforcement, as part of its 2024/25 Work Programme.

The issue was initially raised due to concerns about environmental despoilment in the District, including fly-tipping, littering, and dog fouling, which not only degraded the aesthetic value of the District but also posed significant risks to public health, safety, and local biodiversity.

In May 2025, the Environment Secretary announced further measures to tackle waste crime, including a review of local authority vehicle seizure powers to better support local authorities in dealing with fly-tipping.

Reforms to the waste carriers, brokers and dealers regime, as well as tighter controls on waste permit exemptions, would provide local authorities and the Environment Agency the stronger tools needed to crack down on illegal waste activity.

At the local level, the District faced unique challenges - despite its natural beauty and rich heritage, the District had struggled with persistent environmental despoilment, especially when compared to neighbouring areas.

This issue had significant implications for the well-being of local communities, impacting both the physical environment and public perception of the area.

The prevalence of environmental despoilment not only undermined residents' quality of life but also detracted from the District's appeal to visitors and potential investors.

Furthermore, environmental despoilment in shared public spaces could harm wildlife, pose hazards to public health and incur high costs for clean-up efforts.

This was a critical issue for the Council, as it aligned with both local priorities (incl. creating safer, cleaner neighbourhoods) and national objectives focused on waste reduction and environmental sustainability.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The aims of the review were:

- That the Council reduced fly-tipping, littering and dog fouling to improve the aesthetical value of the District, protect local wildlife and reduce the cost of dealing with the unauthorised illegal depositing of waste by assessing the service's effectiveness in tackling environmental despoilment; and,
- That the Council became an excellent authority at 'keeping the District clean' rather than 'cleaning the District'.

The objectives agreed were:

1. Understand what Environmental Despoilment involved (fly tipping, littering and dog fouling), the Council's statutory duty and enforcement powers, and policies available to the Council;
2. Analyse the current data of incidents of environmental despoilment across the District;
3. Review the current arrangements undertaken by the Enforcement Team, Streetscene Services and Environmental Health to reduce or prevent Environmental Despoilment;
4. Improve public information / education on environmental despoilment; and,
5. Identify benchmarking opportunities and areas for improvement; ensure there was a clear strategy of enforcement action to improve the quality of the environment across the District.

The key issues identified for investigation included:

- Enforcement powers of the Council;
- Types of land covered by the Council's statutory duties (Agricultural, Back Alley, Commercial/Industrial, Council, Footpath/Bridleway, Highway, Private Land, Railway, Watercourse);
- Public information and education;
- Dog Fouling;
- Fly Tipping; and,
- Litter.

The Committee had put together 11 recommendations aimed at assisting the Council in improving the effectiveness of its response to environmental despoilment across the District.

The key findings from the review were:

- Environmental despoilment, particularly fly-tipping, remained a significant and persistent issue across the District, impacting both the quality of the environment and residents' sense of place;
- Current enforcement outcomes were limited, with performance data showing a low percentage of reports leading to fixed penalty notices or prosecutions, particularly for fly-tipping, dog fouling and littering;
- The Joint Environmental Health Service with North East Derbyshire District Council offered a useful foundation, but there was a clear need to explore alternative models or tools that could enhance enforcement capability and effectiveness;

CLIMATE CHANGE AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

- Hotspot locations for fly-tipping required targeted action, including surveillance, signage, and operational task groups to focus efforts and improve accountability across departments;
- The coordination between departments – Streetscene, Community Safety and Environmental Health – must be strengthened through revived Corporate Enforcement Group meetings, structured evidence processes, and shared training opportunities;
- Public engagement and education were essential components for any long-term solution, with the Council needing to amplify its communications, provide clear guidance on waste disposal, and increase the visibility of enforcement actions to deter offending; and,
- Improved transparency and performance benchmarking through accessible, meaningful data and public updates which would help build community trust and demonstrate the Council's commitment to tackling environmental offences.

The Committee recognised that a strategic and joined-up approach was required to deliver sustained improvements.

The recommendations aimed to enhance enforcement activity, strengthen interdepartmental coordination, increase public awareness, and improve the visibility and responsiveness of the Council's actions.

If implemented effectively, the measures could help reduce environmental crime, promote civic responsibility, and create a cleaner, safer District for all residents.

The enforcement of environmental crime was discussed, with the use of good signage and social media encouraged.

Moved by Councillor Anne Clarke and seconded by Councillor Sandra Peake

RESOLVED that: 1) the Committee endorses the recommendations of the review outlined in Section 2 of the attached report (Appendix 2);

- 2) Committee submits the report to Executive for approval, in accordance with the Scrutiny Committee Terms of Reference – Part 3.6 (3) of the Constitution; and,
- 3) Following approval by Executive, monitoring of these recommendations by the Committee takes place over a twelve-month period via post scrutiny monitoring reports with an update report to the Committee at the end of the monitoring period.

CLI9-25/26

WORK PROGRAMME 2025/26

The Scrutiny Officer introduced the Work Programme 2025/26 and planned agenda items, attached at Appendix 1, to the Committee.

Moved by Councillor Anne Clarke and seconded by Councillor Sandra Peake

RESOLVED that Members review this report and the Programme attached at Appendix 1 for approval and amendment as required. All Members are advised to contact the Scrutiny Officer should they have any queries regarding future meetings.

The meeting concluded at 15:07 hours.



The Arc
High Street
Clowne
Derbyshire
S43 4JY

Key Decisions & Items to be Considered in Private

To be made under the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

Published on: 3rd October 2025

INTRODUCTION

The list attached sets out decisions that are termed as “Key Decisions” at least 28 calendar days before they are due to be taken by the Executive or an officer under delegated powers.

Preparation of the list helps Executive to programme its work. The purpose of the list is to give notice and provide an opportunity for consultation on the issues to be discussed. The list is updated each month with the period of the list being rolled forward by one month and republished. The list is available for public inspection at The Arc, High Street, Clowne, S43 4JY. Copies of the list can be obtained from Jim Fieldsend, Monitoring Officer, at this address or by email to jim.fieldsend@bolsover.gov.uk. The list can also be accessed from the Council’s website at www.bolsover.gov.uk.

The Executive is allowed to make urgent decisions which do not appear in the list; however, a notice will be published at The Arc and on the Council’s website explaining the reasons for the urgent decisions. Please note that the decision dates are indicative and are subject to change.

14

Members of Executive are as follows:

Councillor Jane Yates - Leader and Portfolio Holder - Policy, Strategy and Communications
Councillor Donna Hales - Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder - Corporate Governance and Performance
Councillor Mary Dooley - Portfolio Holder - Partnerships and Health and Wellbeing
Councillor Clive Moesby - Portfolio Holder - Resources
Councillor Phil Smith - Portfolio Holder - Housing
Councillor Tom Munro - Portfolio Holder - Growth
Councillor Rob Hiney-Saunders - Portfolio Holder - Environmental
Councillor John Ritchie - Portfolio Holder – Devolution

The Executive agenda and reports are available for inspection by the public five clear days prior to the meeting of the Executive. The papers can be seen at The Arc at the above address. The papers are also available on the Council’s website referred to above. Background papers are listed on each report submitted to the Executive and members of the public are entitled to see these documents unless they contain exempt or confidential information. The report also contains the name and telephone number of a contact officer.

Meetings of the Executive are open to the public and usually take place in the Council Chamber at The Arc. Occasionally there are items included on the agenda which are exempt and for those items the public will be asked to leave the meeting. This list also shows the reports intended to be dealt with in private and the reason why the reports are exempt or confidential. Members of the public may make representations to the Monitoring Officer about any particular item being considered in exempt and why they think it should be dealt with in public.

The list does not detail *all* decisions which have to be taken by the Executive, only “Key Decisions” and “Exempt Reports”. In these Rules, a “Key Decision” means an Executive decision, which is likely:

(1) **REVENUE**

- (a) Results in the Council making Revenue Savings of £75,000 or more; or
- (b) Results in the Council incurring Revenue Expenditure of £75,000 or more

(2) **CAPITAL**

- (a) Results in the Council making Capital Income of £150,000 or more; or
- (b) Results in the Council incurring Capital Expenditure of £150,000 or more

- 15 (3) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the District.

In determining the meaning of “significant” the Council must have regard to any guidance for the time being issued by the Secretary of State. The Council has decided that revenue income or expenditure of £75,000 or more and capital income or expenditure of £150,000 or more is significant.

The dates for meetings of Executive can be found here:

<https://committees.bolsover.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=1147>

The Council hereby gives notice of its intention to make the following Key Decisions and/or decisions to be considered in private:

Matter in respect of which a decision will be taken	Decision Maker	Date of Decision	Documents to be considered	Contact Officer	Is this decision a Key Decision?	Is this key decision to be heard in public or private session
Environmental Enforcement	Executive	3rd Nov 2025	Report of the Portfolio Holder for Environment	Mark Giles, Assistant Director Streetscene	Key - It is likely to result in the Council making revenue savings or incurring Revenue expenditure of £75,000 or more.	Public
Options appraisal on the future delivery of HRA Stock Condition Surveys	Executive	3rd Nov 2025	Report of the Portfolio Holder for Housing	Victoria Dawson, Assistant Director Housing Management and Enforcement	Key - It is likely to result in the Council making revenue savings or incurring Revenue expenditure of £75,000 or more.	Public
Purchase of Section 106 Properties from Woodall Homes limited – Boleappleton Farm, Bolsover	Executive	3rd Nov 2025	Report of the Portfolio Holder for Housing	Victoria Dawson, Assistant Director Housing Management and Enforcement	Key - It is likely to result in the Council making capital savings or incurring capital expenditure of £150,000 or more.	Public
Management of Corporate Debt - Write-off of outstanding amounts.	Executive	3rd Nov 2025	Report of the Portfolio Holder for Resources	Theresa Fletcher, Service Director Finance & Section 151 Officer	Key - It is likely to result in the Council making revenue savings or incurring Revenue expenditure of £75,000 or more.	Public

Matter in respect of which a decision will be taken	Decision Maker	Date of Decision	Documents to be considered	Contact Officer	Is this decision a Key Decision?	Is this key decision to be heard in public or private session
Introduction of separate weekly food waste collections	Executive	Between 8th Sept 2025 and 1st Dec 2025	Report of the Portfolio Holder for Environment	Mark Giles, Assistant Director Streetscene	Key - It is significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the District.	Public
To agree funding arrangements to undertake pre-construction works for social housing development at Mill Lane, Bolsover	Executive	Between 8th Sept 2025 and 1st Dec 2025	Report of the Portfolio Holder for Growth	Steve Brunt, Strategic Director of Services	Key - It is likely to result in the Council making revenue savings or incurring Revenue expenditure of £75,000 or more.	Public

SCHEDULE 12A
ACCESS TO INFORMATION: EXEMPT INFORMATION

PART 1
DESCRIPTIONS OF EXEMPT INFORMATION: ENGLAND

1. Information relating to any individual.
2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
4. Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.
5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.
6. Information which reveals that the authority proposes –
 - (a) to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
 - (b) To make an order or direction under any enactment.
7. Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

BOLSOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL

Meeting of the Climate Change and Communities Scrutiny Committee on 14th October 2025

Review of Energy in Local Housing – Post-Scrutiny Monitoring (Second Interim Report)

Report of the Scrutiny Officer

Classification	This report is Public
Contact Officer	Governance and Civic Manager

PURPOSE/SUMMARY OF REPORT

- To present the second interim Post-Scrutiny Monitoring Report assessing progress against the recommendations to date for the Review of the Council's Energy Policy for Local Housing to the Climate Change and Communities Scrutiny Committee.

REPORT DETAILS

1. Background

- 1.1 The Climate Change and Communities Scrutiny Committee agreed to undertake a Review of Council's Energy Policy for Local Housing as part of the 2023-24 Work Programme.
- 1.2 The issue was initially raised due to the District's requirement of improved energy resilience within the local housing stock as well as concerns over residents being under pressure due to the rising costs of energy adding to the current cost of living crisis

2. Details of Proposal or Information

- 2.1 The Committee put together five recommendations, as outlined in the appendices, which have assisted the Council in improving policies and standards for energy in local housing stock.
- 2.2 This report acknowledges progress to date by Officers implementing the recommendations.
- 2.3 To date **three** out five recommendations have been achieved, **one** was achieved behind the original target date, and **two** have been extended and will hopefully be completed within the next 6 months by the following interim report.

- 2.4 For further details on the progress of the report please see Post Scrutiny Monitoring Report at Appendix 2 which tracks the progress of actions taken, the Key Achievements and any reasons for non-implementation of recommendations. To see the original table of recommendations and the Executive's responses please see Appendix 1.

3. Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1 Members are required to make their report and findings public, in accordance with Part 4.5.17(4) of the Constitution.
- 3.2 Committee is required to monitor implementation of their recommendations in accordance with Part 3.6(1) of the Constitution.
- 3.3 Members must note Executive's response to the review recommendations and agree to review progress on the approved recommendations. A progress report will be submitted in six and twelve months' time, with any exceptions to expected delivery highlighted.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 4.1 There are no alternative options. Members are required to note the service's response to progress against the review recommendations.
- 4.2 Committee is required to monitor implementation of their recommendations in accordance with Part 3.6(1) of the Constitution and as such the report cannot be rejected.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

1. That Scrutiny Members note the progress against the review recommendations.
2. That Scrutiny Members acknowledge any exceptions to delivery and clarify the additional action required by the service.
3. That Scrutiny Members make its report and findings public, in accordance with Part 4.5.17(4) of the Council's Constitution.
4. That Officers continue to implement the recommendations and submit a further report in twelve months' time highlighting progress and any exceptions to delivery.

IMPLICATIONS:

<u>Finance and Risk</u>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Details:		

None from this report. Suggested action for the service can be contained within existing budgets.

On behalf of the Section 151 Officer

Legal (including Data Protection) Yes ☒ No ☐
Details:
 In carrying out scrutiny reviews the Council is exercising its scrutiny powers as laid out in s.21 of the Local Government Act 2000 and subsequent legislation which added/amended these powers

On behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

Staffing Yes ☐ No ☒
Details:
 None from this report.

On behalf of the Head of Paid Service

Equality and Diversity, and Consultation Yes ☐ No ☒
Details:
 N/A

Environment Yes ☒ No ☐
Details:
 The review supports the Corporate Ambition of 'Environment' and the Priority of 'Reducing our carbon footprint whilst supporting and encouraging residents and businesses to do the same by increasing rates of recycling across the District'. The review supports the Corporate Target ENV02. Reduce the District Council's carbon emissions by 100 tonnes per annum.

DECISION INFORMATION:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please indicate which threshold applies:	
Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an Executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more wards in the District or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Revenue (a) Results in the Council making Revenue Savings of £75,000 or more or (b) Results in the Council incurring Revenue Expenditure of £75,000 or more.	(a) <input type="checkbox"/> (b) <input type="checkbox"/>
Capital (a) Results in the Council making Capital Income of £150,000 or more or (b) Results in the Council incurring Capital Expenditure of £150,000 or more.	(a) <input type="checkbox"/> (b) <input type="checkbox"/>

District Wards Significantly Affected: <i>(to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the District)</i> Please state below which wards are affected or tick All if all wards are affected:	All <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
---	--

Is the decision subject to Call-In? <i>(Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)</i> If No, is the call-in period to be waived in respect of the decision(s) proposed within this report? <i>(decisions may only be classified as exempt from call-in with the agreement of the Monitoring Officer)</i> Consultation carried out: <i>(this is any consultation carried out prior to the report being presented for approval)</i> Leader <input type="checkbox"/> Deputy Leader <input type="checkbox"/> Executive <input type="checkbox"/> SLT <input type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Members <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
--	--

Links to Council Ambition: Customers, Economy, Environment, Housing
The review supports the Corporate Ambition of 'Environment'.

DOCUMENT INFORMATION:

Appendix No	Title
1	Executive Response to Review of the Council's Energy Policy for Local Housing – Original Recommendations
2	Post Scrutiny Monitoring Report - Review of the Council's Energy Policy for Local Housing

Background Papers <i>(These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Executive, you must provide copies of the background papers).</i>

Original Recommendations from Review and Executive's Response

Code	Recommendation	Desired Outcome	Target Date	Lead Officer	Resources	Service Response	Executive Response
CCCSC 23-24 2.1	That the Council establish a Minimum Energy Efficiency Standard (MEES) for all new build property within 3 months. Upon completion of the Housing Stock Condition Survey (estimated April 2025) the Council must establish a strategy for improving energy efficiency within Council Housing Stock.	To improve energy efficiency within Council Housing Stock.	June 2025	Housing Strategy and Development Officer in consultation with: Assistant Director Housing Management and Enforcement	Officer time	The Head of Service has confirmed that the housing department will be able to achieve the desired outcome within the given time frame.	Recommendation Approved.
CCCSC 23-24 2.2	That the Council publishes information regarding grants and energy efficiency on the Council website.	Provide access for residents to find information to improve their homes.	January 2025	Climate Change Officer in consultation with: Communications Marketing and Design Manager	Officer time	The Communications, Marketing and Design Manager has confirmed this recommendation is realistic and achievable.	Recommendation Approved.
CCCSC 23-24 2.3	That the Council continues to feature educational articles in Intouch magazine and Bolsover TV on energy efficiency grants for homes.	Provide simple access for residents to easily find information.	January 2025	Climate Change Officer in consultation with: Communications Marketing and Design Manager	Officer time	The Communications, Marketing and Design Manager has confirmed this recommendation is realistic and achievable.	Recommendation Approved.
CCCSC 23-24 2.4	That following the Council's appointment of the new Climate Change Officer, opportunities be investigated for realistic	To ensure that all potential opportunities for DDL to provide energy	June 2025	Climate Change Officer in consultation with:	Officer time	The Director of Property & Construction, Dragonfly Development Ltd. has	Recommendation Approved.

Code	Recommendation	Desired Outcome	Target Date	Lead Officer	Resources	Service Response	Executive Response
	ways that the Council and Dragonfly Development Ltd can work together to offer energy improvements to the owner-occupier sector and to assess whether a pragmatic package can be put together to achieve this.	improvements are considered to improve the EPC ratings in the owner-occupier sector.		Director of Property & Construction, Dragonfly Development Ltd.		confirmed this recommendation is realistic and achievable.	
CCCSC 23-24 2.5 24	That the Council consolidates all existing policies, strategies and plans regarding EV charging stations for Bolsover District into one clear document/ web page article dedicated to the topic of the Council's approach to EV charging points.	Provide simple access for residents to easily find information.	June 2025	Climate Change Officer in consultation with: Communications Marketing and Design Manager	Officer time	The Communications, Marketing and Design Manager has confirmed this recommendation is realistic and achievable.	Recommendation Approved.

RESPONSE TO SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ON IMPLEMENTATION FOLLOWING SCRUTINY REVIEW

Title of Review:	Review of the Council's Energy Policy for Local Housing				
Timescale of Review:	July 2023-July 2024		Post-Monitoring Period:	6 months commencing October 2024. Interim report due spring 2025. Second interim report due Autumn 2025.	
Date agreed by Scrutiny:	March 2023		Date agreed by Executive:	April 2023	
Total No. of Recommendations and Sub Recommendations	Achieved	1	On track	0	Extended 3
	Achieved (Behind target)	1	Overdue	0	Alert 0

Key Achievements:

- Savills have concluded the Stock Conditions Survey access gained 92.7%.
- **Warm Homes: Social Housing Fund** Government funding to increase social housing EPCs to level C.
- BDC were successfully awarded 40% of the funding which will enable the Council to improve energy efficiencies at 100 identified properties (3-year project) - extra projects in the pipeline that are contributing to the original review and recommendations.
- **Warm Homes: Local Grant** government funding to increase private rented/owner occupier housing to EPC C.
- Information regarding energy grants have been published on the Council website under Energy Advice.
- The Council has updated its website and published educational articles, alongside plans for a communication strategy to support the Climate Plan.
- Funding has been secured to deliver housing improvements, enabling DDL and Bassetlaw to carry out work on both Council and private properties.

Reasons for non-implementation of Recommendations:

- **Stock Condition Survey / MEES:** Implementation has been delayed due to extended timescales for verifying survey data and awaiting the outcome of the Government's MEES consultation.
- **EV Education / Strategy:** Implementation has been deferred as EV education is scheduled to be incorporated into the forthcoming Climate Change Strategy (2026).

APPENDIX 2

PERFORM Code	Recommendation	Lead Officer	Target Date	Completion Date	Status	Resources	Progress/Action
CCCSC 23-24 2.1 26	That the Council establish a Minimum Energy Efficiency Standard (MEES) for all new build property within 3 months. Upon completion of the Housing Stock Condition Survey (estimated April 2025) the Council must establish a strategy for improving energy efficiency within Council Housing Stock.	Housing Strategy and Development Officer in consultation with: Assistant Director Housing Management and Enforcement	June 2025 (extended estimated date: December 2025)		Extended	Officer time	<p><u>First Interim Report</u> Savills have concluded the Stock Conditions Survey, with access gained to 92.7%. Full report including EPCs for these properties due end of April 2026.</p> <p>(Some of the 350 that weren't accessed during the SCS may have additional data on how the Council can assess their EPC levels. Currently collating additional information).</p> <p><u>Second Interim Report</u> Verifying the data from the Stock Condition Survey has taken longer than anticipated. The Government has launched a consultation on a proposal to set MEES. Decision taken to await the outcome of Government consultation before</p>

APPENDIX 2

PERFORM Code	Recommendation	Lead Officer	Target Date	Completion Date	Status	Resources	Progress/Action
							finalising any strategy related to new build standards and retrofit of existing stock - although continuing to look at energy efficiency (on going).
CCCSC 23-24 2.2 27	That the Council publishes information regarding grants and energy efficiency on the Council website.	Climate Change Officer in consultation with: Communications Marketing and Design Manager	January 2025	November 2024	Achieved	Officer time	<u>First Interim Report</u> The Climate Change officer has published information regarding energy grants under Energy Advice of the Council website. The information was originally uploaded November 2024 and was updated January 2025. The Council will also be including this information on the Housing page on the website for ease of access. Additionally, the Council has secured Warm Homes: Social Housing Fund (for Bolsover District Homes properties) and the Warm Homes: Local Grant (for private properties).

APPENDIX 2

PERFORM Code	Recommendation	Lead Officer	Target Date	Completion Date	Status	Resources	Progress/Action
CCCSC 23-24 2.3 28	That the Council continues to feature educational articles in <i>Intouch</i> magazine and Bolsover TV on energy efficiency grants for homes.	Climate Change Officer in consultation with: Communications Marketing and Design Manager	January 2025	Summer 2025	Achieved (Behind target)		<p><u>First Interim Report</u> The Climate Officer and the Comms Manager are currently awaiting information on grants from EMCCA.</p> <p><u>Second Interim Report</u> BTV has now been discontinued. The website has been updated with information on the new grants from EMCCA, alongside DESNZ funding for Warm Homes: Local Grant and Warm Homes: Social Housing Fund. Several educational articles have also been published on the website. Comms and the CCO intend to develop a communication strategy to accompany the Climate Plan, to increase the amount of information available to the public. This is part of continuous ongoing work.</p>

APPENDIX 2

PERFORM Code	Recommendation	Lead Officer	Target Date	Completion Date	Status	Resources	Progress/Action
CCCSC 23-24 2.4 29	That following the Council's appointment of the new Climate Change Officer, opportunities be investigated for realistic ways that the Council and Dragonfly Development Ltd can work together to offer energy improvements to the owner-occupier sector and to assess whether a pragmatic package can be put together to achieve this.	Climate Change Officer in consultation with: Director of Property & Construction, Dragonfly Development Ltd.	June 2025	Summer 2025	Extended	Officer time	<p><u>First Interim Report</u> DDL has approached the Council to discuss how the Council and DDL can work together. DDL awaiting a response for an action plan.</p> <p>6th March Portfolio Holder for Climate Change was appointed – undertook a review of Climate Change project management.</p> <p><u>Second Interim Report</u> There has been a shortage of funding from DDL for work on private properties. However, BDC has secured funding for local housing through the Warm Homes: Local Grant and the Warm Homes: Social Housing Fund. The Council will use these funds to work with DDL, with DDL carrying out the work on Council houses while Bassetlaw</p>

APPENDIX 2

PERFORM Code	Recommendation	Lead Officer	Target Date	Completion Date	Status	Resources	Progress/Action
							manages the projects on private properties under contract to BDC. Decision taken to bring DDL back in-house, so overall recommendation requires review as to deliverability.
CCCSC 23-24 2.5 30	That the Council consolidates all existing policies, strategies and plans regarding EV charging stations for Bolsover District into one clear document/ web page article dedicated to the topic of the Council's approach to EV charging points.	Climate Change Officer in consultation with: Communications Marketing and Design Manager	June 2025 (Extended to April 2026)		Extended	Officer time	<p><u>First Interim Report</u> Progress is currently underway from the Climate Change Officer in collaboration with Environmental Health.</p> <p><u>Second Interim Report</u> An article on EV charging stations will feature in InTouch magazine in the October 2025 issue. The CCO also plans to include links to the DCC website and to resources such as Zapmap, which provides an EV charging station map. EV education will form part of the Climate Change Strategy,</p>

APPENDIX 2

PERFORM Code	Recommendation	Lead Officer	Target Date	Completion Date	Status	Resources	Progress/Action
							expected in 2026, with Environmental Health continuing to lead on EVs in collaboration with the Climate Change Officer.

Bolsover District Council

Meeting of the Climate Change and Communities Scrutiny Committee on 14th October 2025

Review of the Council's Approach to Environmental Despoilment Education and Enforcement – Post Scrutiny Monitoring (Second Interim Report)

Report of the Chair of Customer Services Scrutiny Committee

Classification	This report is Public
Contact Officer	Governance and Civic Manager

PURPOSE/SUMMARY OF REPORT

- To present Executive's Response to the Review of the Council's Approach to Environmental Despoilment Education and Enforcement.
-

REPORT DETAILS

1. Background

- 1.1 The Climate Change and Communities Scrutiny Committee agreed to undertake a review of the Council's approach to environmental despoilment education and enforcement, as part of the 2024-25 Work Programme.
- 1.2 The issue was initially raised due to concerns about environmental despoilment in Bolsover District, including fly-tipping, littering, and dog fouling. These issues not only degrade the aesthetic value of the District but also pose significant risks to public health, safety, and local biodiversity.
- 1.3 This is a critical issue for the Council, as it aligns with both local priorities - such as creating safer, cleaner neighbourhoods - and national objectives focused on waste reduction and environmental sustainability.

2. Details of Proposal or Information

- 2.1 The aims of the review were:

- That the Council reduces fly-tipping, littering and dog fouling to improve the aesthetical value of Bolsover District, to protect local wildlife and to reduce the cost of dealing with the unauthorised illegal depositing of waste by assessing the service's effectiveness in tackling environmental despoilment.

- That the Council becomes an excellent authority at 'keeping the District clean' rather than 'cleaning the District'.

2.2 The objectives agreed were:

1. Understand what Environmental Despoilment involves (fly tipping, littering and dog fouling), the Council's statutory duty and enforcement powers, and policies available to the Council.
2. Analyse the current data of incidents of environmental despoilment across the District.
3. Review the current arrangements undertaken by the Enforcement Team, Streetscene Services and Environmental Health to reduce or prevent Environmental Despoilment.
4. Improve public information/education on environmental despoilment.
5. Identify benchmarking opportunities and areas for improvement; ensure there is a clear strategy of enforcement action to improve the quality of the environment across the District.

2.3 The key issues identified for investigation were as follows:

- Enforcement powers of the Council
- Types of land covered by the Council's statutory duties (Agricultural, Back Alley, Commercial/Industrial, Council, Footpath/Bridleway, Highway, Private Land, Railway, Watercourse)
- Public information and education
- Dog Fouling
- Fly Tipping
- Litter

2.4 The Committee met on five occasions to consider the scope of the review, discuss key issues and potential recommendations, and review the evidence gathered.

2.5 Following the review the Customer Services Scrutiny Committee agreed the following recommendations:

1. That the Council undertakes a piece of work, led by the Assistant Director of Streetscene, Community Safety and Enforcement, to explore alternative ways of working to improve the level and effectiveness of environmental enforcement activity across Bolsover District
2. That the Council targets fly-tipping hotspots (such as top 5 most frequently visited from 2023/24 including Outgang Lane in Pleasley, Wood Lane in Shirebrook, and Talbot Street in Pinxton), through targeted patrols and installation of surveillance cameras where appropriate.
3. That the Council prioritise completing the installation of the 15 metal signs and place additional signage in high-risk areas (such Outgang Lane in Pleasley, Wood Lane in Shirebrook, and Talbot Street in Pinxton) in lay-bys and secluded spots.

4. That the Council explores options for CCTV surveillance in fly-tipping hotspots.
5. That the Council reintroduces regular quarterly meetings of the Corporate Enforcement Group (Streetscene, the Enforcement Team and Environmental Health).
6. That the Council develops a clear process for evidence collection for fly-tipping sites that ensures evidence is properly managed.
7. That the Council organises joint training sessions for the Enforcement team, Streetscene workers and Environmental Health that focuses on improving understanding of each team's roles; as well as bi-annual training for evidence collection, ensuring there is a specific process for collecting physical evidence.
8. That the Council delivers public awareness campaigns to educate residents about the risks of hiring unlicensed waste collectors and provides clear, accessible guidance on how to verify waste carrier licences.
9. That the Council enhance public information on fly-tipping and littering by regularly featuring updates on enforcement actions and responsible bulky waste removal options through existing communication channels and the newly established social media platforms, including the Bolsover District Council Facebook page.
10. That the Council enhance transparency by publishing meaningful data and information on fly-tipping activities on the website and through social media, that demonstrate what the Council is doing to tackle environmental despoilment.

2.6 Appendix 1 details the Executive's response to the Review's recommendations. A Post Scrutiny Monitoring Report will be delivered to the Committee in April 2026 which will track the progress of actions taken, the Key Achievements and any reasons for non-implementation of recommendations.

3. Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1 Members are required to make their report and findings public, in accordance with Part 4.5.17(4) of the Constitution.
- 3.2 Committee is required to monitor implementation of their recommendations in accordance with Part 3.6(1) of the Constitution. Members are required to make
- 3.3 Members must note Executive's response to the review recommendations and agree to review progress on the approved recommendations. A progress report will be submitted in twelve months' time, with any exceptions to expected delivery highlighted.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 4.1 Committee is required to monitor implementation of their recommendations in accordance with Part 3.6(1) of the Constitution and as such the report cannot be rejected.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

1. That Members note Executive's Response to the Review of Effectiveness of Council's Waste Collection and Disposal Education
2. That Members make its report and findings public, in accordance with Part 4.5.17(4) of the Constitution.
3. That Officers monitor progress on the recommendations and report in six and twelve months' time highlighting exceptions to delivery, in accordance with Part 3.6(1) of the Constitution.

IMPLICATIONS:

<u>Finance and Risk</u> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Details: There are no immediate financial implications arising directly from the recommendations of this report. However, several recommendations suggest that the Council may need to consider future investment. As such, it should be noted that potential funding may be required at a later stage, depending on how the recommendations are implemented—particularly recommendations 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4, as outlined in the attached report within the appendices.		
On behalf of the Section 151 Officer		
<u>Legal (including Data Protection)</u> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Details: In carrying out scrutiny reviews the Council is exercising its scrutiny powers as laid out in s.21 of the Local Government Act 2000 and subsequent legislation which added/amended these powers.		
On behalf of the Solicitor to the Council		
<u>Staffing</u> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Details: N/A		
On behalf of the Head of Paid Service		

Equality and Diversity, and ConsultationYes ☐No ☒**Details:**

N/A

EnvironmentYes ☒No ☐**Details:**

The scrutiny review supports the Corporate Ambition of 'Environment' and 'Customers'. The review also supports the Council's Priorities of: 'Reducing our carbon footprint whilst supporting and encouraging residents and businesses to do the same'; 'Enhancing biodiversity across the District'; 'Working with stakeholders, regional and local partnerships to deliver shared strategies and priorities that support the local environment'; and 'Ensuring all areas, neighbourhoods and streets in the District, irrespective of housing tenure or type, are places where people want to live, feel safe and are proud to live'.

The review supports the Council's Target ENV.06 – 'Reduce fly-tipping incidents per 1,000 people in Bolsover District over the plan period' as well as the KPI goals SS 01 – 'Remove 95% of hazardous Fly Tipping within 24 hours of being reported (Quarterly)' and SS 02 – 'Remove 95% of non-hazardous Fly Tipping within 5 working days of being reported (Quarterly)'.

DECISION INFORMATION:☒ ***Please indicate which threshold applies:*****Is the decision a Key Decision?**

A Key Decision is an Executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more wards in the District or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds:

Revenue (a) Results in the Council making Revenue Savings of £75,000 or more or **(b)** Results in the Council incurring Revenue Expenditure of £75,000 or more.

Capital (a) Results in the Council making Capital Income of £150,000 or more or **(b)** Results in the Council incurring Capital Expenditure of £150,000 or more.

District Wards Significantly Affected:

(to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the District)

Please state below which wards are affected or tick **All** if all wards are affected:

Yes ☐No ☐(a) ☐(b) ☐(a) ☐(b) ☐All ☐

Is the decision subject to Call-In? <i>(Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If No, is the call-in period to be waived in respect of the decision(s) proposed within this report? <i>(decisions may only be classified as exempt from call-in with the agreement of the Monitoring Officer)</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Consultation carried out: <i>(this is any consultation carried out prior to the report being presented for approval)</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Leader <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deputy Leader <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Executive <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SLT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Members <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>	

Links to Council Ambition: Customers, Economy, Environment, Housing
'Environment' and 'Customers'

DOCUMENT INFORMATION:

Appendix No	Title
1	Executive Response to Review of Effectiveness of Council's Waste Collection and Disposal Education

Background Papers
<i>(These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Executive, you must provide copies of the background papers).</i>

EXECUTIVE RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS OF SCRUTINY REVIEW			
Title of Review:	Review of the Council’s Approach to Environmental Despoilment Education and Enforcement		
Timescale of Review:	July 2024 – June 2025	Post-Monitoring Period:	18 months commencing July 2025. 1 st Interim report due February 2026 (every 6 months).
Date agreed by Scrutiny:	June 2025	Date agreed by Executive:	July 2025

PERFORM Code	Recommendation	Desired Outcome	Target Date	Lead Officer	Resources	Service Response	Executive Response
CCCSC 24-25 2.1 39	That the Council undertakes a piece of work, led by the Assistant Director of Streetscene, Community Safety and Enforcement, to explore alternative ways of working to improve the level and effectiveness of environmental enforcement activity across Bolsover District	Identify and implement more effective enforcement methods that lead to increased compliance and reduced environmental despoilment across the District.	Dec 2026 (18 months)	Assistant Director of Streetscene, Community Safety and Enforcement	Staff resources	The Assistant Director of Streetscene, Community has already begun work on this project.	Recommendation Approved.
CCCSC 24-25 2.2	That the Council targets fly-tipping hotspots (such as top 5 most frequently visited from 2023/24 including Outgang Lane in Pleasley, Wood Lane in Shirebrook, and Talbot Street in Pinxton), through targeted patrols and installation of surveillance cameras where appropriate.	To reduce fly-tipping and deter offenders in these areas.	June 2026 (12 months)	Assistant Director of Streetscene, Community Safety and Enforcement, In collaboration with all three teams (Environmental Health, Community Safety and Streetscene).	Staff resources Potentially additional Funding	Collaborative proactive effort with the Community Safety Team and the Environmental Health. Key focus on sharing intelligence between departments and partners. The Assistant Director will look to set up operational task and finish groups to look at certain areas (made up of members of	Recommendation Approved.

PERFORM Code	Recommendation	Desired Outcome	Target Date	Lead Officer	Resources	Service Response	Executive Response
						different departments). To focus on what to do and who will play each part to improve ongoing issues - holding certain services to account for issues.	
CCCSC 24-25 2.3 O	That the Council prioritise completing the installation of the 15 metal signs and place additional signage in high-risk areas (such Outgang Lane in Pleasley, Wood Lane in Shirebrook, and Talbot Street in Pinxton) in lay-bys and secluded spots.	To deter and reduce rates of fly-tipping, increase awareness and encourage responsible behaviour.	June 2026 (12 months)	Assistant Director of Streetscene, Community Safety and Enforcement.	Staff Resources Potentially additional Funding	Assistant Director: the deployment of the signs can be decided by the Task and Finish group referenced in service response of recommendation 2.2.	Recommendation Approved.
CCCSC 24-25 2.4	That the Council explores options for CCTV surveillance in fly-tipping hotspots.	To reduce fly-tipping and to catch and deter offenders.	Dec 2026 (18 months)	Assistant Director of Streetscene, Community Safety and Enforcement, In collaboration with all three teams (Environmental Health, Community	Staff resources Potentially additional funding	Env Health Team agree that CCTV options should be explored. Community Safety Team will work in collaboration to provide any support needed. Assistant Director: where incidents are	Recommendation Approved.

PERFORM Code	Recommendation	Desired Outcome	Target Date	Lead Officer	Resources	Service Response	Executive Response
				Safety and Streetscene).		caught on CCTV – the Council will consider potentially advertising the footage on social media to assist in identifying unknown offenders (where appropriate).	
CCCSC 24-25 2.5 1	That the Council reintroduces regular quarterly meetings of the Corporate Enforcement Group (Streetscene, the Enforcement Team and Environmental Health).	To improve coordination, communication, and problem-solving between the departments to better address fly-tipping through shared insights and enhanced enforcement.	Dec 2025 (6 months)	Assistant Director of Streetscene, Community Safety and Enforcement, In collaboration with all three teams (Environmental Health, Community Safety and Streetscene).	Staff resources	Key to focus on aligning efforts, sharing insights on fly-tipping trends and enhancing evidence gathering and enforcement. Env health Team agree meetings should be revived. Community Safety Team agree meetings should be revived. Assistant Director: the regeneration of these meetings is now in progress from early 2025 following appointment of new AD. Meetings of the Corporate	Recommendation Approved.

PERFORM Code	Recommendation	Desired Outcome	Target Date	Lead Officer	Resources	Service Response	Executive Response
						Enforcement Group is chaired by the new AD.	
CCCSC 24-25 2.6 42	That the Council develops a clear process for evidence collection for fly-tipping sites that ensures evidence is properly managed.	To ensure the effective management and processing of evidence for fly-tipping incidents and increase the number of offenders caught.	June 2026 (12 months)	Assistant Director of Streetscene, Community Safety and Enforcement, In collaboration with Streetscene and Community Safety team.	Staff resources	Focus on ensuring the effective processing of evidence gathered by the Streetscene team and preventing delays or lost documentation. Assistant Director – a clear process will be developed, and training will be provided in house.	Recommendation Approved.
CCCSC 24-25 2.7	That the Council organises joint training sessions for the Enforcement team, Streetscene workers and Environmental Health that focuses on improving understanding of each team's roles; as well as bi-annual training for evidence collection, ensuring there is a specific process for collecting physical evidence.	Enhance mutual understanding of each team's roles ensuring smoother collaboration and more effective handling of fly-tipping incidents.	June 2026 (12 months)	Assistant Director of Streetscene, Community Safety and Enforcement, In collaboration with all three teams (Environmental Health, Community Safety and Streetscene).	Staff resources	Env Health agree this would be beneficial to the collaborative effort Enforcement team agreed to assist in training for Streetscene on evidence collection/clean up processes. Assistant Director – training will be	Recommendation Approved.

PERFORM Code	Recommendation	Desired Outcome	Target Date	Lead Officer	Resources	Service Response	Executive Response
						provided in house for evidence collection.	
CCCSC 24-25 2.8 43	That the Council delivers public awareness campaigns to educate residents about the risks of hiring unlicensed waste collectors and provides clear, accessible guidance on how to verify waste carrier licences.	To raise awareness among residents about the risks of hiring unlicensed waste collectors to reduce illegal fly-tipping and promote responsible waste disposal practices.	June 2026 (12 months)	Team Manager (Environmental Enforcement) Communications Manager	Staff resources	Env Health agree this would be beneficial to the collaborative effort and will provide Comms with the appropriate educational material.	Recommendation Approved.
CCCSC 24-25 2.9	That the Council enhance public information on fly-tipping and littering by regularly featuring updates on enforcement actions and responsible bulky waste removal options through existing communication channels and the newly established social media platforms, including the Bolsover District	To increase awareness of the negative impact of fly-tipping and improve education on the correct and responsible methods of removing bulky waste as well as making the public aware of the legal repercussions and	June 2026 (12 months)	Team Manager (Environmental Enforcement) Communications Manager	Staff resources	The Council can implement comprehensive education and awareness campaigns to inform the public about the environmental harm and legal consequences of fly-tipping, while encouraging community involvement and promoting responsible waste removal practices.	Recommendation Approved.

PERFORM Code	Recommendation	Desired Outcome	Target Date	Lead Officer	Resources	Service Response	Executive Response
	Council Facebook page.	enforcement powers of the Council.				<p>Env Health Team will continue to provide comms with info and education material.</p> <p>The Assistant Director stated that this is what the Council is hoping to achieve.</p>	
4 ECCSC 24-25 2.10	That the Council enhance transparency by publishing meaningful data and information on fly-tipping activities on the website and through social media, that demonstrate what the Council is doing to tackle environmental despoilment.	To improve transparency and inform future enforcement and cleanup efforts while also benchmarking against other local councils' practices.	June 2026 (12 months)	<p>Assistant Director of Streetscene, Community Safety and Enforcement,</p> <p>In collaboration with:</p> <p>Team Manager (Environmental Enforcement)</p> <p>Communications Manager</p>	Staff Resources	<p>Env Health agree this would be beneficial and can provide the Comms team with the data.</p> <p>AD response – Agrees with the benefit of this.</p> <p>This should focus on the work that the Council does to improve fly tipping and data that people are actually interested in: how many sites have been cleared annually etc.</p> <p>Publishing the outcomes of serious</p>	Recommendation Approved.

PERFORM Code	Recommendation	Desired Outcome	Target Date	Lead Officer	Resources	Service Response	Executive Response
						offences – meaningful posts from the Council.	
CCCSC 24-25 2.11 45	That the Council provide advice on how to handle hazardous items such as needles and syringes, ensuring residents are informed on the safe disposal of such materials and the risks associated with handling them improperly.	To ensure residents are informed about the safe disposal of hazardous items to promote safety and prevent harm while also benchmarking against other local councils' practices.	June 2026 (12 months)	Team Manager (Environmental Enforcement) Communications Manager	Staff Resources	Env Health agree this would be beneficial to the collaborative effort and will provide the Comms team with the appropriate guidance to publish.	Recommendation Approved.

BOLSOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL

Meeting of the Climate Change and Communities Scrutiny Committee **on 14th October 2025**

Bolsover Tree and Woodland Strategy update

Report of the Portfolio Holder for the Environment

Classification	This report is Public.
Contact Officer	Chris McKinney

PURPOSE/SUMMARY OF REPORT

- To update Members on the preparation of the Bolsover Tree and Woodland Strategy and planned public consultation exercise.
-

REPORT DETAILS

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Members will be aware that the Council has been delivering the Bolsover Community Woodlands project between 2021 and 2025 with funding from the Woodland Trust.
- 1.2 Bolsover District Council received just under £270,000 in funding across a four year period and with this funding the Council made great strides in tree planting across the District, seeing:
 - establishment of the Bolsover Community Woodlands project;
 - creation of a temporary Project Officer role to take the project forward;
 - planting of over 25,000 trees across more than ten projects across the District, covering the parishes of Elmton-with-Creswell, Old Bolsover, Whitwell, Clowne, South Normanton, Langwith and Shirebrook;
 - engagement with over 1,000 volunteers on these tree planting projects and other environmental activity days;
 - working with social enterprise Bolsover Woodlands Enterprise to deliver the majority of the tree planting programme;
 - taking part in the National Tree Week campaign, including our wonderful school children's painting competition that led to the delightful banner on the wall in our building's reception; and

- work commence on the preparation of a Tree and Woodland Strategy with consultancy, Treeconomics, to carry forward the legacy of our positive work with the Bolsover Community Woodlands project.
- 1.3 In addition to internal officer and Member engagement, the preparation of the Tree and Woodland Strategy has to date involved engagement with a number of relevant external stakeholders, including the District's Parish and Town Councils, Derbyshire County Council officers, Derbyshire Wildlife Trust and National Trust representatives.
 - 1.4 This has led to the preparation of a Consultation Draft Strategy that seeks to set an ambitious strategy that will continue the great work of the Bolsover Community Woodlands project and see further opportunities for tree planting across our District. This draft Strategy is now being readied for public consultation and is due to be reported to Executive on 3rd November 2025 to seek approval for the draft Strategy and the commencement of the consultation exercise.
 - 1.5 Before this takes place, it is considered appropriate to update Members of the Climate Change and Communities Scrutiny Committee on the contents of the draft Strategy and seek any appropriate advice on the matter. To aid this, the draft Strategy forms an appendix to this report and its contents are summarised below.

2.0 Details of Proposal or Information

Draft Tree and Woodland Strategy

- 2.1 The prepared draft Tree and Woodland Strategy is a comprehensive document that sets out a vision, a baseline of the District's existing tree and woodland coverage and condition, sets out a range of targets, priorities and actions and is supported by a Delivery Plan and a Monitoring & Review Plan.
- 2.2 In terms of what the draft Strategy seeks to achieve, based on the undertaken stakeholder engagement Chapter 3 of the draft Strategy sets out the following vision.

“To create a greener, healthier, and more connected Bolsover by nurturing and expanding our trees and woodlands, fostering community pride in them, enhancing biodiversity, and taking care of our trees and woodlands for the benefit of current and future generations.”
- 2.3 This vision is intended to capture the Council's desire to look after the District's existing trees and woodlands, increase the canopy coverage in the District and to ensure this both involves local communities and fosters their pride in their local environment.
- 2.4 Chapter 4 sets out a baseline of the District's existing coverage and provides both an assessment of tree canopy coverage by ward as a percentage of the total land area of each ward and information about public access. This shows

a range from 6% coverage in the Bolsover East Ward up to 30.6% coverage in the Langwith Ward. For information the national average for tree canopy is 14%.

2.5 Through the initial stakeholder engagement, the following three themes have emerged:

- Taking care of existing trees and woodlands;
- Expanding tree and woodland coverage;
- Fostering community pride in trees and woodlands.

2.6 Chapters 4, 5 and 6 outline these three themes and expand on how the draft Strategy seeks to deliver the vision through these themes via a range of targets and key performance indicators. These are:

Taking care of existing trees and woodlands

- T1 – Establish comprehensive tree and woodland inventory
- T2 – Ensure operational plans exist for key woodland assets
- T3 – Promotion of tree benefits
- T4 – Tree protection policy development, monitoring and enforcement
- T5 – Secure resources to support existing tree and woodland assets

Expanding tree and woodland coverage

- E1 – Increase overall canopy coverage
- E2 – Expand tree canopy cover in Wards with low coverage
- E3 – Establish community planting across all parishes
- E4 – Expand existing key woodland assets
- E5 – Secure resources for new tree and woodland planting

Fostering community pride in trees and woodlands

- C1 – Establish more Tree Warden / Champions
- C2 – Community involvement and neighbourhood action
- C3 – General appreciation of trees as a community resource
- C4 – Utilities cooperation
- C5 – General industry cooperation

2.7 Each of these targets has information about its link to corporate policies, the actions proposed and an assessment of the Council's current performance.

Proposed public consultation exercise

2.8 On the basis that the draft Tree and Woodlands Strategy is approved by Executive, it is proposed that a four week period of public consultation will take place and that this exercise will involve:

- a digital copy of the Consultation Draft Tree and Woodland Strategy and consultation questionnaire will be available to read and print off on the Council's website;

- a link on the webpage will direct people to a digital version of the consultation questionnaire that can be completed online;
- the same questionnaire will also be on the Ask Derbyshire webpage as many residents use it as their 'go to' when finding out what consultations are live across the district;
- paper copies of the Consultation Draft Tree and Woodland Strategy and consultation questionnaire will be made available at the District's libraries and Contact Centres throughout the 4 weeks of the consultation period.

2.9 Following this consultation period, the outcome of the consultation exercise and a final version of the Tree and Woodland Strategy will be reported back to Executive for approval.

3.0 Reasons for Recommendation

3.1 That the Climate Change and Communities Scrutiny Committee are informed with progress on the Tree and Woodland Strategy.

4.0 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

4.1 None

RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Climate Change and Communities Scrutiny Committee note the update on the preparation of the Tree and Woodland Strategy and provide any appropriate advice to officers on this matter.

Approved by Councillor Rob Hiney-Saunders, Portfolio Holder for the Environment

IMPLICATIONS:

<u>Finance and Risk</u>		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Details: There are no specific finance or risk issues arising from this report. Financial matters will be addressed in the Executive report.		
On behalf of the Section 151 Officer		
<u>Legal (including Data Protection)</u>		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Details: There are no specific legal or data protection issues arising from this report.		
On behalf of the Solicitor to the Council		

Staffing Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Details: There are no human resources implications arising from this report.	
On behalf of the Head of Paid Service	
Equality and Diversity, and Consultation Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Details: There are no specific direct or indirect negative impacts on any person with a protected characteristic or any group of people with a shared protected characteristic arising from this report.	
Environment Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Details: The Tree and Woodland Strategy will make a notable contribution to enhancing the environment as outlined in the report.	

DECISION INFORMATION:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please indicate which threshold applies:	
Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an Executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more wards in the District or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Revenue (a) Results in the Council making Revenue Savings of £75,000 or more or (b) Results in the Council incurring Revenue Expenditure of £75,000 or more.	(a) <input type="checkbox"/> (b) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Capital (a) Results in the Council making Capital Income of £150,000 or more or (b) Results in the Council incurring Capital Expenditure of £150,000 or more.	(a) <input type="checkbox"/> (b) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
District Wards Significantly Affected: <i>(to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the District)</i> Please state below which wards are affected or tick All if all wards are affected:	All <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Is the decision subject to Call-In? <i>(Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If No, is the call-in period to be waived in respect of the decision(s) proposed within this report? <i>(decisions may only be classified as exempt from call-in with the agreement of the Monitoring Officer)</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Consultation carried out: <i>(this is any consultation carried out prior to the report being presented for approval)</i>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Leader <input type="checkbox"/> Deputy Leader <input type="checkbox"/> Executive <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SLT <input type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Members <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Portfolio Holder for the Environment

Links to Council Ambition: Customers, Economy, Environment, Housing
<u>Environment</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancing biodiversity across the district. Working with stakeholders, regional and local partnerships to deliver shared strategies and priorities that support the local environment.

DOCUMENT INFORMATION:

Appendix No	Title
1	Consultation Draft Tree and Woodland Strategy

Background Papers
<i>(These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Executive, you must provide copies of the background papers).</i>

DECEMBER 2024

A photograph of a sun-dappled forest path with a large, semi-transparent red 'Draft' watermark diagonally across the center.

Bolsover District Council's Tree & Woodland Strategy 2025 - 2035

****This is a live, working document***

Acknowledgements

Project Team

Acknowledgements

53

Authors

Table of Contents

1. Introduction	4	C5. Green Industry Cooperation	42
2. Community and Stakeholder Engagement	8	Fostering Community Pride in Tree & Woodlands Summary	43
3. Vision	14	6. Delivery Plan	44
4. Understanding Existing Trees & Woodlands	16	Key Action Summary	46
5. Targets, Priorities and Actions	23	7. Monitoring & Review Plan	48
5.1 Taking care of existing trees and woodlands	23	8. Appendices	50
54 T1. Establish Comprehensive Tree & Woodlands Inventory	24		
T2. Ensure Operational Plans Exist for Key Woodland Assets	25		
T3. Promotion of Tree Benefits	26		
T4. Tree Protection Policy Development, Monitoring & Enforcement	27		
T5. Secure Resources to Support Existing Tree & Woodland Assets	28		
Taking Care of Existing Tree & Woodlands Summary	29		
5.2 Expanding tree and woodland coverage	30		
E1. Increase Overall Canopy Coverage Across Bolsover District	31		
E2. Expand Tree Canopy Cover in Wards with Low Coverage	32		
E3. Establish Community Planting Across all Parishes	33		
E4. Expand Existing Key Woodland Assets	34		
E5. Secure Resources for New Tree and Woodland Planting	35		
Expanding Tree & Woodland Coverage Summary	36		
5.3 Fostering Community Pride in Trees and Woodlands	37		
C1. Establish More Tree Wardens / Champions across District	38		
C2. Community Involvement and Neighbourhood Action	39		
C3. General Appreciation of Trees as a Community Resource	40		
C4. Utilities Cooperation	41		

1. Introduction

1.1 Introduction

Bolsover District is a local government district in Derbyshire, England, situated between the cities of Sheffield, Nottingham, and Derby. It encompasses a diverse mix of historic market towns, rural villages, and former coal-mining communities. The district is known for its rich industrial heritage, scenic countryside, and historic landmarks such as Bolsover Castle, which attract visitors and contribute to the area's cultural identity.

In recent years, Bolsover District has undergone significant economic and social transformation, with a focus on regeneration, infrastructure improvements, and investment in local businesses. The district benefits from its strategic location, with strong transport links to major urban centres, providing opportunities for business development, tourism, and community growth. The largest settlements include the towns of Bolsover and Shirebrook, as well as the growing towns of South Normanton and Clowne. Several major transport routes, including stretches of motorway, also run through the district from north to south. However, despite these urban connections, the majority of Bolsover District is rural, characterised by a patchwork of farms, small villages, open fields, and woodlands, all crisscrossed by hedgerows and tree-lined roads. Trees, woodlands, and open green spaces are integral to the identity of the district, shaping both the landscape and the well-being of its residents.

Recognising the vital role of trees and woodlands in a healthy, sustainable environment, Bolsover District Council has developed this Tree and Woodland Strategy through its Woodland Trust-funded Bolsover Community Woodlands project to protect and enhance the district's natural assets for future generations. The strategy assesses the extent and condition of existing tree and woodland cover, identifies where additional planting would bring the greatest benefits, and promotes accessible, biodiverse, and climate-resilient green spaces. A strategic approach is essential to balancing development pressures with conservation efforts, ensuring that trees and woodlands are properly managed and expanded in ways that support both people and wildlife.

Trees provide a wide range of benefits to people and the natural environment, collectively known as ecosystem services (ES). These include capturing and storing carbon, reducing surface water flooding, improving air quality by filtering pollutants, providing shade and cooling urban areas, supporting biodiversity, and enhancing mental health and well-being. Woodlands also provide recreational opportunities, strengthen community connections with nature, and create vital habitats for wildlife.

At a time when climate change, biodiversity loss, and environmental degradation pose increasing challenges, investing in tree planting and woodland management is more critical than ever. Expanding and maintaining Bolsover's green infrastructure will help to mitigate the effects of climate change, improve ecological connectivity, and enhance the quality of life for residents. Delivering further on the council's ambition to see 1 million trees planted across Bolsover District will significantly increase woodland cover, improve the character and amenity of towns and parks, and ensure that Bolsover remains a thriving, green, and resilient place to live, work, and visit.



1.2 Benefits of Trees

There are far more benefits to trees than many of us appreciate. In keeping with the benefits of other natural systems, they are also known as ecosystem services. This approach was standardised by the IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) Commission on Ecosystem Service Management. Over 100 Ecosystem Services have been identified by the CICES system (Common International Classification of Ecosystem Services) and work continues to quantify and value each of them.

Trees play a crucial role in supporting healthy, resilient environments. The ecosystem services they provide are essential to both people and wildlife. These include improving air quality by absorbing pollutants, reducing the urban heat island effect (UHI), and mitigating flooding. Beyond their environmental benefits, trees also offer significant social and economic value by enhancing the aesthetics of communities, providing recreational spaces, and improving mental well-being. There are a large number of other benefits of trees where research continues to help assign meaningful valuations, especially in terms of quantifying societal impacts, such as an increase in house value, amenity value¹, and health improvements.

Climate adaptation - temperature regulation: Urban green infrastructure can reduce peak summer temperatures by up to 7°C.² This particular adaptation has long been adopted by municipalities in warmer locations and forms a key tenet of green infrastructure thinking. Current research extends into examining the cooling effectiveness of individual species.

Noise attenuation: Trees, hedges and woodlands act as natural barriers to sound, reducing noise pollution from traffic, industry, and urban activities contributing to a more peaceful environment.³

Increased property or rental value: A series of international studies have shown that trees increase property prices by between 5% to 18%.⁴

Increased consumer spending: Consumers are willing to spend more in shopping areas with large, well cared for trees. This has been measured as an increase of 9% to 12%.⁵

Reduced stress and improved mental health: Forest Research recently valued this particular benefit of forests and woodlands nationally at £185m.⁶ More trees immediately around the home (less than 100 meters) are associated with a reduced risk of being prescribed antidepressant medication. This association is especially strong for deprived groups.

Improved concentration and academic achievement: Greener schools have higher test scores, even after taking income into account. Middle school students get a boost from school greening. Planting trees within 250m of schools has the greatest effect.⁷

Improved recovery times from illness: Patients placed in rooms with views of nature experienced shorter stays in the hospital than patients in rooms that faced other buildings.⁸

¹ Doick, K. J., et al. (2018)

² Doick, K. Hutchings, T. (2012)

³ Oliveira, J.D.D, Biondi, D. And Reis, A.R.N.D. (2022)

⁴ Wolf, K.L. (2007)

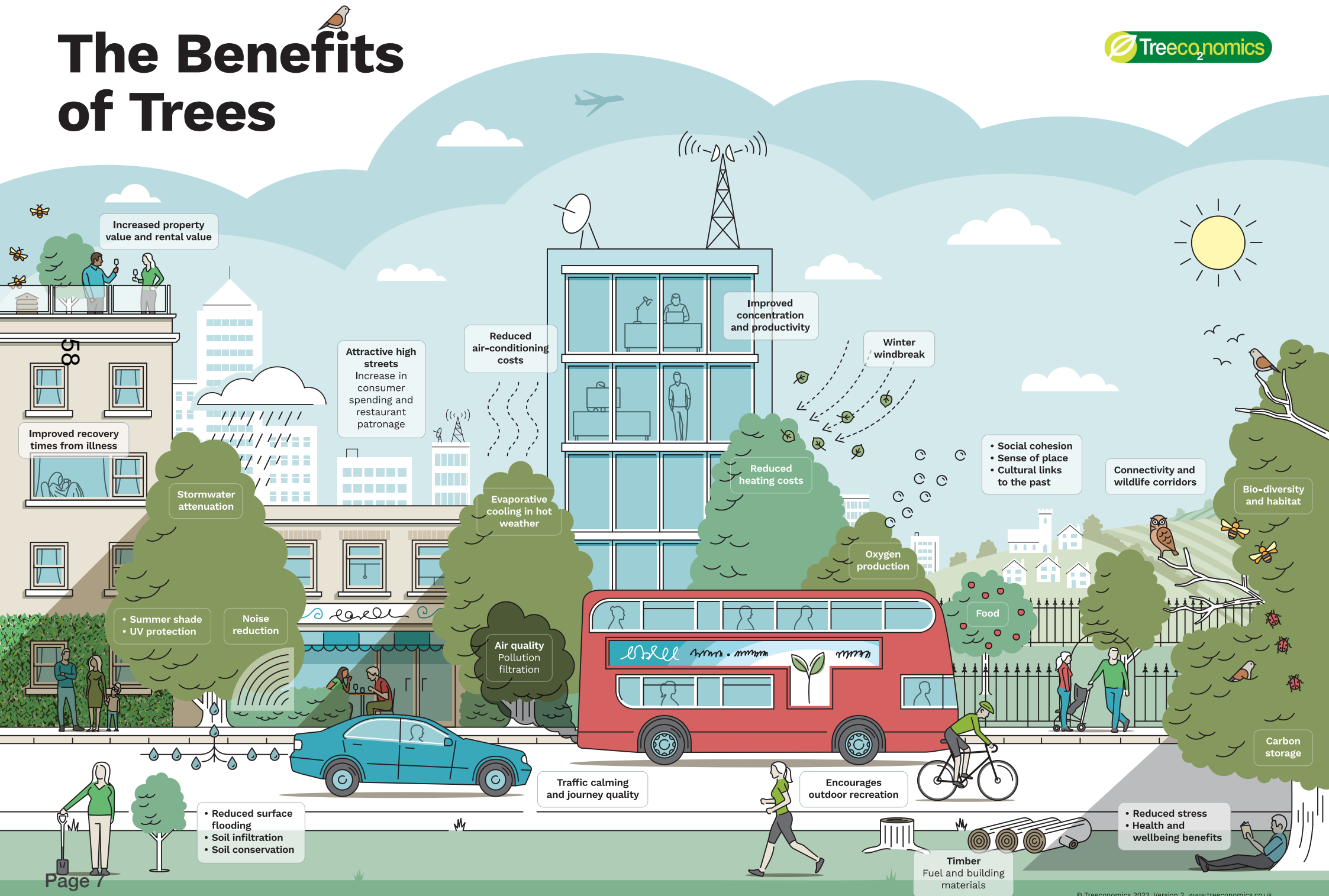
⁵ Wolf, K.L. (2005)

⁶ Forest Research. (2021)

⁷ Kuo, M., et al. (2021)

⁸ Ulrich. R. (1984)

The Benefits of Trees



2.

Community and Stakeholder Engagement

2.1 Stakeholder Engagement

The preparation of this Consultation Draft Tree and Woodland Strategy has involved two Stakeholder sessions. The first covered internal Council stakeholders, including both officers and elected members. The second covered external stakeholders, including representatives from local community groups but also organisations active across Bolsover District.

BDC Internal Stakeholder workshop – Monday 9th December 2024

This workshop was structured in two sessions.

The first brought all officers together with involvement in tree planting and management in order to get a comprehensive picture of the roles and responsibilities across the Council and the collective resources available to support the delivery of the emerging strategy. This session identified limited permanent staff resources across the Council to support tree planting and management initiatives, particularly once the Woodland Trust funding for the Bolsover Community Woodlands project comes to an end. Limited resources available to monitor Tree Preservation Orders was another key limitation.

The second brought together elected members from across the District that have an interest in tree planting and management. This session identified the key ambitions of the Council for the Tree and Woodland Strategy, identifying the three priorities of 'Taking care of our existing Trees and Woodlands'; 'Expanding our Tree and Woodland coverage'; and 'Fostering Community Pride'.

Conclusions from Stakeholder Engagement

The feedback from this stakeholder engagement has informed the development of the vision, targets, priorities and actions outlined in this strategy. The external workshop was followed up by a survey of all external stakeholders and the findings of this survey are set out on page 10.

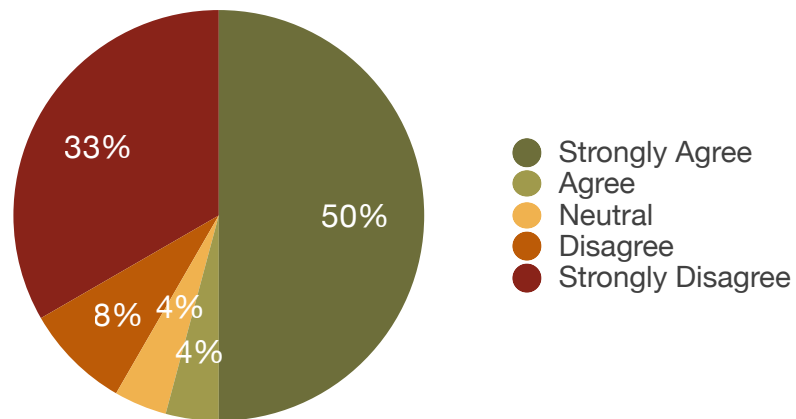
External Stakeholder workshop – Thursday 30th January 2025

This workshop brought together representatives of local community groups and organisations active in tree planting and management across the District. It identified the following priorities:

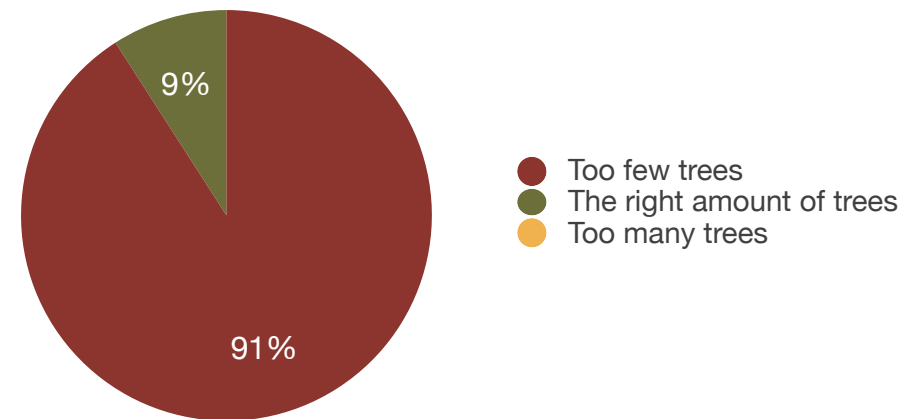
- Define a clear **timeline for tree planting targets** in Bolsover.
- Investigate **policy mechanisms** such as SPDs to support urban canopy growth.
- Establish **best practice guidelines** for woodland creation under 1 hectare.
- Develop a **woodland condition assessment** framework.
- Explore **expanding buffer zones** around ancient woodlands.
- Identify **funding and support** for community-led tree projects.
- Strengthen **partnerships with key stakeholders**, including landowners, conservation groups, and local authorities.
- Investigate the **feasibility of a local tree nursery** and opportunities for community involvement in tree planting and care.

2.1 Stakeholder Engagement

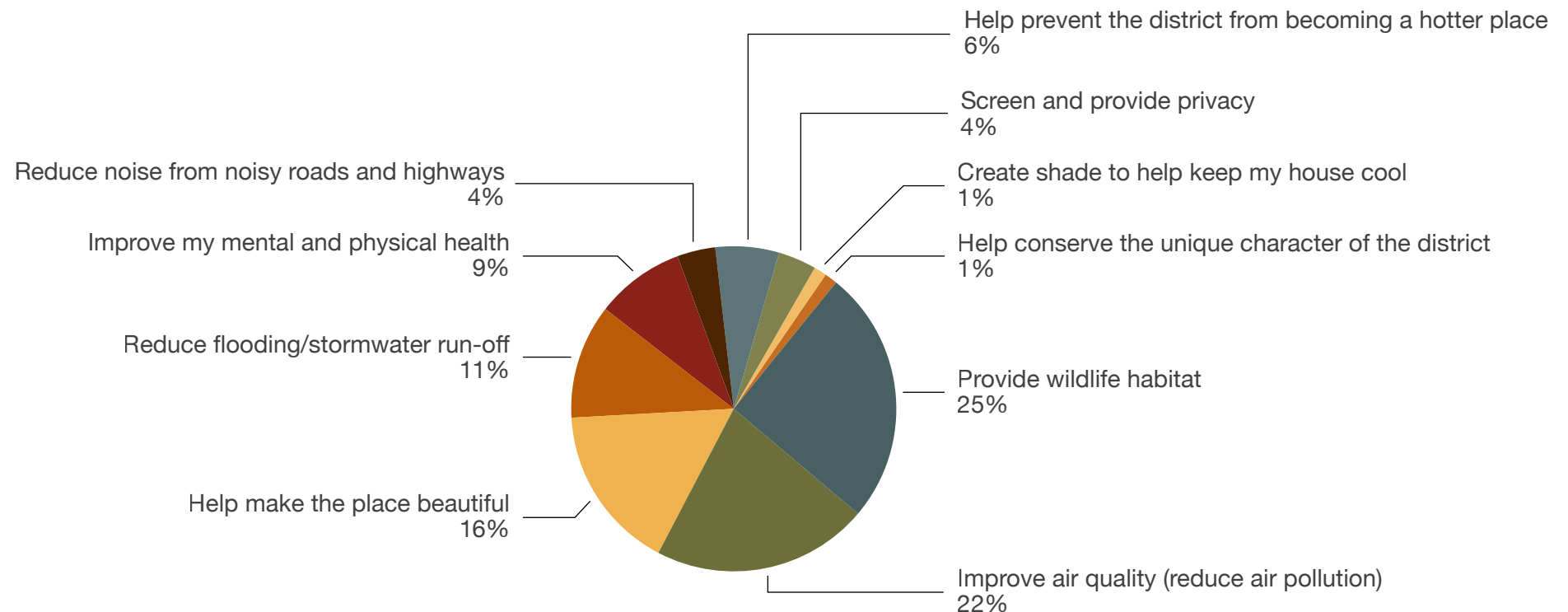
Q1. Trees and woodlands are an important part of Bolsover?



Q2. In your neighbourhood there are.....?



Q3. Which benefits that trees, hedges, and woodlands in Bolsover provide are most important to you?



2.2 Community Groups & Stewardship

Community and stakeholder engagement is essential to the success of environmental initiatives, particularly those involving trees and woodlands. Involving local residents, businesses, and organisations helps build shared responsibility, ensuring green spaces are valued, cared for, and sustained for future generations. Community-led efforts in tree planting and woodland management enhance biodiversity, boost climate resilience, and foster social connection and well-being. Meaningful engagement also ensures projects are inclusive, locally relevant, and have lasting impact.

A number of community groups actively participate in forestry, biodiversity, and other environmental initiatives across Bolsover District.

The Woodland Trust has played a pivotal role in enhancing Bolsover's green spaces through significant funding and collaboration. In 2021, Bolsover District Council secured a large grant from the Trust's Emergency Tree Fund. This funding supports the Bolsover Community Woodlands project, aiming to combat climate change and promote biodiversity. A flagship initiative involves transforming the former Creswell Colliery site into a community woodland by planting 27,500 trees, creating accessible green spaces for residents. The project also includes developing a tree-lined avenue in Bolsover and several other tree-planting endeavours across the district.

Derbyshire Wildlife Trust manage over 40 nature reserves, support sustainable land management practices, and advocate for wildlife-friendly policies. Through habitat conservation, species protection, and community engagement, the Trust works to enhance biodiversity across Derbyshire's woodlands, wetlands, and meadows. Their initiatives play a crucial role in tackling climate change, improving air and water quality, and connecting communities with nature.

Bolsover Woodlands Enterprise is a social enterprise dedicated to managing and protecting woodlands across Derbyshire while providing valuable skills and opportunities for adults with learning disabilities. The organisation empowers its participants through hands-on experiences in woodland and green space management. Their work includes land management tasks such as woodland maintenance, tree planting, footpath upkeep, scrub clearance, and grassland management, including seed collection. Additionally, they operate a woodworking shop, using locally milled timber from their conservation projects. This initiative not only enhances biodiversity and supports sustainable forestry but also promotes social inclusion, offering meaningful employment and personal development opportunities. Bolsover Woodlands Enterprise serves as an inspiring model for how environmental stewardship and community engagement can go hand in hand.

Bolsover Community Woodlands Trust is a local organisation committed to the creation, maintenance, and preservation of community woodlands within the Bolsover district. By involving residents in tree planting and woodland management activities, the Trust enhances local green spaces, supports biodiversity and provides opportunities for environmental education and recreation. Their efforts contribute to the well-being of the community and the health of the local environment, fostering a sense of stewardship and connection to nature among residents.

Bolsover Community and Voluntary Service (CVS) supports and empowers local voluntary and community organisations within the Bolsover district. By providing guidance, resources, and training, Bolsover CVS enhances the capacity of local groups to deliver effective services and initiatives. Their work fosters a vibrant and resilient community sector, encouraging active citizenship and the development of local projects that address various social, environmental, and economic needs within the community.

2.2 Community Groups & Stewardship

Community stewardship programs empower residents to recognise and connect with local groups and environmental efforts. By making visible the networks of individuals and organisations caring for their environment, tools like STEW-MAP foster collaboration, strengthen community ties, and support more sustainable, equitable decision-making.

In Bolsover District, existing groups such as Bolsover Community Woodlands Trust, Bolsover Woodlands Enterprise, Bolsover Community and Voluntary Service, various 'Friends of' groups, and local tree wardens

and environmental champions are ideally positioned to lead the development of a collaborative stewardship network.


The first step will be creating a web-accessible map of Bolsover's green spaces, working with community groups to identify where they're active, explore how they'd like to be involved, and assess their capacity for engagement. Promoting the development and launch of this stewardship map will increase visibility, spark interest, and encourage wider community participation.

63

Do You Know Who Takes Care of the Local Environment?

STEW-MAP can help you find out!

The Stewardship Mapping and Assessment Project (STEW-MAP) is a framework for communities, governments, land management agencies, and nonprofits to create a partnership mapping tool. The interactive mapping tool identifies stewardships groups and provides information on:



- Organizational Data**
The organizational characteristics of each group such as year founded, mission, primary work sites, services offered, etc.
- Geographic Territory**
The area of activity, or 'stewardship turf,' of each group, such as a park, forest patch, or watershed.
- Social Networks**
A group's social network helps understand organization connects and the structure and function of stewardship across the landscape.

2.2 Community Groups & Stewardship

Stewardship mapping offers a practical and empowering approach to managing green spaces, encouraging local pride, participation, and long-term care. By structuring community involvement and supporting it with the right tools, the District can build greener, healthier places that reflect collective commitment.

Opportunities presented by stewardship mapping:

- Engages individuals and communities in caring for their local environment in visible, meaningful ways.
- Empowers areas facing hardship or neglect to take an active role in shaping and improving their surroundings.
- Strengthens social bonds and encourages a lasting culture of environmental responsibility.
- Supports recovery and resilience following natural or human-made disruptions.
- Provides a framework for citizen science to fill gaps in knowledge, such as the current lack of a tree inventory.
- Enables the creation of defined stewardship zones to structure local leadership and participation.

Recommended actions:

- Establish stewardship zones across the District to guide and focus community involvement.
- Involve residents in tree mapping and data collection to support the tree inventory (Targets T1 and C2).
- Provide tailored training, guidance, and resources to match the capacity of different community groups.
- Strengthen existing local networks and build new partnerships to share responsibility and knowledge.
- Celebrate local successes to encourage ongoing participation and attract wider support.
- Monitor outcomes to adapt and improve the stewardship approach over time.

With the right structure, support, and shared sense of purpose, stewardship mapping can transform how communities across the District engage with and care for their environment—laying the groundwork for lasting change, local pride, and resilient green spaces.

3.

Vision

The Vision is the aspiration which drives positive change by encompassing the hopes, emotions, desires, and imaginations of all those who live and work in Bolsover District, and inspires them to turn it into a reality for all.

3.2 Vision

“To create a greener, healthier, and more connected Bolsover by nurturing and expanding our trees and woodlands, fostering community pride in them, enhancing biodiversity, and taking care of our trees and woodlands for the benefit of current and future generations.”

The aim of this strategy is to create a clear and actionable roadmap for the long-term growth, enhancement, and management of Bolsover District's tree and woodland assets. By building on tangible, measurable goals, the strategy seeks to ensure that future efforts are directed toward making the vision a reality, and supporting an environment that benefits trees and woodlands and the local community, whilst making the whole of Bolsover District more climate resilient.

In order to achieve this, this document presents a structured delivery plan under three core themes:

- Taking care of our existing Trees and Woodlands
- Expanding our Tree and Woodland Coverage
- Fostering Community Pride in our Trees and Woodlands

The development of this Strategy has to date involved a number of workshops and consultations with internal groups and external stakeholders. This vision is the result of early workshops to understand how Bolsover District's urban forest is perceived, how those involved want to see it improve, and what the future for the District's urban forest could look like. The vision aims to reflect the language and emotion of the early conversations to help shape this document into something unique for Bolsover.

Targets under each core theme are structured around a comprehensive set of key performance indicators (KPI's), informed by the current state of evidence and best practice. For each of these performance indicators, an assessment of the current situation is made, ambitions are laid out, and specific actions are defined. Targets are prioritised against one another to provide a structured pathway for future development and allow for the management and allocation of resources over the lifetime of this document.

The strategy covers a 10 year period between 2025 - 2035, and will be reviewed and updated periodically to facilitate the delivery of the targets and actions, and to track progress in line with the KPI's.

4.

Understanding Existing Trees & Woodlands

4.1 Tree and Woodland Baseline

Total Canopy Cover

A canopy cover study was carried out by Treeconomics using Google Environmental Explorer (refer to Appendix 5.2) which found Bolsover currently has almost 2,800 hectares of tree canopy cover, covering 17.5% of the district. There is a large variation across the wards, with the lowest canopy cover found in Bolsover East ward, and the highest in Langwith ward.

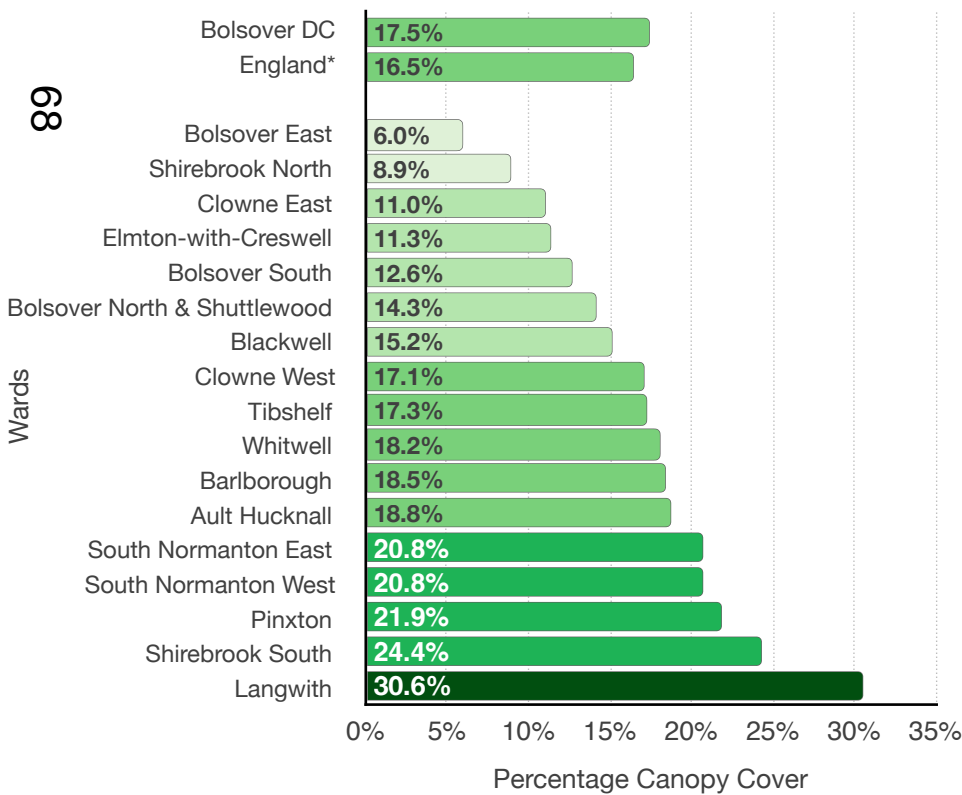


Figure 1. Canopy Cover by Ward

Source: Google Environmental Insights Explorer 2024.
*Doick., (2017).

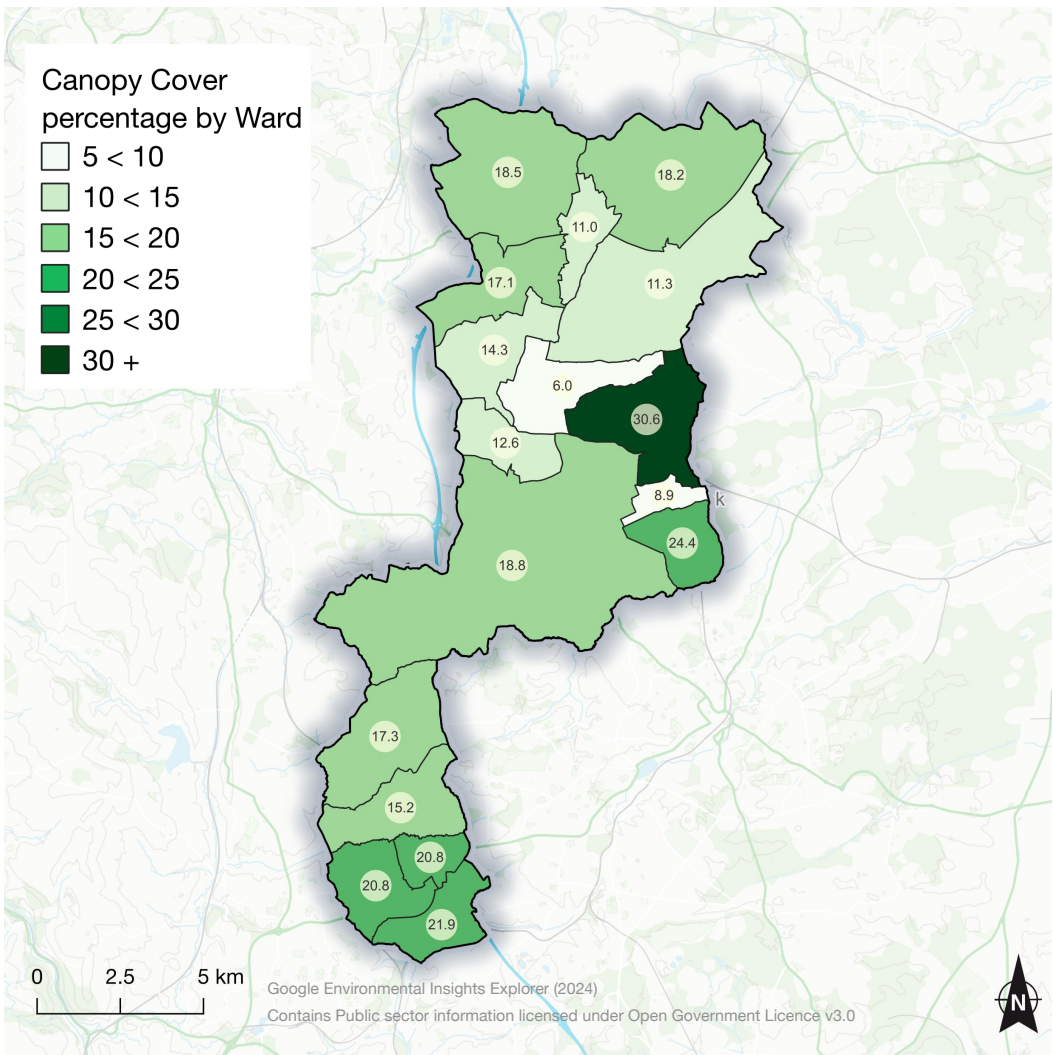


Figure 2. Map of Percentage Canopy Cover by Ward Across Bolsover District

4.1 Tree and Woodland Baseline

Woodland Overview

Native broadleaved woodland covers 1,468 ha, which is 9.1% of the total area of Bolsover District, and 52% of all canopy cover.

Some 197 ha of conifer woodland can be seen in Bolsover, predominantly in Langwith ward. Much of the forestry in Bolsover dates back to post-war industry, and some plantations are identified within Bolsover’s Local Nature Reserve Action Plan as potential sites in which to target thinning and felling to encourage the regeneration of more native broadleaf woodland in a bid to boost native biodiversity.

69

Tree Classification*	Area in hectares
Broadleaved	1,468
Wooded Strip	374
Built-up Area	251
Coniferous	197
Riparian	161
Unclassified	125
Field Boundary	109
Hedge	95
Wood Pasture and Parkland	18
Shrub	1.5
Orchard	0.4
Total Woodland	2,798

Table 1. Area of canopy under each classification.

*Methodology in Appendix I

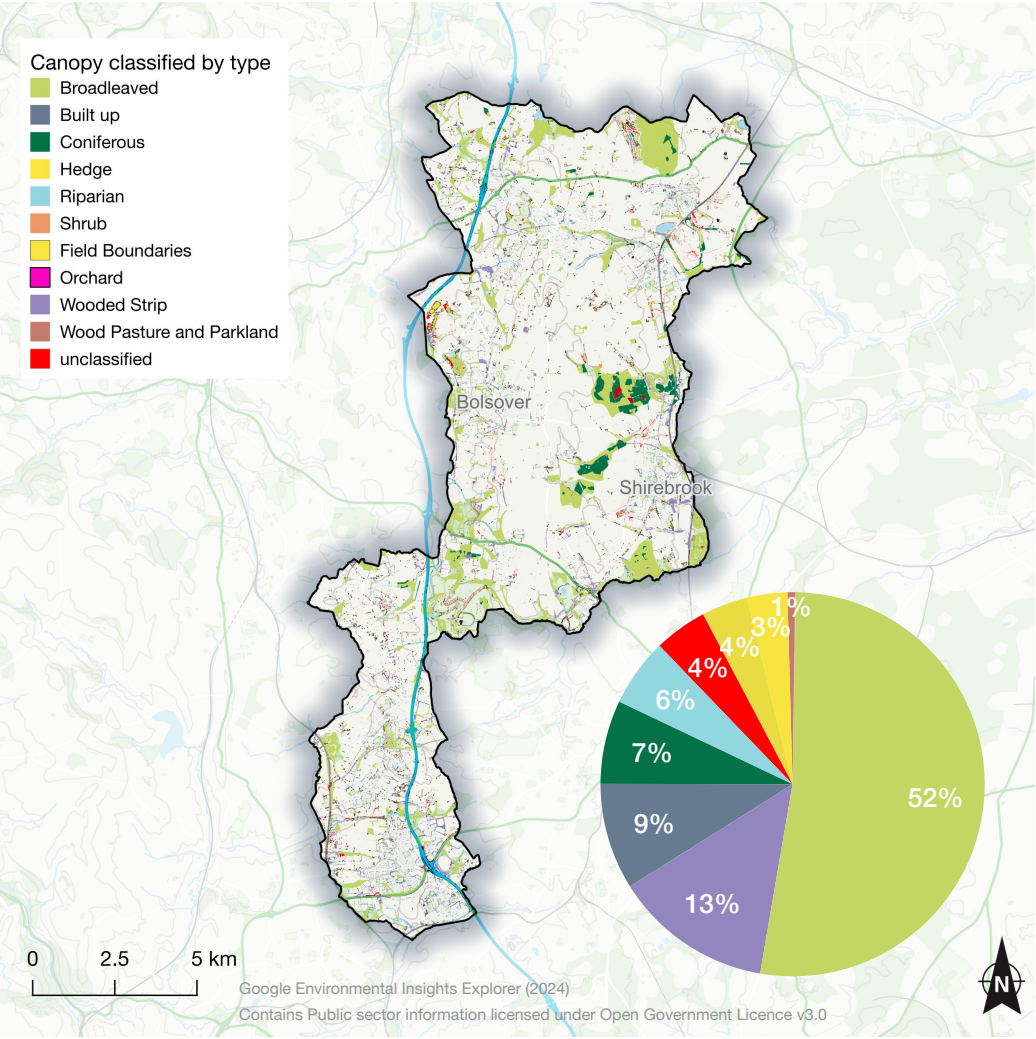


Figure 3. Map of Canopy Type Across Bolsover District

4.1 Tree and Woodland Baseline

Ancient Woodland

Ancient woodlands are woodlands which have been around since 1600. They fall into two categories; ancient semi-natural woodland, and plantations on ancient woodland sites. Only 2.5% of land in the UK is categorised as ancient woodland. In Derbyshire, some 4,920 ha of ancient woodland remains, with 633 ha in Bolsover District; 158 ha of ancient semi-natural woodland, and 476 ha of plantations on ancient woodland sites. Ancient woodland therefore accounts for 4% of land cover, and around 22.6% of all woodland in Bolsover District.

There are 1,646 residential properties within 300m of Ancient Woodlands out of a total of 36,864 residential properties within Bolsover. This figure rises to 4,699 if the distance is increased to 500m.

Linear green features

Linear feature such as hedges, wooded strips, and trees along waterways, roads and railways are an important part of any green landscape. They form linkages between larger green spaces, allowing species to move more freely across the landscape. Though they may not have the biodiversity of a woodland, they are important habitats in their own right, and often buffer other habitats from human disturbances. They also protect against soil degradation, and promote rainwater infiltration which can be of significant benefit to agriculture. Bolsover DC has more than 1,500 km of linear green features.

Ancient Woodland	Derbyshire County	Bolsover District
Ancient Semi-Natural	2,879 ha	158 ha
Planted Ancient Woodland	2,042 ha	476 ha

Table 2. Area of ancient woodland under each classification.

Linear Features	Derbyshire County	Bolsover District
Field Boundaries		
Hedge	-	460 km
Wooded Strip	-	433 km
Tree Canopy	-	284 km
Other	-	266 km
Unknown	-	54 km
Wall	-	12 km
Rights of Way		
Footpaths	4,498 km	220 km
Bridleways	614 km	52 km
Byway open to all traffic	60 km	0.6 km
Restricted Byway	70 km	0.6 km

Table 3. Length of linear features under each classification.

4.2 Tree Equity & Public Access

Tree Equity in Built-up Areas

Tree equity is the idea that all communities have equitable access to the benefits of trees where they live. Trees and green space may be abundant in some neighbourhoods, but absent in others, meaning that some areas may not only be less aesthetically pleasing than others, but also suffer more from the challenges of urban living, such as poor air quality, the urban heat island effect, and surface flooding risk.

The Woodland Trust have created a Tree Equity Score map of the UK, which ranks Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA's) with an index based on canopy cover, Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD), air pollution, heat disparity, and at-risk age category (figure 4)

Despite the large amount of green space across Bolsover, in built up areas, tree equity scores range from 51 in one LSOA in the town of Bolsover, to 86 in one LSOA in Shirebrook. This is because tree canopy ranges significantly at LSOA level, from 22% down to as little as 3% in some areas, and because of the impact of some IMD scores which are taken in to account as part of the Tree Equity Score.

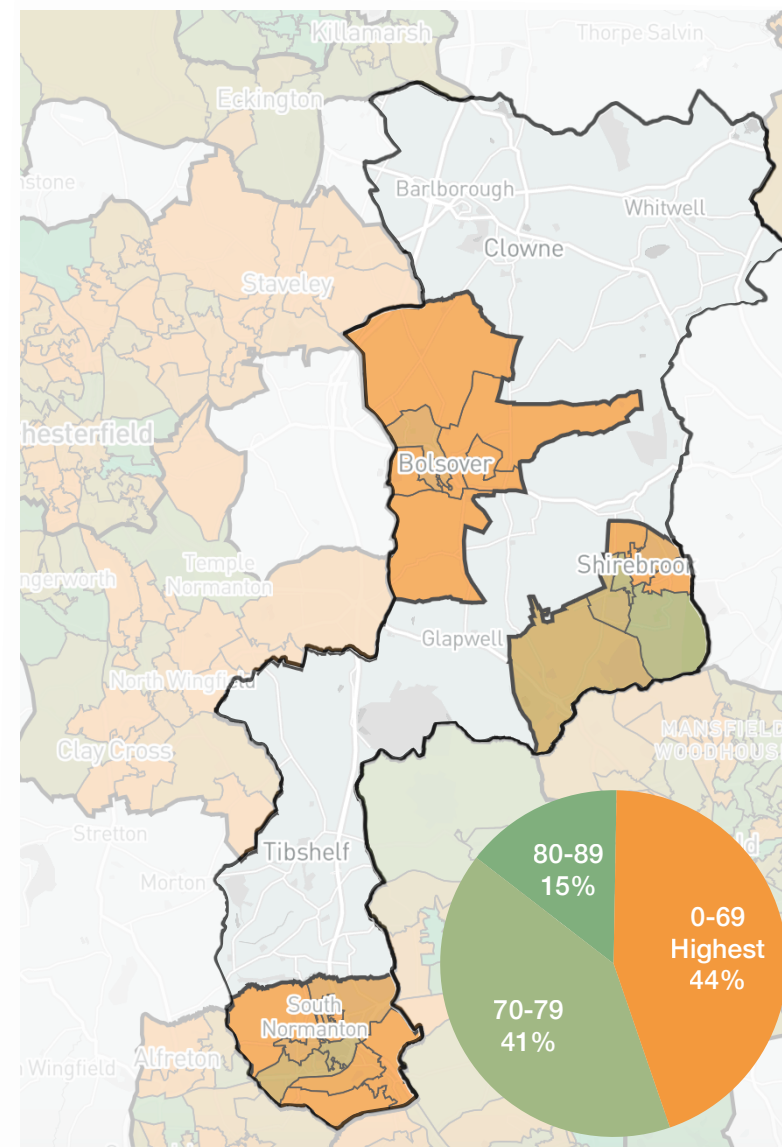
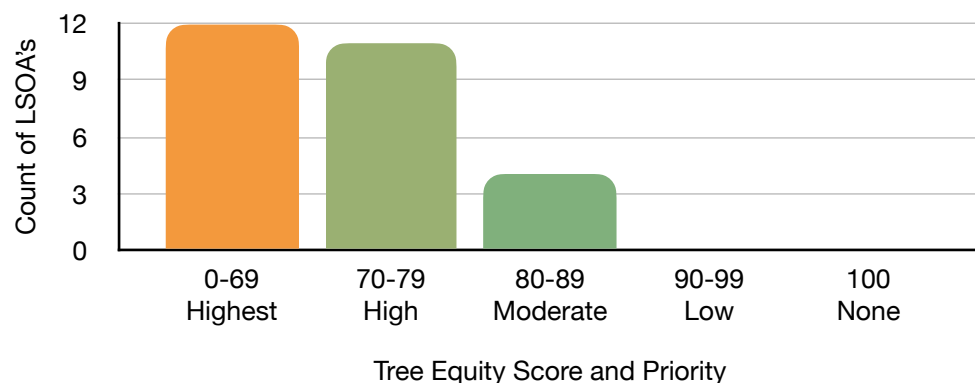


Figure 4. Tree Equity Score of the built up areas of Bolsover District. (Green indicates a better score, orange indicates a worse score)

4.2 Tree Equity & Public Access

Public Access to Greenspace

Public accessibility to green space is crucial to green equity. There are several standards which have been suggested, for example, in urban spaces the 3-30-300 ‘rule’ suggests that everyone should be able to see 3 trees from their home, live in an area with 30% canopy cover, and be within 300m of a public park or green space⁹. For Rural areas like Bolsover District, The Woodland Trust aspires that everyone should have access to a wood of at least 2 ha within 500m of their home; and a wood of at least 20 ha within 4km of their home¹⁰.

There are 162 woodlands over 2 ha within Bolsover; 81% of residential properties are within 500m of at least one of these.

There are 20 distinct large areas of woodland over 20 ha within Bolsover, and all residential properties are within 4km of one of these large woodlands. 64% of all residential properties are within 1km of at least one of these (figure 5).

Rights of Way	Derbyshire County	Bolsover District
Footpaths	4,498 km	220 km
Bridleways	614 km	52 km
Byway open to all traffic	60 km	0.6 km
Restricted Byway	70 km	0.6 km

Table 4. Public access routes across Bolsover District

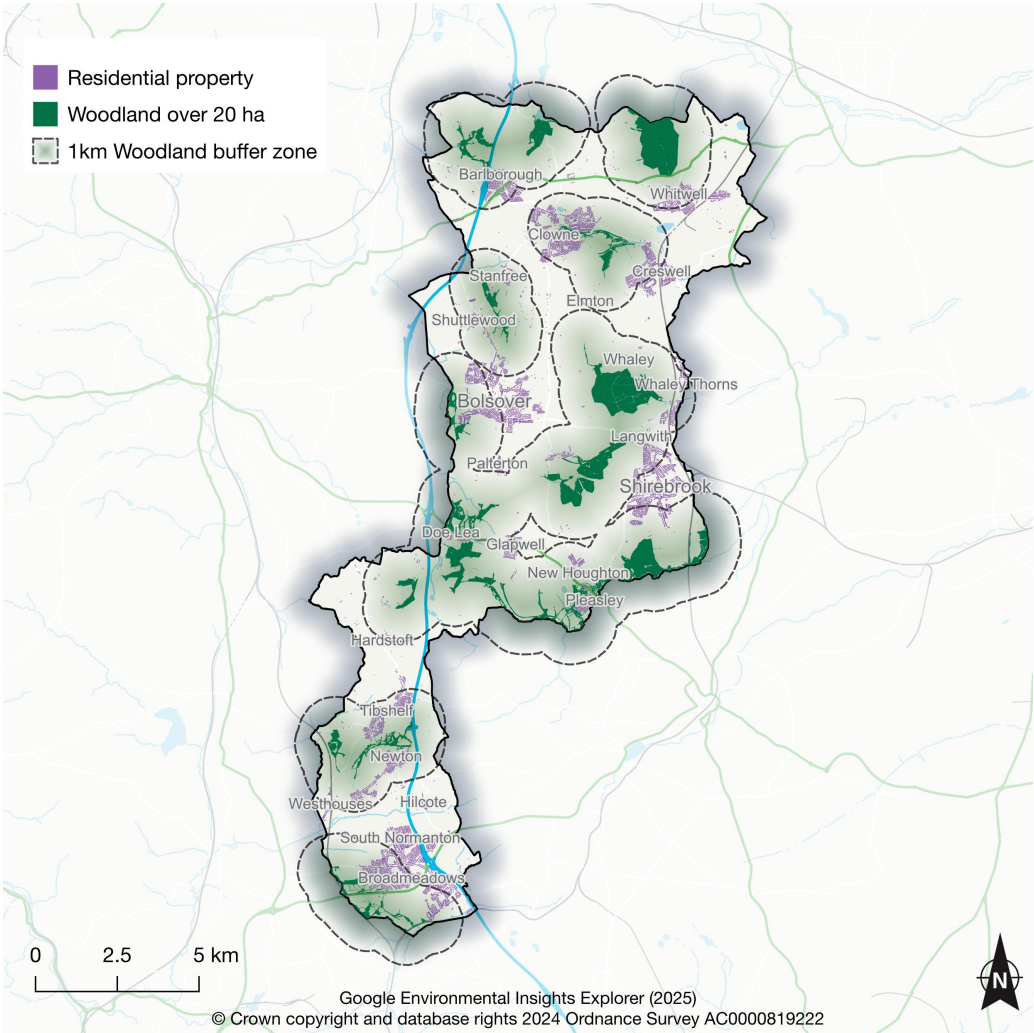


Figure 5. Map showing woodland areas over 20 ha and residential properties. The buffer zone indicates properties that are within 1km of these woodland areas.

⁹ Konijnendijk, C., 2021

¹⁰ Woodland Trust, 2014

4.3 Ecosystem Service Valuation

Ward	Total Carbon Storage		Annual Carbon Sequestration		Annual Avoided Runoff		Annual Air Pollution Removal (kg /yr)				Total Annual Benefits
	Tonnes	Value	T /yr	Value	m³ /yr	Value	NO ₂	SO ₂	PM2.5	Value	
Ault Hucknall	56,949	£57,011,203	2,268	£2,270,121	173,334	£225,473	13,354	2,164	3,209	£317,820	£2,780,153
Barlborough	20,759	£20,781,249	827	£827,486	63,182	£82,188	4,868	789	1,170	£115,849	£1,013,398
Blackwell	8,228	£8,236,476	328	£327,967	25,042	£32,574	1,929	313	464	£45,916	£401,652
Bolsover East	3,013	£3,016,314	120	£120,106	9,171	£11,929	707	114	170	£16,815	£147,091
Bolsover North & Shuttlewood	7,294	£7,301,739	290	£290,747	22,200	£28,878	1,710	277	411	£40,705	£356,069
Bolsover South	4,441	£4,446,343	177	£177,048	13,518	£17,585	1,041	169	250	£24,787	£216,826
Clowne East	2,956	£2,959,258	118	£117,834	8,997	£11,704	693	112	167	£16,497	£144,308
Clowne West	9,386	£9,395,787	374	£374,130	28,567	£37,159	2,201	357	529	£52,379	£458,186
Elmton-with-Creswell	15,229	£15,245,141	606	£607,044	46,351	£60,293	3,571	579	858	£84,987	£743,430
Langwith	21,860	£21,883,608	870	£871,380	66,534	£86,547	5,126	831	1,232	£121,995	£1,067,155
Pinxton	8,182	£8,190,856	326	£326,151	24,903	£32,394	1,919	311	461	£45,662	£399,427
Shirebrook North	1,224	£1,225,692	49	£48,806	3,727	£4,847	287	47	69	£6,833	£59,771
Shirebrook South	8,650	£8,659,831	344	£344,825	26,329	£34,249	2,028	329	487	£48,276	£422,297
South Normanton East	4,276	£4,280,183	170	£170,432	13,013	£16,928	1,003	162	241	£23,861	£208,723
South Normanton West	9,029	£9,038,733	360	£359,912	27,481	£35,747	2,117	343	509	£50,388	£440,774
Tibshelf	12,739	£12,752,441	507	£507,788	38,772	£50,435	2,987	484	718	£71,091	£621,873
Whitwell	20,844	£20,866,544	830	£830,882	63,442	£82,525	4,888	792	1,174	£116,325	£1,017,558
Bolsover District Total	215,059	£215,291,398	8,564	£8,572,659	654,563	£851,455	50,429	8,173	12,119	£1,200,186	£10,498,691

Table 5. Ecosystem services provided by the canopy cover in each ward

*Methodology in Appendix II

5.

Targets, Priorities and Actions

5.1

Taking Care of Existing Trees and Woodlands

This section deals with the practical management of the trees and woodland resource. For much of the urban forest, this can mean seeking to engage and influence other land owners.

5.1 Targets, Priorities & Actions: Tree and Woodland Structure

T1. Establish Comprehensive Tree & Woodlands Inventory

A tree and woodland inventory is a vital tool for understanding the full extent of tree assets across the district. It provides a baseline overview of the structure of the urban and rural treescape - including the number of trees, species diversity, and age distribution - which is essential for informed planning, management, and future monitoring.

To be effective, inventory methodology must reflect the nature of the assets being assessed. Individual trees, such as those covered by risk management protocols or Tree Preservation Orders, can often be recorded in detail. In contrast, woodland areas or large tree groups are more efficiently assessed using sampling techniques, which provide reliable data for larger populations at a lower cost. Sample inventories are particularly useful when working across mixed ownerships, where access may be limited. In such cases, a combination of remote sensing and targeted site visits can effectively gather the required information without extensive on-the-ground surveys.

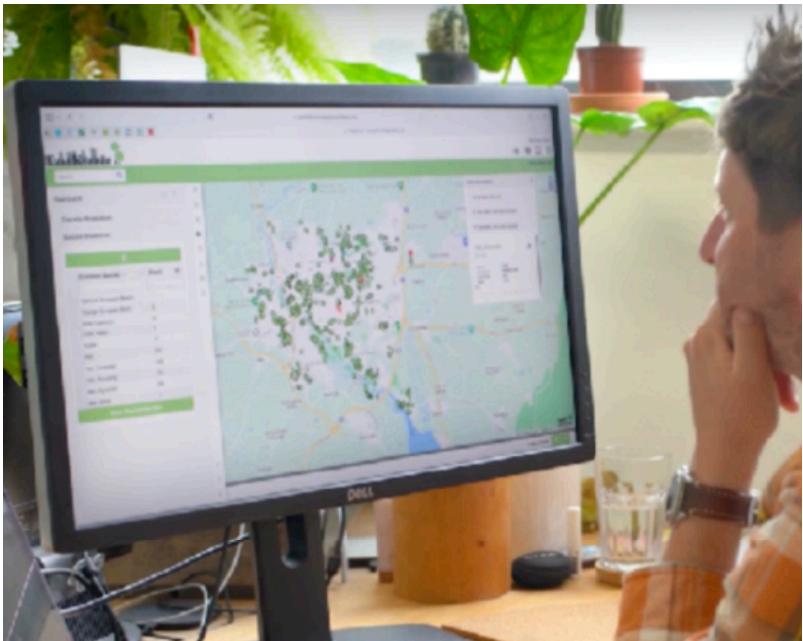


Figure 6. Treekeeper tree inventory management system developed by Davey Resource Group.

Link to corporate policies	Actions	Links
Green Infrastructure Study for Bolsover Green Space Quantity and Accessibility Report	<div>1. Set up a digital inventory system for tree and woodland survey data by March 2026.</div> <div>2. Add all BDC-owned and community reported tree and woodland assets by March 2026.</div> <div>3. Launch a phased tree and woodland data collection programme, starting with BDC-owned land.</div> <div>4. Seek to achieve a systematic and comprehensive tree and woodlands inventory in a district-wide GIS system by December 2029.</div>	

Priority	Key Performance Indicators showing current position (■)			
	Low	Moderate	Good	Optimal
High	No inventory.	Complete or sample-based inventory of publicly owned trees.	Complete inventory of publicly owned trees and sample-based privately owned trees that is guiding management decisions.	Systematic, comprehensive inventory of the entire treescape, supported by mapping in a district-wide GIS system.

5.1 Targets, Priorities & Actions: Existing Tree and Woodlands

T2. Ensure Operational Plans Exist for Key Woodland Assets

Woodland assets require clear and proactive management to support their long-term ecological value and public benefit. At present, some woodlands may lack formal oversight, relying instead on reactive maintenance such as hazard reduction or trail upkeep. Moving toward consistent, strategic management across all sites is essential to safeguard these valuable resources.

Operational or management plans provide a framework to guide day-to-day decision-making and long-term objectives. At a basic level, they ensure public access is safe and infrastructure is maintained. However, at their most effective, these plans go further—embedding biodiversity goals, climate adaptation measures, and community engagement while balancing ecological health with recreational use.

Each key woodland should ideally have a tailored management plan that reflects its unique character, pressures, and potential. Plans should address issues such as invasive species control, habitat restoration, woodland structure, species diversity, and visitor impact.



Figure 7.

Link to corporate policies	Actions	Links
Green Infrastructure Study for Bolsover Bolsover Green Space Strategy	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Collate all existing management plans and establish whether currently operational by June 2026.2. Develop management plans for all remaining key woodland assets by June 2027.3. Build resource within the Council to enable implementation of these management plans by December 2029.4. Seek external funding to optimise the impact of implementing these management plans to sustain and enhance ecological integrity in addition to facilitating appropriate public use.	

Priority	Key Performance Indicators showing current position (■)			
	Low	Moderate	Good	Optimal
High	No management plans in place. Implementation is not in effect.	Management plans in place for some key woodland assets. Implementation is only reactive management efforts to facilitate public use (e.g., hazard abatement, trail maintenance).	Management plans are in place for all key woodland assets. Implementation of plans is becoming established to begin to enhance ecological integrity and facilitate appropriate public use.	Management plans are in place for all key woodland assets. These plans are implemented in full to sustain and enhance ecological integrity while supporting appropriate public use.

5.1 Targets, Priorities & Actions: Existing Tree and Woodlands

T3. Promotion of Tree Benefits

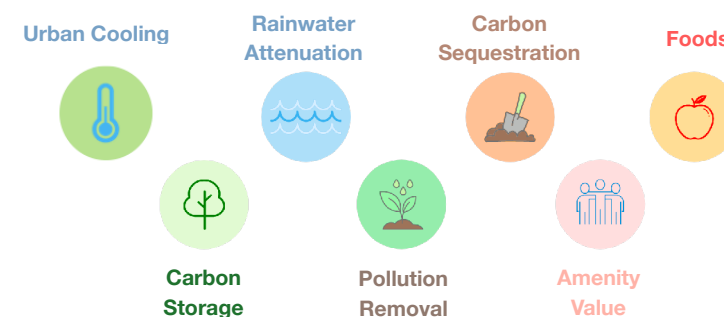
Trees and woodlands provide vital benefits that, although sometimes difficult to quantify, are increasingly recognised for their role in climate resilience, biodiversity and human well-being. Promoting these contributions is crucial for their protection and integration into local strategies.

One of the key roles of trees and woodlands is their contribution to climate change mitigation and adaptation. Trees and woodlands moderate extremes of heat, filter air pollution, and provide shade, making spaces more liveable and enjoyable during hotter summers. Yet, despite their numerous benefits, trees are often overlooked and undervalued.

Recognising and valuing the services that trees provide enables more informed decisions around planting and management - benefiting both current and future generations. It also supports better communication of the importance of trees to the public, planners, and developers, helping to promote the protection of existing trees as well as encouraging new planting. Tools such as i-Tree Eco can be used to quantify the benefits of trees—also known as Ecosystem Services (ESS)—while providing valuable insights into the structure and composition of the urban forest.

About i-Tree:

i-Tree Eco is an application designed to use field data from individual trees, complete inventories, or randomly allocated plots across the sample area to analyse the forest structure and ecosystem services provided.



Link to corporate policies	Actions	Links
Bolsover Green Space Strategy Nature Recovery Plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Publicly promote the benefits of the District's trees using canopy cover data from the baseline assessment (Chapter 4), and share this via the BDC website. Secure internal or external funding to carry out a sample-based survey of public and private trees across the District. Use survey data to assess ecosystem services and identify high-performing tree species and publish on BDC website alongside Canopy Cover data. 	

Priority	Key Performance Indicators showing current position (■)			
	Low	Moderate	Good	Optimal
Medium	No comprehensive information available about tree benefits.	Some information available on key tree benefits assessed through canopy cover assessment.	Sound information available on tree benefits across the district assessed through a sample-based inventory survey.	Comprehensive information on tree benefits across the district, assessed via a sample-based survey and supported by detailed individual tree records.

5.1 Targets, Priorities & Actions: Existing Tree and Woodlands

T4. Tree Protection Policy Development, Monitoring & Enforcement

Urban trees are sometimes seen as a nuisance or a financial burden - dropping leaves on lawns, blocking drains, or causing damage to foundations and underground pipes with their roots. When poorly managed, they may also be perceived as a safety risk. As a result, some individuals may seek to remove trees from public spaces or private land. However, healthy trees should be retained and protected wherever possible.

Some private trees are protected by conservation areas and Tree Preservation Orders (TPO's). Trees may also be protected as part of planning conditions associated with planning approval. One tool used to assess whether a tree should be protected is TEMPO (Tree Evaluation Method for Preservation Orders). Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) and Conservation Areas (CAs) are two key mechanisms through which the council fulfils its duty to protect trees and hedges. In addition, trees and hedgerows may also be protected through conditions attached to planning permissions.

Bolsover's TPO review area map and conservation areas are currently available on the council website. To improve public awareness and engagement, building upon this map, adding more detail is a key action.

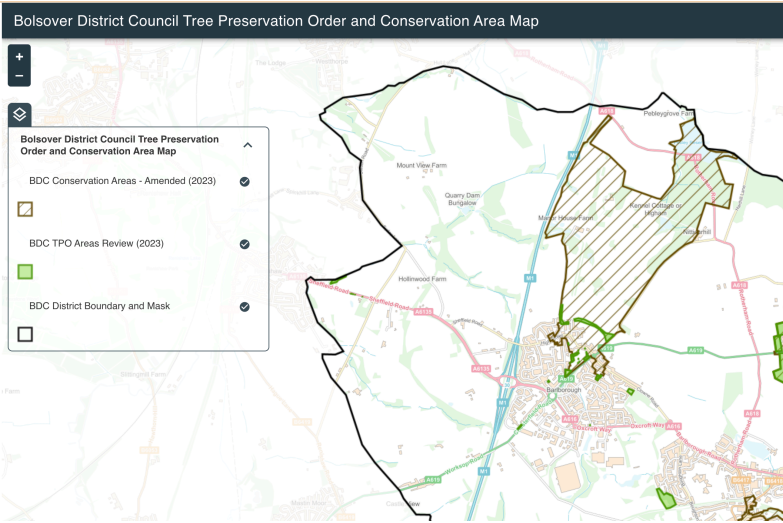


Figure 8. Bolsover District Council TPO and Conservation Area Map

Link to corporate policies

Bolsover Green Space Strategy
Green Infrastructure Study for Bolsover
Green Space Quantity and Accessibility Report

Actions	Links
1. Implement a monitoring and review programme of contraventions of TPO's to ensure enforcement is pursued by BDC by June 2026. 2. Protect where appropriate existing trees & consented landscape schemes to ensure appropriate tree retention and long-term management by June 2026. This could take place as part of pre-application planning enquiries. 3. Provide tailored training for BDC's enforcement team on trees, hedges & woodlands by June 2026.	

Priority	Key Performance Indicators showing current position (■)			
	Low	Moderate	Good	Optimal
High	No tree protection policies or TPOs, with no monitoring or enforcement.	Policies and TPOs in place to protect public trees and employ industry best management practices, but inconsistently monitored or enforced.	Policies and TPOs in place to protect public and private trees, generally monitored and enforced.	Integrated district-wide policies and TPOs to protect public and private trees, consistently enforced and backed by strong deterrents.

5.1 Targets, Priorities & Actions: Existing Tree and Woodlands

T5. Secure Resources to Support Existing Tree & Woodland Assets

Securing consistent annual funding is essential - not only to maintain and grow local investment, but also to diversify the overall funding base for tree and woodland initiatives. There are three broad funding routes to consider:

1.

External government funding, directed at different stakeholders, including:
 - England Woodland Management Planning Grant & Woodland Tree Health Grant offer support for surveying, planning, & maintaining existing woodlands.
2.

Funding from major NGOs and charitable sources, such as:

69

Sylva Foundation, Forestry Commission, and Woodland Trust offer funding to enhance ancient or long-established woodland sites.
3.

Levies and planning obligations, secured through the development process:
 - Section 106 and biodiversity net gain contributions can be used to improve existing woodland, particularly where it forms part of local ecological networks or green infrastructure plans.



Link to corporate policies	Actions	Links
Climate Change Strategy Green Infrastructure Study for Bolsover	<div>1. Scope and implement Section 106 funding for impact mitigation by June 2026.</div> <div>2. Carry out Tree Planting Opportunity Mapping to assist in funding bids by June 2026.</div> <div>3. Create a dedicated officer role/responsibility for bid/funding applications by June 2026.</div> <div>4. Secure sufficient staff funding to enable proactive management of existing tree and woodland assets by June 2027.</div>	

Priority	Key Performance Indicators showing current position			
	Low	Moderate	Good	Optimal
High	Little or no dedicated funding to deliver emergency, reactive or proactive management.	Funding only for emergency, reactive management, not delivering proactive management based on this Tree & Woodland Strategy.	Funding from public and private sources sufficient for some proactive management based on this Tree & Woodland Strategy.	Sustained funding from public and private sources to fully implement this Tree & Woodland Strategy.

5.1 Targets, Priorities & Actions: Existing Tree and Woodlands

Taking Care of Existing Tree & Woodlands Summary

Key Performance Indicator		Current Performance Level				Priority
		Low	Moderate	Good	Optimal	
T1	Establish Comprehensive Tree & Woodlands Inventory					High
T2	Ensure Operational Plans Exist for Key Woodland Assets					High
T3	Promotion of Tree Benefits					Medium
T4	Tree Protection Policy Development, Monitoring and Enforcement					High
T5	Secure Resources to Support Existing Tree & Woodland Assets					High

5.2

Expanding Tree and Woodland Coverage

This section considers the physical structure of the trees and woodland from various perspectives.

5.2 Targets, Priorities & Actions: Expanding Tree & Woodland Cover

E1. Increase Overall Canopy Coverage Across Bolsover District

Tree Canopy Cover (or tree cover) (TCC) is the proportion of land covered by the leaves and branches of trees when viewed from above. It’s a simple, cost-effective way to measure tree presence and is widely used to assess ecosystem services like air quality, carbon storage, and cooling.

There are many methods of assessing canopy cover at this scale, including i-Tree Canopy, i-Tree Eco, Sentinel satellite data, and Bluesky National Tree Map, etc. These methods are not directly comparable with each other as they use different metrics and definitions of what constitutes canopy cover. Therefore, it is important to be consistent in the chosen method over time, allowing for reliable tracking of canopy change and helping to inform long-term planning, target setting, and the evaluation of tree strategies.

A canopy cover study was carried out by Treeconomics using Google Environmental Explorer (refer to Appendix 5.2) which found Bolsover currently has almost 2,800 hectares of tree canopy cover, covering 17.5% of the district. There is a large variation across the wards, with the lowest canopy cover found in Bolsover East ward, and the highest in Langwith ward. Bolsover is working towards an ambition to achieve 20% canopy cover.

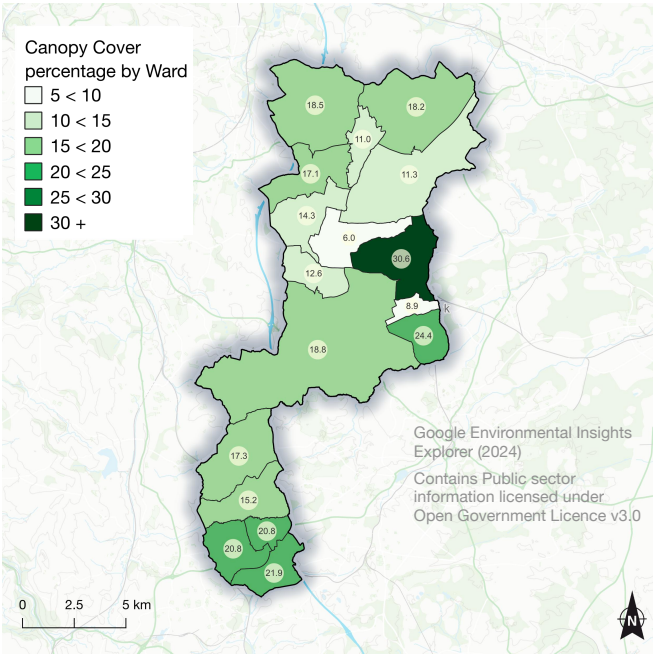


Figure 9. Map of Percentage Canopy Cover by Ward Across Bolsover District

Link to corporate policies	Actions	Links
Green Infrastructure Study for Bolsover Bolsover Green Space Strategy	1. Tree Planting Opportunity Mapping (inc. removal of sites with existing constraints) by June 2026. 2. Launch annual planning sessions with delivery partners to coordinate tree establishment in June 2026. 3. Further enhance canopy cover through coordinated tree establishment and proactive care for existing trees (optimising expansion growth) with delivery partners to achieve 90% of the ambition by March 2030. 4. As above (Action 4) to achieve 100% of the ambition by March 2035. 5. Review canopy cover progress every 5 years through a repeat canopy cover assessment.	

Priority	Key Performance Indicators showing current position (■)			
	Low	Moderate	Good	Optimal
Medium	The existing canopy cover equals 0–25% of the target	The existing canopy cover equals 25–50% of the target	The existing canopy cover equals 50–75% of the target	The existing canopy cover equals 75–100% of the target

5.2 Targets, Priorities & Actions: Expanding Tree & Woodland Cover

E2. Expand Tree Canopy Cover in Wards with Low Coverage

Expanding canopy cover in wards with low coverage is essential for promoting equity in access to green infrastructure, as well as supporting climate resilience and biodiversity. Tree equity is the idea that all communities have equitable access to the benefits of trees where they live. As shown in E1, canopy cover varies widely across wards within the district. Bolsover aims to progress equality in all spheres of social and economic life and empower and engage local communities to effect positive change.

Data from canopy assessments (e.g. i-Tree or Bluesky National Tree Map) can be used to identify gaps and monitor progress over time. Engagement with local communities will also be key to identifying suitable planting sites and ensuring trees are valued, protected, and maintained.

Tree Equity Score UK (produced by the Woodland Trust) currently only includes urban areas. Canopy cover should be assessed alongside other data sets, such as air quality and indices of multiple deprivation, to ensure that areas not covered by the map are not overlooked. This target aims to ensure that the planting and management of the urban forest focus on areas where it will most benefit local people.

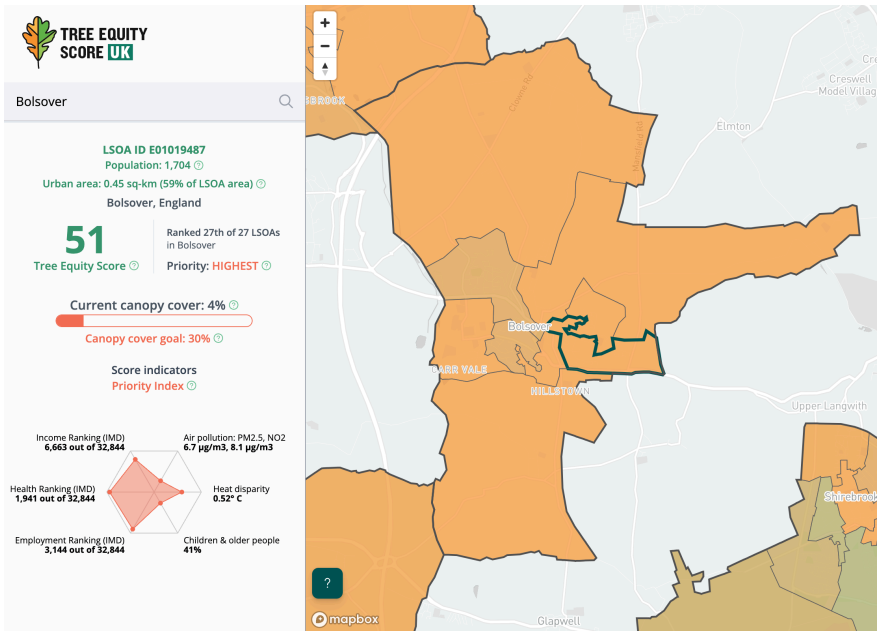


Figure 10. Bolsover District Council Tree Planting

Link to corporate policies	Actions	Links
Green Space Quantity and Accessibility Report Green Infrastructure Study for Bolsover	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Undertake a full analysis of Tree Equity across the district using GIS (this allows for those areas not assessed by Tree Equity Score UK to be included) to identify the areas most in need of increased Tree Canopy Cover by June 2026 (could be undertaken as part of opportunity mapping exercise).2. Identify opportunities for the greening of social housing estates and plan for delivery by June 2028.3. Work with partners to increase the number of wards with 17.5% or greater TCC to 12 by August 2035.4. As above (Action 3) to see all 17 wards with 17.5% or greater tree canopy cover by August 2035.	

Priority	Key Performance Indicators showing current position (■)			
	Low	Moderate	Good	Optimal
High	6 or less of the 17 wards exceed the district average tree canopy cover of 17.5%.	Between 7 and 11 wards of the 17 wards exceed the district average tree canopy cover of 17.5%.	Between 12 and 16 wards of the 17 wards exceed the district average tree canopy cover of 17.5%.	All 17 wards exceed the district average tree canopy cover of 17.5%.

5.2 Targets, Priorities & Actions: Expanding Tree & Woodland Cover

E3. Establish Community Planting Across all Parishes

Community-led tree and woodland planting offers an accessible and meaningful way to engage residents in climate action, biodiversity, and the enhancement of local green spaces. By encouraging community planting projects, the Council can promote a sense of shared responsibility and environmental stewardship.

These projects can take many forms—from small-scale village green plantings to larger woodland creation schemes. When communities are involved from the start, they’re more likely to value and care for the trees in the long term, ensuring higher survival rates and greater public support.

84



Figure 11. Community Tree Planting, Creswell

Link to corporate policies	Actions	Links
Bolsover Green Space Strategy Nature Recovery Plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Develop a list of community groups, their representatives and delivery of projects to date from each parish across the District by June 2026 to establish a clear baseline.2. Organise an annual tree establishment planning workshop with all community groups and BDC to co-ordinate projects across the District. Organise first w/shop Summer 2026.3. Support parish partners to plan tree or woodland planting projects and secure funding, aiming for 12 active parishes by August 2030.4. As above (Action 3) by August 2035.	

Priority	Key Performance Indicators showing current position (■)			
	Low	Moderate	Good	Optimal
Medium	0 to 5 Parishes with at least one community tree or woodland planting project	6 to 9 Parishes with at least one community tree or woodland planting project	10 to 13 Parishes with at least one community tree or woodland planting project	14 of 14 Parishes with at least one community tree or woodland planting project

5.2 Targets, Priorities & Actions: Expanding Tree & Woodland Cover

E4. Expand Existing Key Woodland Assets

Bolsover District Council is committed to enhancing its existing woodland assets to bolster biodiversity, improve climate resilience, and provide accessible green spaces for residents. Key sites such as Fox Green and Lark Rise Woods in Creswell are central to these planting efforts, with plans to expand and interconnect these areas through strategic tree establishment and habitat restoration.

This initiative aligns with the Council's broader ambition to plant one million trees across the district. Collaborations with partners like the Woodland Trust and Bolsover Woodlands Enterprise are key to achieving these goals, ensuring that the expansion of woodland areas contributes to environmental sustainability and community well-being.



Figure 12. Bolsover District Council Tree Planting

Link to corporate policies	Actions	Links
Nature Recovery Plan Green Infrastructure Study for Bolsover	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Identify through GIS mapping potential for woodland expansion across the District by June 2026.2. Assess sites according to Tree Equity, prioritising areas most in need of increased TCC by June 2026.3. With wider council teams/ external partners lever additional funds which enable woodland expansion.4. With partners/community groups develop expansion plans for 15 key woodland assets by March 2030.5. As above (Action 4) for 20 key woodland assets by March 2035.	

Priority	Key Performance Indicators showing current position (■)			
	Low	Moderate	Good	Optimal
High	0 to 5 key woodlands assets with expansion plans	6 to 10 key woodlands assets with expansion plans	11 to 15 key woodlands assets with expansion plans	16 to 20 key woodlands assets with expansion plans

5.2 Targets, Priorities & Actions: Expanding Tree & Woodland Cover

E5. Secure Resources for New Tree and Woodland Planting

Delivering new woodland creation at scale will require dedicated, long-term resourcing. To secure these resources, the Council will pursue a range of funding mechanisms:

1. External government funding, directed at different stakeholders, including:
 - England Woodland Creation Offer (EWCO) – for urban, peri-urban, and rural trees, including street tree replacements.
2. Funding from major NGOs and charitable sources, such as:
 - Woodland Trust's Emergency Tree Fund, which supports local authorities in accelerating tree planting and woodland expansion.
3. Levies and planning obligations, secured through the development process:
 - Seeking funding through Section 106 agreements and biodiversity net gain obligations. Best practice recommends that developments offset or exceed tree loss using meaningful, fully funded metrics.



Link to corporate policies
Climate Change Strategy Green Infrastructure Study for Bolsover

Actions	Links
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Secure sufficient staff funding to enable further bid writing for tree and woodland establishment by June 2026. 2. Begin to work with partners and submit bids to secure funding for the 2027 planting season. 3. Establish an ongoing bid writing process which enables BDC to secure funding for each coming planting season. 	

Priority	Key Performance Indicators showing current position (■)			
	Low	Moderate	Good	Optimal
High	Little or no dedicated funding.	Funding only for emergency, reactive management.	Funding sufficient for some proactive management based on tree & woodland management plan.	Sustained funding from public and private sources to fully implement the strategy.

5.1 Targets, Priorities & Actions: Expanding Tree & Woodland Cover

Expanding Tree & Woodland Coverage Summary

Key Performance Indicator		Current Performance Level				Priority
		Low	Moderate	Good	Optimal	
E1	Increase Overall Canopy Coverage					Medium
E2	Expand Tree Canopy Cover in Wards with Low Coverage					High
E3	Establish Community Planting Across all Parishes					Medium
E4	Expand Existing Key Woodland Assets					High
E5	Secure Resources for New Tree and Woodland Planting					High



5.3

Fostering Community Pride in Trees and Woodlands

This section considers the various communities that are required for a successful, long term approach to management of trees, hedges and woodlands. This covers not only the local residents, but local government in all its forms, NGOs and commercial entities

5.3 Targets, Priorities & Actions: Fostering Community Pride

C1. Establish More Tree Wardens / Champions across District

Tree Wardens and Tree Champions play a vital role in supporting the stewardship of trees at the local level. Across the UK, many councils and communities have successfully empowered volunteers to become active participants in protecting, planting, and promoting trees in their neighbourhoods. Bolsover District has an opportunity to expand this model and build a stronger network of local advocates.

Partnering with national initiatives such as the Tree Council’s Tree Warden Scheme or developing a bespoke district-wide programme can foster civic pride and strengthen long-term care for trees. Promoting the role through parish councils, schools, community groups, and residents’ associations will help build capacity and encourage inclusive participation.



Figure 13. Tree Council Tree Warden Scheme

Link to corporate policies	Actions	Links
Bolsover Green Space Strategy Green Infrastructure Study for Bolsover	<div>1. Promote the work of the existing tree champions/tree wardens/community planting projects across the District.</div> <div>2. Create a map of community groups/ tree wardens across the District by ward and publish on the BDC website.</div> <div>3. BDC to coordinate existing community volunteers delivering a number of community events/ attending community events to engage with community members and encourage new volunteers to attend an introduction/ welcome to the tree wardens group. Plan and launch summer 2026.</div> <div>4. Work with individual wards with no tree wardens/ champions to recruit with the aim of having at least one tree warden in each ward by June 2030.</div>	

Priority	Key Performance Indicators showing current position (■)			
	Low	Moderate	Good	Optimal
High	0-10 Tree Wardens/Champions across the Bolsover District located within in up to 3 wards.	11 to 20 Tree Wardens / Champions across Bolsover District located within up to 8 wards.	21 to 30 Tree Wardens / Champions across Bolsover District located in up to 13 wards.	Above 30 Tree Wardens / Champions across Bolsover District with at least one tree warden located in each ward.

5.3 Targets, Priorities & Actions: Fostering Community Pride

C2. Community Involvement and Neighbourhood Action

Collaborating with smaller community groups such as volunteers, schools and charity groups can encourage further community involvement with projects in small neighbourhoods and wider district areas, which would benefit the whole district. Neighbourhood activities often help the community members to connect more with their trees and woodlands, and encouraging communities to get involved will reduce the likelihood of conflict or opposition to tree planting.

Creating an interactive Stewardship Mapping and Assessment Project (STEW-MAP) such as those completed in Paris and New York may be a useful tool for engaging the public. It is a research methodology, community organising approach and partnership mapping tool developed by the USDA which shows who is responsible for the local environment. It has never been done in the UK and could be an invaluable tool to engage local residents and establish a network of UF management teams across the Borough.



Figure 14. Example Stew Map, showing which organisations work in which areas, their size, focus and overlap with others.

Link to corporate policies	Actions	Links
Bolsover Green Space Strategy Nature Recovery Plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organise annual community workshop and community group to coordinate delivery of District goals, launch May 2026. BDC and Tree Wardens to provide support to community groups. 2. Appoint a tree officer representative for each of the 17 wards by May 2026. 3. With the Tree Wardens, support the establishment of and coordination of a community/neighbourhood group which contributes actively to District goals in 12 wards by March 2030. 4. As above (Action 2) in all 17 wards by March 2035. 	

Priority	Key Performance Indicators showing current position (■)			
	Low	Moderate	Good	Optimal
Medium	Little or no citizen involvement or neighbourhood action in 6 or less wards.	Citizens & 'friends groups' active in 7-11 wards which collaborate on an 'ad hoc' basis with local authorities or NGOs on tree and woodland management to support local strategies and plans.	Neighbourhood groups active in 12-16 wards which collaborate and contribute to tree & woodland goals more frequently, but lack coordination or guidance from Bolsover District or its partner NGOs.	Active neighbourhood groups in all 17 wards working regularly and in a coordinated approach with a tree officer representative for each ward. Community-wide engagement led or coordinated by Bolsover District and partner NGOs.

5.3 Targets, Priorities & Actions: Fostering Community Pride

C3. General Appreciation of Trees as a Community Resource

In order for the strategy to be considered a true success, the most powerful legacy is that the residents love, respect, appreciate and care for its trees. Community initiatives could provide an invaluable opportunity to promote the progress made by the district in terms of urban greening and green infrastructure.

Widely publicising events all year round - making good use of digital communications and social media - such as National Tree Week (usually in late November to early December), Arbor Day, planting days (winter time) and outdoor events, will bring focus onto Mid & East Antrim's trees and woodlands, encouraging participation from those that live and work locally.



Figure 15. National Tree Week encourages people to appreciate, learn about, & participate in activities related to trees.

Link to corporate policies	Actions	Links
Bolsover Green Space Strategy Nature Recovery Plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Publish on BDC website the consultation feedback received during the preparation of this Strategy to act as a baseline for the general appreciations of trees as a community resource. Publish by March 2026. 2. Re-run this consultation exercise bi-annually. Assess and compare results to determine change overtime and use this to inform actions going forwards. 3. Promote the impact of new tree establishment and care for existing trees across the District on the BDC website and at community events on an ongoing basis. 4. Organise and deliver a tree giveaway programme which includes opportunities for the community to engage with and find out about the benefits of trees by July 2028. 	

Priority	Key Performance Indicators showing current position (■)			
	Low	Moderate	Good	Optimal
Medium	General ambivalence about trees, which are perceived as neutral at best or as the source of problems. Actions harmful to trees may be taken deliberately.	Trees generally recognised as important and beneficial.	Trees widely acknowledged as providing environmental, social, & economic services – resulting in some action or advocacy in support of the treescape.	Treescape valued for its community benefits, with strong public and political support driving policies that sustain its long-term viability.

5.3 Targets, Priorities & Actions: Fostering Community Pride

C4. Utilities Cooperation

Effective cooperation with utility providers - both above and below ground - is essential for safeguarding trees, hedges, and woodlands across Bolsover District. This includes working with companies responsible for electricity, gas, water, telecoms, fibre-optics, and rail infrastructure, as well as insurers in relation to subsidence claims.

Utility companies are legally required to manage vegetation that may interfere with their infrastructure - typically through pruning, root protection, and site clearance. However, inconsistent practices can cause unnecessary harm to trees and habitats. While national standards guide some activities, stronger local collaboration can help align these actions with Bolsover's environmental goals.

Promoting best practice and building partnerships will protect green infrastructure while supporting utility operations - key to achieving the Tree and Woodland Strategy's broader aims.



Link to corporate policies	Actions	Links
Green Infrastructure Study for Bolsover	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Appoint one member of BDC to be a point of contact for all utilities companies. 2. List and map all relevant highways and utilities organisations and points of contact. 3. Host a workshop specifically for utilities companies and highways contractors to share the outcomes of this Strategy and BDC's plans for the next 5 years. 4. Monitor and review progress and impact of these actions against the goals within this Strategy. 	

Priority	Key Performance Indicators showing current position (■)			
	Low	Moderate	Good	Optimal
Medium	Utilities take actions impacting treescape with no council coordination or consideration of the treescape resource.	Utilities use best practices, acknowledge potential municipal conflicts, and engage with tree and woodland managers on an ad hoc basis — and vice versa.	Utilities are included in informal council teams that communicate regularly and collaborate on a project-specific basis.	Utilities support tree and woodland goals by taking part in formal interdepartmental or interagency teams for all municipal projects.

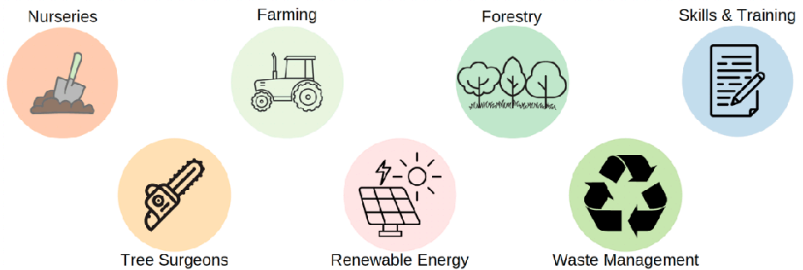
5.3 Targets, Priorities & Actions: Fostering Community Pride

C5. Green Industry Cooperation

The ‘green industry’ includes a broad range of professions involved in tree and vegetation management. Engaging with it offers Bolsover District a valuable opportunity to influence how forest resources—especially on private land—are managed. Close cooperation can promote best practices in planting, maintenance, and protection, supporting long-term sustainability.

Key sectors for targeted collaboration include:

- Farming – Encouraging agroforestry, hedgerow management, and tree planting to enhance biodiversity and resilience.
- Forestry – Supporting sustainable woodland management and responsible harvesting practices.
- Tree Surgery & Arboriculture – Promoting professional tree care and preservation.
- Renewable Energy (Wind & Solar) – Ensuring that tree and vegetation management aligns with both environmental and energy goals.



Link to corporate policies

Green Infrastructure Study for Bolsover

Actions

1. Create an internal list for BDC colleagues of representatives and contact details for each relevant organisation.
2. Increase awareness and define the role of trees regarding meeting climate resilience targets/retrofitting opportunities, linking to wider industries (e.g. building, energy).
3. BDC to work with and set guidelines for tree care professionals and other small scale green industry.
4. Coordinate collaborative arrangements to meet the objectives of this Strategy (e.g. a tree charter that businesses can sign up to if they want to collaborate). This should include discussions on skills building in the sector for including potential courses and apprenticeship schemes.
5. Monitor and review delivery and impact against the goals within this Strategy.

Links

Priority	Key Performance Indicators showing current position (■)			
	Low	Moderate	Good	Optimal
Low	Little or no cooperation among segments of green industry or awareness of district-wide treescape goals and objectives.	Some cooperation among green industry as well as general awareness and acceptance of district-wide goals and objectives.	Specific collaborative arrangements across segments of green industry in support of district-wide goals and objectives.	Shared vision and goals and extensive committed partnerships in place. Solid adherence to high professional standards.

5.3 Targets, Priorities & Actions: Fostering Community Pride

Fostering Community Pride in Tree & Woodlands Summary

Key Performance Indicator	Current Performance Level				Priority
	Low	Moderate	Good	Optimal	
C1 Establish more Tree Wardens / Champions					High
C2 Community involvement & neighbourhood action					Medium
C3 General appreciation of trees as a community resource					Medium
C4 Utilities cooperation					Medium
C5 Green industry cooperation					Low

6.

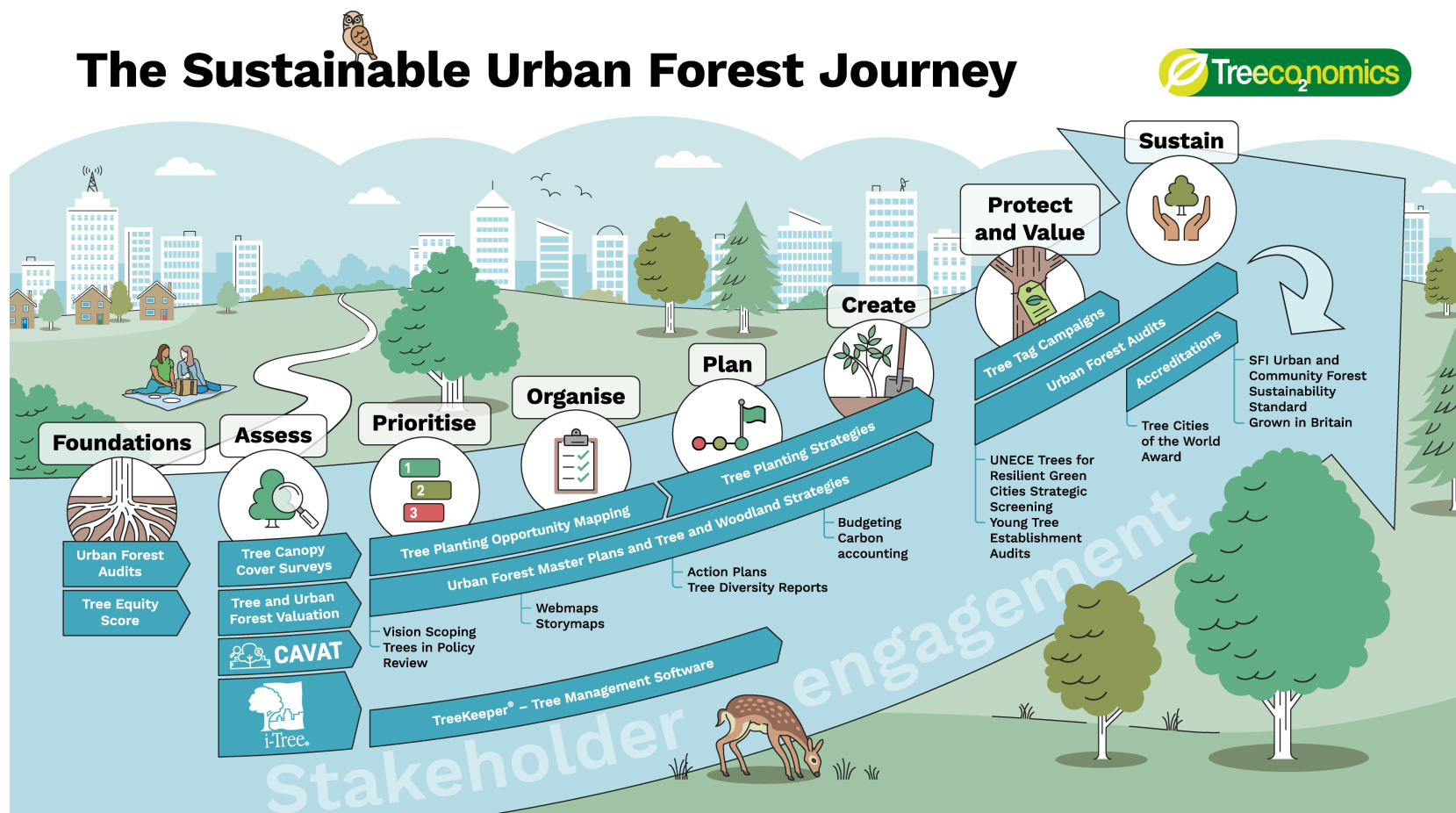
Delivery Plan

To deliver this strategy, targets have been prioritised based on a number of factors; whilst in theory, 'Optimal' is the desirable state for each target, the priority for each has been determined, taking into account the greatest needs across the Borough, current performance of the KPI's, the resources and time required to complete actions, and relative importance compared with other targets and actions. This prioritisation aims to provide a structured pathway for future development and allow for the management and allocation of resources over the lifetime of this document.

Priorities and actions are live, and are expected to be updated and developed as the strategy is reviewed.

Suitable timeframes have been established for actions where appropriate to ensure timely delivery of actions. These provide accountability and structure to the approach, and will work alongside the priorities to provide structure to the delivery approach.

96



Key Action Summary

A summary of the key actions within this document. Some actions are part of several targets; any duplicated actions are removed so as to avoid repetition. They are sorted by the priority of the Targets, and by the number of targets which include these actions.

Action	Description	Targets	Priority
Undertake Tree Planting Opportunity Mapping exercise	Mapping of potential plantable space in soft and hard landscapes which is to include: tree equity and planting priority assessment; the exclusion of known sights with existing constraints against tree planting; and potential sites for woodland expansion.	T5, E1, E2, E4	High
Develop Woodland Management Plans where required	Collate existing woodland management plans and identify sites where new management plans are required. Build resource within the Council to enable implementation of these management plans. Collaborate with partners and community groups to identify potential sites for woodland expansion (may be informed by Opportunity Mapping).	T2, E4	High
Implement a comprehensive Tree Inventory Management System	The district wide system is to include all BCC-owned and community-reported tree and woodland assets, and include GIS capabilities.	T1	High
Implement TPO contravention monitoring and review programme	Program is to track and monitor cases of TPO and conservation area violations to ensure consistent enforcement of penalties. Training will be provided for BDC's enforcement team on trees, hedges & woodlands.	T4	High
Support the development of the Tree Wardens and other community groups	Promote the work of the existing tree champions/tree wardens/community planting projects across the District. Create (and publish) a map of community groups/ tree wardens, and work with wards with no wardens or champions to recruit and connect them.	C1	High
Undertake funding review and initiate applications when/where appropriate	<p>Scope and implement Section 106 funding for impact mitigation. Create a dedicated officer role/responsibility for bid/funding application, and establish an ongoing bid writing process which enables BDC to secure funding for each coming planting season. Amongst other things, funding will be used to support:</p> <p>Staff to enable proactive management of existing tree and woodland assets including woodland expansion and further bid writing</p> <p>The development and implementation of woodland management plans</p> <p>The undertaking of a sample-based survey of public and private trees across the District</p>	T5, T2, T3	Medium/ high

Action	Description	Targets	Priority
Community outreach and knowledge sharing	<p>Communicate openly with the public surrounding this plan, the urban forest as a whole, and the wider environment. BDC will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Publish on BDC website the consultation feedback received during the preparation of this Strategy to act as a baseline for the general appreciations of trees as a community resource. - Organise annual community workshop and community group to coordinate delivery of District goals, launch May 2026. BDC and Tree Wardens to provide support to community groups. - Coordinate existing community volunteers delivering/ attending community events to engage with community members and encourage new volunteers to attend an introduction/ welcome to the tree wardens group. - Promote the impact of new tree establishment and care for existing trees across the District on the BDC website and at community events on an ongoing basis. - Increase awareness and define the role of trees regarding meeting climate resilience targets/retrofitting opportunities, linking to wider industries (e.g. building, energy). - Publicly promote the benefits of the District's trees using canopy cover data from the baseline assessment, and share this via the BDC website. 	C2, E4	Medium/high
Tree Establishment planning and support	Further enhance canopy cover through coordinated tree establishment and proactive care for existing trees. Launch annual planning sessions with delivery partners to coordinate tree establishment, and organise an annual tree establishment planning workshop with all community groups and BDC to co-ordinate projects across the District. Support parish partners to plan tree or woodland planting projects and secure funding.	E1, E3	Medium
Initiate utilities collaboration	Appoint one member of BDC to be a point of contact for all utilities companies, list and map all relevant highways and utilities organisations and points of contact, and host a workshop specifically for utilities companies and highways contractors to share the outcomes of this Strategy and BDC's plans for the next 5 years.	C4	Medium
Initiate green industry cooperation	BDC to work with and set guidelines for tree care professionals and other small scale green industry starting by creating an internal list for BDC colleagues of representatives and contact details for each relevant organisation.	C5	Low

7.

Monitoring & Review Plan

Annual monitoring and review at 5 year point and again at 10 years. Monitored by one of the council's scrutiny groups (most likely through the climate change and communities scrutiny committee).

100

8.

Appendices

8.1 Bibliography

103

4.2 Glossary

Abbreviations

BAP - Biodiversity Action Plan

BSI - British Standards Institution

CAVAT - Capital Asset Valuation for Amenity Trees

ES - Ecosystem Services

ISA - International Society of Arboriculture

LPA - Local Planning Authority

NFI - National Forest Inventory

NGO - Non-Governmental Organisation

NTSG - National Tree Safety Group

NTM - National Tree Map

RTC - Relative Tree Canopy

SSSI - Site of Special Scientific Interest

TAWs - Tree & Woodland Strategy

TES - Tree Establishment Strategy

TPO - Tree Preservation Order

TDAG - Trees and Design Action Group

USDA - United States Department of Agriculture

Glossary of Terms

Arboriculture- The selection, production, planting, maintenance, and removal of all woody plants for amenity purposes.

Biodiversity- A measure of biological variation, whether represented by gene, species, habitats or ecosystems.

Biosecurity- A set of precautions to reduce the risk of accidentally introducing or spreading alien invasive species, including potential pests and pathogens.

Canopy Cover- A 2-dimensional metric quantifying the area of ground covered by tree canopy when viewed from above, where tree canopy is the collective branches and foliage of the tree.

Carbon sequestration- Processes that remove carbon from the atmosphere.

Carbon storage - The amount of carbon bound up in the above-ground and below-ground parts of woody vegetation.

Community forestry- Addresses the social benefits of the urban forest: community pride, community planting and care projects, reduction of violent crimes and a sense of safety.

Conservation- Use, management and protection of natural resources that insures use and enjoyment for future generations

Ecosystem- A unit of ecology consisting of a more or less discrete community of species, interacting with each other and their physical environment.

Ecosystem services- The ways in which humanity relies on ecosystems for the continued provision of clean air, drinking water, an equitable climate, the productivity of agriculture, forestry and oceans, control of flooding, soil erosion, coastal erosion, carbon sequestration etc.

Environment- The prevailing conditions which reflect the combined influence of climate, soil, topography and biology (other plants and animals) present in an area.

GIS (Geographic information system)- A collection of computer hardware, software, and geographic data for capturing, storing, updating, manipulating, analysing and displaying all forms of geographically referenced information.

4.2 Glossary

Green infrastructure (GI)- An interconnected network of waterways, wetlands, woodlands, greenways, parks, forests, and other open spaces that support native species, maintain natural ecological processes, sustain air and water resources and contribute to health and quality of life. Includes parks, parkways, riparian buffers, residential landscaping, street trees, rain gardens, green roofs, and window boxes.

Green roof- A specially designed roof that incorporates plants. Depending on the structural capacity of the building, depth and type of soil, and desired maintenance. Green roofs can be planted with anything from sedums to trees.

Green space- Any vegetated land or water within an urban area that serves as recreation or open space. This includes neighbourhood and regional parks, gardens, cemeteries, playing fields, bike and walking paths, and urban landscaping.

Greenway/green corridor- Corridor composed of natural vegetation. Greenways can be used to create connected networks of open space that include traditional parks and natural areas.

Habitat- Food, water, shelter and space that supports plant or animal life.

Impervious surface- A hard surface (such as a car park or rooftop) that prevents infiltration of water into the ground, causing water to run off the surface.

Infiltration- The downward movement of water from the land surface into the soil.

Inventory, Tree- Gathering of accurate information on the health and diversity of the community forest which can include: listing and description of trees and planting sites.

Microclimate- The climate of a site as modified by local site factors.

Native species- Species present in a defined region for a certain amount of time without having been brought by humans (cf. exotic), for instance in Britain since the English Channel was flooded around 6,000 years ago.

Non-native species- A species that due to direct or indirect human activity occurs in locations beyond its known historical or potential natural range. Refers to species from another continent, region, ecosystem, or habitat.

Pollution- Substances introduced into the environment by human actions that contaminate the environment.

Stormwater runoff- Precipitation that falls on impervious surfaces (such as roofs and roads). Because it is not absorbed by soil and vegetation, it flows into storm drains.



Treeconomics Ltd
Exeter Science Park
6 Babbage Way
Exeter
EX5 2FN

info@treeconomics.co.uk
www.treeconomics.co.uk

BOLSOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL

Meeting of Climate Change and Communities Scrutiny Committee on 14th October 2025

Climate Change and Communities Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2025/26

Report of the Scrutiny Officer

Classification	This report is Public
Contact Officer	Governance and Civic Manager

PURPOSE/SUMMARY OF REPORT

- To provide members of the Scrutiny Committee with an overview of the meeting programme of the Committee for 2025/26.

REPORT DETAILS

1. Background

- 1.1 The main purpose of the report is to inform members of the meeting programme for the year 2025/26 and planned agenda items (Appendix 1).
- 1.2 This programme may be subject to change should additional reports/presentations be required, or if items need to be re-arranged for alternative dates.
- 1.3 Review Scopes submitted will be agreed within Informal Session in advance of the designated meeting for Member approval to ensure that there is sufficient time to gather the information required by Members and to enable forward planning of questions.
- 1.4 Members may raise queries about the programme at the meeting or at any time with the Governance and Civic Manager should they have any queries regarding future meetings.
- 1.5 All Scrutiny Committees are committed to equality and diversity in undertaking their statutory responsibilities and ensure equalities are considered as part of all Reviews. The selection criteria when submitting a topic, specifically asks members to identify where the topic suggested affects particular population groups or geographies.
- 1.6 The Council has a statutory duty under s.149 Equality Act 2010 to have due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity and to eliminate discrimination.

- 1.7 As part of the scoping of Reviews, consideration is given to any consultation that could support the evidence gathering process.

2. Details of Proposal or Information

- 2.1 Attached at Appendix 1 is the meeting schedule for 2025/26 and the proposed agenda items for approval/amendment.

3. Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1 This report sets the formal Committee Work Programme for 2025/26 and the issues identified for review.
- 3.2 The Scrutiny Programme enables challenge to service delivery both internally and externally across all the Council Ambitions.
- 3.3 The Scrutiny functions outlined in Part 3.6(1) of the Council's Constitution requires each Scrutiny Committee to set an annual work plan.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 4.1 There is no option to reject the report as the Scrutiny functions outlined in Part 3.6(1) of the Council's Constitution requires each Scrutiny Committee to set an annual work plan.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

1. That Members review this report and the Programme attached at Appendix 1 for approval and amendment as required. All Members are advised to contact the Governance and Civic Manager should they have any queries regarding future meetings.

IMPLICATIONS:

<u>Finance and Risk</u> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Details: None from this report.		
On behalf of the Section 151 Officer		
<u>Legal (including Data Protection)</u> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
Details: In carrying out scrutiny reviews the Council is exercising its scrutiny powers as laid out in Part 1A, s9F(2) of the Local Government Act 2000.		
On behalf of the Solicitor to the Council		

<u>Staffing</u> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Details: None from this report.	On behalf of the Head of Paid Service
<u>Equality and Diversity, and Consultation</u> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Details: None from this report.	
<u>Environment</u> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please identify (if applicable) how this proposal/report will help the Authority meet its carbon neutral target or enhance the environment. Details: None from this report.	

DECISION INFORMATION:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Please indicate which threshold applies:</i>	
Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an Executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more wards in the District or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds: Revenue (a) Results in the Council making Revenue Savings of £75,000 or more or (b) Results in the Council incurring Revenue Expenditure of £75,000 or more. Capital (a) Results in the Council making Capital Income of £150,000 or more or (b) Results in the Council incurring Capital Expenditure of £150,000 or more. District Wards Significantly Affected: <i>(to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the District)</i> Please state below which wards are affected or tick All if all wards are affected:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (a) <input type="checkbox"/> (b) <input type="checkbox"/> (a) <input type="checkbox"/> (b) <input type="checkbox"/> All <input type="checkbox"/>

Is the decision subject to Call-In? <i>(Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If No, is the call-in period to be waived in respect of the decision(s) proposed within this report? <i>(decisions may only be classified as exempt from call-in with the agreement of the Monitoring Officer)</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Consultation carried out: <i>(this is any consultation carried out prior to the report being presented for approval)</i>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Leader <input type="checkbox"/> Deputy Leader <input type="checkbox"/> Executive <input type="checkbox"/> SLT <input type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Members <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>	

Links to Council Ambition: Customers, Economy, Environment, Housing
All

DOCUMENT INFORMATION:

Appendix No	Title
1.	Climate Change and Communities Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2025/26

Background Papers
<i>(These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Executive, you must provide copies of the background papers).</i>

Climate Change and Communities Scrutiny Committee

Work Programme 2025/26

Performance Review	Policy Development	Policy/Strategy Programme Monitoring	Review Work	Call-In/Review of Executive Decisions	Petition

Items to add

Date of Meeting	Items for Agenda		Lead Officer
23 June 2025 1111	Part A – Formal	• Community Outreach Programme – Member Update	Service Manager (Environmental Health)
		• Review of Council's Approach to Carbon Reduction – Post-Scrutiny Monitoring and update from the Climate Change Officer	Scrutiny Officer; Climate Change Officer
		• Review of the Council's Approach to Environmental Despoilment Education and Enforcement – Formal Approval by Committee	Scrutiny Officer
		• Agreement of Work Programme 2024/25	Scrutiny Officer
	Part B – Informal	• Review work	Scrutiny Officer
8 October 2025	Part A – Formal	• Carbon Reduction Plan: Draft Actions	Climate Change Officer
		• Review of the Council's Energy Policy for Local Housing – Post Scrutiny Monitoring Report (Second Interim Report)	Scrutiny Officer
		• Review of the Council's Approach to Environmental Despoilment Education and Enforcement – Executive Response	Scrutiny Officer
		• Work Programme 2024/25	Scrutiny Officer
	Part B – Informal	• Review work	Scrutiny Officer
3 February 2026	Part A – Formal	• Health and Wellbeing Strategy – Monitoring Update	HR Business Partner
		• Review of Council's Approach to Carbon Reduction – Post-Scrutiny Monitoring	Scrutiny Officer & Climate Change Officer

Date of Meeting	Items for Agenda		Lead Officer
14 April 2026		• Preparation for Annual Review of the Community Safety Partnership	Scrutiny Officer
		• Work Programme 2024/25	Scrutiny Officer
	Part B – Informal	• Review work	Scrutiny Officer
	Part A – Formal	• Review of the Council’s Approach to Environmental Despoilment Education and Enforcement – Interim Post Scrutiny Monitoring Report	Scrutiny Officer
		• Review of the Council’s Energy Policy for Local Housing – Post Scrutiny Monitoring Report (Third Interim Report – if necessary)	Scrutiny Officer
		• Annual Review of the Community Safety Partnership	Assistant Director Streetscene, Community Safety and Enforcement; Community Safety & Enforcement Manager
		• Work Programme 2024/25	Scrutiny Officer
	Part B – Informal	• Review work	Scrutiny Officer