Bolsover District Council's

Tree & Woodland Strategy

2025 - 2035

Draft

*This is a live, working document

Treeco₂nomics

Bolsover
District Council

Project Team

Acknowledgements

Authors

Table of Contents

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 value[1], 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]

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[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

Treeco₂nomics

Increased property value and rental value

Attractive high streets
Increase in consumer spending and restaurant patronage

Reduced air-conditioning costs

Improved concentration and productivity

Winter windbreak

Improved recovery times from illness

Reduced heating costs

• Social cohesion
• Sense of place
• Cultural links to the past

Connectivity and wildlife corridors

Bio-diversity and habitat

Stormwater attenuation

Evaporative cooling in hot weather

Oxygen production

• Summer shade
• UV protection

Noise reduction

Food

Air quality
Pollution filtration

Traffic calming and journey quality

Encourages outdoor recreation

Carbon storage

• Reduced surface flooding
• Soil infiltration
• Soil conservation

• Reduced stress
• Health and wellbeing benefits

Timber
Fuel and building materials

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 loca 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'.

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:
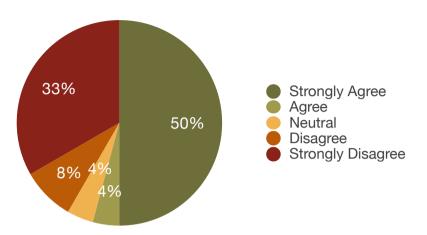
- Define a clear **timeline for tree planting targets** in Bolsover.
- Investigate **policy mechanisms** such as SPDs to support urban canopy growth.
- Establish **best practice guidelines** for woodland creation under 1 hectare.
- Develop a **woodland condition assessment** framework.
- Explore **expanding 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.
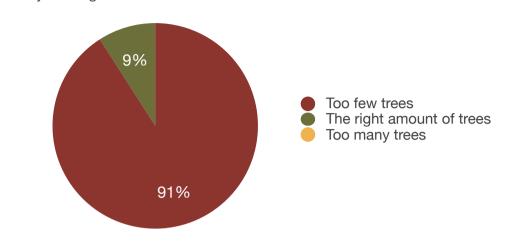
Conclusions from Stakeholder Engagement

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 finding of this survey are set out on page 10.
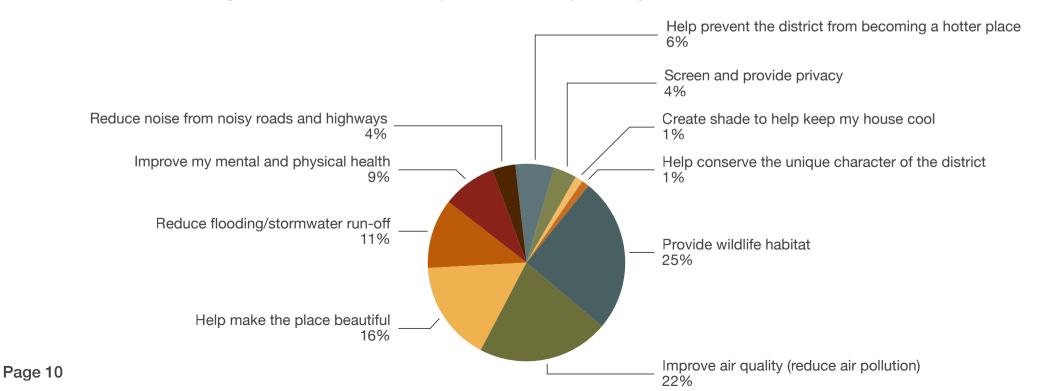
Q1. Trees and woodlands are an important part of Bolsover?

50%

33%

8% 4%

4%

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Q2. In your neighbourhood there are…..?

9%

91%

- Too few trees
- The right amount of trees
- Too many trees

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

Help prevent the district from becoming a hotter place
6%

Screen and provide privacy
4%

Create shade to help keep my house cool
1%

Help conserve the unique character of the district
1%

Reduce noise from noisy roads and highways
4%

Improve my mental and physical health
9%

Reduce flooding/stormwater run-off
11%

Provide wildlife habitat
25%

Help make the place beautiful
16%

Improve air quality (reduce air pollution)
22%

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.

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.

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.

"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

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.
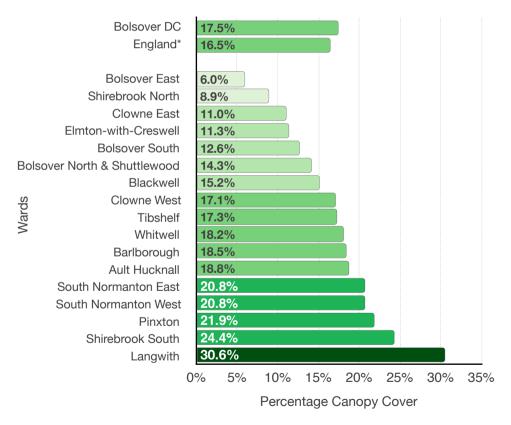

Figure 1. Canopy Cover by Ward

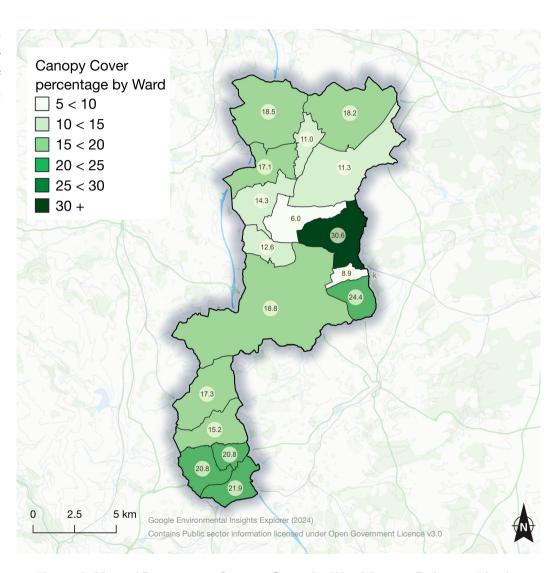Source: Google Environmental Insights Explorer 2024.
*Doick., (2017).

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

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.

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

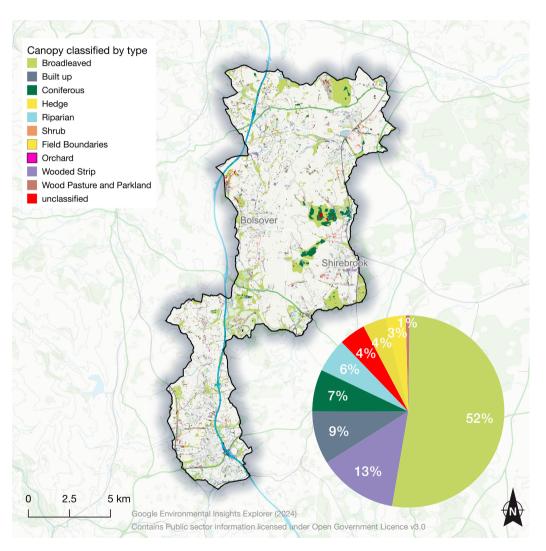**Figure 3. Map of Canopy Type Across Bolsover District**

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.
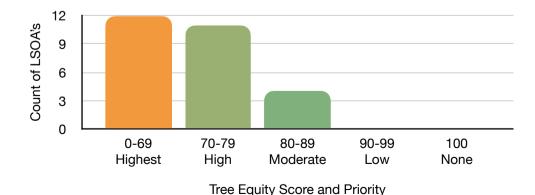
Tree Equity in Built-up Areas

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)

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 space[9]. 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 home[10].

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
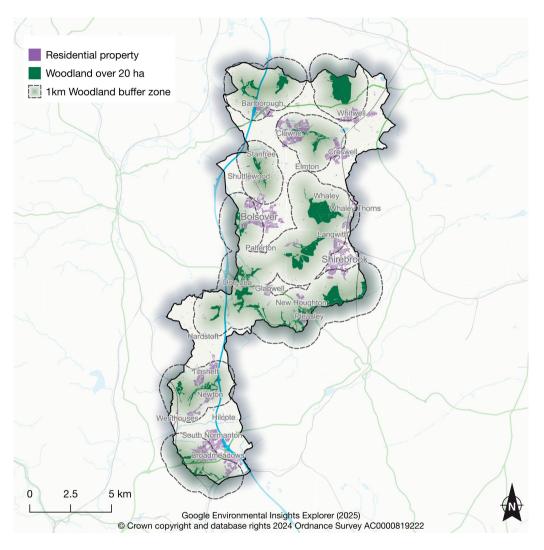

Figure 5. Map showing woodland areas over 20 ha and residential properties. The buffer zone indicates properties that are within 1km of these woodland areas.

Google Environmental Insights Explorer (2025)
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[9] Konijnendijk, C., 2021
[10] Woodland Trust, 2014

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	NO₂	SO₂	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.

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.
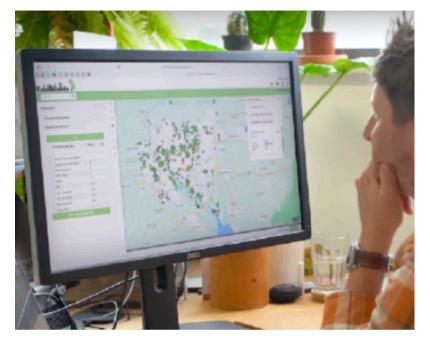

Figure 6. Treekeeper tree inventory management system developed by Davey Resource Group.

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

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.

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	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.

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.

Urban Cooling   **Rainwater Attenuation**   **Carbon Sequestration**   **Foods**

Carbon Storage   **Pollution Removal**   **Amenity Value**

Link to corporate policies	Actions	Links
Bolsover Green Space Strategy Nature Recovery Plan	1. 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. 2. Secure internal or external funding to carry out a sample-based survey of public and private trees across the District. 3. 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.

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.
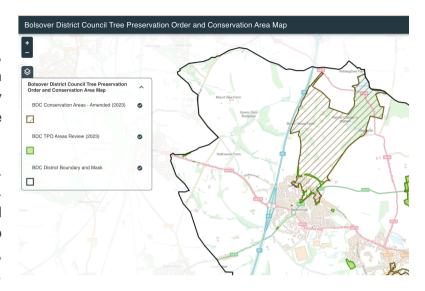
Figure 8. Bolsover District Council TPO and Conservation Area Map

Link to corporate policies	Actions	Links
Bolsover Green Space Strategy Green Infrastructure Study for Bolsover Green Space Quantity and Accessibility Report	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.

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:

    - 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	1. Scope and implement Section 106 funding for impact mitigation by June 2026. 2. Carry out Tree Planting Opportunity Mapping to assist in funding bids by June 2026. 3. Create a dedicated officer role/responsibility for bid/funding applications by June 2026. 4. Secure sufficient staff funding to enable proactive management of existing tree and woodland assets by June 2027.	

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.

Taking Care of Existing Tree & Woodlands Summary

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

5.2
Expanding Tree and Woodland Coverage

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

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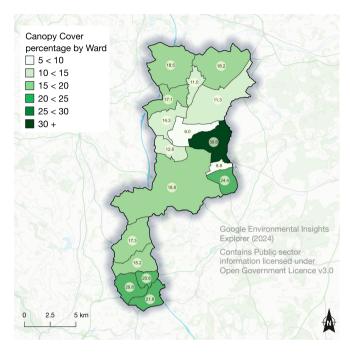
Figure 9. Map of Percentage Canopy Cover by Ward Across Bolsover District

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

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.
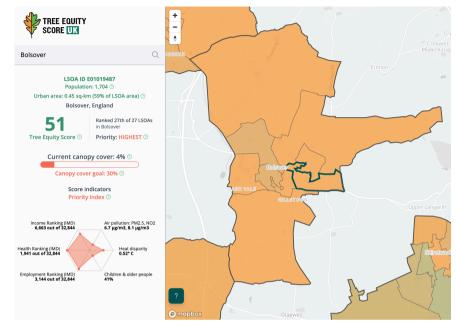

Figure 10. Bolsover District Council Tree Planting

Link to corporate policies	Actions	Links
Green Space Quantity and Accessibility Report Green Infrastructure Study for Bolsover	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%.

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.

Figure 11. Community Tree Planting, Creswell

Link to corporate policies	Actions	Links
Bolsover Green Space Strategy Nature Recovery Plan	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

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	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

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	Actions		Links
Climate Change Strategy Green Infrastructure Study for Bolsover	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.

Expanding Tree & Woodland Coverage Summary

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

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	1. Promote the work of the existing tree champions/tree wardens/community planting projects across the District. 2. Create a map of community groups/ tree wardens across the District by ward and publish on the BDC website. 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. 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.	

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.

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.
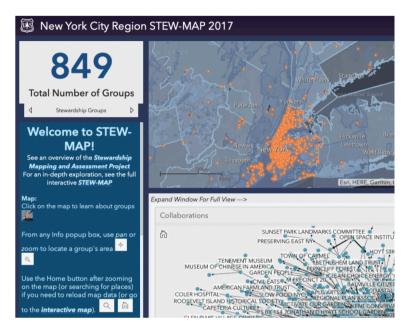

Figure 14. Example Stew Map, showing which organisations work in which areas, their size, focus and overlap with others.

Link to corporate policies	Actions	Links
Bolsover Green Space Strategy Nature Recovery Plan	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.

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	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.

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	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.

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	Actions	Links
Green Infrastructure Study for Bolsover	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.	

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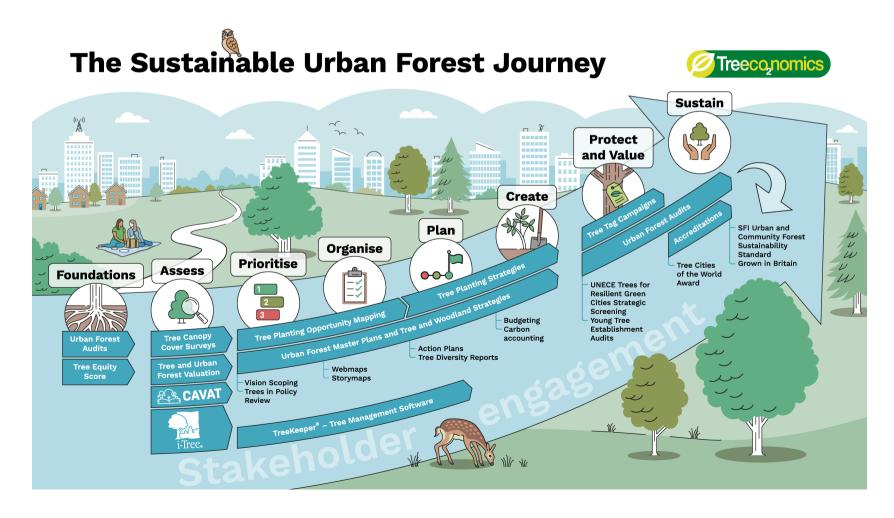
Key Performance Indicator		Current Performance Level				Priority
		Low	Moderate	Good	Optimal	
C1	Establish more Tree Wardens / Champions	Low				High
C2	Community involvement & neighbourhood action		Moderate			Medium
C3	General appreciation of trees as a community resource		Moderate			Medium
C4	Utilities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

The Sustainable Urban Forest Journey

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	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: Staff to enable proactive management of existing tree and woodland assets including woodland expansion and further bid writing The development and implementation of woodland management plans The undertaking of a sample-based survey of public and private trees across the District	T5, T2, T3	Medium/ high

Action	Description	Targets	Priority
Community outreach and knowledge sharing	Communicate openly with the public surrounding this plan, the urban forest as a whole, and the wider environment. BDC will: - 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).

8.
Appendices

8.1 Bibliography

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.

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.