



Progress Report October 2009 – October 2010

**By Debbie Alston
Biodiversity Project Officer**

21st October 2010

This report covers the activity of the Biodiversity Project Officer between 3rd October 2009 and 21st October 2010. It covers the main areas of activity within the Memorandum of Agreement between Natural England and the Lowland Derbyshire Biodiversity Partnership.

Executive summary:

The major focus of activity, between October 2009 and October 2010, relates the review of the Lowland Derbyshire Biodiversity Action Plan. This has included the preparation of spatial habitat information, review of progress towards the targets and the drafting of a number of area action plans. Significant achievement has been made towards the 2005-2010 targets, where 63% have been achieved and an additional 14% were achieved between 75% and 99%.

The work of the Lowland Derbyshire Biodiversity partnership has been publicised in a number of ways including within the partnership's quarterly newsletters, the annual report, the Derbyshire Biodiversity website and at two successful conferences.

Support has been given to the partners, both large and small, whilst developing and delivering biodiversity projects. The partnership now has 96 partners, including many community groups and parish councils.

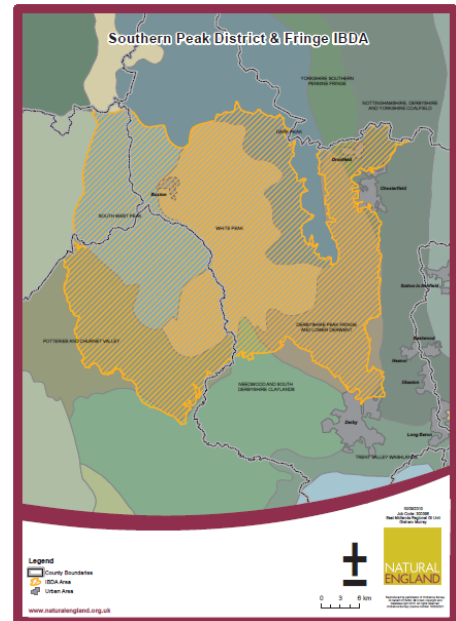
Funding for the Project Officer in 2009/10 was provided by 12 partners, to date in 2010/11 funding has been provided by 11 partners, additional income has come from contracts, grants and donations.

1. Linkages to national and local BAPs

1.1 UK BAP

Copies of newsletters were passed to the England BAP officer to keep them informed of local progress and issues. The Project Officer responded to various requests for information and questionnaires from the England Biodiversity Group. The Project Officer attended the UK and LBAP conference in York 6-8th October 2009. The theme of the conference was based around putting an economic value on biodiversity. It was also an opportunity to network with other LBAP officers and see how other LBAP reviews were being carried out.

The concept of Integrated Biodiversity Delivery Areas (IBDAs) was developed throughout the year and the Project Officer, with other members of the partnership, attended a variety of workshops and meetings to choose and develop IBDAs in the East Midlands. After much discussion and advocacy, the *Southern Peak District and Fringes IBDA* was chosen as a national pilot. This area includes the whole of the Peak Fringe area from within the LBAP area, as well as parts of the Peak District and Staffordshire, a total of 180,000 hectares. It is hoped that this will provide a framework to develop and find funding for landscape scale projects within the IBDA, primarily for woodlands and grasslands and a variety of priority species. The Project Officer is one of seven individuals involved with the drawing up of the IBDA partnership and its remit.



1.2 Regional

The East Midlands Biodiversity Partnership (EMBP) met every quarter, up until September 2010, when the decision was taken to cancel the meeting till the New Year when the position of the partnership would be clearer. The Project Officer attended the majority of regional meetings within the period including East Midlands Biodiversity Full Partnership and the Steering Group as the chair/representative of the regional LBAP officers group. The regional LBAPs also met every quarter discuss common issues such as the Natural England Memorandum of Agreement, BARS and the promotion of the NERC Biodiversity Duty. A workshop was arranged in November 2009 for LBAP officers from the West and East Midlands to meet to discuss BARS with the BARs team from Natural England.

The Project Officer has responded to requests for information from the East Midlands Biodiversity Partnership, including the annual report and sections of the website.

During the year the EMBP was asked to produce a delivery plan to set out the aspirations of the partnership and how it would deliver its proportion of the 2015 BAP targets. This involved a considerable amount from the LBAP Officers pulling together information on existing and planned delivery projects and data analysis. The Project Officer attended meetings, workshops and was on the steering group for the project. Due to a change in national priorities, the plan was stopped half-way through, but is likely to be continued in a different guise in 2011.

1.3 Links with neighbouring LBAPs

Close contact and liaison has been maintained with the Peak District and National Forest LBAPs as well as Nottinghamshire and Staffordshire LBAPs. The National Forest, Peak District and Staffordshire LBAPs have also been undertaking a review of their LBAP documents and have liaised to make sure that methodologies and the draft documents are compatible, especially at the boundary areas.

The Project Officer digitised a number of National Forest Tender Schemes in separate habitat layers for the National Forest Company and shared data on target achievement to ensure the baseline data was compatible.

1.4 Greenprints

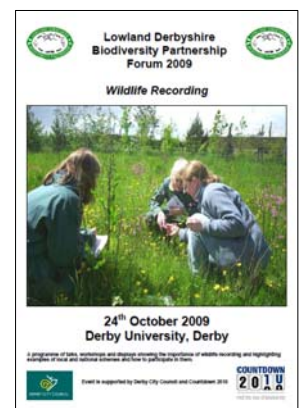
The Project Officer continued to play an active part in the Chesterfield Greenprint Steering Group and provided steerage and comments as part of the Greenprint review process.

The Bolsover Biodiversity Network (BBN) has continued to be successful with key partners and groups working towards the targets. The Project Officer organised a workshop in January to use a community consultation event for the Limestone Journeys project, the Doe Lea project and the LBAP review. As in previous years, a series of evening site visits were arranged for groups to visit local sites and discuss site management issues. The Project Officer has also been involved in discussions associated with the Greenprint review and collated information on the progress made to date on actions and targets.

2. Local Feedback

2.1 Annual Forum

The 2009 Annual Forum had a theme of *Wildlife Recording* and was held on Saturday 24th October 2009 at Derby University. It was attended by 150 people and included a number of talks, on national and local recording projects and nine different workshops focussing on recording schemes and surveys. The event was very well received and feedback suggested that it had inspired people to pay more attention to the wildlife in their areas and sites as well as submit records for use in conservation purposes.



The 2010 Annual Forum was held on Saturday 16th October at Chesterfield Library. The theme of the event was looking back over the 2005-2010 LBAP period and an opportunity to see the work that has been done to date on the revision of the LBAP for the 2011-2020 period. Talks included the contributions made to the LBAP targets by agri-environmental schemes, the mineral extraction industry and three projects showing the variety of delivery mechanisms involved in achieving the LBAP targets.



Instead of workshops, the event had a choice of two site visits which looked at DWT's Avenue Washlands reserve and a farm on Holymoorside where some significant work had taken place.

The event was concluded by the Project Officer presenting the LBAP revision and its format for 2011-2020. The event was less well attended, with just 55 people attending.

2.2 LBAP Steering Group

The Steering Group of the Lowland Derbyshire Biodiversity Partnership met on 20th January and 16th June. Ten members of the partnership were represented at each meeting. The main topics for discussion included the format of revision of the LBAP and mapping and monitoring of the LBAP targets. Reports were received from the habitats groups, Greenprints, partners on recent projects and achievements.

2.3 Servicing and expanding the partnership

The Project Officer continued to work with, advise and distribute relevant information to the LBAP partnership, which at the end of period included 96 partners.

During the report period, the Project Officer visited, or communicated with, a number of LBAP partners and local groups to discuss various issues including current and future projects and funding.

LBAP Partners visited included:

- Friends of Holmebrook Country Park
- Friends of Poolsbrook Country Park
- National Trust (Doe Lea and Mercaston and Markeaton Brook Projects)
- Bolsover Countryside Partnership
- Lea Valley Project
- Groundwork Derby and Derbyshire
- Barrow Upon Trent Parish Council
- Derby City Council.



3. Making the LBAP accessible

3.1 Website

The usage of the Derbyshire Biodiversity website has remained high with an average of 78 visitors per day, this is slightly increased from the previous 12 months (Table 1). Higher usage, in terms of unique visitors and bandwidth, tends to correspond with the timing of each quarterly newsletter. The statistics package continues to show a high usage, especially more during evenings and over weekends. The species and habitats pages are still the most visited part of the site followed by the Lowland Derbyshire LBAP page. Whilst most visitors stay less than two minutes on the website, around 5% of visitors are logged onto the site for more than an hour.

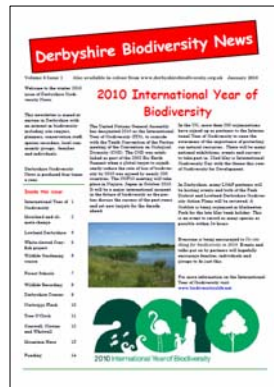


Table 1: Website usage October 2009 – October 2010

Month	Unique visitors	No of visits	Average no of visits per day	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Oct 2009	1555	2446	78	7864	27,908	1.20 GB
Nov 2009	1501	2376	79	6915	23,401	1.42 GB
Dec 2009	1148	1812	58	4971	14,766	851 MB
Jan 2010	1514	2427	78	6881	22,458	1.69 GB
Feb 2010	1290	1871	66	5550	16,290	949 MB
March 2010	1531	2596	83	12116	37,552	1.84 GB
April 2010	1300	2202	73	8631	32,687	1.69 GB
May 2010	1407	1785	58	5301	14,862	1.08 GB
June 2010	1348	2063	69	6219	23,446	1.16 GB
July 2010	1838	2779	89	7398	26,470	1.82 GB
Aug 2010	1548	2090	67	6600	17,904	1.34 GB
Sept 2010	1428	2048	68	7581	19,371	1.25 GB
Oct 2010 (up to 21 st)	1144	1534	73	5877	14,618	1.17 GB

3.2. Newsletter

Quarterly newsletters were produced and distributed in October, January, April and July. The next newsletter is due out in late October 2010. Contributions have continued to come in from LBAP partners as well as local community groups. Feedback from LBAP partners and local groups has continued to be very favourable. Approximately 150 copies of each issue are posted and 500 copies are downloaded from the website.



3.3 Talks, workshops and training courses

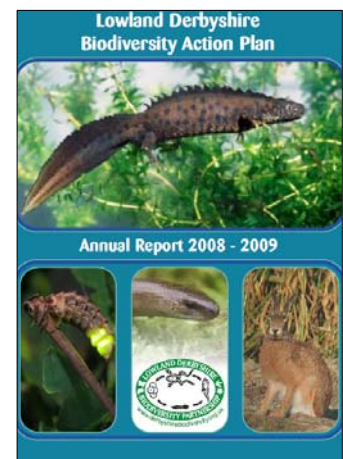
The Project Officer has delivered a number of talks and workshops in the last twelve months:

- LBAP Presentation Friends of Allestree Park AGM (14th October 2009)
- LBAP activity 2008-9 at the LBAP Forum (24th October 2009),
- Recording and datasets in Derbyshire, jointly with DWT (24th Oct 2009)
- Wildlife recording, phenology and monitoring climate change at LBAP Forum (24th Oct 2009)
- Mammal recording at LBAP Forum (24th October 2009)
- IEEM Biodiversity course for planners and consultants held at Chesterfield Town Hall (4th Nov 2009)
- Chaired and gave LBAP partnership presentation - WildDerby Partnership (23rd November 2009),
- Wildlife Recording – South Derbyshire Environmental Forum (25th November 2009)
- LBAP Presentation at Bolsover Biodiversity Network (27th January 2010)

3.4 Annual Report

The 2008/9 Annual Report was finalised, published and distributed to all LBAP Partners in October 2009. As in previous years the report included information gathered from over 75 organisations and recorded progress towards the LBAP targets.

In May 2010, work began on gathering data from the final report of this LBAP period which will pull all the previous reports together, summaries progress on achievement of the LBAP targets. It was agreed that this would be produced by the end of 2010 to coincide with the end of the LBAP period.



4. Implementing and monitoring the Biodiversity Action Plans

Over the last twelve months, the habitat and species groups decided not to meet formally. Work was being carried out by partners to implement the LBAP and in some areas work was taking place to develop or to deliver work on a landscape scale or area based project. Below are some examples of such projects and the contribution that has been made by the Project Officer.

a) Limestone Journeys Project

A Stage 2 submission was worked up for the Limestone Journeys project having been successful at Stage 1 in 2008/9. This Landscapes Partnership project will deliver across four main themes within the magnesian limestone part of Bolsover. One of the main biodiversity outcomes will be grassland and hedgerow restoration and a small grants scheme for landowners. A conservation plan was put together and submitted in June 2010. The project was given approval in September 2010 and work is likely to begin in early 2011. The Project Officer encouraged local community group participation in the development of this project by organising a community consultation event in January. Comments were also made on the conservation plan submission and a support letter was written. This project is seen as one of the main delivery mechanisms for the Magnesian Limestone area of the revised LBAP.

b) Derwent Valley Landscapes Partnership project

This project is being developed ready for a February 2011 Stage 1 submission to the Heritage Lottery Fund. If successful, a conservation plan will be drawn up similar to the Limestone journey project to outline work for the full project. The project is based upon managing and enhancing habitat corridors within the lower Derwent valley, especially woodland, grassland and wetland habitats. The Project Officer was involved in early discussions on the project, including assessing the likely contributions towards the LBAP targets. The Derwent valley now comes under the South Peak and Fringes IBDA, which will hopefully increase its chances of funding. If successful, this project would be one of the main delivery mechanisms for the southern part of the Peak Fringe area of the revised LBAP.

c) Doe Lea Catchment project

This National Trust project gained funding from the Environment Agency in late 2009. The project looks at the River Doe Lea catchment, from Hardwick Hall to the confluence with the River Rother at Renishaw, working with landowners to try and alleviate the effect of sediment and nutrient run-off to the river and surrounding wetlands. The Project Officer was involved in early discussions on the project, has attended steering group meetings, provided data and information and helped the officer to make contacts and mini-project proposals. This project will delivery biodiversity gains for wetland habitats and water voles, where this catchment is one of its last strongholds left in the county. The project will also be one of the main delivery mechanisms for the River Rother and Doe Lea valleys are of the revised LBAP.

d) Wild about Ponds

Derby City Council submitted a pond project to the SITA Trust in 2009 and was finally given approval and started in March 2010. The project focuses on pond management and creation within Derby City to address pond loss and poor condition in the urban area. The Project Officer helped to develop the project and in the last twelve months has aided to publicise the project and submit monitoring information to the Biodiversity Action Reporting System (BARS).

e) Mercaston and Markeaton Brook project

This National Trust project is similar to the Doe Lea project, but has the SSSI lakes at Kedleaton Park as one its main focuses. The Project Officer provided support for this project during its submission to the SITA Trust, has provided support and information for the officer and submitted monitoring information to BARS. This project operates in the biodiversity-rich part of the Clayland area of the revised LBAP and as such is seen as one of the main delivery mechanisms in the area.

f) Water for Wildlife Project

This Derbyshire Wildlife Trust project is working with landowners in the Trent and Dove valleys enhancing wetland habitats for water vole and otters. The Project Officer has helped submit monitoring information to BARs and worked with the officer to oversee the development of an otter pass under a bridge on the River Amber near the location of an otter road casualty.

g) Wild about Nature

This Groundwork Derby and Derbyshire project has worked on a number of sites in the Amber valley and Derbyshire dales area. The project has delivered a number of LBAP targets on private and publically owned sites working with volunteers and community groups. The Project Officer has provided support and information for the officer and submitted monitoring information to BARS.

h) Improving Community Access to Nature (ICAN)

The Project Officer provided support and information to Derbyshire Wildlife Trust to help develop the ICAN project to work with volunteers and community groups on a number of Local Wildlife Sites in the Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire area. The project was submitted in April 2010, but unfortunately it was unsuccessful.

i) Bolsover Grassland project

This project, run by the Bolsover Countryside Project has restored a number of key grassland sites in the Bolsover area. The Project Officer provided initial advice when this project was being developed, information and support to the project manager and help submitting monitoring information to BARS.

j) Ashover Heathland Project

The Project Officer developed and submitted the funding application for this project to the SITA Trust in 2008. The project has restored and managed a number of heathland sites owned by Derbyshire County Council. Since then, the Project officer has provided support, information and advice when submitting monitoring information to BARS.

k) Biodiversity on Lowland Derbyshire Aggregate Sites

The LBAP Partnership submitted an application to the Aggregate Levy Sustainability Forum (ALSF) in summer 2009. This was successful and the project began in September 2009. The aim of the project is to collate information on the contribution of the mineral extraction industry to the LBAP targets. Eighteen sites were chosen and their restoration schemes, where they had been agreed, were examined, digitised and quantified to calculate biodiversity habitat contributions. The desk top studies were undertaken by the Project Officer. The second part of the project was to carry out site surveys to groundtruth the desk top study and survey the sites from the presence of Dingy and Grizzled Skipper butterflies, which are known to frequent brownfield sites, especially mineral sites. This part of the project was undertaken by a contractor. Forty tenders were received quoting for the survey work and a contractor was chosen based upon previous experience, cost and local

knowledge. The sites were surveyed during summer 2010 and site reports are currently being written up, and are due to be produced by the end of November 2010. New colonies of Dingy and Grizzled skipper butterflies have been recorded. Surveys revealed the delivery of restoration plans on the ground and the quality of the habitats which were restored a number of years ago. The Project Officer has acted as project manager for this project, submitted monthly monitoring forms and quarterly claims with progress reports to the funder.

6. Increasing capacity of partners in key sectors to implement the LBAP

6.1 BAP Audits

The Project Officer has carried out a biodiversity audit for Chesterfield Borough Council, South Derbyshire District Council and has looked at a number of sites owned by both North East Derbyshire District Council and Bolsover District Council. These audits quantify the amount of BAP habitats owned by LBAP partners, and therefore calculates the contributions that partners have made and can make to LBAP targets.

7. Monitoring and Reporting

7.1 BARS

Progress on persuading LBAP partners to use BARS has been abandoned. This is due mostly to national review of BARS with a potential alteration to its layout and function. The only data which has been added to BARS in the last twelve months has been target achievement and progress reports for projects which required it under their grant conditions.

The Project Officer, along with other LBAP officers, has continued to raise concern regionally and nationally regarding the national reporting of BAP information that is not disaggregated at a local level. In Lowland Derbyshire, however, we are fortunate that the local Natural England and Forestry Commission officers are able to do this. At a regional workshop involving LBAP officers from East and West Midlands, the Project Officer advised Natural England officers working on BARS re-development on common problems and that it was felt a spatial element to BARS would be advantageous.

7.2 Spatial recording

During the last twelve months work has been undertaken to monitor the progress towards the LBAP targets. It was decided to use GIS to monitor habitat targets, ensuring that information was not double counted as well as providing a spatial understanding on how site management, enhancement and creation work relates to neighbouring areas.

A series of GIS layers were developed, one for most of the habitat action plans. Each of the layers had a number of common fields enabling sites to be copied and moved between layers if necessary. The fields enabled the data to be queried according to their habitat type (eg for grassland priority, semi-improved and new) habitat category (eg for grassland neutral, acid, calcareous and rush-pasture), which LBAP target the site is currently contributing towards (eg maintenance, management, restoration and creation). Other fields included information on funding, LBAP partner involved and data source. Almost 4,000 separate items were digitised as part of this process.

A large amount of data sources were used to compile this set of GIS layers including:

- Options under Countryside Stewardship Schemes
- Options under Higher Level Stewardship Schemes
- Sites under Woodland Grant Schemes and England Woodland Grant Schemes

- Sites created and managed under National Forest Tender Schemes and Changing Landscape Schemes
- Local habitat inventories (mostly held by DWT)
- Local Biodiversity Audits (carried out by the Project Officer)
- Local Wildlife Sites and potential Wildlife Sites
- National habitat inventories
- National Inventory of woodland and trees
- Site and project information provided by LBAP partners
- Land restoration schemes for mineral extraction sites
- Land restoration schemes associated with development sites
- Mastermap
- Aerial photos

7.3 Target Reporting

Using the GIS layers, along with information collated for the Annual Reports it has been possible to calculate the progression towards the LBAP targets. Some additional information may be added, but the figures below will form the basis of the 2005-2010 LBAP report

Woodland

- 1,151.91ha of Ancient Semi Natural Woodland is under a current woodland management agreement or is in favourable or recovering condition –70% of the 2010 target
- 1,155.73ha of Plantations on an Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS) is under a current woodland management agreement or is in favourable or recovering condition – 92% of the 2010 target
- 1,283.9ha of mature and secondary woodland is under a current woodland management agreement or is in favourable or recovering condition – **ACHIEVED**
- 1,700ha of plantation is under management – 1700% of the 2010 target – **ACHIEVED**
- 633ha of mixed broadleaved woodland has been planted -164% of 2010 target - **ACHIEVED**

Grassland

- 395.91 of species-rich neutral grassland is under positive management - 133% of the 2010 target – **ACHIEVED**
- 153.28 of species-rich acid grassland is under positive management – 77% of the 2010 target
- 42.39ha of species-rich calcareous grassland is under positive management - 121% of the 2010 target – **ACHIEVED**
- 794.32ha of semi-improved neutral grassland is under restoration – 397% of the 2010 target -**ACHIEVED**
- 335.51ha of semi-improved acid grassland is under restoration – 336% of the 2010 target --**ACHIEVED**
- 72.29ha of semi-improved calcareous grassland is under restoration – 145% of the 2010 target - **ACHIEVED**
- 149ha of species-rich neutral grassland has been created – 298% of the 2010 target **ACHIEVED**
- 2.59ha of species-rich acid grassland has been created – 5% of the 2010 target

- 41.34ha of species-rich calcareous grassland has been created – 165% of the 2010 target **ACHIEVED**
- 16 species-rich road verges are now being managed sympathetically – 80% of the 2010 target

Heathland

- 55.69 of heathland is under restoration – 464% of the 2010 target **ACHIEVED**
- 7ha of heathland has been created – 70% of the 2010 target

Wetlands

- 100ha of open water within SSSIs is in favourable management - 100% of the 2010 target - **ACHIEVED**
- 95 ponds have been created - 317% of the 2010 target - **ACHIEVED**
- 42 ponds have been restored -140% of the 2010 target -**ACHIEVED**
- 35.12ha of reedbed has been created -117 % of the 2010 target - **ACHIEVED**
- 4 out of 5 of the reedbeds over 2ha are under achieve management – 80% of the 2010 target
- 71.28ha of swamp is under positive management – 142.56% of the 2010 target **ACHIEVED**

Farmland

- 2140.149km of hedgerow has been brought into favourable management – 2,140% of the 2010 target -**ACHIEVED**
- 88.489km of hedgerow has been planted – 177% of the 2010 target -**ACHIEVED**
- 11.03ha of low Input field margins created – 17% of the 2010 target
- 40.6ha of field margin sown with wild bird seed – 27% of the 2010 target
- 19.97ha of field margin which will provide nectar and pollen sources – 22% of the 2010 target
- 134.84ha of buffer strips created in arable fields – 34% of the 2010 target
- 94.82ha of permanent grass margins created – 95% of the 2010 target

In total, 63% of the LBAP targets have been achieved, 20% of which have been achieved by more than 200%. The successes have included grassland management and restoration, pond creation and restoration and hedgerow creation and management. In a further 14% of the targets, between 75 and 99% of them have been achieved. This includes the ancient woodland targets which set some very ambitious targets to get all of the known resources at the time into management. In only 23% of the targets, achievement has been less than 75%. This has mostly included the arable field margin targets where uptake of Entry Level Stewardship has not been as high as it had been hoped.

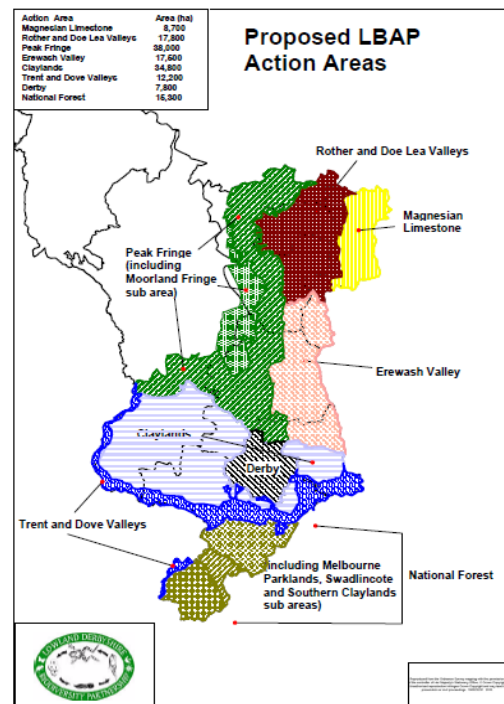
8. Revision of the Local Biodiversity Action Plan

In January 2010 the Steering Group of the Lowland Derbyshire Biodiversity Partnership agreed the approach to be taken for the review of the Local Biodiversity Action Plan. The current LBAP runs out at the end of 2010 and nationally there has been a shift to spatial plans and landscape scale delivery. This recognises the links between ecology and landscape characterisation.

The review has been the biggest piece of work undertaken in the last twelve months. To date the LBAP area has been divided into a number of 'action areas' according to their landscape character and or existing delivery mechanism. This approach is also being taken within the reviews of the Peak District, Staffordshire and National Forest LBAPs.


A considerable amount of time has been taken to develop action plans for each of the 'action areas'. These include a description of the area, its biodiversity resource, objectives and targets and specific actions. It is proposed that each action area will have its own group and meetings to assist delivery of BAP targets in that area and to take the action forward and work towards the area targets. The format of these groups has not been discussed yet, but where possible, these will utilise existing partnerships or landscape projects.


The Project Officer has worked with key partners to write the plans and update the background documents, putting them all into a distinctive house style. It had been hoped that the consultation draft would be launched at the Annual Forum on 16th October, but for a variety of reasons this has been put back to mid November.



Derby Area Action Plan

Lowland Derbyshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan





Derby Area Action Plan Background Information

Lowland Derbyshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan

Existing initiatives and projects in the area

The WildDerby Project, run by Derby City Council, works with a number of different organisations, including many local community groups to deliver conservation projects and raise awareness of biodiversity through events and education. WildDerby oversees the Wild About Ponds project which runs from January to May and will see the creation and restoration of a number of key ponds within the city.

Part of Derby lies within the Derwent Valley World Heritage Site, which is the basis of the Derwent Valley Landscapes Partnership project. This project aims to manage existing woodland, grassland and wetland habitats, restore them where necessary and create appropriate habitats to maintain the key wildlife corridor through the valley.

The River Derwent also falls within one of Derbyshire Wildlife Trust's Living Landscapes Schemes. These are areas where Derbyshire Wildlife Trust has identified areas for key habitats and species and will develop projects and use opportunities to strengthen and expand, where possible, the biodiversity resource.

The Markeston Brook within Derby falls within the Markeston and Madkeworth Brook project which is working on enhancing the river habitats of the catchment.

Main landowning bodies

Derby City Council owns the majority of key sites and open space within the City. Other owners of large important sites include Severn Trent Water, Celanese and Rolls Royce.

Key sites

Boulton Moor SSSI
 Allertree Park LNR, Chaddesden Wood LNR, Chellaston Brickworks LNR, Darley and Nutwood LNR, Elm Wood LNR, Mickleover Meadows LNR, Siffin Moor LNR, Sunnysdale Park LNR, The Sanctuary LNR, West Park Meadows LNR, Markeston Park, Accordis Lagoons, Chaddesden Park, Darley Park and Sturgess Fields

Derby Area Action Plan Achievements to Date

Lowland Derbyshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan

October 2010

Woodland
 79,810a under management
 including:
 15,000a of Ancient Semi-natural woodland
 55,000a of secondary woodland
 9,810a of recently planted woodland

Wood pasture and parkland
 3 sites are under management

Lowland Meadow
 8,960a is under management
 6,930a is under restoration management

Lowland Dry Acid Grassland
 0.60ha of priority grassland is under management

Lowland Calcareous Grassland
 0.40ha of priority grassland is under management

Wetland
 10a under management
 3 lakes under management
 16.80ha of swamps is under management

9. Community Strategies, Development Plans and similar strategic partnerships.

9.1 Local Strategic Partnerships & Local Area Agreements

The South Derbyshire Environmental Forum developed from the South Derbyshire Local Strategic Partnership. The Project Officer attended meetings and providing advice at one in November 2009 to groups and parish councils on wildlife recording. This was also used as an opportunity to ask those present for ideas to include in the LBAP review for the South Derbyshire area.

The Project Officer provided some comments on the inclusion of biodiversity in the Amber Valley Community strategy.

9.2 Planning documents and other consultations

During the period the Project Officer attended meetings, workshops and took part in the consultation associated with the 6C's area strategy. Comments were also been made on the draft Derby and Derby Mineral Core Strategy documents.

10. Raise Funding for LBAP initiatives

10.1 Information

Information has continued to be circulated to LBAP partners on new funding schemes with the appropriate deadlines and criteria. Due to the number of requests for community groups for help on funding it has been decided to direct these enquiries to the local Community Voluntary Service who are better equipped to deal with such issues.

10.2 Support of Funding bids

The Project Officer has continued to work with various LBAP partners and local groups on funding bids for specific biodiversity projects. Support letters have been written and sent to accompany at least ten LBAP grant applications in the last twelve months.

Information gathered for the 2005-10 LBAP report has showed that LBAP partners have together received more than 220 separate grants from external sources ranging from £50 to £2.9 million. A total of £6.7 million. In addition, an estimated £10 million has been spent on agri-environmental schemes and the equivalent of £1.8 million worth of volunteer work has contributed towards biodiversity delivery.

10.3 Funding for co-ordination

Contributions towards the Project Officer's post for 2009/10 were received from all local authorities in the LBAP area. Contributions were also received from Environment Agency and the Forestry Commission. Supplementary income was received, via a small digitising contract, from the National Forest Company, for delivery a training course for the Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (IEEM) and from donations given for talks etc. A contribution of £1,000 was received from Groundwork Derby and Derbyshire towards the Annual Forum event. The ALSF Project brought income in during 2009/10, paying for the Project Officers time spent carrying out elements of the project.

Requests for 2010/11 contributions were sent out to the Partnership in October 2009. To date contributions have been received from Natural England, Derbyshire County Council, seven District/Borough/City local authorities (Amber Valley, Bolsover, Chesterfield, Derby, Derbyshire Dales, Erewash and South Derbyshire), Environment Agency and the Forestry Commission. Additional income has come from Groundwork who contributed £1,000 towards the cost of the 2010 Annual Forum and it has agreed to fund a few days of the Project officers time for involvement in the development of the Southern Peak District and Fringes IBDA.