

Erewash's Focal Area Assessments

A supplementary document accompanying the Greater Nottingham Blue-Green Infrastructure Strategy



July 2021

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Introduction

For the full context of this piece of work, the Greater Nottingham Blue-Green Infrastructure Strategy (GNBGIS) and Erewash Focal Area Map Book should be read alongside this document.

The GNBGIS aims to inform the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan (Local Plan Part 1), the emerging Erewash Local Plan and the development of policies and allocations within the documents. The GNBGIS also contributes to BGI priorities across Greater Nottingham and explores how existing BGI should be protected and explores their functions, connectivity and evaluates opportunities to improve and create additional BGI. The strategy discusses assets and networks that are sub-regional and of city-wide importance. The strategic networks provide the wide web of local BGI and provide local linkages to BGI assets and networks, which has been identified by each local authority in Greater Nottingham.

Erewash has a separate document to the GNBGIS as Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping has been undertaken by Nottinghamshire Biodiversity Action Group, which does not cover Erewash fully. Therefore, in the absence of Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping, this document and accompanying Erewash Focal Area Map Book should be used to understand the existing wildlife assets, ecological networks and broad connectivity of routes within Erewash.

Methodology

In the absence of Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping, Officers at Erewash Borough Council have undertaken a desktop review of all designated environmental assets in the Borough. The 2014 Saved Policies Document that accompanies the adopted Erewash Core Strategy contains Policy EV10. In addition to considering EV10, Local Wildlife Sites were also defined as environmental assets in this desktop review. EV10 protects and conserves Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Regionally Important Geological Sites and Geomorphological Sites, Local Nature Reserves and Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation. Local Wildlife Sites are areas of land that support important wildlife and ecological networks. Derbyshire Wildlife Trust hold the register of Local Wildlife Sites in Erewash and work with local stakeholders in identifying, managing and monitoring the sites. The environmental assets were mapped on GIS in order to identify 'hotspot' areas. Officers were also able to identify the sub-regional BGI network and Greater Nottingham-wide BGI strategic network. Hotspot areas that contained strong BGI connections and areas of high concentration of environmental assets were identified as focal areas. This resulted in 17 focal areas being established. Each focal area has been mapped (see Erewash Focal Area Map Book for individual focal area maps and a master map for Erewash) and each focal area has an individual assessment, presented in this document. The assessments have taken a non-technical approach and provide a useful summary of key ecological information for each focal area. Each focal area assessment covers the following:

- Key statistics (location and coverage of environmental assets);
- Environmental features – lists the presence of Local Nature Reserves, Sites of Specific Scientific Interest, Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphic Site and Local Wildlife Sites. This also discusses the size of the assets and description of key habitats);
- Description of key habitats and ecology;
- Identification of similarities and corridors between the assets; and
- Description of opportunities to enhance ecology and connectivity.

Focal Area One (FA1)

Key Facts	Description
Location:	South-east of Long Eaton, covering sections of the River Trent
Coverage:	Total hectareage of FA1: 471 ha <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two Local Nature Reserves (14.4ha) • Fourteen Local Wildlife Sites (97.2ha)
Key Habitats/ Ecology	FA1 contains a mixture of environmental assets including grassland, open water, scrub and woodland. Erewash Canal is a highly performing biodiversity asset within the FA, containing DRDB Species, UK BAP and LBAP species and Greenprint species. The Canal connects into neighbouring authority Amber Valley.
Local Nature Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forbes Hole (3.3ha) • Trent Meadows (11.1ha)
Site of Specific Scientific Interest	None present
Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphoc Site	None present
Local Wildlife Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ER081 Sheetstores Junction Pond (standing open water) (0.3ha) • ER061 Lock Lane Nature Reserve (unimproved neutral grassland) (3.5ha) • ER062 Trent Lock Marsh (pond and wetland habitat) (1.6ha) • ER075 Barton Pool Nature Reserve (wetland and swamp) (0.8ha) • ER080 Narrow Bridge Fish Pond (pond) (1.8ha) • ER076 Attenborough Junction Tip (scrub and grassland) (12.3ha) • ER077 River Trent North Bank (semi improved neutral grassland) (3.8ha) • ER078 Attenborough West Gravel Pits (swamp and scrubland) (15.4ha) • ER082 Poplars Fish Pond (open water, swamp and scrub) (1.8ha) • ER083 South Junction Pond (open water, reedbed and wet woodland) (0.9ha) • ER133 Meadow Lane Carr (woodland, pasture and scrub) (0.9ha) • ER134 Forbes Hole LNR (open water, swamp, pasture, woodland and hedgerow) (2.5ha) • ER215 Erewash Canal (standing open water) (26.5ha) • ER198 Attenborough Pastures (pasture, vegetation, open water and scrub) (25.1ha)
Identified similarities and corridors between the assets (e.g. species, habitats)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erewash Canal and River Trent act as natural corridors between the environmental assets. • DRDB Species, Protected Species and UK BAP species are present across the assets listed above.
Opportunities to Enhance Ecology and Connectivity	The River Trent connects FA1 and FA14 and connects onwards via neighbouring local authority areas. FA1 connects to Attenborough Nature Reserve (Broxtowe Borough Council), a nationally significant nature reserve. This provides a highly protected BGI corridor and will provide a valuable natural asset that will enable a protected natural corridor for species to move freely. A public right of way network runs through FA1 and may also act as a pathway for species movement and habitat connectivity.

Focal Area Two (FA2)

Key Facts	Description
Location:	South of the A52, covering sections of the Erewash Canal and River Erewash.
Coverage:	Total hectareage of FA2: 46ha <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Local Nature Reserve (4ha) • Six Local Wildlife Sites (37.1ha)
Description of Key Habitats/ Ecology	FA2 contains a range of environmental assets, including open water, scrubland and grassland. Notable species include water voles and grass snakes. Erewash Canal is a highly performing biodiversity asset within the FA, containing DRDB Species, UK BAP and LBAP species and Greenprint species. The canal connects into neighbouring authority Amber Valley.
Local Nature Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manor Farm (4ha)
Site of Specific Scientific Interest	None present
Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphoc Site	None present
Local Wildlife Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ER079 Toton Sidings Pond (open water and grassland) (2.4ha) • ER154 River Erewash floodplain, Long Eaton (flowing water and scrub) (5.1ha) • ER161 Toton Grassland (grassland) (1.2ha) • ER166 Lock Lane Scrub, Sandiacre (scrub, woodland and grassland) (1ha) • ER215 Erewash Canal (standing open water) (26.5ha) • ER208 Nottingham Road Carr (wet woodland) (0.9ha)
Identified similarities and corridors between the assets (e.g. species, habitats)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erewash Canal and River Erewash act as natural corridors between the environmental assets. • Likely that the environmental assets expand eastwards to the railway sidings. Potential to expand a green corridor over the railway to link up with Broxtowe's environmental assets, including neighbouring Toton Fields Nature Reserve. • Protected species
Opportunities to Enhance Ecology and Connectivity	The Erewash Canal and River Erewash provide a blue infrastructure corridor for water species movement. Nottingham Road (A6005) presents a barrier for natural connections onto FA1. Toton Sidings and neighbouring areas of Broxtowe Borough harness opportunity to enhance connectivity to green spaces.

Focal Area Three (FA3)

Key Facts	Description
Location:	Northern fringe of Sandiacre bound by the M1.
Coverage:	Total hectarage of FA3: 102ha <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two Local Nature Reserves (10ha) • Four Local Wildlife Sites (37ha)
Key Habitats/ Ecology	FA3 contains a range of open water, scrubland and grassland. Erewash Canal is a highly performing biodiversity asset within the FA, containing DRDB Species, UK BAP and LBAP species and Greenprint species. The canal connects onto neighbouring authority Amber Valley.
Local Nature Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stanton Gate (0.7ha) • Stony Clouds (9.1ha)
Site of Specific Scientific Interest	None present
Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphic Site	None present
Local Wildlife Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ER215 Erewash Canal (26.4ha) • ER204 Stanton Gate LNR (Unimproved neutral grassland, lowland swamp and scrub – woodland) (0.8 ha) • ER163 Sandiacre Marsh (includes water-margin vegetation, lowland swamp, secondary broad-leaved wet woodland and scrub-hawthorn) (0.2ha) • ER054 Stony Clouds LNR and adjacent grassland (includes unimproved acid grassland, scrub and hedgerow) (9.3ha)
Identified similarities and corridors between the assets (e.g. species, habitats)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Erewash Canal is a key blue infrastructure asset for wildlife to travel onwards to different environmental locations. This being the key navigation route as the M1 motorway serves as barrier for land mobile wildlife. • Protected species exist across the assets listed above.
Opportunities to Enhance Ecology and Connectivity	There is limited opportunity to enhance connectivity for FA3 as it is greatly bound by the M1 and built-up residential roads. There are streams and minor watercourses that connect/are near to the River Erewash that flow eastwards from FA3. These provide opportunity for water species movement.

Focal Area Four (FA4)

Key Facts	Description
Location:	Quarry Hill and Stanton Industrial Area
Coverage:	Total hectarage of FA4: 184ha <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Local Nature Reserve (0.86 ha) • Ten Local Wildlife Sites (74 ha)
Key Habitats/ Ecology	FA4 contains a mixture of secondary broad leaved woodland, standing open water, wet grassland, lowland swamp, habitat mosaic and marshland
Local Nature Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trowell Marsh (0.86 ha)
Site of Specific Scientific Interest	None present
Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphic Site	None present
Local Wildlife Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ER043 Kirk Hallam Wood (Secondary broad-leaved woodland) (0.95ha) • ER045 Sowbrook Pond, New Stanton (Standing open water) (1.37ha) • ER046 Nutbrook Canal & Fields (Standing open water, Lowland swamp and Wet grassland) (12.46ha) • ER047 Kirk Hallam Fishing Pond (Standing open water and Reptile/amphibian assemblage) (1.48ha) • ER055 West Hallam Towpath Scrub (Standing open water, Habitat mosaic and Water Vole population) (4.12ha) • ER168 Trowell Marsh LNR (Wet grassland and lowland swamp) (2.2ha) • ER215 Erewash Canal (Standing open water and DRDB Species) (26.45ha) • ER188 Ilkeston Road Pond & Nutbrook Canal (Standing open water, Lowland fen, habitat mosaic and Amphibian population) (12.77ha) • ER201 Quarry Hill Lagoons (Lowland swamp) (2.97ha) • ER217 Stanton Ironworks (Habitat mosaic, butterfly and reptile assemblage and Post-industrial grassland). (9.16ha)
Identified similarities and corridors between the assets (e.g. species, habitats)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erewash Canal and Nutbrook Canal act both as natural and man-made corridors between the various environmental assets listed above.
Opportunities to Enhance Ecology and Connectivity	Opportunity to connect into FA12 by the establishment of an ecological corridor westwards out of FA4 and Kirk Hallam Fishing Pond (Local Wildlife Site).

Focal Area Five (FA5)

Key Facts	Description
Location:	North-east of West Hallam
Coverage:	Total hectarage of FA5: 161ha <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three Local Nature Reserves (51.5ha) • Four Local Wildlife Sites (42.9ha)
Key Habitats/ Ecology	FA5 contains a mixture of secondary broad-leaved wet woodland, habitat mosaic.
Local Nature Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pewit Carr (6.65ha) • Manor Floods (38.65ha) • Straws Bridge (6.27ha)
Site of Specific Scientific Interest	None present
Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphic Site	None present
Local Wildlife Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ER137 Pewit Carr ((Habitat mosaic, unimproved hay meadow, Lowland swamp and Secondary broadleaved wet woodland) (7.38ha) • ER191 West Hallam Marsh Wood (Secondary broad-leaved wet woodland) (2.50ha) • ER192 West Hallam Carr (Secondary broad-leaved wet woodland) (2.14ha) • ER216 Shipley West Reclamation Site (Habitat mosaic) (30.90ha)
Identified similarities and corridors between the assets (e.g. species, habitats)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All environmental assets are located along or close to the Nutbrook Canal or other minor water bodies.
Opportunities to Enhance Ecology and Connectivity	FA could amalgamate with FA6 by extending southwards and creating one larger FA and an extended corridor around the east of Kirk Hallam.

Focal Area Six (FA6)

Key Facts	Description
Location:	North-west of Kirk Hallam
Coverage:	Total hectareage of FA6: 65ha <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three Local Wildlife Sites (21.7ha)
Key Habitats/ Ecology	FA6 contains a mixture of unimproved neutral grassland, secondary broad-leaved wet woodland and semi-improved neutral grassland.
Local Nature Reserve	None present
Site of Specific Scientific Interest	None present
Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphic Site	None present
Local Wildlife Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ER144 Oakwell Brickworks & the Beauty Spot (Unimproved neutral grassland, unimproved acid grassland and Lowland swamp) (15.52ha) • ER184 Nutbrook Canal, Brook and Wet Woodland (Secondary broad-leaved wet woodland and Lowland swamp) (3.59ha) • ER207 Kirk Hallam Meadows (Semi-improved neutral grassland) (2.63ha)
Identified similarities and corridors between the assets (e.g. species, habitats)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All environmental assets in FA6 are linked by the Nut Brook and adjacent water bodies.
Opportunities to Enhance Ecology and Connectivity	FA6 could amalgamate with FA5 to the north to create a larger FA around the east of Kirk Hallam resulting in an extended wildlife corridor.

Focal Area Seven (FA7)

Key Facts	Description
Location:	Morleyhayes Wood, Little Wood/West of Stanley Common
Coverage:	Total hectareage of FA7: 69ha <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four Local Wildlife Sites (27.9 ha)
Key Habitats/ Ecology	FA7 contains a mixture of unimproved neutral grassland and ancient semi-natural oak woodland.
Local Nature Reserve	None present
Site of Specific Scientific Interest	None present
Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphic Site	None present
Local Wildlife Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ER171 Hayeswood Farm Grassland (Unimproved neutral grassland) (4.41ha) • ER174 Little Wood (Ancient semi-natural oak woodland and Ancient semi-natural alder woodland) (3.79ha) • ER175 Morleyhayes Wood (Ancient semi-natural oak woodland and Ancient woodland plantation-conifer) (18ha) • ER214 Stanley Common Meadow (Unimproved neutral grassland) (1.73ha)
Identified similarities and corridors between the assets (e.g. species, habitats)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green corridors through all environmental assets via woodland.
Opportunities to Enhance Ecology and Connectivity	Morleyhayes Wood, Little Wood and Hayeswood Farm Grassland are all directly adjacent to each other, with Morleyhayes Wood occupying the largest section in between the two other Local Wildlife Sites. Stanley Common Meadow is on the opposite side of Belper Road to the other three Local Wildlife Sites, so some green infrastructure along the roadside to connect these sites within the focal area would be positive.

Focal Area Eight (FA8)

Key Facts	Description
Location:	North of Little Eaton
Coverage:	Total hectares of FA8: 134ha <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four Local Wildlife Sites (8.7ha) • One Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Site (1.3ha)
Key Habitats/ Ecology	Secondary broad leaved woodland is predominantly found in FA8.
Local Nature Reserve	None present
Site of Specific Scientific Interest	None present
Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphic Site	Rigga Lane Quarry (1.3ha)
Local Wildlife Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ER013 Peckwash Mills (Secondary broad-leaved woodland, flowing water, rivers and streams and wet grassland) (3.43ha) • ER021 Hatherings Wood (Secondary broad-leaved woodland , Reptile/amphibian assemblage and protect mammals) (2.89ha) • ER136 Eatonpark Wood (Secondary broad-leaved woodland) (2.40ha)
Identified similarities and corridors between the assets (e.g. species, habitats)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All environmental assets are secondary broad leaved woodland.
Opportunities to Enhance Ecology and Connectivity	The sites are dispersed to the edges of FA8, meaning connectivity between all of the Local Wildlife Sites and RIGs is weak. There is potential to enhance connectivity between Hatherings Wood LWS and Rigga Lane Quarry as these sites are only separated by a section of woodland.

Focal Area Nine (FA9)

Key Facts	Description
Location:	South of Breadsall/Great Northern Greenway Corridor
Coverage:	<p>Total hectarage of FA9: 282ha</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Site of Special Scientific Interest/Local Nature Reserve (5.3ha) • Six Local Wildlife Sites (18.8ha) • Two Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites (13.1ha)
Key Habitats/ Ecology	FA9 contains a mixture of semi-improved floodplain grassland, unimproved neutral grassland, secondary broad-leaved woodland and hedgerow.
Local Nature Reserve	Breadsall Railway Cutting (5. ha) – this site is both a Local Nature Reserve and a Site of Special Scientific Interest
Site of Specific Scientific Interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breadsall Railway Cutting (5.3ha) (as above)
Regionally Important Geological and Geomorph Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Croft Wood, Breadsall (2.1ha) • Dam Brook (11ha)
Local Wildlife Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ER002 Alfreton Road Rough Grassland (Floodplain grassland semi-improved and bird assemblage) (4.07ha) • ER005 Breadsall Disused Railway (Unimproved neutral grassland and habitat mosaic) (4.86ha) • ER190 Stanley-Morley Disused Railway (Secondary broadleaved woodland and invertebrate assemblage) (5.92ha) • ER202 Church Lane, Morley (Hedgerow) (1.15ha) • ER203 Morley Retreat (Unimproved neutral grassland) (0.63ha) • ER209 Ferriby Brook & Dam Brook (Secondary broad-leaved woodland and secondary broadleaved wet woodland) (2.12ha)
Identified similarities and corridors between the assets (e.g. species, habitats)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The majority of environmental assets are located along the Great Northern Greenway key green infrastructure corridor.
Opportunities to Enhance Ecology and Connectivity	There is opportunity to improve connectivity across FA9 by creating an extended corridor on a south-east to north-west alignment across the FA including Croft Wood, Breadsall Disused Railway, Dam Brook, Breadsall Railway Cutting and the Stanley-Morley disused railway.

Focal Area Ten (FA10)

Key Facts	Description
Location:	East of A38 (Little Eaton)
Coverage:	<p>Total hectarage of FA10: 396ha</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Site of Special Scientific Interest (1.8 ha) • Six Local Wildlife Sites (136 ha)
Key Habitats/ Ecology	FA10 contains a mixture of ancient woodland plantation, secondary broad-leaved woodland, semi-improved acid grassland, wood-pasture, parks, and mixed deciduous ancient semi-natural woodland.
Local Nature Reserve	None present
Site of Specific Scientific Interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morley Moor (1.78ha)
Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphoc Site	None present
Local Wildlife Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ER022 Moor Plantation & Drum Hill (Secondary broad leaved woodland and Unimproved acid grassland) (27.24ha) • ER023 Moor Road Fields (Semi-improved acid grassland) (8.90ha) • Breadsall Priory Golf Course (Wood-pasture and parks) (56.04ha) • Drum Hill Fields (Unimproved acid grassland) (8.89 ha) • Dobb's Hill Plantation (Secondary broad-leaved woodland) (4.43 ha) • Cloves Wood (Ancient semi-natural woodland - mixed deciduous) (11.84ha)
Identified similarities and corridors between the assets (e.g. species, habitats)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The environmental assets are separated into two main clusters; cluster one is located around Drum Hill to the north of the FA and the second cluster is Morley Moor to the South of the FA. These two clusters act as corridors between the assets located within each.
Opportunities to Enhance Ecology and Connectivity	FA10 is bound by the A38 to the west and the A608 to the east (partially). This makes connectivity into neighbouring FAs difficult to navigate. Within FA10, there is opportunity to connect Breadsall Priory Golf Course and Moor Road Fields to the Moor Plantation and Drum Hill cluster of wildlife sites. Morley Lane splits these two clusters, however with intervention, some connectivity could be achieved.

Focal Area Eleven (FA11)

Key Facts	Description
Location:	Grounds surrounding and encompassing Locko Park (Stanley and Ockbrook)
Coverage:	<p>Total hectarage of FA11: 621ha</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Site (39.8ha) • One Registered Historic Parks and Gardens (157ha) • Six Local Wildlife Sites (31ha)
Key Habitats/ Ecology	FA11 contains a mixture of flowing water rivers and streams, secondary broad-leaved woodland, standing open water, secondary broad-leaved plantation, ancient semi-natural woodland (mixed deciduous) and parks.
Local Nature Reserve	None present
Site of Specific Scientific Interest	None present
Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphoc Site	Lees Brook, Spondon (39.83 ha)
Local Wildlife Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ER010 Oaklands Brook (Flowing water rivers and streams) (0.42ha) • ER107 Dunshill Quarry (Secondary broad-leaved woodland) (0.67ha) • ER112 Locko Park Lake (Standing open water) (5.1ha) • ER118 Dunshill Shelterbelt (Secondary broad-leaved plantation) (2.8ha) • ER119 Spondon Wood (Ancient semi-natural woodland - mixed deciduous and bird assemblage) (22.01ha)
Registered Parks and Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locko Park (157ha)
Identified similarities and corridors between the assets (e.g. species, habitats)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each environmental asset within FA11 demonstrate individuality in their own right. However, similarities include most of the environmental assets containing a degree of woodland.
Opportunities to Enhance Ecology and Connectivity	There is opportunities to improve connectivity between Spondon Wood and Locko Park. The land to the north of Spondon Wood is currently farming land with no roads or obstructions between the asset and Locko Park. There is also opportunity to connect Locko Park to Lees Brook, Spondon to the south east of Locko Park. Again, agricultural land separates the two assets, however, with the obstruction of Locko Road to navigate.

Focal Area Twelve (FA12)

Key Facts	Description
Location:	North of Ockbrook, encompassing Dale Abbey and the western fringe of Kirk Hallam
Coverage:	Total hectarage of FA12: 386ha <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Local Nature Reserve (7ha) • One Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphic Site (11ha) • Eight Local Wildlife Sites (27.7ha)
Key Habitats/ Ecology	A mix of woodlands, grassland and open water. DRDB Species are present at Pioneer Meadows, with the nature reserve providing an important wetland site that supports a range of species.
Local Nature Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pioneer Meadows Local Nature Reserve (7ha)
Site of Specific Scientific Interest	None present
Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphic Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dunnshill (11ha)
Local Wildlife Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ER033 Rifle Range Pond (standing open water) (0.9ha) • ER034 Pioneer Meadows LNR (standing open water, secondary broad-leaved wet woodland and unimproved neutral grassland) (6.9ha) • ER092 Ladywood Disused Pit Woodland (secondary broadleaved woodland) (1.7ha) • ER093 Lady Wood (ancient semi-natural woodland) (11.4ha) • ER095 Arbour Hill Woodland (secondary broad leaved woodland) (2ha) • ER108 The Spots Plantation (secondary broad leaved woodland) (2.3ha) • ER109 Dunshill Verge (unimproved neutral grassland) (0.26ha) • ER178 Hermit's Wood, Dale Abbey (ancient semi natural woodland) (2.24ha)
Identified similarities and corridors between the assets (e.g. species, habitats)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural location in the heart of the green belt, with farmland being a key characteristic of surrounding land. This will likely be useful in being a natural corridor for wildlife. • The FA is almost adjoining FA4 which provides opportunity to utilise the Nutbrook Canal to navigate to nearby environment assets.
Opportunities to Enhance Ecology and Connectivity	There is opportunity to connect onto neighbouring focal areas FA4 and FA17 as agricultural land presently exists between them. The sub-regional BGI network provides opportunities for natural connections to multiple FAs across Erewash.

Focal Area Thirteen (FA13)

Key Facts	Description
Location:	North west of Risley, encompassing Hopwell Farm.
Coverage:	Total hectarage of FA13: 61ha <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four Local Wildlife Sites (14.4ha)
Key Habitats/ Ecology	A mix of woodland and unimproved grassland and ponds are apparent on the site.
Local Nature Reserve	None present
Site of Specific Scientific Interest	None present
Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphic Site	None present
Local Wildlife Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ER210 Risley Coppice (ancient plantation woodland mixed) (3.4ha) • ER084 Waterloo Plantation, Hopwell (secondary broadleaved woodland) (4.8ha) • ER211 Bullock Hill (unimproved neutral grassland) (4.1ha) • ER212 Little Meadow (unimproved neutral grassland) (2.1ha)
Identified similarities and corridors between the assets (e.g. species, habitats)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site is fairly isolated from other FAs but can use hedgerows and surrounding farmland in the Green Belt to access other areas. • Grassland and woodland are the principal habitats across the environmental assets.
Opportunities to Enhance Ecology and Connectivity	FA13 is well connected via the public rights of way network and open countryside surrounds the site. There is opportunity to expand the focal area further, subject to the quality of surrounding environmental assets. FA13 is one of the most isolated focal areas in Erewash. The sub regional BGI Network connects FA13 to surrounding focal areas (FA14 and FA12), serving a natural corridor for wildlife to utilise in their movement.

Focal Area Fourteen (FA14)

Key Facts	Description
Location:	West of Sawley / South of Breaston
Coverage:	Total hectarage of FA14: 460ha <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Local Nature Reserve (8.9ha) • Four Local Wildlife Sites (93ha)
Key Habitats/ Ecology	The habitats in this FA are varied. A number of nationally scarce water beetles have been recorded at Sawley Carr, at their only known location in Derbyshire, in addition to eleven species of dragonfly/damselfly. UK BAP species are present in some of the local wildlife sites. The local wildlife sites are important for breeding and wintering birds. The mix of habitats are appealing to them
Local Nature Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Chads LNR (8.9ha)
Site of Specific Scientific Interest	None present
Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphic Site	None present
Local Wildlife Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ER037 Sawley Carr (lowland swamp) (7.51ha) • ER038 Church Wilne Reservoir (bird assemblage) (63.2ha) • ER050 Golden Brook Storage Lagoon, Nature Reserve (lowland swamp, bird assemblage and water vole population) (8.5ha) • ER131 St Chads LNR (DRDB Species) (9.1ha) • SD176 River Derwent Mouth Lock (habitat mosaic and DRDB Species) (5ha)
Identified similarities and corridors between the assets (e.g. species, habitats)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water vole populations and bird assemblage apparent at various local wildlife sites. • DRDB Species present throughout
Opportunities to Enhance Ecology and Connectivity	The River Derwent serves as a major blue infrastructure corridor for FA14. In addition to this, the Sub Regional BGI Networks falls within FA14 and connects onto neighbouring focal areas (FA1, FA13 and FA16).

Focal Area Fifteen (FA15)

Key Facts	Description
Location:	East of Cotmanhay, between the Erewash Canal and the Nottingham Canal
Coverage:	Total hectareage of FA15: 81ha <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five Local Wildlife Sites (47.1ha)
Key Habitats/ Ecology	Some of the local wildlife sites contain DRBD Species, Protected Species, UK BAP Species and Greenprint species.
Local Nature Reserve	None present
Site of Specific Scientific Interest	None present
Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphic Site	None present
Local Wildlife Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ER135 Bennerley Flash (Bird assemblage) (6.9 ha) • ER147 Botany Bay Grassland (Includes reed bed, lowland swamp, unimproved neutral grassland (9.7ha) • ER215 Erewash Canal (standing open water) (26.5 ha) • ER199 Awworth Road Pond (lowland swamp) (0.5ha) • ER213 Cossall Marsh (water vole population) (3.5ha)
Identified similarities and corridors between the assets (e.g. species, habitats)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protected species are apparent within UK BBAP Species and generally protected species.
Opportunities to Enhance Ecology and Connectivity	The sub-regional network connects FA15 with FA4 and FA5. A key asset which has opportunity to be utilised for connectivity is the Erewash Canal, a designated local wildlife site which runs north to south along the eastern fringe of Erewash.

Focal Area Sixteen (FA16)

Key Facts	Description
Location:	South of Borrowash, bordered by the River Derwent
Coverage:	<p>Total hectareage of FA16: 28ha</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two Local Wildlife Sites (83ha) – DE007 River Derwent is largely outside of Erewash Borough, resulting in a larger hectareage for the two Local Wildlife Sites in comparison to the coverage of FA16.
Key Habitats/ Ecology	Water based habitats which is popular with birds, amphibians and insects. UKBAP species are also present.
Local Nature Reserve	None present
Site of Specific Scientific Interest	None present
Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphic Site	None present
Local Wildlife Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DE007 River Derwent (Flowing water rivers and streams) (82ha) – largely outside of Erewash Borough ER148 Derby Canal, Borrowash (Secondary broad-leaved wet woodland and lowland swamp) (0.8ha)
Identified similarities and corridors between the assets (e.g. species, habitats)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water based habitats with the river serving as a major wildlife corridor, both in terms of blue infrastructure (water based wildlife) and a green corridor via the river bands and reed beds. The habitat support marginal and emergent plants that provide food, breeding habitat and shelter for invertebrates.
Opportunities to Enhance Ecology and Connectivity	This FA is more isolated than most other FAs in Erewash. The public right of way network and the River Derwent serve important connections between the FA, other FAs and environmental assets in Erewash and beyond. The River Derwent connects to the River Trent, providing a vital blue infrastructure corridor towards Nottingham. Southwards from FA16, the FA connects with Elvaston Castle (a country park) via agricultural fields.

Focal Area Seventeen (FA17)

Key Facts	Description
Location:	Dale Road area and encompasses Erewash Valley Golf Club
Coverage:	Total hectarage of FA17: 115 ha <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five Local Wildlife Sites (11.9ha) • Three RIGS (1.7ha)
Key Habitats/ Ecology	Woodland is a key habitat throughout the site with protected species only existing within one of the local wildlife sites. Aquatic bodies and associated vegetation also exist across this FA.
Local Nature Reserve	None present
Site of Specific Scientific Interest	None present
Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphoc Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dale Abbey Cliffs (0.3ha) • Stanton by Dale Old Quarry (0.3ha) • Stanton by Dale Golf Course Quarry (1.1ha)
Local Wildlife Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ER031 Baguley's Wood, Grassland and Carr (Secondary broad-leaved woodland, Secondary broad-leaved wet woodland and Unimproved acid grassland) (5.3ha) • ER053 Quarry Hill Quarry, Stanton (Secondary broad-leaved woodland) (1.3ha) • ER089 Lindridge House Pond, Dale Moor (Standing open water) (0.04ha) • ER090 Furnace Pond, Dale Moor (Standing open water) (0.41ha) • ER197 Bassett Farm Meadow (Semi-improved neutral grassland) (0.4ha) • ER206 Stanton Hall Parkland (Wood-pasture and parks) (4.4ha)
Identified similarities and corridors between the assets (e.g. species, habitats)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodland is a common habitat across the assets. • Public rights of way run through the site connecting through to Stanton by Dale village.
Opportunities to Enhance Ecology and Connectivity	The M1 motorway segregates FA17 from neighbouring FA3 which provides links onto the wider sub-regional network. North of the FA is FA12 which similarly connects onto other FAs and the sub-regional network. There is opportunity to utilise the public right of way which connects FA17 to FA12 to strengthen links. Agricultural fields exist between the two FAs which can be utilised to enhance ecological connectivity.