



ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY

Adoption Version - December 2012

INTRODUCTION

Why do we need an environmental strategy?

1. This strategy will help us to protect and enhance our environment and improve quality of life for present and future generations. For Doncaster's residents this strategy will help us to create opportunities to enjoy access to a safe, attractive, and well managed environment.
2. Another key aspect of the strategy is to balance the need for economic growth with our obligation to have responsibility for the protection of our local environment. Aspirations to grow the economy do not necessarily have to be at odds with protection of the environment. Safe, accessible, attractive and well managed environments not only encourage inward investment, but can contribute significantly to the perception of an area and overall quality of life. Such opportunities foster the right sort of environment to encourage a strong workforce to remain, or locate, to the area. This local workforce is fundamental to developing a strong economy.

How will the strategy make a difference?

3. Although there are existing corporate environmental priorities and obligations, this is Doncaster Council's first Environment Strategy. Its introduction will help to ensure that the delivery and promotion of these environmental priorities has impetus, coordination and profile by:
 - providing clear direction on our environment priorities that everyone can agree on and wider organisations can understand and contribute to;
 - enabling us to make the most of a series of private and public environment-related initiatives and funding opportunities; and
 - providing the template for effective resource planning on environment-related work.
4. The introduction and implementation of a coherent strategy will help to protect and build a better, greener environment for the Borough that will also:
 - improve what people and businesses think of their local area as a place to live and work;
 - ensure that Doncaster has an environment which promotes active and healthy lifestyles; and
 - support increased inward investment into the Borough.
5. The strategy identifies our key environmental priorities (under theme areas) and sets out short and longer-term actions that contribute to addressing them, based on two key underlying principles:
 - the need to strike a balance between the borough's economic growth and the quality of our local environment; and
 - encouraging local people to take responsibility for their local environment.

What issues will the strategy address?

6. The strategy focuses on three themes (T), within each theme is a number of key priorities (P) these are summarised in the table below. Under each priority sits a number of

objectives, actions and outcomes which are set out in the main part of this document, however the table below does include a summary of the objectives for each priority.

T1. Managing our environmental resources and services	
P1. Waste minimisation	Minimise the creation of waste in the borough and reduce the amount of waste that is going to landfill
P2. Deliver more energy efficient housing	Improve the energy efficiency of social and private rented households and ensure the efficiency of new developments
P3. Effective flood mitigation	Promote flood mitigation and further develop local residents' knowledge of flood risks in order to increase personal flood resilience
T2. Ensuring a quality environment	
P4. Protect our air and water quality and address contaminated land issues	Effective monitoring of air & water quality and sites with contaminated land, taking remedial action when required
P5. Create a more attractive street-scene	Improve the look and attractiveness of the borough's Street Scene to support inward investment and to create places that people can be really proud of
T3. Valuing our environmental assets	
P6. Protect and promote our historic environment	Increase public understanding of the value of our environment by promoting their social, cultural and economic benefits, whilst protecting its intrinsic value
P7. Protect and promote our natural environment	
P8. Ensure access to high quality green spaces and the countryside	Effective management of our public parks and woodlands and improve access to our public right of way network

7. It is proposed to produce a separate internal Environmental Policy that would set out broad environmental principles for Council employees.

How will the strategy be implemented?

8. Although this is a Council strategy, it is produced in light of the need to work in partnership with a wide number of public, private and community organisations. This partnership approach to delivering shared priorities will help us to achieve even greater value for money and make better use of the assets and resources at our disposal. The Strategy has the full support of the Doncaster Health and Well Being Board, as well as the Doncaster Active Partnership. Other key stakeholders have pledged their support as part of the Environment Strategy preparation process.
9. We will explore the use of alternative resources and mechanisms to deliver site management e.g. Environmental Management Schemes, community payback/offenders schemes, management agreements with third parties, volunteer and apprenticeship schemes to deliver the actions within the strategy.

10. Where necessary, the Environment Strategy will be supported by detailed operational strategies, such as the Municipal Waste Management Strategy, Biodiversity Action Plan, Tourism Strategy and emerging Green Infrastructure Strategy and Culture Strategy.
11. The Environment Strategy does not cover Planning issues as these are sufficiently covered through national and local policy, such as the National Planning Policy Framework and Local Development Framework. However, the priorities of the Environment Strategy will need to be taken into account when carrying out planning functions. For example, Enforcement activities where there has been planning breaches which have resulted in a negative impact on our heritage assets, or caused damage to our natural environment. One of the documents within the Local Development Framework is the Statement of Community Involvement which ensures as wide an audience as possible has the opportunity to get involved in both the preparation of the Local Development Framework and the Development Management process. Therefore in implementing the Statement of Community Involvement (and any future updates) the aims and objectives of the Environment Strategy will need to be considered.

Legal and Policy Basis

12. The Borough Strategy is the key long-term document for improving quality of life in Doncaster. All other strategies and plans that are developed therefore need to reflect its values and principles. The proposed Environment Strategy will therefore provide the detail behind Theme 7, Environment:

‘Creating a Cleaner and Better Environment: Protecting and enhancing Doncaster’s Environment and improving quality of life today and for future generations.’

13. The Strategy also needs to account for the Council’s contribution to the five key actions stated within Theme 7:
 - Protecting our environmental assets by avoiding inappropriate development and maintaining and developing our key heritage sites and open spaces;
 - Meeting the challenges presented by Doncaster’s climate by ensuring we have adequate flood defences and continue communications with residents relating to our response to extreme weather conditions;
 - Keeping our streets clean, reducing the amount of litter and detritus on our streets;
 - Dealing with Household waste effectively; and
 - Encouraging pride in the local environment, increasing the ownership people have for their local environment.
14. The legal requirements on local authorities relating to the environment are vast in scope, with primary legislation in place for councils on issues ranging from air pollution to waste disposal. The key duties this strategy needs to account for include the following:
 - AIR, WATER AND LAND QUALITY. Local authorities have overall responsibility for regulating air quality in their areas and must have air pollution monitoring networks in place, as outlined within the Environment Act (1995). Statutory responsibility for water management and protection also rests primarily with local authorities under the Water Pollution Acts (1977) and (1990). Under Part IIa of the Environmental Protection Act (1990) a local authority has a duty to inspect its area in order to identify contaminated land and cause it to be remediated if necessary.
 - CLEANLINESS OF PUBLIC SPACES. The Government’s litter code of practice sets the standards of cleanliness throughout the UK and provides practical guidance to

local authorities who have statutory responsibilities under Part IV of the Environmental Protection Act (1990).

- **FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT.** The Flood and Water Management Act (2010) gives local authorities a new role to manage local flood risk in their area. All local authorities have been designated as 'Lead Local Flood Authorities' and are required to develop a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy for their area in line with the national strategy.
- **BIODIVERSITY.** There is a general biodiversity duty in the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act (2006) which requires every public body to have regard to the purpose of conserving biodiversity in its day to day activities. Biodiversity describes the variety of different life forms found in an area, including all types of plants and animals.

THEME 1: MANAGING OUR ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND SERVICES

PRIORITY 1: WASTE MINIMISATION

Note: We will continue the approach set within our Doncaster Waste Strategy 'An opportunity not to be missed' (Published in 2009) and will continue to improve our position against the Waste Hierarchy.

OBJECTIVE	CHALLENGES	ACTIONS		OUTCOME
MINIMISE WASTE THROUGH EFFECTIVE PROMOTION AND EDUCATION	<p>Public knowledge of how to minimise waste is limited</p> <p>Potential reluctance of people to change existing behaviour</p> <p>Ability to influence Central Government policy</p>	P1.1	<p>Delivery of Education & Waste minimisation programme. This programme delivers the following activity every year on an ONGOING basis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A schools programme including educational games; • A communications programme linked to both local and national waste campaigns 	A reduced share of household waste is sent to landfill
MAXIMISE RECYCLING/ COMPOSTING AND ENERGY RECOVERY WHILST REDUCING WASTE TO LANDFILL	<p>At near-full capacity on numbers of containers allocated to each property in the Borough; the benefits of any further container rollout do not outweigh the costs involved</p> <p>Continually changing regulation on Waste, e.g. potential return to weekly black bin collections</p> <p>Council to be charged £150/tonne for every tonnes that exceed our Government allowance in 2012/13</p>	P1.2	<p>Long-term procurement of a new Waste Treatment Facility for leftover Household waste to be completed and site to become operational¹ 2015</p>	
		P1.3	<p>Continue to provide domestic waste collections for all households in the Borough ONGOING</p>	
		P1.4	<p>Continually review the effectiveness of our Household Waste Recycling Centres to improve recycling rates ONGOING</p>	

¹ More information on this is available from www.bdronline.co.uk

PRIORITY 2: DELIVER MORE ENERGY EFFICIENT HOUSING

Note: To meet the opportunities at our disposal and to effectively tackle the challenges identified, our actions need to cover three main elements – supporting households and communities to become more energy efficient, making the most of Government and European-backed initiatives and to run Education programmes to increase people’s awareness of energy issues. These three elements are reflected in the tables below.

OBJECTIVE	CHALLENGES	ACTIONS		OUTCOME
EFFECTIVELY SUPPORT PEOPLE TO BECOME MORE ENERGY AWARE & EFFICIENT IN THEIR HOMES	Public attitudes towards behavioural change	P2.1	Target the most vulnerable households and deliver effective energy efficiency measures to reduce fuel poverty ONGOING	Fewer of the Borough’s homes will be in fuel poverty Carbon emissions from properties will reduce Improved health due to reduction in cold related illness
	Cost of efficiency works is high	P2.2	Encourage the use of renewable energy within new developments and existing properties, including assisting 10,000 homes with energy efficiency improvements BY APRIL 2020	
	Architecture and condition of the Borough’s housing stock	P2.3	Deliver area based initiatives to target vulnerable households living in energy inefficient housing, resulting in more high energy efficient homes (SAP more than 65) and fewer low energy homes (SAP less than 35) ONGOING	
	Rising cost of materials and labour	P2.4	Work with all schools throughout the borough ensuring environmental awareness sessions receive the widest possible audience ONGOING	

PRIORITY 3: EFFECTIVE FLOOD MITIGATION

Note: Doncaster's Multi-Agency Flood Plan identifies approximately 24217 properties at risk of flooding (not all of these are residential dwellings). Following the events of recent years, and in particular the floods of 2007, the need for a robust approach to this risk is clear. We are working closely with our partners to manage and reduce the risks posed to existing communities by flooding. As the courses of the Don and Trent extend beyond our borough boundaries liaison with neighbouring authorities, the Environment Agency and others is considered essential.

OBJECTIVE	CHALLENGES	ACTIONS		OUTCOME
EFFECTIVELY RESPOND TO FLOOD EVENTS SHOULD THEY OCCUR	Need to ensure knowledge of flood risk is retained by Emergency services and partner organisations Need to ensure responding staff are trained and aware of actions to take during flood events	P3.1	Review of the Multi-Agency Flood Plan, all Flood Plans and the role of our Community Flood Wardens ANNUALLY	Effective response to any flood event that occurs in the Borough
		P3.2	Review of the plans for the care and welfare of those affected ANNUALLY	
REDUCE THE LIKELIHOOD AND/OR IMPACT OF FUTURE FLOOD EVENTS	The scale of flood risk in Doncaster is high Catchments outside of Doncaster can have a large impact on river levels Our ability to influence organisations with responsibility for water management	P3.3	Produce and implement a Flood Risk Management Strategy, fully accounting for our Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment DECEMBER 2013	Scale of any future flooding event is reduced
		P3.4	Instigate a recording system of localised flooding events to inform deployment of resources. System Implemented August 2011 ANNUAL REVIEW (Every August)	
		P3.5	Establish a memorandum of understanding with the Environment Agency, neighbouring	

OBJECTIVE	CHALLENGES	ACTIONS		OUTCOME
			authorities, Internal Drainage Boards, and local support groups to establish who has responsibility for what MoU TO BE IN PLACE BY APRIL 2013	
		P3.6	Ensure existing drainage systems and defences are maintained effectively ONGOING	

THEME 2: ENSURING A QUALITY ENVIRONMENT

PRIORITY 4: PROTECT OUR AIR AND WATER QUALITY AND ADDRESS CONTAMINATED LAND ISSUES

OBJECTIVE	CHALLENGES	ACTIONS		OUTCOME
REDUCE THE NUMBER OF EXISTING AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREAS	Government amendments to the air quality requirements	P4.1	Maintain our air monitoring equipment at optimum performance ONGOING	Reduction in nitrogen dioxide concentrations within air quality management areas
	Increase in demand for vehicles and buildings with the associated increase of emissions	P4.2	Annually assess the air quality of the borough and develop action plans as necessary ONGOING	
REDUCE IMPACT OF POOR AIR QUALITY ON RESIDENTS	Lack of public awareness	P4.3	Establish a warning protocol for poor air quality episodes FEBRUARY 2013	Reduction in number of people requiring medical assistance as a result of poor air quality
	Lack of supporting infrastructure	P4.4	Re-launch the Council's air quality advisory mechanisms FEBRUARY 2013	
		P4.5	Develop the relationship with the local health practitioners to promote public awareness of issues APRIL 2013 ONWARDS	
		P4.6	Explore the potential of using low emission vehicles, by undertaking a rigorous Options Appraisal BY SEPTEMBER 2013	

OBJECTIVE	CHALLENGES	ACTIONS		OUTCOME
		P4.7	Effectively engage with the South Yorkshire Local Transport Plan ONGOING	
REDUCTION IN EMISSIONS FROM TRANSPORT FLEETS	Initial cost in introducing fuel management schemes and training in effective driving techniques	P4.8	Engage with the Council and local fleet operators to promote best practice in fuel management and emission reduction by reviewing the ECO stars scheme (launched 2009) ON ANNUAL BASIS	Reduction in carbon emissions per mile, increased miles per gallon and revenue savings
THE PROTECTION OF AIR QUALITY	Increase in demand and the associated increase of emission sources i.e. vehicles, buildings etc	P4.9	Develop and instigate a policy that builds on current practice and ensures air quality issues are fully integrated into the planning process BY APRIL 2013	Air quality does not deteriorate as a consequence of development
THE PROTECTION OF WATER QUALITY AND SUPPLY	No direct responsibility or resource	P4.10	Increase our liaison with the water providers to ensure future demands are catered for ONGOING	Water Quality and supply is protected
		P4.11	Assist the Environment Agency to meet its legislative requirements to protect and enhance the water environment and associated fisheries. ONGOING	
REDUCTION IN WATER USAGE	Increase in demand from industry	P4.12	Develop and instigate a policy that ensures water efficiency is fully considered during the planning process for new builds. END OF 2013	Minimum standards of water efficiency are established
	Increase in demands resulting from a growing population	P4.13	Develop initiatives to support residents and businesses to adopt practical actions to reduce water usage	Quantifiable reduction in water usage and

OBJECTIVE	CHALLENGES	ACTIONS		OUTCOME
			ONGOING	corresponding revenue saving
THE PROTECTION OF NEW DEVELOPMENT FROM HISTORICAL LAND CONTAMINATION	Government amendments to contaminated land and planning guidance	P4.14	Develop and instigate a policy that builds on current practice to ensure contaminated land issues are fully integrated into the planning process BY EARLY 2014 (to coincide with the anticipated adoption the Sites and Policies DPD)	Increased sustainable development on land with a previous contaminative use
	Developers lack of awareness and/or their unwillingness to act responsibly	P4.15	Formalise the current liaison/advisory service provided in conjunction with planning and development APRIL 2013	Increase in affordable housing by ensuring safe "brownfield" development
THE PROTECTION OF EXISTING DEVELOPMENTS AND NATURAL SYSTEMS FROM HISTORICAL LAND CONTAMINATION	Government amendments to the contaminated land guidance Demand for new builds diverting resources to support the planning process	P4.16	Complete the prioritisation of land with a past contaminative use BY JUNE 2014	Quantifiable reduction in the number of potentially contaminated sites Increasing &protecting the available land bank.

PRIORITY 5: CREATE A MORE ATTRACTIVE STREET SCENE

OBJECTIVE	CHALLENGES	ACTIONS		OUTCOME
REDUCE THE PROBLEM OF FLYTIPPING IN THE BOROUGH	Willingness of all residents & businesses to promote and take care of their local Street Scene	P5.1	Further increase the number of investigations and enforcement actions relating to fly-tipping incidents, and work with partners to effectively address other forms of environmental crime ONGOING	Decrease in fly-tipping
			Increase public awareness of their legal duty regarding household waste as well as the many legal routes for disposal ONGOING	
REDUCE INCIDENTS OF LITTER & DOG FOULING ACROSS THE BOROUGH	The need for the Council to raise public awareness of how to report issues Ensuring the Council makes the most of the range of enforcement powers at its disposal	P5.2	Identify hotspot areas and look to design them out through one or more of the main solutions available to the Council; 1. Re-scheduling street cleansing operations; 2. Utilising relevant enforcement powers available; 3. Adding additional litter or dog waste bins (if required); or 4. Continuing to raise awareness/education of people's responsibilities, and expectations of them. ONGOING	Decrease in litter and dog fouling Decrease in the percentage of streets with unacceptable amounts of litter
		P5.3	Promote responsible dog ownership through media campaigns and effectively publicising enforcement action taken, and consider the use of dog exclusion zones ONGOING	
REDUCE THE NUMBER OF UNKEMPT		P5.4	Increase the number of enforcement actions relating to untidy and unkempt properties ONGOING	Fewer unkempt properties in the Borough

OBJECTIVE	CHALLENGES	ACTIONS		OUTCOME
PROPERTIES IN THE BOROUGH		P5.5	Make our residents more aware of how they can report unkempt properties to the Council and update them when action is taken, and emphasise that such reports can be made anonymously ONGOING	
EFFECTIVELY ENGAGE WITH LOCAL LANDOWNERS FOR THEM TO TAKE GREATER RESPONSIBILITY IN MANAGING THEIR ESTATES		P5.6	Build upon the successful 'Love Where You Live' campaign with Keep Britain Tidy to facilitate an agreement between all key landowners in Doncaster on the minimum standard to which all land should be maintained ONGOING	Better cooperation between landowners Improved resident satisfaction in areas with fast food outlets
		P5.7	Work with fast food outlets and takeaways with the aim of these businesses taking more responsibility for litter problems outside of their premises and in the immediate area, and understand their legal responsibilities ONGOING	

THEME 3: VALUING OUR ENVIRONMENTAL ASSETS

PRIORITY 6: PROTECT AND PROMOTE OUR HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

OBJECTIVE	CHALLENGES	ACTIONS		OUTCOME
PROTECT AND ENHANCE HERITAGE ASSETS IN DONCASTER	Parts of the historic environment are not well maintained and are in poor condition	P6.1	Produce and implement a Heritage at Risk Strategy ONGOING	Reduction in numbers of heritage assets at risk
		P6.2	Produce 3-4 conservation area appraisals per year ONGOING	
	Not always clear where the conservation value of heritage assets lies	P6.3	Ensure heritage considerations are taken into account in relevant decisions ONGOING	
		P6.4	Improve guidance and advice preserving and enhancing the historic environment, for example, by making guidance on alterations to heritage assets and best practice for their preservation accessible on the council's website ONGOING	
		P6.5	Encourage local community and parish councils to participate in the national Heritage Crime Initiative ONGOING	
ATTRACT EXTERNAL INVESTMENT FOR DONCASTER'S HERITAGE ASSETS	Funding necessary to maintain or improve historic buildings may be beyond the capacity of an owner	P6.7	Look for funding opportunities to enhance the historic environment in line with priorities identified in the Heritage at Risk Strategy ONGOING	Our historic assets are well kept, and learned about in order to enrich our understanding, contributing to places that are attractive to live, work, and invest in
CONTINUE TO PROMOTE AND	Limited resources available to	P6.8	Promote the Borough's historic tourism assets within the next Doncaster Visitor Guide	Doncaster's tourist assets are well

OBJECTIVE	CHALLENGES	ACTIONS		OUTCOME
DEVELOP THE TOURISM VALUE OF DONCASTER'S HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT	promote the Borough		BY APRIL 2013	visited, enhancing the local economy
		P6.9	Update the 'Visit Doncaster' website and explore the use of social media to ensure that Doncaster's historic attractions are promoted BY APRIL 2013	
		P6.10	Work with partners to improve the signage leading to our key Tourism assets ONGOING	
INCREASE AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF DONCASTER'S HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT	The range and depth of heritage in Doncaster and its contribution to the special character of the borough is not fully appreciated	P6.11	Make available on the Councils website information about heritage assets such as archaeology, listed buildings, conservation areas and historic parks, as well as sources of information and expertise about the historic environment and the borough's heritage, such as the River Don Corridor, available in Doncaster's Museums, Libraries, and Archives. ONGOING	Increased appreciation of what is special about Doncaster's historic environment
		P6.12	Encourage and support the Doncaster and District Heritage Association in increasing awareness and understanding of the borough's heritage ONGOING	
		P6.13	Produce criteria and identify and describe 'non-designated' heritage assets which are of local significance specifically Historic parks and gardens of local importance (DECEMBER 2012) & Buildings of local architectural or historic significance (ONGOING)	

PRIORITY 7: PROTECT & PROMOTE OUR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

OBJECTIVE	CHALLENGES	ACTIONS		OUTCOME
RAISE AWARENESS OF THE MANY, VALUABLE BENEFITS PROVIDED BY THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT	Embedding a step-change in attitudes and behaviours towards the natural environment.	P7.1	Support the 'South Yorkshire Local Nature Partnership' in promoting Doncaster's natural environment as a valuable asset and 'Unique Selling Point' within the wider City Region. ONGOING	People recognise and appreciate the many benefits provided by the natural environment
	Engaging a wider audience	P7.2	Promote and support the work of Doncaster's Nature Improvement Areas, to realise their contributions to biodiversity conservation, climate change adaptation, health and wellbeing, research and opportunities for tourism, local regeneration, participation and skills development. ONGOING	
		P7.3	Collate, manage and make available up-to-date, information about the borough's natural environment, for research, education, conservation, planning, monitoring and decision making purposes. ONGOING	
		P7.4	Explore the use of technology, partnerships, networks and social media to promote and deliver environmental information, events and local activities BY MARCH 2013	

OBJECTIVE	CHALLENGES	ACTIONS		OUTCOME
TAKE ACTION TO CREATE, IMPROVE AND MAINTAIN A COHERENT AND RESILIENT ECOLOGICAL NETWORK	Finding land and resources that can be used for habitat creation.	P7.5	Commission, collect and appraise appropriate environmental data to inform all levels of decision making and strategic planning, e.g. the rolling resurvey of designated Local Sites and recording the extent & condition of the Urban forest. ONGOING	Increase Doncaster's area of important wildlife habitats. These are in good management and connected together, allowing wildlife to thrive
	Engaging with private landowners to encourage good stewardship of the natural environment	P7.6	Update Doncaster's Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) and Local Geodiversity Action Plan (LGAP), to reflect current priorities and targets, encourage participation and enable local contributions to UK targets to be monitored. DECEMBER 2013	
	Balancing the need for economic growth with protection of the environment	P7.7	Contribute to the development and delivery of the 'Don Network' strategy, to address river catchment-wide issues and opportunities for land and water management, using available funding to achieve the UK's Water Framework Directive targets, whilst maximising additional benefits for people and wildlife. ONGOING	
		P7.8	Work closely with partners in the public, voluntary and private sector (including community groups) to identify, coordinate and maximise opportunities to protect, restore, expand and create UK priority habitats and deliver Local Biodiversity Action Plan and Local Geodiversity Action Plan targets as part of a coherent ecological network ONGOING	
		P7.9	Achieve and maintain favourable condition for Council owned Sites of Special Scientific Interest ONGOING	

OBJECTIVE	CHALLENGES	ACTIONS		OUTCOME	
		P7.10	Increase the proportion of designated Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) and Local Geological Sites (LGS) in favourable management and report to Defra to support the monitoring of UK conservation obligations. ONGOING		
		P7.11	Develop Doncaster's Biodiversity Opportunity Area Map to inform and support appropriate conservation project work and the production of the Sites and Policies Development Plan Document ONGOING		
		P7.12	As part of the Defra pilot, promote opportunities to deliver targeted biodiversity compensation through biodiversity offsetting schemes as part of the planning system. APRIL 2012 - APRIL 2014		
MAXIMISE THE CONTRIBUTION THAT THE WIDER ENVIRONMENT CAN MAKE TO SUPPORTING DONCASTER'S ECOLOGICAL NETWORK	Encouraging and enabling others to consider options for how sites are managed,	P7.13	Where appropriate, manage council owned land (e.g. parks, roadside verges etc.) in a manner that maximises the opportunities for wildlife in order to strengthen the ecological network ONGOING	People see more wildlife on council owned and managed land	
		P7.14	We will seek to sustainably manage the borough's urban forest, ensuring that any new tree planting is within locations and uses species that are the most appropriate to maximise the amenity for local residents, enhance local distinctiveness and wider benefits such as reduced surface run-off, urban cooling and wildlife.		

PRIORITY 8: ENSURE ACCESS TO HIGH QUALITY GREEN SPACE & THE COUNTRYSIDE

OBJECTIVE	CHALLENGES	ACTIONS		OUTCOME
FACILITATE THE COORDINATED MANAGEMENT OF DONCASTER'S GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE	<p>Coordinating information from many different fields</p> <p>Providing new and improving existing green infrastructure in the current economic climate</p>	P8.1	Produce and implement a Green Infrastructure Strategy to promote and optimise key assets and replace the need for separate strategies on playing pitches, greenspace and trees and to be informed by strategies on heritage, biodiversity and rights of way. MAY 2014	People have better access to green infrastructure assets and Doncaster's green infrastructure network is effectively coordinated
		P8.2	Develop an environmental masterplan for Sandall Beat and the surrounding area, to co-ordinate the delivery of green infrastructure projects, including promotion of the economic and commercial offer at Lakeside, but mindful of the needs of the existing natural environment. MARCH 2013	
		P8.3	Review the benefits of Doncaster Council joining the South Yorkshire Forest to facilitate the delivery of South Yorkshire Green Infrastructure objectives MARCH 2013	
ENSURE EVERY RESIDENT IN DONCASTER HAS ACCESS TO SUFFICIENT, HIGH QUALITY GREEN SPACES	Improving and creating new green spaces in the current economic climate	P8.4	Carry out an audit of existing green space and identify local deficiencies in quantity and quality, to inform the Green Infrastructure Strategy MARCH 2013 ONWARDS	Improved access to better quality green spaces
		P8.5	Set (as part of the Green Infrastructure Strategy) and implement appropriate quality, quantity and accessibility standards for green spaces MARCH 2013 ONWARDS	
ENSURE THAT COUNCIL OWNED		P8.6	Develop management plans for all public parks and woodlands and raise awareness of their facilities.	Council parks and woodlands are an

OBJECTIVE	CHALLENGES	ACTIONS		OUTCOME
AND MANAGED GREEN SPACES ARE FIT FOR PURPOSE			ONGOING	attractive resource enjoyed and valued by the residents of Doncaster
		P8.7	Achieve Green Flag status for a minimum of three council owned sites BY THE END OF 2013	
ENSURE PEOPLE ARE WELL CONNECTED TO DONCASTER'S NATURAL ASSETS	Creation and promotion of new rights of way and open access areas	P8.8	Update and implement the Council's Rights of Way Improvement Plan MARCH 2013 ONWARDS	People have a good rights of way network allowing them easy access to the countryside
		P8.9	Lobby Natural England to give Open Access designation for Hatfield Moors ONGOING	