



Nuneaton and Bedworth Landscape Character Assessment

Genesis Centre
Birchwood Science Park
Warrington
WAS 7BH

T: 01925 844004
F: 01925 844002
E: tep@tep.uk.com
W: www.tep.uk.com



Published August 2012

Nuneaton and Bedworth Landscape Character Assessment

**Document Reference: 2534.016
Version 4.0
June 2011**

Prepared by:

**TEP
Genesis Centre
Birchwood Science Park
Warrington
WA3 7BH
Tel: 01925 844004
Fax: 01925 844002
e-mail: tep@tep.uk.com**

for

**Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council
Council House
Nuneaton
Warwickshire
CV11 5AA**

| Written: | Checked: | Approved: |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| JTS | IJG | IJG |

| CONTENTS | | PAGE |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1.0 | INTRODUCTION | 6 |
| 2.0 | STUDY OBJECTIVES | 8 |
| 3.0 | METHOD..... | 9 |
| 4.0 | PLANNING POLICY CONTEXT | 15 |
| 5.0 | NATIONAL, COUNTY & NEIGHBOURING LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS . | 19 |
| 6.0 | LANDSCAPE CONTEXT..... | 23 |
| 7.0 | NUNEATON & BEDWORTH BOROUGH LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS.... | 31 |
| 8.0 | CONCLUSIONS | 33 |

APPENDICIES

Appendix 1 Landscape Character Summaries

DRAWINGS

| | |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Figure 1.1 | Borough Location Plan |
| Figure 4.1 | Borough Green Belt, Areas of Restraint and Countryside |
| Figure 5.1 | National Landscape Character Areas |
| Figure 5.2 | Warwickshire Landscape Guidelines |
| Figure 5.3 | Entec Landscape Character Areas within Areas of Restraint, 2004 |
| Figure 5.4 | Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council Landscape Character Areas, 2008 |
| Figure 6.1 | Agricultural Land Classification |
| Figure 6.2 | Topography |
| Figure 6.3 | Flood Zones |
| Figure 6.4 | Natural England Natural Areas |
| Figure 6.5 | Ecology Designations |
| Figure 6.6 | Archaeological Designations |
| Figure 6.7 | Warwickshire Historic Landscape Character (Broad type), 2010 |
| Figure 7.1 | Landscape Character Areas within Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough |
| Figure 7.2 | Landscape Management Strategies |

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough is one of five Boroughs within Warwickshire. Whilst Nuneaton and Bedworth is the smallest in area, the Borough has a high population density of 15.3 persons per hectare (the average for Warwickshire is 2.6 persons per hectare). The Borough is illustrated on Figure 1.1. Areas of countryside separating the Borough's three main settlements; Nuneaton, Bedworth and Bulkington have been designated as Green Belt to check urban sprawl within a Borough that is largely urban in nature. The great majority of other undeveloped land which is not Green Belt is designated as Countryside with some also identified as Areas of Restraint.
- 1.2 The Borough currently has a range of landscape character assessments and they required a comprehensive review and update of the landscape character assessments to ensure complete up to date coverage for the borough.
- 1.3 The majority of the borough is urban covered by Nuneaton and Bedworth and the large village of Bulkington. The rural areas are concentrated around the fringes of the borough and display subtle differences including wooded parkland, rolling arable and pasture farmland with prominent woodland; more open landscapes associated with river valleys and urban fringe landscapes important in retaining identity between settlements.
- 1.4 This report is a landscape character assessment of Nuneaton and Bedworth. It has focused on land outside the urban area on land either covered by Green Belt, Area of Restraint or Countryside Designations. It has not studied the built form character of the larger conurbations.
- 1.5 Distinction in landscape is created through the interplay between people and place and encompasses all land, not just land designated for its natural beauty. It arises from unique patterns and combinations of different components and elements.
- 1.6 The European Landscape Convention (ELC) came into effect in the UK in March 2007. The ELC was the first international convention on landscape and is dedicated exclusively to the protection, management and planning of all landscapes in Europe. It provides an international context for landscape and emphasises its importance alongside biodiversity and cultural heritage. The ELC definition of landscape is:
- 'Landscape means an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of action and interaction of natural and/or human factors.'*
- 1.7 Landscape Character Assessment is a decision-making tool which systematically classifies the landscape into distinctive areas based on the interaction between landform, geology, land use, vegetation pattern and human influence. Its role is to ensure that future change does not undermine the characteristics or features of value in a landscape.
- 1.8 Landscape Character Assessment is an approach that can make a significant contribution to the sustainable objectives of environmental protection; prudent use

of natural resources; and maintaining and enhancing the quality of life for present and future generations.

Who is this document for?

1.9 This document is relevant to anyone who has an interest in the landscape of Nuneaton and Bedworth. The main applications for the document are considered to be:

- A technical document and evidence base to help inform landscape policies within Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council's Core Strategy and local development documents
- Providing key information to development control officers in helping to assess whether proposals are likely to make a positive contribution to local distinctiveness or whether they are likely to be detrimental in terms of scale, style and design. It will also help them to provide targeted, landscape-related mitigation and conditions to accompany planning decisions
- Providing key information for use by developers to help to develop designs and proposals which make a positive contribution to the local distinctiveness of an area
- Providing broad guidelines which may help land managers to identify area-specific landscape management operations such as small-scale tree and woodland planting and boundary replacement
- A comprehensive document that is easy to use by the general public who may have a personal interest in the landscape around where they live
- Helping to promote what is special within the landscape
- Providing a framework to assist local communities who may wish to develop local level character assessments or detailed village design statements.

1.10 The landscape character assessment has been undertaken at a local level (1:25,000) and provides character based information at this scale. It is important to note that it is a strategic assessment rather than a field-by-field assessment and detailed decisions and assessments will still be required to consider specific local circumstances. For example new development proposed for a site will still require a landscape and visual assessment which includes an assessment of landscape character on a field-by-field basis.

How to use this document

1.11 This document provides a detailed technical report of the landscape character of Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough. It has been structured to enable users not to have to read the whole document to access information on a specific area or site.

1.12 The main report looks at Nuneaton and Bedworth as a whole and highlights important planning designations, national and local designations and broad characteristics such as geology, soils, landform, hydrology, ecology and cultural heritage to build a snapshot of the character of Nuneaton and Bedworth in 2010.

1.13 Figure 7.1 illustrates the character areas and Chapter 7.0 provides detailed descriptions and profiles for the Landscape Character Areas. It is this chapter which should be used when looking at the local character of a specific area or site.

2.0 STUDY OBJECTIVES

2.1 The main objectives of this study are to:

- Draw together (electronically) baseline information on landscape character and Historic Landscape Characterisation to ensure total and consistent coverage across the borough;
- To assess and describe the landscape character of the borough;
- Provide a comprehensive appraisal of landscape character and quality; and
- Establish landscape sensitivity and capacity to accommodate change particularly focused around new development.

3.0 METHOD

3.1 This assessment has been undertaken following guidance published in the Countryside Agency and Scottish Natural Heritage advisory document *Landscape Character Assessment: Guidance for England and Scotland (2002)* and the two organisations' Topic Paper 6: *Techniques and Criteria for Judging Capacity and Sensitivity*.

3.2 The Geographic Information System (GIS) used in this assessment has been provided by Warwickshire County Council and was based on the 'Living Landscapes' Method¹ developed by Stephen Warnock.

3.3 The key stages of the process are described as follows:

- Desk study;
- Identification of Landscape Description Units (LDUs) (undertaken by Warwickshire County Council);
- Interpolation of data and initial mapping of character areas;
- Field study;
- Classification and description;
- Recommendations; and
- Capacity Assessment.

3.4 This section summarises the main approach taken to the landscape character assessment.

Desk Study

3.5 Desk based research included a review of available relevant published documentation. This included national, regional and local planning policy, and relevant landscape documents including: National Character Areas; Warwickshire County Council's Landscape Character Areas and Types; and Historic Landscape Characterisation.

3.6 Desk based research also included an assessment of relevant Ordnance Survey (OS) maps, aerial photography and Warwickshire County and Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Geographic Information Systems (GIS) data sets including landform, floodzones, ecological and landscape information.

Initial Mapping

3.7 Initial mapping used GIS information supplied by Warwickshire County Council in the form of Landscape Description Units.

3.8 LDUs are homogenous units of land defined by a number of attributes which are derived from a series of GIS overlays. These identify areas of common characteristics. The LDUs were defined using various key components of the landscape including:

¹ The Living Landscapes Project Landscape Characterisation Stephen Warnock, November 2002

- Physiography – expression of the shape and structure of the landscape as influenced by both nature of the underlying geology and geological processes.
- Ground Type – soil forming environment which determines the surface pattern of vegetation and land use.
- Settlement Pattern – the structural component of the cultural landscape reflected in the distribution of settlements; historic enclosure; and size of tenure of agricultural holdings.
- Land Cover – type of vegetation (natural and man-made) covering the land surface.

Interpretation of GIS Data

- 3.9 The identification of LDUs through desk based GIS mapping identified detailed and often small units of character across the study area. After a brief familiarisation field visit in the borough, it was clear that many of the LDUs displayed similar or only subtle differences in character. Often differences between LDUs were expressed through changes in geology and soils which were not readily identifiable as distinctive differences within landscape character during field survey work which primarily establishes aesthetic factors such as scale and enclosure.
- 3.10 LDUs were analysed to establish adjoining LDUs which had similar or the same attributes. This was in order to rationalise character areas to provide better representation of character across the borough. In these cases it is likely that at a local level the character within each LDU would be similar and guidelines and descriptions closely correlated. This analysis was carried out by Warwickshire County Council and provided to TEP at the outset of the project.
- 3.11 This analysis enabled initial draft character areas to be formulated along with specific notes of any areas of uncertainty. These areas formed the basis for the field study which verified, reviewed and refined the character areas.

Field Study

- 3.12 The detailed field study was carried out by Chartered Landscape Architects, both by car and on foot from publicly accessible locations. During this assessment consideration was given to individual elements such as built form and its setting in the landscape, land use, landform, vegetation, hydrology and aesthetic factors such as views, tranquillity and sense of enclosure or openness and the interaction between landscape features which cannot be determined by desk study alone. This allowed distinctions to be made between recognisable patterns in the landscape.
- 3.13 Key distinguishing characteristics were recorded on site using a standardised survey sheet, an example of which is included in Appendix 1. Representative photographs were also taken for each character area and have been used to illustrate the character area descriptions. Survey locations were chosen to cover many of the LDUs which lie within each character area.

Classification and Description

- 3.14 Following the field survey, the initial draft character areas were refined. The information was collated to provide a factual description for each of the character areas. The text describes the key elements which create a sense of place, the landscape's intactness from a visual and functional perspective, landform, land use and field pattern, and makes reference to natural features such as vegetation composition, archaeology and cultural heritage and built form where appropriate.

Making Recommendations

- 3.15 The first part of making recommendations for each character area was the assessment of landscape quality. This is a judgement regarding the strength of landscape character combined with the condition of landscape features. Landscape quality is based on the combination of strength of character and landscape condition.

Strength of Character:

- 3.16 This is determined by a range of criteria:
- An assessment of how characteristic features and elements combine to form a sense of place, defined as: *the intrinsic character of a place*
 - How distinctive and recognisable are the pattern of elements that make up the character, including both positive and negative elements;
 - Presence and quantity of distinctive features; and
 - Identification of landscapes containing historic patterns and features which may have declined or become fragmented thereby weakening character but which could be reinstated.
- 3.17 A three point scale has been used to make judgements as to strength of character: **Strong; Moderate; and Weak.**
- *Strong Character*
Strong character is defined as a consistent distribution of distinctive characteristics such as hills, river floodplain, and woodland. These characteristics combine to create a strongly distinctive sense of place. Minor changes in land use or land cover would not necessarily detrimentally influence character.
 - *Moderate Character*
Distinctive characteristics are consistent through the area although their distribution is less obvious or less frequent. The landscape still has a recognisable and distinctive character although it could be altered or weakened through minor changes in land use or land cover.
 - *Weak Character*
A landscape where features and patterns are present which help to define character, however, there are often numerous influences none of which are overriding or consistent across the landscape; and many features show signs of alteration or decline. Even minor changes in land use or land cover could have a marked influence on the character of the area.

Landscape Condition

3.18 A judgement is made by consideration of the state or intactness of landscape features, elements and characteristics and how these combine to inform a positive visual impression. This includes elements such as hedgerows, woodlands, field pattern, urban influences, infrastructure and restored landscapes. Judgements of condition are made as to how identified characteristics positively influence the appearance of the landscape.

3.19 A three point scale was used to make judgements: **Good, Moderate and Poor**

- *Good Condition*

Features are well managed and are almost always intact and of consistent quality. There is little evidence of loss or decline in the condition of features.

- *Moderate Condition*

Features are mostly well managed although in places there is evidence of decline in management and loss of features such as some fragmented hedgerows or dilapidated walls.

- *Poor Condition*

Few features are intact or well managed. Loss or decline of features is frequent. Boundaries such as hedgerows are rarely intact and other boundaries are often of variable style and condition. Such elements combine to give an untidy or disjointed appearance to the landscape.

3.20 A landscape strategy matrix, shown in Table 3.1 is used as a basis for guiding landscape judgements and forming management recommendations for the character areas. This is a useful tool as it provides a consistent basis upon which judgements can be made. From both condition and strength of character judgements, the table can be used to identify an appropriate management strategy.

3.21 The strategic categories used in this assessment for landscape quality are:

- **Conserve**
- **Enhance**
- **Restore**
- **Create**

Conserve: where the landscape quality is considered to be good (due to good condition and strong character) and there should be an emphasis on protecting or safeguarding the key features and characteristics of the landscape in their present form.

Enhance: emphasis should be to improve existing features which may not be currently well-managed or where existing features are of good quality but could be of greater benefit if improved. This may include improvements to landscape management practices or the introduction or removal of elements or features in order to strengthen character and/or improve perceived condition.

Restore: emphasis should be on repairing or re-establishing features that have been lost or are in a state of severe decline.

Create: where the landscape quality is poor (due to poor condition and weak character) and the original landscape pattern is no longer evident. In such places there is potential to re-create landscape features appropriate to the area to form new and different landscapes. An example of this is a landscape which has been heavily influenced by quarrying and industry, where field pattern and features are no longer evident and the land form is markedly altered through changes such as new mounding or large waterbodies which prevent the re-creation or restoration of the former landscape character.

Table 3.1 - Landscape Quality and Associated Landscape Strategy Matrix

| | | | | |
|---------------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Landscape Condition | Good | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> | MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i> | GOOD <i>Conserve</i> |
| | Moderate | POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i> | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> | MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i> |
| | Poor | POOR <i>Restore/Create</i> | POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i> | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> |
| | | Weak | Moderate | Strong |
| | | Landscape Strength | | |

3.22 Using the information gathered in the desk and field studies and taking into account the overall management strategy from Table 3.1, landscape guidelines and management strategies were suggested for each character area. These are based on guidelines to conserve and protect the positive characteristics of the area and recommendations on how to enhance and restore aspects of the landscape in order to strengthen landscape character and reduce the influences of features which detract from landscape quality and condition.

Capacity assessment

3.23 Whilst surveying landscape character areas, consideration was also given to their relative sensitivity and capacity to accommodate change without detrimental effect on their character. Reference was made to guidance provided in the former Countryside Agency’s Topic Paper 6: *Techniques and Criteria for Judging Capacity and Sensitivity* and to other published landscape assessments which address capacity and sensitivity.

3.24 Landscape capacity (or sensitivity) refers to the degree to which a landscape can accommodate change without detrimental effects on its character. This varies with:

- Existing land use
- The pattern and scale of the landscape

- Visual enclosure, openness of views, and distribution of visual receptors
 - The value placed on a landscape
 - Extent, type and nature of vegetation present within the area
- 3.25 An issue repeatedly raised in guidance and in studies considering capacity and sensitivity relates to the need to identify specific types or nature of potential development in order to fully assess the capacity of a landscape to accommodate any potential proposal or change.
- 3.26 Use of a 'scale' of sensitivity is of limited future application. It is unhelpful to state that a landscape is 'moderately sensitive' unless it is very clear by use of examples how that sensitivity is manifest and what scale and type of changes would adversely affect it. Two different landscape character areas showing different characteristics may be judged to fall within the same 'sensitivity category'. Unless clear and very comprehensive examples are available as an effective 'checklist' of potential changes against which proposals can be judged, this form of 'scoring' sensitivity of landscape is of limited application.
- 3.27 Another way in which sensitivity and capacity is sometimes addressed is to attempt to identify types of development which are deemed acceptable or unacceptable. For example, it could be stated that there is no capacity for new residential development within a landscape character area.
- 3.28 This latter approach implies that all possible scale and forms of residential development are known and have been considered in respect of that landscape character area and deemed to be unacceptable. Given that residential development can take very wide range of forms, from multi-storey development to single storey and even beneath ground, and including many different unit sizes and combinations, this implies that many aspects have been considered in great detail and conclusions drawn. This is a very detailed and involved process which requires a great deal of knowledge and application of judgement in respect of a wide range of potential developments and agents of change that may act on a landscape.
- 3.29 Rather than set out sensitivity and capacity for character areas either on a relative scale or by reference to 'acceptable' or 'unacceptable' development types, this study has considered the key features within landscape character areas and identified the important characteristics that should be protected and where possible enhanced or increased. It addresses capacity to accommodate change by highlighting these key characteristics.
- 3.30 It considers that all landscapes have the potential to accommodate change provided that it is in keeping with their key characteristics. Changes which do not respect these features would be detrimental to the local landscape character.
- 3.31 This requires that users of the information need to exercise judgement in respect of decision making regarding potential development and change. This in turn allows for flexibility and for decisions to be made over periods of time and, as landscapes change, to use the characteristics of the character area as evidence on which to base decisions.

4.0 PLANNING POLICY CONTEXT

4.1 This section identifies the planning policies that are of relevance to landscape from national, county and local levels. These are important in identifying what aspects of landscape are currently considered to be of importance within policy and which aspects may have an influence on the character of the landscape. This section provides a brief description of each relevant policy. For more detailed policy information please refer to Appendix 1.0.

National Planning Policy

Planning Policy Statement 1 (PPS1): Delivering Sustainable Development

4.2 PPS1 requires local planning authorities to adopt sustainable principles when writing policies. It specifically states that high levels of protection should be afforded to the most valued townscapes, wildlife habitats, landscapes and natural resources. It emphasises the importance of good quality design which responds to local context and the protection of the character of the wider countryside within sustainable development proposals.

Planning Policy Guidance 2 (PPG2): Green Belts

4.3 The fundamental aim of Green Belt policy is to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open. Key principles of the guidance emphasise the importance of maintaining the Green Belt's openness, its value in protecting the countryside and its encouragement of sustainable patterns of urban development.

Planning Policy Statement 7 (PPS7): Sustainable Development in Rural Areas

4.4 PPS7 sets out the Government's objectives to ensure that good quality sustainable development respects and enhances the local distinctiveness and intrinsic qualities of the countryside. It confirms the need to protect the open countryside for the benefit of all and to raise the quality of the environment in rural areas.

Planning Policy Statement 10 (PPS10): Planning for Sustainable Waste Management

4.5 PPS10 sets out the Government's aim to create a national waste management plan for the UK. It should be taken into account by waste planning authorities.

Planning Policy Statement 12 (PPS12): Local Spatial Planning

4.6 PPS12 indicates that it is important for local planning authorities to embed community responsive policy-making and contribute to the achievement of sustainable development through the new spatial planning system by creating a Local Development Framework (LDF). The LDF is a collection of local development documents which deliver spatial planning strategies for its area.

Minerals Policy Statement 1 (MPS1): Planning and Minerals

4.7 MPS1 outlines the national policy for safeguarding minerals resources. It requires Mineral Planning Authorities in England to define Mineral Safeguarding Areas in the Local Development Framework documents.

County Planning Policy

- 4.8 Warwickshire County Council is the responsible Minerals and Waste Planning Authority for all Boroughs in the County, including Nuneaton and Bedworth. The County Council will use national waste and minerals Planning Policy Statements to prepare Waste and Minerals Development Frameworks. Warwickshire County Council is currently preparing its Waste and Minerals Development Frameworks. These will supersede the current Waste and Minerals Local Plans.

Warwickshire County Council Waste Local Plan (1995)

- 4.9 The Waste Local Plan has been prepared by Warwickshire County Council in order to identify the most suitable areas for the processing and/or disposal of waste.

Warwickshire County Council, Waste Development Framework, Core Strategy, Revised Spatial Options, (2009)

- 4.10 The Core Strategy of the Waste Development Framework will set out the spatial vision, spatial objectives and policies, as well as setting out a monitoring and implementation framework for waste up to 2021, and providing the framework for waste development control.

The Minerals Local Plan 1995

- 4.11 The Minerals Local Plan has been prepared by Warwickshire County Council to identify those areas of the county where significant mineral resources occur, that is sand, gravel, hardrock and coal and where there would be least planning objection to possible workings.

Warwickshire County Council, Minerals Core Strategy, Revised Spatial Options, (2009)

- 4.12 The Core Strategy of the Minerals Development Framework will set out the spatial vision, spatial objectives and policies, as well as setting out a monitoring and implementation framework for waste up to 2021, and providing the framework for minerals development control.

Local Planning Policy

Local Development Framework

- 4.13 The Nuneaton and Bedworth Local Plan (2006) is the current development plan for the Borough. Work is underway to produce the Nuneaton and Bedworth Local Development Framework (LDF) in accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, which will supersede the Local Plan. Until the LDF is adopted, policies from the current Local Plan have been saved by the Secretary of State. Local designations of relevance to this study are illustrated on Figure 4.1.

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Local Plan 2006 (illustrated on Figure 4.1)

Policy Env1: Green Belt

- 4.14 The Borough's Green Belt maintains an area of open space between Nuneaton, Bedworth, Bulkington and Coventry. NBBC's Green Belt is part of the West Midlands Green Belt which has the strategic function to restrict urban sprawl; prevent the merging of towns; avoid encroachment; preserve the character of historic towns; assist urban regeneration; and provide opportunities for outdoor recreation.

- 4.15 Within the policy there is a general presumption against inappropriate development in accordance with PPG2. Development will not normally be permitted unless it is for:
- Agriculture and forestry;
 - Essential facilities for outdoor sport and outdoor recreation, for cemeteries and for other uses of land which preserve the openness of the Green Belt, and which do not conflict with the purposes of including land in it;
 - Limited extension, alteration or replacement of existing dwellings; and
 - Limited infilling or redevelopment of major existing developed sites identified in adopted local plans.

Policy Env2: Areas of Restraint (AOR)

- 4.16 Policy Env 2 outlines: *In Areas of Restraint, as defined on the Proposals Map, development will only be permitted where the development would not adversely affect the open character or appearance of the area, taking into account any possible cumulative effects.* The over-riding intention of the AOR is to protect inherently open character because of the valuable contribution they make to the character and structure of the towns.

- 4.17 AORs in NBBC have been assessed in the Landscape and Character Assessment 2004 to help assess the impact on the open character of the area. The following areas are identified as AOR:
- Generally between Galley Common and Hartshill;
 - Generally between Nuneaton and Hinckley (south of The Long Shoot, A47); and
 - Generally between Nuneaton/Weddington and Hartshill (west of Weddington Lane and north of Judkins Quarry).

Policy Env3: Rural and Urban Countryside Policy

- 4.18 NBBC wishes to protect the countryside from inappropriate development. Planning permission will only be granted for development in the countryside if it meets needs which cannot be accommodated elsewhere in urban areas.

Other Relevant Documents

Nuneaton and Bedworth Green Infrastructure Plan 2009

- 4.19 This strategy has been prepared to enhance existing Green Infrastructure and connections to provide a holistic consideration of Green Infrastructure deficiency as part of the LDF process. The document provides guidance to ensure that the environmental, social and historical importance of green space networks within Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough is taken account of in the future.

Entec: Assessment of Areas of Restraint/Policy Review, September 2004

- 4.20 NBBC commissioned Entec in May 2004 to undertake a Landscape Character Assessment of the AOR after recommendations made in the Inspector's report to the NBBLP Second Deposit. The Inspector proposed a Landscape Character Assessment would provide a framework to assess the Borough's ability to meet the purposes of AOR. As an outcome the assessment was intended to provide a more robust and defensible AOR policy.

Entec: River Valley Assessment Part 1: Policy Review

4.21 NBBC commissioned Entec in August 2006 to undertake a review of river valleys in the urban area not originally covered in the review of Area of Restraint review carried out in 2004. The following river valleys were reviewed: Bar Pool; Galley Common/Kingswood; Anker Valley and Wem Brook. The report reviewed the current designations and purposes of the river valleys to determine what would be the most appropriate policy designation to be used for the river valleys in the Local Development Documents. The report concluded that Galley Common/Kingswood River Valley should be designated as Areas of Restraint; Countryside policies should only be applied to river valleys in the countryside; NBBC should introduce a new Green Corridor policy to recognize the multi-functional purpose of river valleys; Galley Common/Kingswood, Bar Pool and Wem River valleys should be designated Green Corridors and the Anker Valley should be un-designated.

British Geological Survey Minerals Safeguarding Areas for Warwickshire (June 2009)

4.22 British Geological Survey (BGS) completed a piece of work to delineate Warwickshire County Council's Mineral Safeguarding Areas (MSAs) to assist with the production of the Minerals Core Strategy. MSAs are areas of known mineral resources that are of sufficient economic or conservation value to warrant protection for generations. The purpose of MSAs is to ensure that mineral resources are adequately and effectively considered in land-use planning, so that they are not needlessly sterilised, compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. The BGS report identifies the minerals found in Nuneaton and Bedworth including sand and gravel, crushed rock, coal, brick clay and building stone.

Coventry Joint Green Belt Review, 2009

4.23 SSR was commissioned to review Green Belt land surrounding the main urban areas of Coventry city; Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough; land adjacent to Coventry within Rugby Borough; and the Warwick towns of Kenilworth, Warwick and Leamington Spa. This study was commissioned recognising the West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy's (RSS) Preferred Options requirements for joint studies and will form part of the evidence base to inform the respective authorities' Core Strategies. (RSSs have now been abolished under the new Coalition Government). The study examined the current Green Belt to discover the areas that least contributed to the purposes of Green Belts. It went on to identify areas suitable for future development.

4.24 Within Nuneaton and Bedworth, Kenilworth, Warwick and Leamington Spa 14 parcels of Green Belt were established as the least constrained and have been identified for more detailed analysis by the four Local Authorities.

5.0 NATIONAL, COUNTY & NEIGHBOURING LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS

- 5.1 Table 5.1 below outlines national, county and local level landscape character areas that have been identified within the Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough. Brief descriptions of each landscape character area are provided in Appendix 1.0. Figures 5.1-5.4 illustrate each landscape character area.
- 5.2 A local level landscape character assessment was also carried out for the River Valleys in Nuneaton and Bedworth in 2007. The river valleys included: Bar Pool; Galley Common/Kingswood; Anker Valley and Wem Brook. 10 landscape character types and 17 landscape character areas were identified. These are summarised at Appendix 1.

Landscape Character Assessments for Adjacent Boroughs

- 5.3 Landscape Character Areas bordering or extending into Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough from adjacent Boroughs have been identified below. Summaries of the landscape character area descriptions are provided at Appendix 1.0.

North Warwickshire Landscape Character Assessment and Capacity Study August 2010

- 5.4 FPCR LLP was commissioned in November 2009 to undertake a Landscape Character Assessment of North Warwickshire Borough along with a Landscape Capacity Study for land adjacent to the main settlements and local service centres within the Borough.
- 5.5 Landscape character areas noted as bordering the Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough are:
- Character Area 3: Anker Valley
 - Character Area 4: Baddesley to Hartshill – Uplands
 - Character Area 7: Church End to Corley – Arden Hills and Valleys

Hinckley and Bosworth Landscape Character Assessment July 2006

- 5.6 In June 2005 Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council commissioned a Landscape Character Assessment to be undertaken simultaneously with the preparation of the Local Development Framework.
- 5.7 Landscape character areas bordering Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough to the north include:
- Stoke Golding Vale Character Area;
 - Hinckley, Barwell and Burbage Fringe Character Area; and
 - Fen Lanes Character Area.

Landscape Assessment of the Borough of Rugby April 2006

- 5.8 The Landscape Assessment of the Borough of Rugby details the work of a broad scale landscape assessment and sensitivity analysis of Rugby, looking in more detail at the countryside around Rugby. It was carried out by the Living Landscapes Project in conjunction with Warwickshire County Council and Rugby Borough Council.
- 5.9 3 landscape character areas border the Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough including:

-
- High Cross Plateau, Open Plateau;
 - High Cross Plateau, Village Farmland; and
 - Mease Lowlands, Estate Farmlands.



TABLE 5.1: EXISTING LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT AREAS ACROSS THE NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH

| NATIONAL LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS | COUNTY LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS | LOCAL LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | | Warwickshire Landscape Assessment of the Borough of Nuneaton and Bedworth, Sensitivity and Condition Survey, 2008 Illustrated on Figure 5.4 | Entec, Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council Landscape Character Assessment across Areas of Restraint, 2004 Illustrated on Figure 5.3 | |
| | | | Landscape Character Types | Landscape Character Areas |
| Natural England Illustrated on Figure 5.1 | Warwickshire Landscape Guidelines, 1989 Illustrated on Figure 5.2 | Warwickshire Landscape Assessment of the Borough of Nuneaton and Bedworth, Sensitivity and Condition Survey, 2008 Illustrated on Figure 5.4 | Entec, Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council Landscape Character Assessment across Areas of Restraint, 2004 Illustrated on Figure 5.3 | |
| Character Area 72 – Mease/Sence Lowlands | Mease Lowlands, Estate Farmlands | Mease Lowlands, Estate Farmlands | Estate Farmlands | Estate Farmlands |
| | High Cross Plateau, Village Farmlands | High Cross Plateau, Village Farmlands | NA | NA |
| Character Area 94 – Northamptonshire Vales and Leicestershire Vales | High Cross Plateau, Open Plateau | High Cross Plateau, Open Plateau | NA | NA |
| | High Cross Plateau, Village Farmlands | High Cross Plateau, Village Farmlands | NA | NA |
| | Industrial Arden | Mease Lowlands, Estate Farmlands | NA | NA |
| | | High Cross Plateau, Village Farmlands | NA | NA |
| Character Area 97 - Arden | Ancient Arden | Ancient Arden | Enclosed Commons | Galley Common Enclosed Commons |
| | | | Ancient Farmlands | Ancient Farmlands |
| | | Industrial Arden | Enclosed Commons | Enclosed Commons |
| | | | Ancient | Ancient |



| NATIONAL LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS | COUNTY LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS | LOCAL LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS | | |
|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Natural England Illustrated on Figure 5.1 | Warwickshire Landscape Guidelines, 1989 Illustrated on Figure 5.2 | Warwickshire Landscape Assessment of the Borough of Nuneaton and Bedworth, Sensitivity and Condition Survey, 2008 Illustrated on Figure 5.4 | Entec, Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council Landscape Character Assessment across Areas of Restraint, 2004 Illustrated on Figure 5.3 | |
| | | | <i>Landscape Character Types</i> | <i>Landscape Character Areas</i> |
| | | | Farmlands | Farmlands |
| | Arden Parklands | Arden Parklands | NA | NA |
| | | Industrial Arden | NA | NA |
| | Industrial Arden | Industrial Arden | Wooded Slopes | Caldecote Hill Wooded Slopes |
| | | | Pasture Farmland | Bedworth Woodlands Pasture Farmland |
| | | | Ancient Farmlands | Former Industrial |
| | | High Cross Plateau, Village Farmlands | NA | NA |

6.0 LANDSCAPE CONTEXT

- 6.1 This section addresses the physical factors which have an important influence on the landscape.

Geology¹

- 6.2 The 'solid' bedrock geology of the Borough is formed by the Warwickshire Coalfield, partly equating to the Warwickshire plateau. The Warwickshire Coalfield comprises relatively old rocks, running from Warwick in the south, through the centre of Nuneaton and Bedworth, to the Staffordshire border near Tamworth in the north. The surface geology is dominated by Upper Carboniferous mudstones and sandstones, roughly 300 million years old. A narrow strip of older rocks up to 600 million years old is along the eastern side of the coalfield from Bedworth to near Mancetter, it is known as the Nuneaton Inlier. The surface geology includes Precambrian volcanic rocks, Cambrian sandstones and shales of Ordovician intrusive igneous rocks.
- 6.3 On the northeast edge of the Borough is lowland terrain, known as Triassic Lowlands. The surface geology of this area is dominated by sedimentary rocks of Triassic age – sandstones overlain by considerable thicknesses of red mudstone. Triassic sandstones also occur patchily on the margins of the coalfield. These are roughly 200 to 250 million years old¹.
- 6.4 Drift deposits comprise unconsolidated sediments dating back several hundred thousand years to the middle part of the Pleistocene period. These deposits are widely distributed throughout the county. Older drift deposits are partly glacial in origin and include river gravels, finely bedded clays and tills. The younger drift deposits include deposits of sand and gravel along the modern valley sides.

Agriculture Land Classification

- 6.5 The majority of Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough is classified Grade 3 (good/moderate) agricultural land (illustrated in Figure 6.1). Large areas of land to the north, east and west of Nuneaton and Bedworth are also classified as Grade 3 agriculture land.
- 6.6 There is an area of Grade 2 (very good) agricultural land which borders the north of Weddington in Nuneaton. Sections of land to the east of Nuneaton, and to the east and west of Bulkington are also classified as Grade 2.
- 6.7 Land between Nuneaton and Bedworth, extending east and west of the A444, is classified as Grade 4 (poor) agricultural land. A smaller section of land to the east of Bedworth, extending from the Leisure Centre southwards to Hawkesbury is also classified Grade 4 agriculture land.

¹ Wallace, B (June 2010) Warwickshire Historic Landscape Characterisation Report. Warwickshire County Council.

6.8 The towns of Nuneaton and Bedworth are classified as urban land.

Landform

6.9 The Borough of Nuneaton and Bedworth generally comprises low-lying land to the east and higher elevations to the northwest (see Figure 6.2). The Landform is gently undulating throughout much of the east rising to gentle ridges and falling to broad shallow valleys. The lowest land is situated in the centre of Nuneaton. This area is generally between 85m-100m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD).

6.10 The higher elevations of approximately 160m AOD can be found west of Nuneaton, near Ansley. Landform comprises steeper undulations in the north of the Borough around Galley Common. At Hartshill, the ridge is a distinctive feature and provides a sharp contrast to more lower-lying farmland in the valley of the River Anker. Hartshill reaches an elevation of approximately 140m AOD, whereas the valley of the River Anker is approximately 90m AOD.

Hydrology

6.11 Nuneaton and Bedworth is influenced by the presence of Rivers and Brooks. The River Anker is one of the main Rivers flowing in a north-westerly direction through the Borough. The River Anker forms the boundary between the Borough of Nuneaton and Bedworth and the Borough of Rugby.

6.12 The River Sowe flows in an easterly, then southerly direction through the urban settlement of Bedworth before exiting the Borough by Rowley's Green.

6.13 Numerous smaller brooks flow through the Borough. The most prominent includes Wem Brook which flows northwards, south of Bulkington and to the east of Bedworth before joining the River Anker. Harrow Brook and Sketchley Brook join the River Anker from the east of the Borough. Breach Brook flows eastwards to join River Sowe in the west of the Borough.

6.14 The majority of areas surrounding the brooks are within flood plains (see Figure 6.3). Areas within Flood Plain Zone 2 have a medium probability of flooding (between 1 in 100 and 1 in 1000 annual probability of river flooding in any one year). Areas within Flood Plain Zone 3 have a high probability of flooding (1 in 100 or greater annual probability of river flooding in any one year).

Ecology and Biodiversity

Natural Areas

6.15 Natural England has identified Natural Areas covering the whole of England at a broad scale. These provide summaries of landscape character and broad flora and fauna variations across the country. The characteristics of these areas may manifest in distinctive landscapes although landscape is not the basis of their identification. Each Natural Area is unique and created through the interaction between natural and human influences. The Borough of Nuneaton and Bedworth

lies within 3 Natural Areas (the key features of the relevant areas are outlined in Appendix 1.0 and the areas are shown at Figure 6.4):

- Natural Area 33 – Trent Valley and Rises;
- Natural Area 43 – Midlands Plateau; and
- Natural Area 44 – Midland Clay Pastures.

Nature Conservation

Sites of Special Scientific Interest

6.16 In the study area there are two sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) (shown at Figure 6.5). These are designated under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 for their national importance for Nature Conservation. The SSSIs within the area include:

- Griff Hill Quarry (approximately 11ha) to the south of the B4133; and
- Ensor's Pool (approximately 3.6 ha) to the south west of Bermuda Industrial Estate.

Special Area of Conservation

6.17 SACs are protected sites designated under the EC Habitats Directive. The designation protects sites that make a significant contribution to the conservation of listed habitats and species within Annex I and II of the Directive (as amended). There is one Special area of Conservation (SAC) within Nuneaton and Bedworth (shown at Figure 6.5). Ensor's Pool (approximately 3.6ha) is to the south of Nuneaton, north of Bermuda Industrial Park. Ensor's Pool SAC is designated to protect white-clawed crayfish in its habitat of standing water.

Local Geological Sites

6.18 Local geological sites (LGS) are designated by locally developed criteria. They are important places for geology and geomorphology outside statutorily protected land such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The designation of LGS is one way of recognising and protecting important Earth science and landscape features for future generations to enjoy. There are 8 LGS within the Borough of Nuneaton and Bedworth (shown at Figure 6.5):

- Judkins Quarry;
- Stockingford Railway Cutting;
- Midland Quarry, Tuttle Hill;
- Griff Hollows;
- Griff No4 Quarry;
- Paul's Ford;
- Paul's Land Quarry; and
- Newdigate Colliery Mineral Railway Cutting.

Local Nature Reserves

6.19 There are three Local Nature Reserves (LNR) within the study area of NBBC (shown at Figure 6.5). These are designated under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 to preserve features of interest and to provide opportunities for further research and to encourage the public to appreciate nature. These sites represent easily accessible natural areas and are particularly beneficial for education. The LNRs in the Borough are:

- Galley Common (approximately 13ha);

- Bedworth Sloughs (approximately 5.5ha) to the south of the area in Bedworth Heath; and
- Ensor's Pool (approximately 6.5ha) to the south west of Bermuda Industrial Estate.

Local Wildlife Sites (LWS)

- 6.20 LWS are designated at the local level. The designation helps to conserve important and distinctive habitats and species on sites that fall outside of European or national conservation designations such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). There are 27 LWS and over 50 potential LWS within Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough (shown at Figure 6.5).

Archaeological and Cultural Heritage

Heritage (illustrated on Figure 6.6)

Scheduled Monuments

- 6.21 Scheduled Monuments are nationally designated and the site and its immediate landscape setting are included within this designation. Once designated sites must be preserved where possible in-situ and in good condition. Within the study area there are two scheduled monuments:
- The Benedictine Priory and Precinct of St Mary, in Nuneaton; and
 - Moated site of Exhall Hall to the south of Bedworth.

Listed Buildings

- 6.22 Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough has approximately 90 listed buildings of architectural, historical, or landscape interest which provide social, cultural and aesthetic history. These buildings are important in defining built form character in urban areas and in defining character and sense of place within rural villages. Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough also has 60 locally listed buildings. These are non-statutorily protected buildings of local historic or architectural significance to the borough.

Conservation Areas

- 6.23 Areas with high concentrations of listed buildings or where the collective built form contributes strongly to the character and heritage of a place are often designated as Conservation Areas. The designation of a Conservation Area is based upon the contribution of buildings; historic layout of roads, paths and boundaries; characteristic building and paving materials; a particular combination or style of building uses; public and private spaces, such as gardens, parks and greens; and trees and street furniture, which contribute to particular views to give a distinct character or street scene. Conservation Areas give broader protection than listed individual buildings: all the features, within the area, are recognised as integral parts of its character and are therefore protected.
- 6.24 Five Conservation Areas have been designated in the Borough:
- Nuneaton Town Centre;
 - Bedworth Town Centre;
 - Church Street, Bulkington;
 - Manor Court Road, Nuneaton; and
 - Hawkesbury Junction.

Registered Parks and Gardens

- 6.25 Since the 1980s there has been a national record of the historic parks and gardens which contribute to a rich and varied landscape. The Borough has two Registered Historic Park and Gardens, one at Arbury Hall (approximately 173ha) and the other at Bedworth Cemetery (approximately 3ha). It is believed that Arbury Hall is the only stately home in Britain to have a private system of canals running through the gardens.
- 6.26 Heritage features are important in providing local distinctiveness and a sense of place within both the urban and rural environment. However their value for defining landscape character does not necessarily reflect their archaeological importance. Figure 6.6 illustrates the archaeological designations in Nuneaton and Bedworth.

Landscape History

- Warwickshire Historic Landscape Characterisation Report (2010)*
- 6.27 Nuneaton and Bedworth is one of the most densely populated boroughs in the country. However, historically, the settlement element only makes up around a quarter of the total Historic Landscape Character types. The Warwickshire Historic Landscape Characterisation Report separates the Borough into Historic Landscape Character types including industrial, extractive, settlement, transport, civic and commercial, unimproved, woodland, water, horticulture, military and designed landscapes. These broad types are illustrated on Figure 6.7. Below is a summary of the categories provided within the Historic Landscape Characterisation report:

Industrial

The Borough's landscape has been highly influenced by the mining of coal. The industrial past has altered and shaped the Borough significantly especially in terms of coal mining and other extractive industry. Other historic industries include the Chilvers Coton pottery industry dating back to the medieval and post medieval periods once formed a large area to the south west of Nuneaton (Mayes and Scott 1984). The present industrial element of the Borough is relatively high at 5% of the Borough area compared to 2% for the whole of Warwickshire. Although most of the industrial areas are relatively new industrial estates such as Exhall Industrial Estate and Bermuda Business Park, they are often on the site of old coal mines and workings. The distribution of industrial areas in the Borough relates quite closely to the pattern of the railways.

Extractive

The greatest impact on the landscape of the Borough is the result of mineral extraction from both coal and hard rock. These have left their mark on the Borough with very large areas excavated and large mounds left nearby, 'Mount Judd' in particular dominates the skyline in the Borough.

Coal mining has taken place in the Borough from the medieval period onwards with some evidence of Roman exploitation. A string of coal

mines once existed running from south of Bedworth to northwest of Nuneaton following the Warwickshire coal seam (Grant 1982). No active coal mining remains in this area but the effect this has had on the landscape is obvious and has shaped the pattern of transport links, the settlement expansion of Nuneaton and Bedworth and the large amount of industrial areas. The coal mines brought industry and transport links to the area and they are still significant today including the Coventry Canal, the Ashby de la Zouche Canal and the large number of railway lines that pass through Nuneaton.

Present extraction sites are made up of two large areas of hard rock extraction (Judkins and Griff Quarries) almost 100 ha in extent. Some of the area near this extraction is being used as a waste tip while other areas have been filled and left to form scrub which explains the slightly larger than average amount of unimproved land in the Borough.

Settlement

There are four main historic cores, Nuneaton, Attleborough, Bedworth and Bulkington. The cores date back to the medieval period. A large part of Nuneaton has been redeveloped but what remains from the early 20th century settlement is mainly terraced housing towards the centre of the town that also stretches out towards the west and to the south. Other areas of terraced housing developed separately at Chilvers Coton and Hartshill. Semi-detached housing was created in the inter war or early 1950s period and is on the outskirts of the terraced housing. In the late 20th century this was all linked together, mostly with more modern terraced housing estates, to form the much larger settlement area of Nuneaton. Strips of detached housing were established along the roads at the very edge of Nuneaton. Finally, in the late 20th century mostly detached with some semi-detached housing expanded Nuneaton even further out to the suburbs of Whitestone, Horeston Grange, St Nicholas Park, Chilvers Coton and Camp Hill.

Modern terraced housing is found at Camp Hill, Stockingford and the Chilvers Coton area. Bedworth had a similar development to Nuneaton with terraced housing near the centre and stretching out from there, followed by mainly semi-detached inter war/early 1950s infill. Subsequent development has focused on the west and south linking Bedworth with Exhall and almost reaching to Coventry itself. Bulkington is a much later developed area. Some inter war or early 1950s strips of detached and semi-detached housing stretched out towards Nuneaton. Later modern estates developed around Bulkington's historic core, mainly semi-detached with some detached housing.

In terms of rural settlement there are a number of pre 1880s farmsteads scattered throughout the rural part of the Borough. A greater number of farmsteads are found on the western side of the Borough, with fewer in the east and north. One or two more modern farms are found on the edge of the Borough including the large

Bramcote Mains farm which appears to have diversified into a fishing and off-road activity centre.

There are a few country houses in the Borough including Arbury Hall, country house on the site of a medieval priory and still in its context of a large 18th century designed landscape. Exhall Hall has been subsumed and enclosed by Junction 3 of the M6. Hawksbury Hall has been influenced by coal mining and has scrub surrounding most of it.

Transport

Canals were established to transport coal to the rest of the country. The Oxford Canal, one of the earliest canals in the country designed to connect the Midlands with London via the River Thames, started here at Hawksbury Junction in the 1770s. The Coventry Canal followed this and was built in 1771. The Ashby de la Zouche Canal was then constructed in 1804 to link the Coventry Canal and the Ashby coal and lime extraction areas in Leicestershire. Small canal arms from the Coventry Canal that linked it to the coal mining areas still exist. Railways connected Nuneaton and Bedworth in the mid 19th century with links being made between major towns and cities in the Midlands particularly Coventry, Birmingham, Stafford and Rugby. Later, direct links were made between Nuneaton, Birmingham and Leicester. Some dismantled railways remain in the Borough; some are industrial branches to the old coalfields while others are railways that have closed. In terms of later 20th century transport, the M6 motorway passes through the southern part of the Borough with Junction 3 linking to the main communities.

Civic and Commercial

Most of the municipal and civic as well as commercial areas are found in the Nuneaton area with very little in Bedworth. The George Eliot Hospital is a large hospital at Nuneaton and there are a number of schools in Nuneaton and Bedworth. There is a fairly large commercial/retail area in the centre of Nuneaton redeveloping part of its historic core with others found on the southern and eastern edges.

Unimproved

Very little unimproved land is found in the Borough with most of the present areas being scrub growth on filled-in and undeveloped old extractive works. In terms of previous unimproved land there were some large areas of common in the north west of the Borough at Galley Common and in the south west at Bedworth Heath.

Woodland

The Borough area is sparsely wooded with less than half the county average, although some of the woodland coverage forms part of Arbury Park, a designed landscape which dominates as the largest park and garden in the Borough.

Water

The River Anker passes through Nuneaton heading northwest. A number of fishing lakes are found in the south and east of the Borough. Some artificial ponds and water features are found relating to the canals and extractive areas.

The patterns of fields making up the Borough form a varied mix of fieldscape types including irregular, planned and some very large post-war fields.

Horticulture

There is little horticulture in the Borough with no orchards recorded and just a small number of allotments scattered throughout the urban areas of Nuneaton, Bedworth and Bulkington.

Military

The only military site in the Borough is a small part of Gamecock Barracks at Bramcote which is the home of the 30th Signal Regiment. Gamecock Barracks is on the site of the Second World War RAF Bramcote training airfield. Most of the barrack site is within Rugby Borough.

Designed Landscapes

Designed landscapes are dominated by Arbury Park, which was at one time much larger and, in the medieval period, once formed part of a deer park. Smaller parks and gardens can be found scattered throughout the urban parts of the Borough with the Miners Welfare Park at Bedworth of some note. There are also three golf courses.'

7.0 NUNEATON & BEDWORTH BOROUGH LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS

7.1 This section provides the descriptions for the landscape character areas identified within Nuneaton and Bedworth. The landscape character areas identified are listed below and illustrated on Figure 7.1:

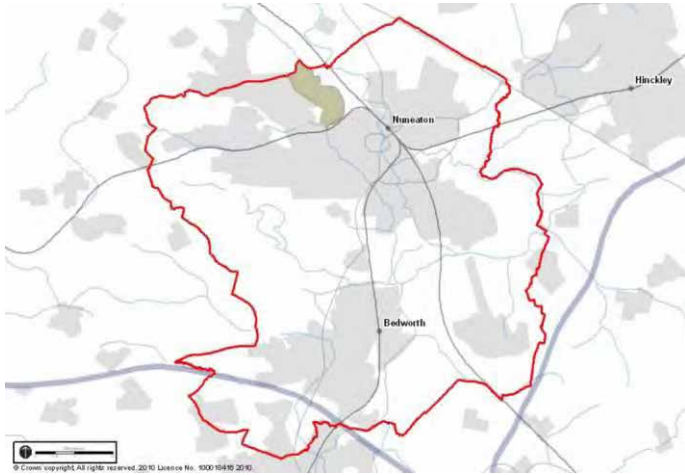
- **LCA1:** Hartshill Ridge;
- **LCA2:** Anker Valley Estate Farmlands;
- **LCA3:** Nuneaton Estate Farmlands;
- **LCA4:** Bulkington Rolling Farmland;
- **LCA5:** Bulkington Village Farmlands;
- **LCA6:** Nuneaton and Bedworth Urban Fringes;
- **LCA7:** Keresley Urban Fringe;
- **LCA8:** Keresley Newlands Ancient Arden;
- **LCA9:** Bedworth Woodlands Rural Fringe;
- **LCA10:** Arbury Parklands;
- **LCA11:** Galley Common Hills and Robinson's End Valley;
- **LCA12:** Galley Common Hills and Valleys; and
- **LCA13:** Whittleford Park and Bar Pool River Valley.

7.2 A landscape character area is an individual discrete area of landscape which falls into a landscape character type. Within this study landscape character types are taken to be the landscape character areas reported within the Warwickshire Landscape Guidelines. These are: Arden; Mease Lowlands and High Cross Plateau.

7.3 Each landscape character area description also reports a judgment of landscape quality which is based on strength of landscape character and landscape condition. These combine in a matrix to give a landscape strategy for each area which is based on conserving, enhancing, restoring or creating a sense of place. These judgments for each landscape character area are illustrated on Figure 7.2.



1. Hartshill Ridge



Key Characteristics

Landform and hydrology

- Prominent ridge extending north-west into and through North Warwickshire
- Distinctive upland landscape comprising Judkins Quarry and the steeply rising Caldecote Hill
- Man made cone shaped spoil mound known locally as Mount Jud, is a prominent feature adjacent to Judkins granite quarry
- Open arable farmland sloping down towards Coventry Canal
- The Coventry Canal and a small marina are features set lower than the surrounding land and are only visible locally

Land Use

- Quarrying and associated industry, open elevated arable farmland, and the Coventry Canal with recreational marina.

Landscape Features (Trees, grassland and woodland)

- Linear woodland along the Coventry Canal is a prominent feature
- Prominent woodland along the ridgeline around Judkins Quarry and across Caldecote Hill is identified as a nature reserve

Built Development

- Windmill on Windmill Hill within the grounds of a residential property enclosed by woodland and tree planting
- Isolated farm at Hill House close to marina
- Industrial buildings and infrastructure associated with Judkins Quarry

Views

- Long distance views are possible to the east across the Anker Valley towards Hinckley and Bosworth Borough
- Mount Jud forms a local landmark and is visually prominent particularly within views from much of the adjacent Anker Valley Estate Farmlands

Landscape Character

This area comprises the southern part of Hartshill Ridge which extends north-west into North Warwickshire. This distinctive upland landscape has been modified as a result of extensive quarrying of hard escarpment rock and the creation of a visually prominent cone shaped spoil mound, Mount Jud adjacent to Judkins Quarry.

Woodland is present as linear blocks along the Coventry Canal and is prominent along the ridgeline around Judkins Quarry and across Caldecote Hill.

Views comprise a quarried ridge line with woodland, with open arable farmland sloping down towards Coventry Canal with linear woodland. Mount Jud, the man made mound at Judkins Quarry, is a prominent feature and reminder of the landscape's industrial heritage in views from the wider landscape particularly from the Anker Valley in the east.



1. Hartshill Ridge

Quality and condition of the landscape

| | | | | |
|---------------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Landscape Condition | Good | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> | MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i> | GOOD <i>Conserve</i> |
| | Moderate | POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i> | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> | MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i> |
| | Poor | POOR <i>Restore/Create</i> | POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i> | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> |
| | | Weak | Moderate | Strong |
| | | Strength of Landscape Character | | |

Landscape Strength

This character area has a **MODERATE** strength of character. This upland landscape has a unique character that has been modified and heavily influenced by past industrial activity. Despite extensive quarrying and creation of man made mounds, this area has retained a sense of place albeit a modified one, and is identifiable from the wider landscape particularly from the Anker Valley. It is similar in character to the ridgeline adjacent to the borough however modifications have weakened this character slightly.

Landscape Condition

The landscape condition is considered to be **POOR**. Quarrying in this character area has degraded the condition of Hartshill Ridge, and whilst this prominent ridge remains intact otherwise, the quarry face is visible along a section of this ridge from the Anker Valley Estate Farmlands.

Capacity to accommodate change

This character area has experienced significant change over the years due to quarrying of the ridge rock. Additional change should be minimised and should aim to enhance the area's sense of place and distinctiveness by appropriately restoring the modified ridgeline and by interpreting the area's post industrial heritage for the benefit of the public.

This character area is a ridgeline which is visible in the wider landscape to the north east often providing a wooded backdrop in views. It is characterised by woodland and its industrial heritage. New development would need to ensure that it was not visible within the wider landscape.



View from footpath across farmland towards Coventry Canal

Landscape guidelines

Land Use

- Permit additional quarrying only where it does not result in any unacceptable effects on views or on the landscape and includes an appropriate restoration and management plan that enhances the distinctive character of this upland landscape

Landscape Features

- Retain and enhance the wooded and rural character of Coventry Canal encouraging new planting close to the industrial areas through taller hedgerows and linear woodland

Built Form

- Ensure built development is not visible on the ridgeline within the wider landscape
- Retain the defined settlement edge to Camp Hill along the B4114

Other development/structures in the landscape

- Retain views towards the man made colliery mound (Mount Jud) as a feature and landmark within the landscape
- Retain the rural character along lanes and footpaths ensuring longer views remain across farmland to the north
- Ensure any new recreational facilities include hedgerow, hedgerow tree and small woodland copse planting respect the field pattern to ensure integration and they do not urbanise the landscape

2. Anker Valley Estate Farmlands



Key Characteristics

Landform and hydrology

- Gently undulating lowland vale influenced by the River Anker which forms a very shallow valley
- Landform varies between 80 and 100m AOD gradually rising towards the north east along the A5
- Streams are frequent often flanked by narrow linear belts of riparian trees
- Occasional field ponds in larger fields notable by wooded boundaries

Land Use

- Rural fringe landscape of arable and pasture fields with frequent glimpses of urban edges
- Generally a rural landscape although busy roads such as the A5 and Weddington Road in combination with visible urban edges reduce the tranquil character
- Fields are medium and geometric reflecting later enclosure in the 18th and 19th century although older post-medieval enclosure is also present
- Pasture is concentrated around the settlement edge at Weddington where field pattern becomes slightly smaller
- Arable farming is more common away from settlement edges particularly in the north west and south eastern parts of the character area
- Fields are bounded by well maintained hedgerows of mixed species including hawthorn, blackthorn and in places some hazel and holly where field hedgerows are older and more established
- Ditches along field boundaries are common although often associated with hedgerows
- Frequent hedgerow trees often seen as clusters of three or four trees

Landscape Features (Trees, grassland and woodland)

- Linear woodland along the disused railway is prominent
- Pockets of woodland along the River Anker and linear woodland along other streams are features
- Marginal wetland vegetation is common along streams and ditches this includes small areas of meadow and alder and hawthorn scrub including recreational land at Weddington Meadows along the River Anker

Built Development

- Settlement edges and built form are frequent within this landscape however clusters of hedgerow trees and linear woodlands help to soften and break up the scale of built form in views
- Some continuous lines of development visible on 2 or 3 edges of farmland where hedgerows are lower and there are few hedgerow trees
- Larger urban areas are on slightly lower ground within Nuneaton which reduces the prominence of built form in the landscape
- Frequent isolated farmsteads throughout the landscape are linked by narrow hedged tracks. These are often on slightly higher ground than surrounding farmland
- The urban fringe around Weddington retains a village character with glimpses of the top of Weddington Church above trees and horticultural and agricultural buildings softening the edge of modern development
- Properties are a mixture of modern semi-detached properties with older early 20th century housing present as ribbon development along main roads
- There is no overriding building style or materials, although properties are a mix of red brick and painted render
- Roofs are generally constructed using recessive colours which helps to reduce the prominence of urban fringes
- Properties generally combine to form a uniform roofline of two storey properties. A slightly rising roofline is present along Higham Lane

2. Anker Valley Estate Farmlands

Views

- Hedgerows are generally neatly managed. They are taller around pasture fields at Weddington elsewhere they are low in height enabling long views across farmland
- Weddington Church forms a vista along Church Lane
- Views across farmland are often interspersed with linear woodlands, the most prominent being along the disused railway
- Man made mound at Judkins Quarry (within adjacent character area) forms a local landmark and is prominent within views across farmland from much of the character area
- From higher ground at the A5 there are long views towards Nuneaton of small clusters of uniform rooflines within Nuneaton. The presence of woodlands and trees breaks up this pattern creating an impression of a series of clusters of settlements rather than one large conurbation

Other features

- Roads are generally bordered by intact hedgerows and clusters of hedgerow trees

Landscape Character

This area is a gently undulating lowland vale comprising arable farming with pasture present closer to settlement fringes. The strong pattern of hedgerows and clusters of hedgerow trees in combination with linear woodlands helps to reinforce a rural character and break up and filter views of the frequent urban edges.

A medium and regular field pattern comprising primarily 18th and 19th century enclosure with pockets of post-medieval fields. Larger arable fields represent more modern enclosure formed through field expansion during post-war intensification of agriculture. Fields are bordered by a mix of hedgerows which are generally maintained to a low height. Hedgerow trees are present throughout the landscape often clustered in groups of three or four along a single hedge and along settlement fringes.

Woodland is present as linear blocks along the disused railway and watercourses and is a prominent feature in the landscape. A combination of lines of woodland creates enclosure and an impression of a higher woodland cover than actually exists.

Views comprise gently undulating arable and pasture farmland interspersed with hedgerow trees and linear belts of woodland. From higher ground along the A5 views are more extensive towards larger settlement edges. The presence of woodland and trees helps to soften and break up the scale of development. Development often appears as frequent clustered or nucleated settlements rather than a large conurbation. The man made mound 'Mount Jud' at Judkins Quarry is prominent in views towards the adjacent Hartshill Uplands character area and is a reminder of the area's industrial heritage.



View of pastoral farmland and Top Farm



View across farmland towards housing on the edge of Nuneaton



Weddington Church

2. Anker Valley Estate Farmlands

Quality and condition of the landscape

| | | | | |
|---------------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Landscape Condition | Good | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> | MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i> | GOOD <i>Conserve</i> |
| | Moderate | POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i> | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> | MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i> |
| | Poor | POOR <i>Restore/Create</i> | POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i> | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> |
| | | Weak | Moderate | Strong |

Strength of Landscape Character

Landscape Strength

This character area has a **MODERATE** strength of character. The features are generally consistent across the landscape and contribute to a sense of place of a gently undulating lowland arable landscape. The character of the landscape extends beyond the borough to the north.

Landscape Condition

The landscape condition is considered to be **MODERATE**. Features are generally well maintained and contribute to a positive visual impression within the landscape.



Capacity to accommodate change

This is a medium to large scale landscape which is typical of lowland agricultural vales close to settlement fringes. The key characteristics that need to be conserved include farmland contained by intact hedgerows and clusters of hedgerow trees, linear and copse woodlands and wooded streams. Built development is often visible, however the larger conurbation of Nuneaton is on slightly lower ground which, in combination with woodlands, wooded streams and trees helps to break up and soften the settlement edges often making them appear as clustered large villages rather than a wider single conurbation. Any change which made urban development more prominent would have a negative effect on the rural character.

The remainder of the landscape is rural with prominent linear woodlands. Urban edges are frequently visible although to the west around Weddington the land is more rural and retains a village edge appearance which would be adversely altered if development became more prominent in the landscape. Around Weddington there are views of Weddington Church which in combination with small-scale pasture fields creates an intimate village character with few urban influences. Elsewhere development borders two or three sides of farmland.

There is intervisibility between the settlement edge of Nuneaton around St Nicholas Park and Hinckley. Any new development, if not complemented with advanced and established planting, would be visible in the landscape and could reduce the sense of separation potentially resulting in the coalescence of the two settlements. This separation is already diminished as ribbon development along The Long Shoot extends up to the A5 to the edge of Hinckley. This creates the perception that the development is part of one settlement when travelling along this road and the A5 into Hinckley from the north.



2. Anker Valley Estate Farmlands

Landscape Guidelines

Landscape Features

- Enhance the pattern and concentrations of hedgerow trees throughout the landscape particularly close to settlement fringes
- Enhance and restore hedgerows through replanting with locally occurring species and re-laying where hedgerows have become over mature
- Allow some hedgerows to establish to greater heights to improve the wooded structure to the landscape, particularly close to settlement fringes and around pastoral fields
- Conserve existing hedgerows and hedgerow trees to reinforce field pattern within the landscape
- Enhance the wetland character along streams integrating and change with existing wetlands and woodlands
- Conserve and enhance linear and small copse woodland through management to ensure its longevity. Any replanting should use locally occurring species and encourage natural regeneration
- New woodland planting should reflect the scale and form of existing woodland and field pattern and include linear woodland along streams and the disused railway and small copses and coverts
- New woodland planting should use broad leaved species particularly oak, ash and some birch
- Enhance areas of wetland meadow and wetlands along stream edges through management and planting to reinforce the wetland character of the River Anker
- Enhance the character of wooded streams and rivers through appropriate management and planting of new riparian woodland although this should avoid areas of wetland and riverside meadows

Built Form

- Enhance settlement fringes and integrate settlement expansion into the landscape through appropriate planting of small-scale woodlands and trees to reduce their prominence
- Ensure any new development does not make urban edges more prominent within the landscape which would affect rural character
- Ensure that the distinction between Hinckley and Nuneaton is retained through ensuring intervening farmland remains
- Seek to reduce the intervisibility between Hinckley and Nuneaton through reinforcing woodland planting along the River Anker and railway
- Retain and enhance the rural village edge to Weddington through ensuring that development is filtered by woodland and trees and the views to Weddington Church are maintained
- Retain rural character of farmsteads through maintaining views of open space and farmland. Any new agricultural buildings should be sited, designed and complemented with landscape proposals to blend new elements into the landscape

Other development/structures in the landscape

- Enhance the wooded character of the disused railway retaining selected views out across the countryside through management of woodland vegetation
- Retain views towards 'Mount Jud' as a feature and landmark within the wider landscape
- Ensure any new recreational facilities include hedgerow, hedgerow tree and small woodland copse planting and respect the field pattern to integrate into the landscape and ensure they do not urbanise the landscape



View across farmland from The Long Shoot

3. Nuneaton Estate Farmlands



Key Characteristics

Landform and hydrology

- Broad and shallow river valley along the River Anker
- Landform varies between 80 and 90m AOD rising north and south of the River Anker. It reaches a high point of 100m AOD on the eastern edge of Whitestone
- Streams are frequent although often only notable by clusters of riparian trees
- Frequent small drainage ditches along field edges characterised by wetland plants and marginal wetlands
- Infrequent field ponds including a large pond south of Wheatcroft Farm are notable by scattered trees and young woodland on man made mounding

Land Use

- Rural fringe landscape of arable and pasture fields with frequent glimpses of urban edges
- Open often expansive character due to limited tree, woodland and hedgerow cover
- Fields are generally large and geometric reflecting later enclosure in the 18th and 19th century although the pattern is often weakened by fragmented hedgerows
- Fields are bounded by low, fragmented hedgerows of mixed species including hawthorn, blackthorn and in places some hazel and holly where field hedgerows are older
- Trees and hedgerows are generally more intact close to settlement edges providing a degree of enclosure and impression of woodland
- Infrequent hedgerow trees although the combination of trees within long views creates the impression of a higher tree cover
- Golf course and cemetery are well screened and integrated with farmland through wooded boundaries incorporating hedgerows and hedgerow trees

Landscape Features (Trees, grassland and woodland)

- There are few woodlands in the landscape. The largest comprise small copses close to the golf course and cemetery and linear woodland along former tracks close to the settlement fringe
- Pockets of linear woodland along the River Anker and other streams are features
- Marginal wetland vegetation is common along streams and ditches including small areas of meadow and alder and hawthorn scrub
- Hedgerows appear less frequently and are less intact around Hill Farm where land is also divided by ditches; most hedgerows present are remnants appearing as scrub or establishing trees

Built Development

- Settlement edges and built form are frequent within this landscape however clusters of hedgerow trees and occasional woodland help to soften and break up the scale of built form on the edge of Nuneaton
- Some continuous lines of development are visible on 2 or 3 edges of farmland where the edge is closer to large fields with low hedgerow boundaries
- Larger urban areas are on slightly lower ground within Nuneaton which reduces the prominence of built form within the landscape
- Frequent isolated farmsteads throughout the landscape are linked by narrow tracks. Properties are often on slightly higher ground than surrounding farmland
- Farmsteads comprise a red brick farm house and small brick barns or more modern metal barns which are more prominent within the landscape

3. Nuneaton Estate Farmlands

- Properties on the edge of Whitestone, north of Lutterworth Road are a mixture of modern detached properties
- There is no overriding building style or materials, although properties are predominantly a mix of red brick and painted render
- Roofs are generally constructed using recessive colours which helps to reduce the prominence of urban fringes
- Properties generally combine to form a uniform roofline of two storey properties
- The edge of Hinckley is prominent within the landscape comprising large light coloured warehousing and roofs of properties visible above intervening trees

Views

- Hedgerows are often fragmented and low in height which enables longer views across farmland
- Open landscape allows long views through fragmented hedgerows and between trees towards the urban edge of Hinckley including industrial estate warehouses. There is intervisibility between Nuneaton and Hinckley
- In places warehouse development at Hinckley and Attleborough Fields is visible above trees and woodland

Other features

- Overhead lines are prominent in farmland throughout this character area. In places the lack of vertical structures such as trees enhances the scale and prominence of these structures
- Roads are generally bordered by intact hedgerows and clusters of hedgerow trees
- Small tracks and bridleways enclosed by mature hedgerows and linear woodland

Landscape Character

This area is a gently undulating lowland vale comprising arable farming with pasture present closer to settlement fringes. The strong pattern of hedgerows and clusters of hedgerow trees in combination with linear woodlands helps to reinforce a rural character and break up and filter views of the frequent urban edges.

The field pattern is a medium to large regular size of primarily 18th and 19th century enclosure with pockets of post medieval fields. Larger arable fields are of more modern enclosure formed through field expansion during post war intensification of agriculture. Fields are bordered by a mix of hedgerows which are generally maintained to a low height. Hedgerow trees are present throughout the landscape often clustered in groups of three or four along a single hedge and along settlement fringes.

Woodland is present as small copses close to the golf course and cemetery and elsewhere as linear blocks along the River Anker and other watercourses.

Views are often over long distances. This is particularly notable where hedgerows are fragmented and the landscape is more open in character. Intervisibility between Nuneaton and Hinckley is possible.



Small drainage ditch along a field margin



Trees and hedgerows provide a degree of enclosure to the edge of Nuneaton

3. Nuneaton Estate Farmlands

Quality and condition of the landscape

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Landscape Condition | Good | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> | MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i> | GOOD <i>Conserve</i> |
| | Moderate | POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i> | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> | MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i> |
| | Poor | POOR <i>Restore/Create</i> | POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i> | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> |
| | | Weak | Moderate | Strong |
| Strength of Landscape Character | | | | |

Landscape Strength

This character area has a **WEAK** character. The features are generally consistent across the landscape and contribute to a sense of place. The landscape is similar to Anker Valley Estate Farmlands although has a more open character with longer views and less trees or woodland due to fragmentation of boundary features. Pockets of the landscape retain structure and more mature and intact features although these are present closer to urban fringes and the golf course.

Landscape Condition

The landscape condition is considered to be **POOR**. Features are often fragmented resulting in a more open and sparse character. Gradual loss of boundary features has a negative effect on condition of the landscape.



View across farmland towards Hinckley close to Hill Farm

Capacity to accommodate change

This is a medium to large-scale arable landscape in a broad river valley along the River Anker. The key characteristics that need to be restored and created include riparian woodland along streams and rivers; wetlands and meadows; hedgerow trees and remaining intact hedgerows. Positive change would include the restoration of fragmented hedgerows, planting of new woodlands and hedgerow trees and enhancement of the streams and River Anker.

Built development is always present and often visible. The larger conurbation of Nuneaton is on slightly lower ground which, in combination with wooded streams and trees, helps to soften the settlement edges. Any change which made urban development more prominent would have a negative effect on the rural character.

There is intervisibility between the settlement edge of Whitestone in Nuneaton and Hinckley. Although currently there is wide separation between settlements, the land is relatively open. New development, if not complemented with advanced and established tree and woodland planting, would be visible in the landscape and could reduce the sense of separation resulting in greater urban influence on the landscape.



View across farmland close to Wheatcroft Farm

3. Nuneaton Estate Farmlands

Landscape Guidelines

Landscape Features

- Enhance the pattern and concentrations of hedgerow trees throughout the landscape particularly close to settlement fringes
- Restore hedgerows through replanting with locally occurring species and re-laying where hedgerows have become over-mature
- Allow some hedgerows to establish to greater heights to improve the wooded structure in the landscape; particularly close to settlement fringes
- Conserve and enhance linear and small copse woodland through management to ensure its longevity any replanting should use locally occurring species and natural regeneration
- New woodland planting should reflect the scale and form of existing woodland and field pattern and include linear woodland along streams and the disused railway and small copses and coverts
- New woodland planting should use broad leaved species particularly oak, ash and some birch
- Enhance areas of wetland meadow and wetlands along streams and ditches through management and planting to reinforce this wetland characteristic
- Enhance the character of streams and rivers through appropriate management and planting of new riparian woodland although this should avoid areas of wetland and riverside meadows
- Restore areas of floodplain along the River Anker including a mosaic of flood meadows, reed beds and wet woodland

Built Form

- Enhance settlement fringes through planting of small scale woodlands and trees to reduce their prominence
- Seek to reduce intervisibility between Hinckley and Nuneaton through new woodland and wet woodland planting on settlement fringes
- Ensure built development does not become more prominent within the landscape through ensuring proposals are accompanied with detailed landscape proposals
- Retain an irregular edge to any new development at Whitestone in Nuneaton incorporating smaller recreational spaces which integrate with field pattern to retain the appearance of smaller settlements on the edge of Nuneaton

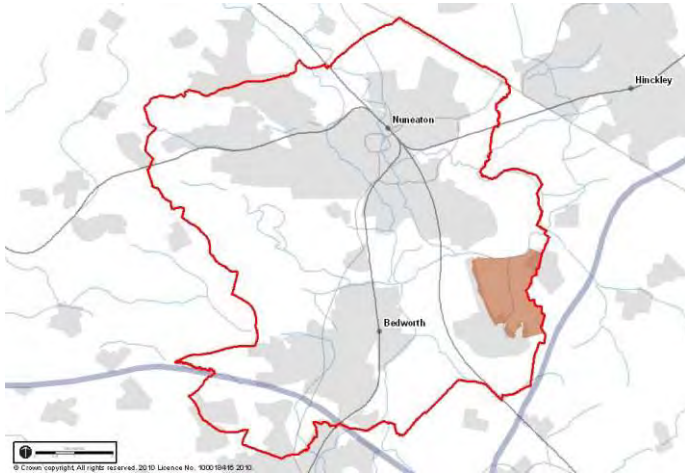
Other features/structures in the landscape

- Ensure the cemetery, golf course and any new recreational facilities retain wooded and hedgerow boundaries and integrate with the surrounding field pattern
- Retain hedged tracks and bridleways



View looking north across farmland close to Hill Farm

4. Bulkington Rolling Farmlands



Key Characteristics

Landform and hydrology

- Gently rolling landform created by a series of shallow river valleys leading to wide rolling ridges
- Landform varies between 95m to a high of 110m AOD
- Streams are localised features often notable by short belts of linear woodland or clusters of riparian trees. Pockets of wetland meadow are present along short sections of streams
- Occasional wooded field ponds close to Bulkington, often present along hedge lines and corners of fields
- Ashby de la Zouch Canal is in cutting and not visible within the landscape
- River Anker influences the drainage patterns within the landscape

Land Use

- Rural landscape, primarily arable farmland, with glimpses towards urban and village fringes
- Development of Gamecock Barracks has an influence on the landscape and has in places resulted in a large scale almost empty landscape on the eastern fringes of the character area
- Fields are large and regular in shape and size to the north and west becoming smaller and irregular close to the edge of Bulkington
- Primarily the field pattern is modern with fields enlarged post-war although close to Nuneaton Road there are pockets of post-medieval and 18th and 19th century enclosure
- Ridge and furrow present in localised areas
- Pasture is present close to Bulkington and around Weston Hill Farm which creates a more intimate character close to settlement edges becoming more open and expansive further away
- Fields are bounded by low hedgerows of variable condition with many fragmenting and large gaps often present. Field boundary hedges are generally in better condition where livestock is present
- Scattered hedgerow trees are a mix of oak and ash; in places field boundaries are only notable by a line of hedgerow trees
- Fencing is present where land is used for horse grazing, this is of variable styles and condition and can often provide a localised change in character
- Landscape Features (Trees, grassland and woodland)
- No woodland is present within this landscape which creates an open character
- Frequent hedgerow trees and tree groups along the edge of Bulkington, Ashby de la Zouch Canal and clumps along streams and around Bramcote (Gamecock Barracks) create an impression of a wooded horizon contrasting with the more open farmland
- Hedgerows are a mix of species although hawthorn and blackthorn are most common
- Trees become more frequent close to Bulkington where fields are smaller and hedgerows more mature which creates enclosure and provides screening to much of this fringe

Built Development

- Bulkington appears as a clustered rising roofline nestled within trees; the skyline is formed by a mix of buildings and trees
- An irregular outline to development interspersed with pasture fields creates an impression of a small village edge
- Linear ribbon development is frequent along roads and increases urban influences particularly where hedgerow trees are less frequent
- Separation between Bulkington and Nuneaton is reduced by ribbon development along Nuneaton Road

4. Bulkington Rolling Farmlands

- White caravans and mobile homes at Mill Farm Park are prominent within the landscape; although set with a wooded backdrop they appear to extend the edge of Nuneaton into the landscape
- There is no overriding architectural style to built form. It comprises a mix of post-war and modern semi-detached properties often set back from main roads within mature gardens
- Properties are primarily two storeys in height and constructed from red brick
There are a few scattered farms close to Nuneaton Road such as Weston Hill Farm. These typically comprise a red brick farm house and modern agricultural buildings and small horse paddocks
- Longer views to larger properties are possible around Ryton towards Gamecock Barracks at Bramcote. Buildings are set in a mature wooded setting

Views

- Open long views from high ground across undulating farmland with development present as clustered settlement or scattered properties
- Overhead lines are prominent in the landscape particularly within the northern part of the character area. A lack of tall structures and woodland mean they are prominent elements with towers frequently visible over long distances

Other features

- Few roads or tracks across the landscape due to a general lack of farm properties away from main roads (farmsteads border the edges of the character area)

Landscape Character

This area is a rural rolling open agricultural area with glimpses towards urban and village fringes. Low clipped hedgerows and infrequent hedgerow trees create an open character although the land becomes more intimate where field pattern is smaller close to urban fringes.

The field pattern is a mix of post-war 20th century enclosure which is typically large and associated with arable farming. Close to Weston Hill Farm and Bulkington the fields are smaller and typical of post medieval and 18th and 19th century enclosure. Fields are bordered by hedgerows of variable condition and where horse paddocks are present, fencing is common.

Although there is no woodland within this landscape views are often to wooded skylines. This impression is created through the cumulative effect of hedgerow trees in long views and groups of riparian trees along streams; Ashby de la Zouch Canal; around fields on the edge of Bulkington; and at Gamecock Barracks. Oak and ash are common hedgerow trees.

Long distance views are possible within this landscape across rolling farmland interspersed with hedgerow trees and clustered settlement edges. Urban influences are more apparent to the north and west of the character area. Views often include woodland on the skyline such as around Bramcote (Gamecock Barracks) and Bulkington.



4. Bulkington Rolling Farmlands

Quality and condition of the landscape

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Landscape Condition | Good | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> | MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i> | GOOD <i>Conserve</i> |
| | Moderate | POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i> | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> | MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i> |
| | Poor | POOR <i>Restore/Create</i> | POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i> | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> |
| | | Weak | Moderate | Strong |
| Strength of Landscape Character | | | | |

Landscape Strength

This character area has a **MODERATE** strength of character. The rolling arable farmland is consistent across the landscape with pasture present close to settlement fringes contributing to a rural farming character however the presence of built form with no overriding style or form reduces distinctiveness. It provides a transition from the wider 'Arden' character to the west towards the expansive landscape to the east of the borough.

Landscape Condition

The landscape condition is considered to be **POOR**. Features are often fragmented, hedgerows have large gaps and few are complete although around livestock fields and along roads they are in slightly better condition.



Open farmland with low often fragmented hedgerows with woodland on skyline

Capacity to accommodate change

This landscape retains a predominantly rural character. The presence of trees and smaller fields around Bulkington helps to retain a clustered appearance to the settlement and an intimate character to farmland immediately adjacent. The landscape has a simple pattern of rolling farmland with urban features generally restricted to the fringes. In places rural character is being eroded through gradual intrusion into the rural landscape of development on its fringes such as a caravan park and ribbon development.

Key features of this landscape to be enhanced include the pattern of hedgerows and scattered hedgerow trees with long views across rolling farmland to wooded skylines. It is important to retain the appearance of Bulkington as a small clustered rising settlement. The presence of small-scale fields on the edge of the settlement help to reinforce this setting. Change which reduced the prominence of built form would reinforce rural character. Other positive change includes reinforcing the wetland character along the River Anker through establishing and enhancing the wetland characteristics such as wetland meadows and riparian woodland along the river.

This landscape provides separation between Bulkington and Nuneaton although this sense of separation is reduced along Nuneaton Road through ribbon development with only a small break in development to the immediate north of Ashby de la Zouch Canal. Separation is maintained through views of farmland between ribbon development. This landscape is sensitive to change which would make urban edges more prominent and would reduce the separation currently experienced between Nuneaton and Bulkington. Any changes along urban fringes should conserve the existing mature landscape features such as hedgerows and hedgerow trees and include green infrastructure in the form of linear and clumps of woodland to ensure urban fringes retain a small clustered appearance and do not become more prominent within the landscape.

4. Bulkington Rolling Farmlands

Landscape Guidelines

Landscape Features

- Restore hedgerow pattern through planting new hedgerows and infill planting or hedge laying where hedgerows are becoming fragmented
- Retain areas of pasture and a small scale field pattern close to the edge of settlements including mature hedgerows and trees to soften built form appearance in the landscape
- Enhance riparian tree planting along streams; this should include a mosaic of riparian wetland meadow, trees and woodland and allow natural regeneration to create variety either side of the stream
- Restore areas of wetland meadow along edges of fields where they extend up to the edge of streams and seek opportunities for creating ponds, shallows and wetland meadows along these edges
- Enhance woodland through planting short linear belts following hedge lines or streams using appropriate local species including oak, ash, field maple and alder
- Retain the appearance of wooded skylines with limited built form punctuating them
- Enhance the pattern and distribution of hedgerow trees throughout the landscape through seeking opportunities for new planting
- Retain wooded field ponds throughout the landscape
- Conserve areas of ridge and furrow where present

Built Form

- Enhance the woodland structure around the edges of Mill Farm Park to reduce its prominence and reinforce rural character
- Retain and enhance the clustered rising roofline along the edge of Bulkington through retention of hedgerow trees and hedgerows
- Reinforce the sense of separation between Bulkington and Nuneaton through retaining views across open countryside between the two settlements
- Reinforce planting along the fringes of Bulkington and Nuneaton to reduce intervisibility between the two settlements
- Retain the wooded character around the edge of Bramcote and retain built form as relatively indistinct. Ensure where visible development is set within a mature woodland setting
- Conserve and enhance the impression of an irregular outline to the Bulkington ensuring any new development incorporates open space or fields on the edge of the development to integrate with the surrounding field pattern and conserves existing landscape features
- Conserve or restore small-scale field patterns along settlement edges with mature hedgerows and hedgerow trees to retain a soft edge to development
- Any new development should reflect and enhance the rural character of the landscape; any change or infill in rural locations away from settlement edges should reflect the appearance of farmsteads and incorporate tree planting around their fringes to reduce their scale and appearance
- New agricultural buildings should be carefully sited to ensure they are not prominent in the landscape and should be accompanied by hedgerow tree and small linear woodland copse planting to reduce their scale in the landscape.
- Where appropriate local materials should be used to reinforce local identity

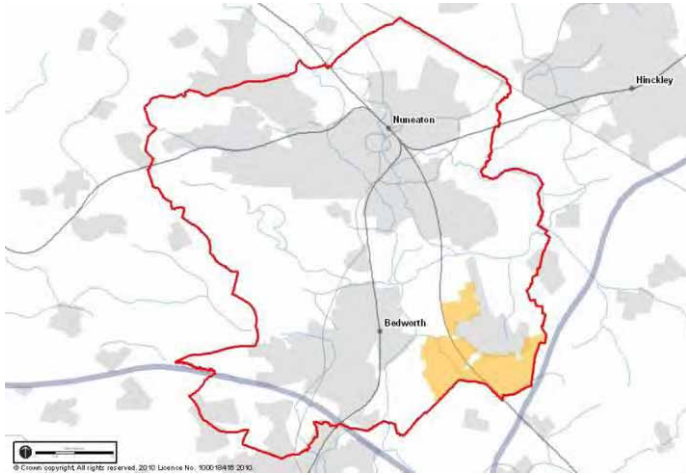
Other development/structures in the landscape

- Conserve and enhance the wooded setting of Ashby de la Zouch Canal
- Enhance the condition of roadside hedgerows through new and infill planting and new hedgerow trees
- Enhance and conserve hedgerows along bridleways, footpaths, farm and parish boundaries
- Conserve open views across the rolling landform through careful siting and management of woodland and tree cover



Rolling arable farmland with woodland at Gamecock Barracks visible on skyline

5. Bulkington Village Farmlands



View towards St James' Church in Bulkington

Key Characteristics

Landform and hydrology

- Flat to gently sloping landform around 95m to 100m AOD rising to a high point of 115m AOD around the centre of Bulkington
- Small streams form very shallow barely discernible valleys and have relatively little riverside trees or woodland
- Occasional field ponds often associated with open spaces or fisheries

Land Use

- Mix of arable and pasture farmland. Pasture is clustered around farmsteads such as Eastland Fields Farm and Camp Farm. Arable is common elsewhere
- Fields are irregular in shape and their size varies from small intimate fields on settlement fringes to medium-sized fields further away
- Field pattern is primarily 18th and 19th century enclosure with some post-medieval. To the north and east there is 20th century enclosure as a result of post war agricultural intensification
- Fields are bordered by low closely clipped hedgerows with scattered hedgerow trees. There are a few thicker and taller hedgerows present around paddocks and pasture fields creating a degree of enclosure
- Horse paddocks and associated sub-division of fields and stable yards are a feature close to settlement fringes often altering and diluting the field pattern
- Close to the edge of Bulkington land use also includes naturalistic open space at Barnacle Lane, allotments and a sewage works. These are generally well integrated with the surrounding field pattern
- Frequent hedgerow trees, including tree-lined mature hedgerows and groups of trees around smaller fields, create some enclosure
- Some pockets of land have less frequent hedgerow trees and a slightly more open character emphasised by larger fields and low hedgerows

Landscape Features (Trees, grassland and woodland)

- Woodland is relatively scarce in this landscape although there are copses around Weston in Arden, Weston Hall and Barnacle Lane open space
- A perceived wooded character to the landscape is created by a series of narrow wooded belts of trees along the railway; some streams and hedgerows combined with trees in gardens and settlement fringes

Built Development

- Bulkington is a large extended village with a small core of vernacular buildings along Church Lane and the church grounds (designated Conservation Area).
- The Conservation Area is characterised by red brick cottages and terraces with some displaying chequer patterning in the brick. A timber framed house is also a feature
- The centre of Bulkington includes 1960s flat roofed buildings with shops on the ground floor. Elsewhere development is primarily detached and semi-detached properties one or two storeys in height
- Bulkington appears as a large clustered rising village set within mature trees and woodland. In places it appears as a narrow linear band of properties. Landform and trees reduce the scale of the settlement in views
- Where modern development has fewer trees it is more prominent within the landscape
- Woodland is visible on the highest ground above Bulkington with St James' Parish Church surrounded by trees a prominent central landmark in the village on the highest ground

5. Bulkington Village Farmlands

- There are few distinctive approaches into Bulkington; ribbon development along roads creates the impression of the village extending further into the countryside than it actually does
- Roads, railway embankments and ribbon development partially isolate farmland within this character area
- Weston in Arden has a small pocket of distinctive buildings associated with Weston Hall. Vernacular includes red brick with detailing provided in stone around windows and within walls
- Properties along Mill Lane at Weston in Arden are bounded by red brick walls often with stone coping and prominent large gateposts with stone tops. Granite walls are also characteristic
- Farmsteads are interspersed within the view often with clusters of trees around their boundaries

Views

- Bulkington is on higher ground and is always prominent in views in this landscape although trees along the edge create a wooded setting integrating the village into the landscape
- Views to the south are characterised by long views across farmland to wooded high ground.
- Longer views are possible from high ground around Weston in Arden towards the edge of Nuneaton where warehouses and development are visible

Other features

- Roads are often bordered by low closely clipped hedgerows which allows views across the farmland
- Frequent hedgerow trees along roads
- There are relatively few tracks through the landscape but well worn footpath routes indicate the use of the land by local residents
- Wooded railway line provides enclosure and a wooded setting to the edge of Bulkington. It is on an embankment which often provides separation and enclosure between edges of the settlement and the wider countryside.

Landscape Character

This area is a semi-rural village fringe landscape comprising a mix of arable and pasture farming with views towards a rising village edge. The church spire is prominent on the highest ground. Frequent trees and linear woodlands help to provide enclosure although longer views towards urban edges of Bedworth and Nuneaton are possible from higher ground.

Fields are generally irregular in shape and vary in size. The field pattern is primarily 18th and 19th century enclosure with some post-medieval and more recent post-war enclosure. Fields are bordered by hedgerows which are primarily hawthorn although blackthorn is also common. Hedgerow trees are common features. Horse paddocks are a localised feature which has an influence on the pattern of the landscape.

Woodland is scarce in this landscape although frequent hedgerow trees and linear woodland along streams, the railway embankments and along the edge of Bulkington create a perceived wooded character to the landscape.

Views include expansive channelled views from high ground to the north of Weston in Arden to features along the urban edge such as Griff Quarry and warehouses on the edge of Nuneaton. Overhead lines are prominent here on high ground. Closer to Bulkington there are long views across farmland to the west towards linear wooded features. Views to the east are towards the rising edge of Bulkington set in woodland with woodland on the highest ground. St James' Parish Church is a landmark on the highest ground.



Open space at Barnacle Lane



Large gate posts and granite walls common around Weston in Arden

5. Bulkington Village Farmlands

Quality and condition of the landscape

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Landscape Condition | Good | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> | MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i> | GOOD <i>Conserve</i> |
| | Moderate | POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i> | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> | MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i> |
| | Poor | POOR <i>Restore/Create</i> | POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i> | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> |
| | | Weak | Moderate | Strong |
| Strength of Landscape Character | | | | |



Horse paddocks on village fringes

Landscape Strength

This character area has a **MODERATE** strength of character. The features are typical of village fringes containing a mix of land uses including horse paddocks which dilute the field pattern through sub division of fields. Around the fringe of Bulkington views of the church are distinctive but other features are relatively common place. The boundary hedgerows and scattered hedgerow trees combined with a rising village edge with the church prominent to the south of Bulkington and the built form around Weston in Arden are distinctive but localised features. The wooded railway embankments provide separation between land in this character area although the characteristics are similar and consistent with the settlement edge and wider countryside. The landscape pattern continues beyond the borough boundary to the east although the presence of larger villages and settlements in this landscape reduces the rural character within this land compared with the wider landscape.

Landscape Condition

The landscape condition is considered to be **MODERATE**. Features are often closely managed or left unmanaged and are becoming fragmented with the establishment of lines of mature hawthorns with gaps appearing at the base or scrub establishing within field margins.

Capacity to accommodate change

This is a typical rural fringe landscape with a regular pattern of small and medium fields bounded by often maturing or fragmenting hedgerows and frequent hedgerow trees. Key features to be enhanced include hedgerows and hedgerow trees; linear woodland along the railway and some streams; and trees and scrub along settlement fringes. Positive change could include management and restoration of hedgerows and enhancement of linear woodlands.

This area is sensitive to any changes which may reduce separation between Bulkington, Bedworth and Coventry. Landform around Hollyhurst Farm and Camp Farm helps to reduce intervisibility between settlements although along Coventry Road linear development partly reduces this separation. Any change along settlement edges would need to ensure that the separation between settlements is reinforced through retaining open views across countryside and ensuring any new development does not make urban edges more prominent in the wider landscape. Enhancement of the approaches into Bulkington along Coventry Road and Bedworth Road through landscaping, signage and development, reflecting the more distinctive vernacular of the centre of the village, could help reinforce village identity and separation from Bedworth and Coventry. The landscape along these roads is sensitive to any diversification of farmland which urbanises the landscape as it would reduce the perception of separation between settlements.

Change along the edges of Bulkington needs to ensure it respects the rising roofline of properties appearing as a linear band of development nestled within woodland with trees on the highest ground. It should also protect and enhance views towards St James' Parish Church. Elsewhere development should reflect the appearance of farmsteads. Agricultural buildings should be carefully sited to ensure they do not increase built development prominence in the landscape.



View across farmland from the edge of Bulkington

5. Bulkington Village Farmlands

Landscape Guidelines

Landscape Features

- Increase the frequency of hedgerow trees throughout the landscape concentrating on new tree planting around agricultural buildings, village fringes and roads
 - Restore hedgerow pattern through replacement planting and infilling where gaps are occurring. Where hedgerows are closely clipped encourage management to allow them to establish and become slightly thicker to prevent further decline in condition
 - Enhance wooded fringes of villages through planting new small woodland copses and linear woodlands integrating them with adjacent woodland
 - Enhance woodland through small scale woodland planting at field corners. These should be carefully sited to not obscure longer views particularly towards St James' Parish Church
 - New woodland planting should integrate and relate to the surrounding field pattern
 - Conserve field ponds and manage associated woodland and scrub around their fringes
 - Conserve and enhance the pattern of small and medium sized fields bounded by intact hedgerows
 - Enhance woodland around Weston Hall and Barnacle Lane open space through appropriate management to ensure their longevity
 - Enhance streams through allowing natural regeneration and planting of new willow and alder trees to reinforce enclosure and tree cover
- Encourage the planting of new hedgerow trees particularly where the land is slightly more open in character
- Encourage the use of hedgerows for horse paddocks, where fencing is required it should be sited close to existing hedgerows to ensure it does not dilute the field pattern

Built Form

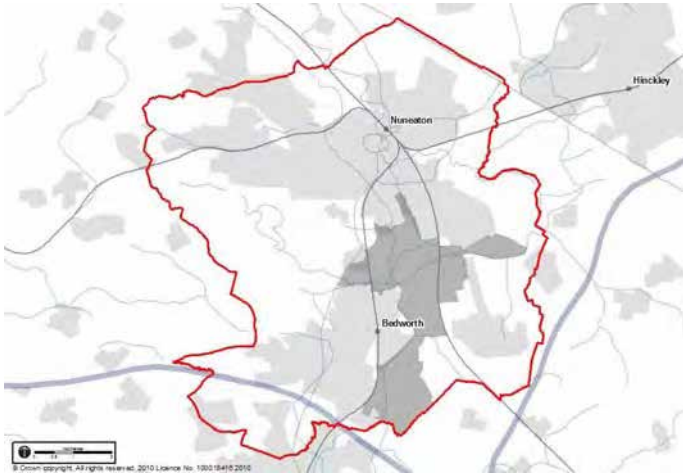
- Enhance the distinctiveness of the approach to Bulkington along Bedworth Lane and Coventry Road to enhance the sense of separation between settlements
- Retain and enhance views towards St James' Parish Church through careful siting and management of built form, woodland and trees
- Retain and enhance the appearance of Bulkington as a rising roofline through encouraging new planting and ensuring any infill development respects the scale and form of development on this edge of the village
- Any new development should be constructed using red brick with recessive roof tones to match development in Bulkington
- Conserve the distinctive character of Church Lane and Bulkington Conservation Area
- Conserve the distinctive character around Weston in Arden
- Around Weston in Arden any change or development should include red brick and stone boundary walls with stone coping and prominent stone gate posts
- Any infill development should be red brick and include stone detailing within walls and around windows to reflect the local vernacular

Other development/structures in the landscape

- Seek to reduce the prominence of the railway through augmenting existing woodland planting



6. Nuneaton and Bedworth Urban Fringes



Key Characteristics

Landform and hydrology

- Flat to very gently undulating land influenced by small brooks
- Man made mounding and land form are frequent reminders of the area's industrial mining and quarrying heritage
- Localised made landform around ponds eg Weston Lawns Farm and Hollyhurst Farm contrasts with the gently sloping landform
- Frequent small brooks and streams such as Wem Brook and Griff Brook
- Coventry Canal, Oxford Canal and Ashby de la Zouch Canal are key unifying features throughout the landscape often providing an edge to development
- Remnants of the former Arbury Canal system connection to Griff Quarry (Griff Arm) are evident in the landscape as small wooded waterways and streams
- Frequent large and small fishing ponds often clustered together and surrounded by areas of grassland, scrub and trees
- Wet woodland around streams is common

Land Use

- The land use is varied and typical of urban fringe landscapes including: golf courses; recreational areas; active and disused quarries; pasture and arable farming; and horse paddocks
- Frequent areas of restored land and active quarries reflect the industrial heritage of the landscape
- Land provides separation between Nuneaton, Bedworth although at Griff this is reduced to a narrow pocket of farmland between Coventry Road and A444
- Primarily an arable farmed landscape although pasture is present close to farmsteads particularly Marston Hall Farm and Hollyhurst Farm
- A medium to small-scale pattern of regular geometric fields although in the centre of the area and close to Nuneaton the pattern becomes slightly larger
- Enclosure is variable with post-medieval concentrated along Gipsy Lane and 18th and 19th century enclosure around Hawkesbury Hall Farm. Elsewhere the pattern is later post-war expansion through agricultural intensification
- Fields bounded by hedgerows although fences are often present around horse paddocks
- Low closely clipped hedges are frequent, these are of variable condition varying from intact hedges close to Hollyhurst where field pattern is most notable to fragmented sections of relic hedge and isolated trees in fields close to the edge of Nuneaton
- Hazel and holly is present in some older hedgerows although hawthorn and blackthorn are the most common species
- Frequent hedgerow trees often present as small groups or clusters and isolated trees in fields

Landscape Features (Trees, grassland and woodland)

- Large and small blocks of irregular shaped woodland; the largest is Sweet Laud's Wood
- Young woodland around Coalpit Field will become more prominent as it establishes
- Other woodland is linear in nature and concentrated around old quarries and collieries, along some of the brooks and canals and around Hawkesbury Hall
- Wooded narrow valleys close to settlement edges include Griff Brook
- Small irregular copses also present throughout contributing to an often enclosed character although the land is more open where fields are larger and field pattern more fragmented
- Frequent areas of semi-improved grassland sometimes associated with restored land, scrub, wetlands and fisheries
- Wetlands and meadows are features along canals, streams and around fishing ponds

6.Nuneaton and Bedworth Urban Fringes

• **Built Development**

- Urban edges are prominent and frequent within this landscape
- From high ground there are long views across expansive urban areas including residential development and warehouses
- Built development is often visible as a continuous line of buildings although in places landform and planting are successful in softening edges
- Coventry Canal forms a boundary to development on the edge of Bedworth
- Frequent large farmhouses and private residences often have extensive courtyard areas with many agricultural buildings. In places the edges appear untidy through variable condition of fencing and various materials and old machinery stored along their edges
- Built form is most distinctive along Marston Lane which retains a rural character with Marston Hall Farm comprising red brick agricultural buildings bordering the lane creating the impression of a small rural hamlet
- Stone (granite) rubble walls are features along Marston Lane
- Distinctive buildings are also present at Hawkesbury Junction including Greyhouse Inn, 18 Sutton Stop and an engine pump house. Some are red brick buildings and others are painted render
- Older properties display a chequer board pattern in brick work and have plain tile or slate roofs

Views

- Griff Quarry and warehouse development at Bedworth are prominent in long views from Coventry Road
- Views include both short distance channelled views along canals and open views towards urban development and farmland
- The Water Tower on Tower Road in Bedworth forms a prominent red brick landmark on the skyline
- Distinctive canalside views include Hawkesbury Junction (union of Coventry and Oxford Canals) and Marston Junction (union of Coventry Canal and Ashby de al Zouch Canal)
- Long views towards the man-made 'Mount Jud' at Judkins Quarry possible from the central part of the character area although the main centre of Nuneaton is predominantly screened
- Buildings within Griff Quarry on the edge of Nuneaton are visible and prominent above woodland

Other features

- Frequent reference in the landscape to its mining heritage through the presence of active and disused quarries, disturbed land, man made lakes and landform
- Overhead lines are prominent and always visible within the landscape. In the south they are particularly dominant where three lines run parallel
- Narrow twisting lanes in the centre of the character area retain a rural character although in places views of urban edges impinge
- Traffic movement is audible and a constant reminder of the proximity of the urban edge
- Rapid transition from the urban to rural landscape is often experienced along the canals which typically retain a peaceful and tranquil character
- Distinctive character around important canal junctions including hump back stone bridges including the Britannia Bridge

Landscape Character



Canals and bridges are a feature of the landscape

This area is an urban fringe landscape typically characterised by a mixture of land uses. Urban edges are often visible and in places prominent within the landscape. The canals are important features within the landscape and often provide a rapid transition from the urban to rural environment and form a unifying feature. Horse paddocks along the fringes, often surrounded by fencing rather than hedgerows, create an untidy character to the landscape.

Fields are generally small to medium in scale becoming larger closer to the southern edge of Nuneaton. Fields are a mix of post-medieval along Gipsy Lane and 18th and 19th century enclosure around Hawkesbury Hall Farm. Elsewhere the pattern is primarily post war expansion.

6.Nuneaton and Bedworth Urban Fringes

Landscape Character

Fields are bounded by hedgerows or fencing. Hedgerows are often fragmented although in the south of the area they are more intact reinforcing remnant field patterns similar to those present to the west of Bedworth representing the older 'Arden' character. However hedgerows are cut lower and there are less frequent hedgerow trees.

Woodland is present as small and large blocks of irregular woodland; and linear woodland along streams, brooks, canals, quarries, and railways which creates enclosure and a wooded character to parts of the landscape. Young woodland and establishing birch scrub are common around quarries.

Views always contain urban elements and throughout much of the landscape the edge is visible as a continuous edge although in places softened by landform or tree planting. Views along the canals are often enclosed and channelled by mature hedgerows with only glimpses out into the wider landscape or towards the urban edge. From higher ground there are longer views across warehouse development at Bedworth, Griff Quarry and housing at the south of Nuneaton.



View across farmland towards Sweet Laud's Wood



View towards Hawkesbury Junction Conservation Area



Waterways and man made mounding a reminder of the area's industrial heritage

| | | | | |
|---------------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Landscape Condition | Good | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> | MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i> | GOOD <i>Conserve</i> |
| | Moderate | POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i> | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> | MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i> |
| | Poor | POOR <i>Restore/Create</i> | POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i> | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> |
| | | Weak | Moderate | Strong |

Strength of Landscape Character

Quality and condition of the landscape

Landscape Strength

This character area has a **MODERATE** strength of character. The features are typical of an urban fringe landscape. The canals and particularly the important canal junctions such as Hawkesbury Junction Conservation Area are important in providing some local distinction relating to the industrial heritage of the landscape.

Landscape Condition

The landscape condition is considered to be **POOR**. Features are often fragmented or in a state of transition where the land is subject to quarrying. Hedgerows are generally relics and frequently fragmented except around Hollyhurst where they are more intact and reinforce field pattern. Condition is generally better along the canals where hedgerows form a continuous mature line of trees often restricting views.

6.Nuneaton and Bedworth Urban Fringes

Capacity to accommodate change

This is a typical urban fringe landscape where urban edges are almost always visible. Enclosure and some screening is created around man made landform of quarries, small and large woodlands and mature lines of trees along streams and railways.

Key features to be enhanced and restored include canals; wetland meadows; riparian tree planting; hedgerows; hedgerow trees; and woodland.

This landscape provides separation between Nuneaton and Bedworth although the separation between the settlements is particularly constrained along the A444 around Griff where new development at Bermuda Industrial Estate extends the edge of Nuneaton and only a narrow pocket of farmland remains. The separation is most important at this point and between Gipsy Lane and Marston Lane where there is a rural character. Griff Quarry mounding provides screening to development on the edge of Bedworth.

The land also provides separation between Bulkington, Bedworth and Coventry which is reinforced by views across farmland, although in places development is intervisible. Ribbon development along Bedworth Road and Coventry Road reduces separation between settlements when travelling along these roads.

The landscape is sensitive to any development which would reduce the sense of separation between settlements, further ribbon development or diversification of farmsteads which urbanises the landscape should be avoided to prevent the perception of joining the settlements along Bedworth Road and Coventry Road.

Infill and new development should seek to retain the enclosed character of the canals with intermittent views out over countryside, reinforce distinctiveness of entrances into settlements and include new planting and green infrastructure along settlement fringes to reduce their prominence. New woodland should integrate with surrounding woodlands and landscape features such as hedgerow trees and hedgerows to aid integration into the wider landscape. Landscape features should be retained and augmented within any new development.



6.Nuneaton and Bedworth Urban Fringes

Landscape Guidelines

Landscape Features

- Enhance restored land through maintaining a mosaic of grassland, woodland and wetlands
- Seek opportunities to restore the former Arbury Canal system
- Enhance the wetland character along rivers and low ground, seeking to establish flood meadows, wet woodland and reedbeds
- Enhance and restore field patterns particularly to the north of the character area where hedgerows are fragmenting
- Encourage the use of hedgerows rather than fencing around horse paddocks
- Enhance and extend areas of semi-natural grassland through appropriate management
- Increase the frequency of hedgerow trees through new tree planting and natural regeneration particularly of native oak
- Enhance the edges of disused and new quarries through new tree planting
- Enhance the wooded edges of the railway through new tree and woodland planting
- Encourage planting of new small to medium scale woodlands, reflecting the surrounding field patterns and shape and form of existing woodlands
- New planting should include a mix of oak and birch woodland species
- Enhance fisheries encouraging locally appropriate native wetland planting, discourage the use of ornamental planting where fisheries are present in more rural locations
- Enhance the field pattern along Marston Lane and replace fencing with native hedgerows and hedgerow trees
- Enhance river corridor links into settlement fringes particularly along Griff Brook and Wem Brook

Built Form

- Enhance the edges of farmsteads and improve their boundary appearance through localised hedgerow and tree planting to provide screening to storage areas
- Encourage new tree and woodland planting along urban fringes to reduce their prominence within the landscape
- Conserve and enhance the rural character of Marston Lane through discouraging modern development and expansion of agricultural buildings. Where new agricultural buildings are required they should be carefully sited to avoid visual intrusion and use red brick and have pitched roofs. Tree planting should be used to soften their form and scale
- Any new development along settlement fringes and bordering the canals should make a positive contribution to distinctiveness within each settlement
- Reinforce separation between Nuneaton and Bedworth particularly between Marston Lane and Gipsy Lane by reducing the prominence of urban fringes to reduce intervisibility
- Enhance gateways into Nuneaton and Bedworth through appropriate signage and new landscaping to reinforce distinctiveness
- Retain separation between Bulkington and Bedworth along Bedworth Road ensuring that the two settlement edges are not intervisible and retain views from the road across farmland
- Conserve the distinctive character of Hawkesbury Junction Conservation Area
- Encourage new development to include native hedgerows or stone rubble walls where development fronts onto lanes or roads
- Retain and reflect an irregular settlement pattern with edges dispersed with trees, woodland and pasture. Use open spaces to soften and break up settlement edges to help integrate them into the wider landscape

Other development/ structures in the landscape

- Retain the semi-rural enclosed character along roads and canals through retention and enhancement of hedgerows, hedgerow trees and woodland
- Retain the narrow winding character of lanes. Highway improvements should be carefully designed and implemented to avoid any urbanising effects
- Restoration of quarry sites should include woodlands, wetlands, grassland and meadows and should seek to reinforce and integrate with surrounding fields patterns
- Retain canal bridges as distinctive features within the landscape
- Enhance woodland along the railway



View across farmland from Marston Lane

7. Keresley Urban Fringe



View from Bowling Green Lane towards the River Sowe with the urban fringe of Exhall Hall Green beyond

Key Characteristics

Landform and hydrology

- Sloping landform along Breach Brook and the River Sowe
- Streams are notable in the landscape through riverside trees and scrub although the watercourses are rarely prominent
- Field ponds where present are generally surrounded by trees and scrub
- There are larger ponds and lakes formed following quarrying and mining around Grange Farm

Land Use

- Mixed landscape of arable farmland, pockets of pasture and recreational land often fragmented and isolated from the wider countryside by development and roads including the M6 and A444
- Field pattern is generally defined and influenced by roads and settlement fringes creating a variable size and shape to fields
- Fields are a mixture of post-medieval and planned enclosure during the 18th and 19th century
- Areas of new recreational land including grassland, woodland and ponds close to Prologis Park; wooded edges and grassland integrate with the surrounding field pattern
- Frequent recreational land including small playing fields on the edge of settlements. These are often similar in scale and integrate with the surrounding field pattern

Landscape Features (Trees, grassland and woodland)

- Woodland is present as linear belts and blocks associated with the M6 and A444 and as young woodland in open space adjacent to Prologis Park
- Although no other woodland is present a perception of higher tree cover is created through a combination of wooded streams and some mature tree lined hedgerows and woodland along major roads
- Hedgerows are of variable condition; those along roads tend to be maintained above 2m in height limit views. Within fields they are more variable and include intact to fragmented hedgerows of varying heights
- Frequent hedgerow trees, primarily oak with some ash, are present along hedgerows and in places within fields where hedgerows have been lost. To the south of School Lane a line of mature oak trees demarcate the field boundary although the hedgerow is no longer evident

Built Development

- Urban fringes are common within the landscape with built development always visible on at least two sides of farmland
- Built development tends to appear as linear bands along roads or as rising rooflines on higher ground
- There is no overriding vernacular style to built form which is primarily modern development including terraces, semi-detached properties and three storey flats
- Grange Farm is a distinctive red brick building with detail provided in contrasting brick colours
- Large warehouse development is often prominent above trees and woodland on the fringes of the character area
- Properties are generally constructed from red brick although modern development is more variable. Roofs are either grey, brown or red tiles
- The approach into Ash Green is the only approach which retains a partial village character due to the presence of a war memorial and a cluster of older properties on the junction of Church Lane and St Giles Road

7. Keresley Urban Fringe

- The distinctiveness of the majority of approaches into the different settlements is reduced by ribbon development along roads. Modern development on the edges of settlements is similar in each area and does not reinforce any local distinctiveness
- Exhall Hall and other moated sites are features of the landscape representing important 'Ancient Arden' characteristics of medieval development in the landscape

Views

- Views vary within this landscape and include: longer distance views from higher ground towards adjacent rooflines and warehouses; and enclosed views of farmland and some properties on lower ground and where fields are smaller in size and bordered by mature hedgerows
- Views along roads are generally restricted by roadside hedgerows, built form and woodland
- The Water Tower on Tower Road is prominent in views from Bowling Green Lane. It is a red brick tower visible above surrounding properties
- Views to the Parish Church of St Giles are generally screened by surrounding mature trees although the tower is prominent across farmland in views from the M6 and A44
- Ricoh Stadium and adjacent warehouse development are prominent in views from higher ground within this character area

Other features

- Roads and associated signage, bridges and lighting are common features
- The M6 is on lower ground with trees along its boundary; although not always visually prominent within the landscape, audible traffic movement along it is a constant reminder of its close proximity
- Smaller lanes are often bordered by linear development which limits the sense of separation between settlements
- Blackberry Lane is one of the only routes within the character area which retains a rural character despite its close proximity to a school and other development. It is lined by mature trees with views of farmsteads and smaller fields containing individual mature hawthorns
- Overhead lines are prominent within the landscape often visible on high ground across this character area
- Separation between Ash Green and Keresley Newlands is created along New Road through the winding character of the road and rural views across wooded farmland and little built form visible

Landscape Character

This area has an urban fringe character created through the mixture of land uses and the fragmentation and isolation of farmland as a result of roads and urban development. The use of land for horse paddocks and recreation and views of development creates a strong association with the urban environment.

The field pattern is variable although represents primarily post-medieval and 18th and 19th century enclosure. Many fields are small and irregular in shape close to streams becoming larger where arable farming takes place on higher ground. Fields are bordered by variable hedgerows and hedgerow trees.

Woodland is present as linear belts along the M6 and A444. Elsewhere a wooded character is created by mature trees along the Rive Sowe and Breach Brook and trees within mature hedgerows. Hedgerow trees and woodland are primarily oak.

Views always comprise development which includes warehouses, the Ricoh Stadium and residential development. Development is intervisible between settlements and in association with ribbon development often creates the impression of the land being surrounded by urban development rather than separate settlements. St Giles Church and the Water Tower are features within the landscape.



St Giles Church

7. Keresley Urban Fringe

Quality and condition of the landscape

| | | | | |
|---------------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Landscape Condition | Good | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> | MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i> | GOOD <i>Conserve</i> |
| | Moderate | POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i> | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> | MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i> |
| | Poor | POOR <i>Restore/Create</i> | POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i> | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> |
| | | Weak | Moderate | Strong |
| | | Strength of Landscape Character | | |

Landscape Strength

This character area has a **WEAK** character. The features are variable within each area of land. The main defining characteristic is the presence of urban edges along at least two sides of fields and long views of rising development and warehouses. Whilst this creates an urban fringe character, the features are common place and typical of other urban fringes across England.

Landscape Condition

The landscape condition is considered to be **POOR**. Fragmentation of features is common within the landscape with areas becoming over mature and in places the loss of field boundary features entirely. Hedgerow condition is better within recreational areas and along roads.



View from footpath close to St Giles Church towards the M6. Linear woodland is prominent along the motorway

Capacity to accommodate change

This is an urban fringe landscape characterised by farmland which is often fragmented or isolated from the wider countryside by urban development and roads. A well-treed landscape character is created through the combination of linear woodland along the M6 and A444, frequent hedgerow trees and wooded streams.

Any change should aim to create or reinforce a sense of place and distinctiveness whilst retaining and restoring features such as hedgerows, hedgerow trees, woodland and wooded streams through new green infrastructure and restoration of existing landscape features to reinforce character. New planting could help to reduce the prominence of urban fringes. Change which enhances the wetlands along streams and rivers could provide a positive connection between each pocket of farmland.

Land along New Road is important in retaining separation between Ash Green and Keresley Newlands. Any change would need to ensure that it retained distinction between settlements particularly Ash Green and Keresley Newlands along New Road.

Any new development should be set in a strong landscape framework which incorporates existing landscape structure where possible. Development would need to create distinctiveness between settlements; retain views towards St Giles Church; maintain the village character around the junction of Church Lane and St Giles Road; and retain the rural character along Blackberry Lane.



Blackberry Lane

7. Keresley Urban Fringe

Landscape Guidelines

Landscape Features

- Enhance the natural course of streams and rivers and enhance wetland margins through managing or establishing wetland meadows and riparian woodland
- Restore hedgerows within fields where they are fragmenting and conserve those still remaining
- Enhance tree cover through planting new hedgerow trees using native locally sourced oak
- Create new woodland to reflect the scale and form of existing woodland. New woodlands should be small and either along streams at field margins or along settlement fringes
- New woodland planting should use broad-leaved species particularly oak
- Any new hedgerow trees should be oak with smaller amounts of ash
- Conserve wooded field ponds
- Conserve and enhance wooded streams through the landscape by appropriate management and planting of new riparian woodland and trees
- Restore and enhance hedgerow pattern through planting new hedgerows using locally occurring species
- Restore and enhance the pattern of hedgerow trees (particularly oak trees) throughout the landscape through appropriate management and replacement

Built Form

- Enhance the character of settlements through reinforcing distinctiveness along their edges
- Enhance urban fringes through planting new trees and woodland to reduce their prominence
- Ensure development does not become more prominent within the wider landscape
- Site new buildings close to existing established groups of development and seek to avoid additional built form on skylines
- Built form should reflect more distinctive local vernacular including simple gabled roofs, low eaves, larger properties being broken down into 2 or 3 smaller interconnecting elements, chimney stacks and use plain tiles
- Retain and enhance the village character at Church Lane and St Giles Lane through maintaining the varied older built form; glimpses towards farmland and the prominence of the war memorial at the junction
- Retain and enhance views towards St Giles Church and the Water Tower through ensuring planting or new development enhance such views
- Retain views across wooded farmland either side of New Road to retain separation between Keresley Newlands and Ash Green

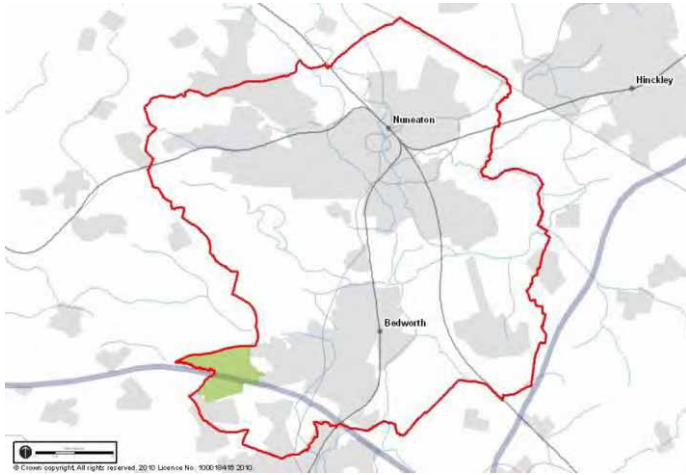
Other development/structures in the landscape

- Enhance roads through the area retaining a rural character through retaining thick and mature hedgerows and hedgerow trees
- Enhance linear woodland along roads within the character area to reduce the prominence of roads and associated infrastructure



View across farmland from the edge of housing along Goodyers End Lane

8. Keresley Newlands Ancient Arden



Typical view across pastoral farmland

Key Characteristics

Landform and hydrology

- Undulating landform towards Breach Brook river valley creates a sense of enclosure
- Breach Brook associated with linear woodland, wetlands and adjacent fishing ponds on low ground within the floodplain
- Frequent small streams throughout the character area bordered by mature trees
- Frequent wooded field ponds and ditches

Land Use

- Primarily a pastoral landscape of small fields with mature boundaries creating a rural character
- Rapid transition from the urban fringes to a rural landscape enhanced by landform and trees
- Small to medium sized fields of variable shape. The shape is often defined by streams
- Larger fields present to the south of the M6 and where land is used for arable farming
- Primarily field pattern is post-medieval and planned 18th and 19th century enclosure with longer linear field patterns with sinuous boundaries close to Breach Brook
- Fields are bounded by hedgerows which are generally intact and mature with frequent hedgerow trees
- Pockets of semi-improved grassland integrate with the pattern of pastoral fields
- Ditches border fields in the southern part of the character area although often also lined by hedgerows and hedgerow trees
- Wet marshy grassland associated with streams is common

Landscape Features (Trees, grassland and woodland)

- There is a large block of ancient woodland, Many Lands Wood, in the western part of the character area on sloping ground.
- There are linear blocks of woodland along the M6 and Breach Brook.
- A small copse is also present as part of public open space by Keresley Newlands
- Mature riparian woodland along streams contributes to a well wooded character
- Frequent mature hedgerow trees including both oak and ash
- Trees are also common in fields and contribute to the impression of a high concentration of trees and woodland within the character area and are remnants of older field patterns
- Grassland, scrub and wetland vegetation has established around fishing ponds

Built Development

- Built development tends to be well screened and often settlement edges are only visible across a single field
- Frequent large farmhouses with modern agricultural buildings surrounding them
- Individual farmsteads close to the urban fringe help to reinforce a rural village edge character
- Built form generally appears as small clusters or groups set within mature trees although close to the settlement edge development appears continuous filtered by trees and hedgerows
- Elsewhere the landscape typically contains clusters or individual properties set within woodland with a wooded skyline behind
- Properties are a mixture of individual farm houses and semi-detached houses along the urban fringe
- Properties display a range of styles with no one overriding another and are two storeys high

8. Keresley Newlands Ancient Arden

- Materials used in construction tend to comprise red brick and some painted render with a mix of both red and grey tile roofs. Where present red tile roofs increase the prominence of built development

Views

- Views are generally limited and enclosed by landform, trees and woodland
- Views on lower ground are typically only across two or three fields towards a wooded horizon
- On higher ground views are more extensive across a wooded river valley interspersed with large farmhouses and agricultural buildings often surrounded by trees. Woodland is visible on the horizon
- Warehouses at Prologis Park to the south of the character area are prominent on high ground above trees and properties from Hospital Lane. Where they appear in views they dilute the primarily rural character of the landscape

Other features

- Infrequent lanes and tracks, where present they are bordered by mature hedgerows and frequent hedgerow trees which helps to reinforce their rural character
- Rural character alters slightly along Hospital Lane where properties line one side; a partial rural character is retained through hedgerows and hedgerow trees bordering the opposite side of the road
- Overhead lines are prominent within the landscape, these are on higher ground and almost always visible
M6 is on low ground. Woodland along its fringes and landform around Newland House Farm help to screen traffic movement although traffic is audible within the landscape diminishing the experience of remoteness

Landscape Character

This area has a strong rural character with a rapid transition from the urban edge to the rural landscape. The rolling valley landform, woodland, frequent hedgerow trees and wooded streams help to reinforce this and often screen views of development. The land has a simple pattern of pastoral farmland which has a peaceful and rural character despite its close proximity to the M6 and settlements. The M6 is audible throughout the landscape reducing the remote tranquillity and providing physical separation between farmland in the character area.

The field pattern is mostly post-medieval and 18th and 19th century enclosure representing some of the older areas of enclosure within the borough. Fields are bordered by hedgerows which are generally in good condition although there is evidence of minor fragmentation particularly where land is used for arable farming. Where the land still contains livestock hedgerows are in better condition. They tend to be primarily hawthorn although blackthorn, holly and hazel are also common. Hedgerow trees are common throughout the landscape and are key features.

Woodland is infrequent within this landscape although its presence along the sides of the M6 and streams and frequent hedgerow trees creates a perceived woodland cover. The largest area of woodland is Many Lands Wood, an ancient woodland.

Views comprise undulating farmland with frequent wooded skylines. On lower ground the land is more enclosed with views over two or three fields often towards woodland. On higher ground views are more extensive across rolling farmland with frequent trees, linear woodland along streams and the M6 and small copses of woodland. Built form is often insignificant in the landscape although on high ground views to the south include warehouses at Prologis Park and a partially visible rising edge of Keresley Newlands which impinge upon the rural character slightly.



8. Keresley Newlands Ancient Arden

Quality and condition of the landscape

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Landscape Condition | Good | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> | MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i> | GOOD <i>Conserve</i> |
| | Moderate | POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i> | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> | MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i> |
| | Poor | POOR <i>Restore/Create</i> | POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i> | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> |
| | | Weak | Moderate | Strong |
| Strength of Landscape Character | | | | |

Landscape Strength

This character area has a **MODERATE** strength of character. The features are relatively uniform and consistent across the landscape. The pattern of pasture farming with frequent hedgerow trees and wooded streams creates a tranquil rural agricultural character which has a sense of place. This integrates with the historic 'Ancient Arden' character represented within the wider landscape beyond the borough to the west. This is particularly notable to the north of the M6.

Landscape Condition

The landscape condition is considered to be **GOOD**. Features are generally intact although around some arable fields hedgerows are becoming fragmented. Hedgerow trees are frequent and generally in good condition and contribute positively to the appearance of the character area.



View from Keresley Newlands across pastoral farmland

Capacity to accommodate change

This is a landscape which retains a rural and tranquil character despite its close proximity to the urban edge and M6. Key features to be conserved and enhanced are small-scale pasture fields with intact mature hedgerows and frequent hedgerow trees; wooded streams; field ponds; marshy grassland; linear belts of woodland; and blocks of ancient woodland.

It is important to ensure that development does not become more prominent within the landscape and where visible that it generally appears as individual properties or small clusters filtered by trees and small-scale woodlands. Away from the urban fringe properties should appear as clusters of farm buildings set within trees.

Change in this landscape which increases the prominence of built form or alters the primarily pastoral rural character would diminish the strong transition from the urban to rural environment and the rural character. Any new development would need to reflect the character of red brick farm house properties within the landscape. The presence of farmhouses and agricultural buildings on the edges of settlements should also be retained. As the land is in a valley, development would be visible on sloping ground potentially reducing separation. New woodland planting on settlement fringes could help to further reduce visibility and reinforce rural character.



Fishing ponds along Breach Brook

8. Keresley Newlands Ancient Arden

Landscape Guidelines

Landscape Features

- Conserve the natural course of streams and encourage a mosaic of wetland meadows, scrub and woodland
- Conserve and enhance the pattern, scale and form of woodland on sloping ground and along Breach Brook
- Conserve and enhance woodland through management to ensure its longevity any replanting should use locally occurring species and natural regeneration
- New woodland planting should reflect the scale and form of existing woodland. New woodlands should be small and either linear along streams and roads or small copses close to urban edges
- Encourage the establishment of carr woodland such as alder carr
- New woodland planting should use broad leaved species particularly oak
- Conserve the pattern and frequency of hedgerow trees ensuring their longevity through appropriate management
- New hedgerow trees should be oak with smaller amounts of ash
- Conserve the character and frequency of wooded field ponds
- Conserve and enhance wooded streams through the landscape through management of riparian planting
- Conserve the primarily wooded horizons interspersed with built form in views
- Enhance field boundaries through replanting of hedgerows where fragmenting particularly around arable fields and along roads
- Conserve hedgerows ensuring any new hedgerows follow field patterns and reflect locally occurring species
- Conserve areas of post medieval field patterns within the landscape
- Conserve the high concentration of pasture within the landscape, seeking to avoid the conversion of pasture to arable. Where this is unavoidable it should reflect the small scale field patterns and avoid loss of hedgerows and hedgerow margins to create larger fields
- Enhance the condition of hedgerows through management to retain wide, tall, thick hedges
- Conserve areas of semi-improved natural grassland

Built Form

- Conserve the rural character of the area ensuring that new development does not increase the prominence of built form within the landscape
- Enhance woodland within any new development to ensure that the edges are screened or limited to small clusters of properties reflecting the pattern of farmsteads and agricultural buildings
- Encourage the use of red brick within any new or infill development. The tone of brick should be consistent with that used for farmhouses throughout the landscape to reinforce distinctiveness
- Any properties visible in the landscape should appear as single farm houses associated with agricultural buildings rather than continuous lines of development

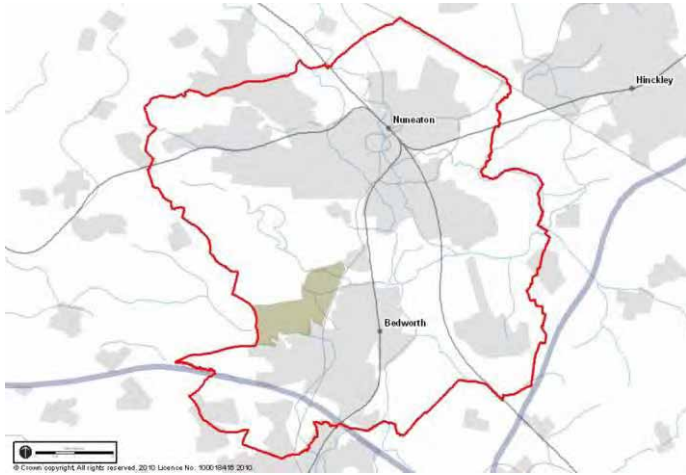
Other development/structures in the landscape

- Conserve the rural winding character of lanes bordered by thick hedgerows and frequent hedgerow trees. Highway improvements should be carefully designed and implemented to avoid any urbanising effects
- Encourage new planting along the M6
- Conserve the strong rapid transition from urban to rural landscape through maintaining farmland up to the edge of settlements and restricting change of use and urbanisation of the landscape through sub-division of fields or new recreational facilities. Where required this should integrate with the existing field patterns



Pastoral landscape of small fields with mature boundaries creates a rural character

9. Bedworth Woodlands Rural Fringe



Key Characteristics

Landform and hydrology

- Flat landform rising gently towards the north western corner of the character area
- River Sowe is present in the southern edge of the character area associated with small ponds, grassland and woodland in public open space
- Frequent smaller streams throughout the character area are often lined by mature trees
- There are wooded field ponds in this landscape although some shown on OS maps been taken over by scrub or have been filled in
- Remnants of the Arbury Canal (Griff Arm) within the landscape provide linkages between Arbury Hall and Griff Quarry (now Bermuda Industrial Estate) and Newdigate Colliery

Land Use

- Primarily a pastoral landscape frequently used as horse paddocks close to the edge of Bedworth Heath
- Areas of marshy grassland have established along field margins close to ponds and where the land is lower lying and waterlogged
- The field pattern is primarily a small scale regular pattern representative of 18th and 19th century planned enclosure; it is particularly evident close to Bedworth Lane and is a remnant of the historic ' Ancient Arden' character
- Towards the north of the character area the field pattern becomes more irregular and include post-medieval enclosure and post-war fields
- Fields are bounded by thick mature hedgerows often with lines of trees within the hedgerows. In places fields are almost entirely enclosed by boundary trees
- Ditches are present along many field margins, particularly to the north of Bedworth Lane these are characterised by rushes and hedgerows around smaller fields
- The southern part of the character area is a restored former colliery. The man made mounding with grassland and young establishing woodland interrupts with the surrounding flat land and small scale field pattern

Landscape Features (Trees, grassland and woodland)

- Woodland is relatively infrequent within this landscape; Colliery Wood in the north western corner is the most significant woodland
- Other woodlands are small copses integrating with the surrounding field pattern
There are large areas of linear new woodland around the boundaries of the former Newdigate Colliery linking into surrounding woodland
- Trees occur frequently in each hedgerow which reinforces a sense of enclosure within the landscape
- Hedgerows are often tall and thick and contain a mix of species
- There is a small orchard present in a larger property on the edge of Bedworth Heath

Built Development

- Built development comprises the edge of Bedworth Heath which is visible across adjacent fields as short rows of semi-detached and terraced properties
- Farmhouses are situated primarily along Bedworth Lane and short tracks off the road. They are generally a range of red brick properties with associated out buildings often in a modern style

9. Bedworth Woodlands Rural Fringe

- Individual farmsteads close to the urban fringe help to reinforce a rural village edge character
- Built form generally appears as small clusters or groups set within mature trees although close to the settlement edge development appears as continuous urban edges filtered by trees and hedgerows
- Elsewhere the landscape typically contains clusters or individual properties set within woodland within a wooded skyline
- Within the wider landscape there are few farmsteads dispersed along Bedworth Lane often surrounded by mature trees.
- Properties display a range of styles with no one overriding another. The majority are post 1955 with modern housing recently constructed on the edge of Bedworth Heath.
- Properties are generally two storeys
Materials used in construction tend to comprise red brick and painted render with a mix of both red and grey tile roofs

Views

- Views are generally restricted and enclosed by the small-scale field pattern bounded by mature hedgerows and trees.
- Public rights of way in the northern part of the character area allow slightly longer views, however these are towards woodland along the A444 with large warehouses visible above trees influence the rural character
- The urban edge is often visible as a continuous line of development in fields although groups of mature trees on field boundaries limit the influence to over a couple of adjacent fields
- The Water Tower on Tower Road is prominent above trees within views through the northern part of the character area

Landscape Character

This area is characterised by small-scale fields bordered by thick hedgerows and lines of mature trees. The land is similar to the adjacent Arbury Parklands although the parkland character is less pronounced. The land closest to the urban edge is often sub-divided for horse paddocks. The combination of stables and fencing of varying condition creates an urban fringe character to parts of this landscape. Although primarily rural the sound and occasional glimpse of traffic movement and views of warehouse development are reminders of the proximity of the urban edge of Bedworth and Nuneaton.

The field pattern is mostly post-medieval and 18th and 19th century enclosure representing some of the older areas of enclosure within the borough. This provides a reference to the older 'Arden' character, however the pattern breaks down around Newdigate Colliery which isolates farmland from the wider landscape to the west. Fields are small, regular and geometric contained by thick mature hedgerows with a high concentration of mature hedgerow trees. Fields become slightly larger to the north and south. Ditches are present closer to the A444 where the land is flat and poorly drained.

Woodland is infrequent within this landscape although Colliery Wood, small geometric copses, and larger woodland around Newdigate Colliery are features. The high proportion of wooded hedgerows around small fields creates an enclosed and wooded character to the landscape. Woodland is generally dominated by oak.

Views are generally enclosed by mature hedgerows and frequent hedgerow trees. This creates a strong sense of enclosure. Urban fringes are often visible but only the closest fields; elsewhere views are restricted by trees. There is some intervisibility between warehouses at Bermuda Industrial Estate and properties on the edge of Bedworth.



Built form visible as short rows of houses softened by tree planting



Young tree planting on the edge of Newdigate Colliery

9. Bedworth Woodlands Rural Fringe

Quality and condition of the landscape

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Landscape Condition | Good | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> | MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i> | GOOD <i>Conserve</i> |
| | Moderate | POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i> | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> | MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i> |
| | Poor | POOR <i>Restore/Create</i> | POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i> | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> |
| | | Weak | Moderate | Strong |
| Strength of Landscape Character | | | | |

Landscape Strength

This character area has a **MODERATE** character. The features are relatively uniform and consistent across the landscape. The pattern of small scale primarily pastoral farming with mature hedgerows and a high concentration of hedgerow trees are features representing the older rural landscape. However the character becomes diluted slightly where past mining has influenced the pattern of the landscape. This occurs particularly around the former colliery where the landform is man made and field pattern no longer evident. Dilution of character also occurs around the settlement fringes where land is used for horse paddocks and fences replace hedgerows as field boundaries and also in other places where field pattern becomes larger and more irregular in shape with fewer hedgerow trees.

Landscape Condition

The landscape condition is considered to be **MODERATE**. Features are generally intact although there is evidence of hedgerows around arable fields becoming fragmented. In places mature hedge lines along smaller fields show evidence of loss and some growing over-mature forming tree lines. Parts of the former Arbury Canal system are remnants in the landscape often appearing as wooded ditches or streams. Where paddocks are divided for horses this also has an influence on the character as stables, shelters and fencing are all of variable condition.



Bermuda Industrial Estate visible above trees

Small watercourses common

Capacity to accommodate change

This landscape retains a rural, enclosed and intimate character through a small-scale field pattern bordered by mature hedgerows and hedgerow trees. Rural roads are also lined by mature hedgerows and trees which reinforces the enclosed character. The area south of Bedworth Lane is a remnant of the older 'Ancient Arden' character although this pattern has been fragmented and altered through progressive development and Newdigate Colliery. Urban fringes are common within the landscape particularly in the south, however are often only locally visible due to filtering and screening by intervening hedgerow trees. Busy roads disrupt the rural and remote character.

Any change in this landscape would need to enhance the small-scale field pattern and retain the frequency and density of hedgerow trees and hedgerows. Woodlands, ditches and remaining wooded field ponds are also important features that need to be retained. Changes in land management which restored hedgerows and hedgerow trees, and the former Arbury Canals particularly in the northern part of the character area, could have a positive influence on the distinctiveness of the landscape.

The landscape is sensitive to any changes resulting in loss of boundary structure and field pattern which might affect the enclosed and intimate character of the landscape and which would increase the prominence of built development in views from public rights of way and roads. Any new development would need to ensure it respects the field pattern; retains existing landscape features; and includes new small-scale woodland copses integrating with field hedgerows to provide screening of settlement edges.

The land in the northern part of the character area provides important separation between Bedworth and Nuneaton; this separation is reduced along the A444 by the presence of large warehouses at Bermuda Industrial Estate which extends the edge of Nuneaton almost to the edge of Bedworth. In places there is intervisibility between the two.

9. Bedworth Woodlands Rural Fringe

Landscape Guidelines

Landscape Features

- Enhance woodland through management to ensure its longevity, any replanting should use locally occurring species and encourage natural regeneration
- Create new woodland. New woodland should be small, reflecting the scale and form of existing woodland and integrating with the small-scale field pattern
New woodland planting should use broad leaved species particularly oak
- Ensure the longevity of hedgerow trees through appropriate management
- Any new hedgerow trees should be oak with smaller amounts of ash and primarily be focused along hedgerows that have fewer or no hedgerow trees and along roads
- Enhance wooded field ponds through appropriate management to prevent their loss
- Enhance ditches through management to retain diversity of wetland species
- Enhance and restore former Arbury Canal particularly the Griff Arm
- Enhance field boundaries through replanting of hedgerows where they are fragmenting particularly around arable fields and underplanting or hedgelaying where hedgerows are over mature
- Enhance hedges through reduced management to 3 yearly regimes to enable them to grow thicker and taller, particularly in the northern part of the character area
- Conserve the small scale field patterns through restoring hedgerows integrating with the small scale field patterns using locally occurring species
- Hedgerow species should include a mix of hazel, holly, hawthorn and blackthorn to reflect surrounding hedgerows
- Conserve areas of post-medieval field patterns within the landscape
- Conserve and enhance the floodplain and wetlands along the River Sowe to the south of the character area
- Conserve and enhance the man made restored land around Newdigate
- Encourage natural regeneration within Newdigate Colliery to create a mix of grassland and woodland to integrate with surrounding wooded pastoral character whilst retaining the connection to the land's mining heritage

Built Form

- Conserve the rural character of the settlement fringe ensuring that new development does not increase the prominence of built form within the landscape
- Create new woodland within any new development to ensure that the edges are screened or limited to individual or small groups of properties
- Encourage the use of red brick within any new or infill development. The tone of brick should be consistent with that used for existing farmhouses throughout the landscape
- Development would need to respect the scale and form of surrounding development including semi-detached and terraced cottages
Enhance urban edges through tree planting to reduce their prominence within fields
- Conserve the separation between Nuneaton and Bedworth through retaining open farmland along the A444 and limiting the incidence of intervisibility between settlements

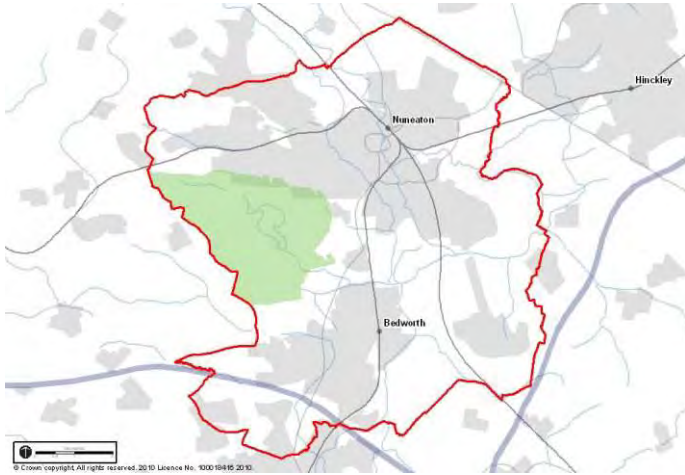
Other development/structures in the landscape

- Conserve the rural wooded character of roads and lanes throughout the character area. Highway improvements should be carefully designed and implemented to avoid any urbanising effects



Horse paddocks common on the fringes of Bedworth Heath

10. Arbury Parklands



Pastoral farmland with frequent woodland and hedgerow trees

Key Characteristics

Landform and hydrology

- Gently undulating land form which gradually rises to the north of the character area to the B4112 at Stockingford
- Frequent wooded streams throughout the landscape contribute to the gently undulating valleys through the landscape
- Remnant former interlinking canals (most notably Arbury Canal's Arbury Arm), often present but now appearing as wooded streams are a unique feature of the Arbury Estate. Canals provided a link from Seeswood Lake connecting former quarries and collieries with Coventry Canal
- Large areas of formal interconnected lakes and ponds within Arbury Park. The most prominent pond is Seeswood Pool bordering Astley Road.
- Additional frequent field ponds surrounded by scrub and woodland

Land Use

- Planned estate landscape strongly associated with Arbury Hall (Grade II* listed Park and Garden with cultural linkages to George Elliot)
- Rural and remote character of wooded farmland is generally experienced throughout the landscape due to limited built form. However this character changes towards the north and east of the area where urban edges are visible
- Mix of pasture and arable farming throughout the landscape. Pasture fields tend to be smaller and close to the urban fringes in the north and east of the character area
- The fields are a mixture of post-medieval and planned 18th and 19th century enclosure with large fields along Astley Lane created post-war
- Field are bordered by hedgerows and frequent hedgerow trees. Hedgerows are generally maintained to a low height although there are taller hedges along streams, ditches and roads
- Hedgerow trees within fields reinforce the parkland character
- Arable and pasture extend to the built edge of Nuneaton with no alteration or urbanisation of the fringe through land uses such as playing fields or horse paddocks
- Ensor Pool Special Area for Conservation and Local Nature Reserve comprises a large lake surrounded by woodland

Landscape Features (Trees, grassland and woodland)

- High degree of enclosure and a strong wooded character created by large geometric and irregular shaped woodlands and wooded streams
- Frequent large irregular ancient woodlands are prominent and distinctive features. Ancient woodland is present at See Wood; Spring Kitchen Wood; New Park Wood; Coventry Wood; Cowley Wood; Cattles Wood; Lees Wood and Gorstey Piece
- Mature woodland is typically oak-ash and oak-birch mixed woodland although in places such as along Astley Lane, lime is common
- Arbury Park has areas of grassland with mature specimen trees surround the Hall and lakes
- Frequent mature hedgerow trees are predominantly oak or ash; oaks often line roads
- Heathy land is evident along hedgerows where bracken is establishing

Built Development

- Built form is infrequent in the landscape and largely associated with the Arbury Estate.
- Arbury Hall is a large Elizabethan country house with later 'Gothic' style remodelling set in extensive parkland. The grounds are surrounded by mature woodland and the country house is not visible from the wider surrounding farmland

10. Arbury Parklands

- Frequent gatehouses and lodges in local stone along surrounding roads reinforce the parkland character in the agricultural landscape beyond Arbury Park
- Individual estate farmhouses are typically set within mature gardens and comprise a single large farmhouse and clusters of red brick farm buildings enclosing the main property. In places new metal agricultural buildings are present such as Cotton Lawn Farm which have an influence on the parkland estate character
Often only individual properties are visible set within a wooded backdrop
- Towards the northern fringes of the character area built development is more prominent in views where the edges of settlements are visible above hedgerows and trees and weaken the remote character of the landscape
- Built form on the northern and eastern fringes is seen as continuous lines of properties with limited tree or hedgerows to filter views
- Properties on the fringes of the character area are modern post war style comprising a range of brick and roof materials. There is no overriding or distinctive style to the properties
- Warehouse development is a large scale and prominent feature of the eastern edge of the character area around
- Bermuda Industrial Estate weakening the remote and rural character
- A large man-made mound covered with young woodland on the edge of new housing at Bermuda Business Park provides screening of new housing from the wider countryside

Views

- Views are generally enclosed by woodland and typically extend across one or two fields
- Views become more extensive around Cotton Lawn Farm towards the urban edge where there is slightly less woodland
- Views are characterised by a repeating simple pattern of arable and pastoral fields bordered by woodland
- Wooded horizons are features of views

Other features

- Frequent narrow winding lanes are bordered by mature hedgerows and avenues of mature oak trees contribute to the parkland character within the landscape
- Lanes are bordered by mature avenues of trees into Arbury Hall
- Frequent small farm access tracks are bordered by tall mature hedgerows and woodlands
- A wood pole overhead line is visible within fields on the southern edge of the character area although it is backgrounded by woodland which reduces its prominence

Landscape Character

This area is characterised by parkland of the Arbury Estate. Arable and pasture farmland are often enclosed by both mature hedgerows and frequent woodlands. Built form is generally screened by woodland although it becomes more visible in the northern and eastern edges of the character area.

The field pattern is irregular and includes a mixture of older field patterns dating from post-medieval to 18 and 19th century enclosures. Post-war fields which are much larger occur along Astley Lane. Where pasture is present field sizes are slightly smaller, particularly close to the edge of Nuneaton at Stockingford and along Bedworth Lane.

Frequent large irregularly shaped woodlands are features of this landscape and many are recorded as ancient. The woodlands are a mixture of oak, birch and ash although lime is common reflecting the ancient origins of the woodland. Wooded rides and avenues into Arbury Hall are also common along with frequent specimen trees and mature hedgerows. Hedgerows are variable and fragmenting in places particularly around arable fields. Other hedges, particularly along tracks and lanes, are thicker and taller. These are often more species-rich often reflecting similar species to those present in nearby woodlands. Along Astley Lane bracken is present within the hedgerows reflecting a past heathy character of the land.

Views are generally restricted by mature woodland and frequent hedgerow trees and often extend only across one or two fields towards a wooded horizon. The views become slightly more extensive close to the edge of Nuneaton where there are views toward Bermuda Industrial Estate and the urban fringe which weakens the remote and wooded character of the landscape. Along tracks and lanes views are generally channelled and enclosed by woodland.



Farmland enclosed by woodland

10. Arbury Parklands

Quality and condition of the landscape

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Landscape Condition | Good | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> | MODERATE GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i> | GOOD <i>Conserve</i> |
| | Moderate | POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i> | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> | MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i> |
| | Poor | POOR <i>Restore/Create</i> | POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i> | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> |
| | | Weak | Moderate | Strong |
| Strength of Landscape Character | | | | |



Prominent and distinctive gatehouses and lodges

Landscape Strength

This character area has a **STRONG** character. The simple pattern of woodland and farmland with a strong parkland character repeats throughout the landscape. This in combination with unique features such as the remnant canals and gatehouses combine to create a distinct 'sense of place'. This is also reinforced by specimen trees and frequent hedgerow trees. There is little built form which contributes to a remote and rural character. However close to the edges of Nuneaton this character is weakened slightly where larger extents of the urban edge are visible which reduces the remote and rural character and interrupts the wooded horizons.

Landscape Condition

The landscape condition is considered to be **GOOD**. Features are generally well maintained and intact. There is evidence of some loss of hedgerows which occurred post-war to enlarge fields for intensification of farming. Localised alteration and decline in field boundaries can be seen Bedworth Lane and in the eastern part of the character area close to the urban edge. Parkland features are generally intact and in good condition.

Capacity to accommodate change

Wooded parkland and infrequent built form are important characteristics within the landscape. The landscape has a simple and repeating pattern of parkland, farmland and woodland. Although field size varies, the unity is retained by intact hedgerows with frequent hedgerow trees and extensive woodland. Built form is generally limited to infrequent farmhouses and agricultural buildings often backgrounded by woodland. The remote character alter slightly in the north and particularly eastern edges of the character area where the urban fringe is visible as a continuous line of development with longer views towards warehouse development. This development interrupts the wooded horizons and increases the scale and prominence of built form within a primarily rural landscape.

Change within this landscape would need to ensure that it conserved and enhanced the rural and remote character. It would need to respect the parkland character and distinctive vernacular of brick and timber farmhouses and agricultural buildings, maintaining the prominence of gate houses and lodges along the surrounding small rural roads. Any change which did not retain and reinforce wooded horizons or that made urban edges more prominent would weaken the pattern and character of the landscape. It is important to retain the rural wooded farmland setting to Arbury Hall Park and Garden.

In the northern part of the character area change such as built development would increase the extent of development visible as the urban edge is currently on high ground which slopes to a small stream. It would be difficult to mitigate this without altering the appearance of development to a cluster of sloping rooflines. This would affect the rural and remote character introducing a greater scale of development in to the landscape.

In the eastern part of the character area urban edges are more prominent and change could help reinforce the wooded horizons and rural character. This could be achieved through comprehensive new native broadleaf woodland planting which follows streams and integrates with the scale, pattern and form of existing woodland and reduces and screens existing and new development from the wider landscape. A sharp transition between the urban edge and pasture or arable fields would need to be maintained. The setting of Arbury Hall would need to be maintained.

10. Arbury Parklands

Landscape Guidelines

Landscape Features

- Conserve the rural wooded setting of Arbury Hall Park and Garden
- Reinforce the parkland character through the landform, native parkland tree groups and areas of wood pasture
- Conserve the scale and form of woodland within the character area
- Conserve and enhance woodland through management to ensure its longevity
- Conserve the character of wooded field ponds and linear woodland along streams
- Conserve and seek opportunities to enhance and restore remnants of the Arbury Canal system throughout the landscape as a link between Arbury Park and former quarries and collieries
- Conserve the wooded horizons and lack of built form within views
- Conserve the areas of parkland surrounded by mature woodland along its fringes to maintain its separation from the wider countryside within views from Arbury Hall
- Conserve wooded field ponds
- Enhance the woodland cover along the edges of settlements to reduce built form prominence
- Conserve the naturalistic wooded character of lakes and ponds within the landscape
- Conserve and enhance hedgerows and hedgerow trees in the landscape
- Conserve areas of post-medieval field patterns in the landscape
- Conserve Ensor Pool and retain its wooded boundaries

Built Form

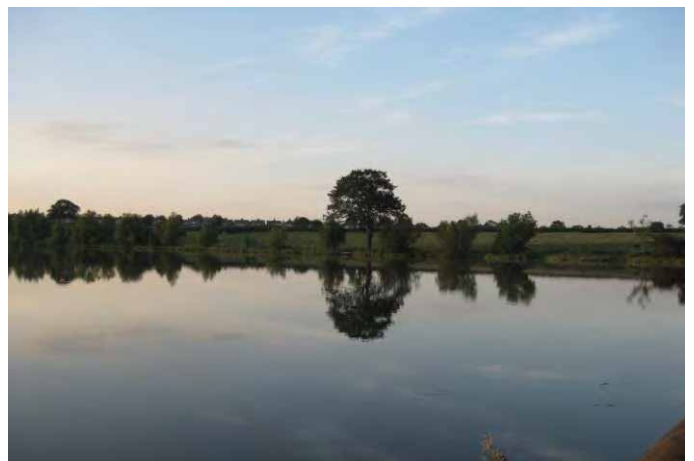
- Conserve the distinctive character of the gate houses set within mature woodland throughout the character area
- Conserve the rural character of the area ensuring that new development does not increase the prominence of built form in the landscape
- Enhance woodland within any new development to ensure that the edges are screened from the wider landscape to maintain wooded horizons. Woodland should link and integrate with existing woodland blocks
- Encourage the use of red brick within any new or infill development. The tone of brick should be consistent with those used in existing farmhouses throughout the landscape
- Any properties visible in the landscape should appear as single farmhouses associated with agricultural buildings rather than continuous lines of development
- New agricultural buildings should reflect the scale and form of surrounding buildings and use red brick with pitched roofs. Modern large scale buildings constructed of metal should be avoided, if unavoidable they should be sited to reduce their scale and include tree planting around their boundaries

Other development/structures in the landscape

- Conserve the rural character of tracks and lanes Highway improvements should be carefully designed and implemented to avoid any urbanising effects
- Conserve roadside trees which contribute to the wooded parkland character within the landscape
- Seek opportunities to reduce the visibility of large scale warehouses around Bermuda Industrial Estate through new woodland planting

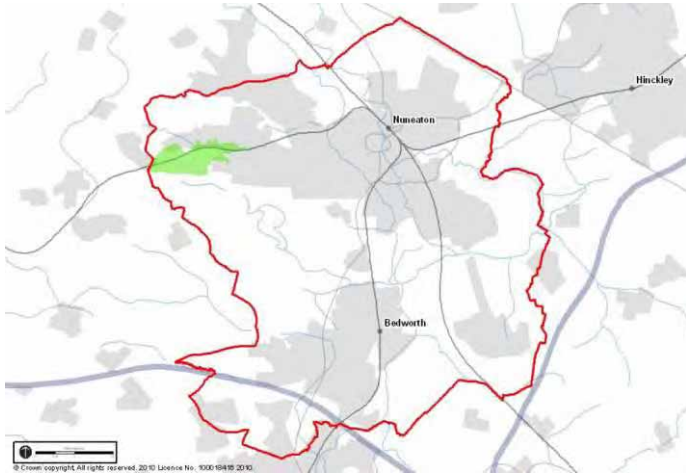


Remnant of the former Arbury Canal System



Seeswood Pool

11. Galley Common Hill and Robinson's End Valley



Key Characteristics

Landform and hydrology

- Incised valley associated with Galley Common brook. Land falls north-eastwards from Ansley Road and Robinson's End and rises again at Galley Common
- Man made hill is a reminder of the area's industrial past
- Whytell Pool and Meadows Local Wildlife Site along Galley Common brook
- Small stream and pond associated with King's Wood
- Frequent wooded field ponds

Land Use

- Simple landscape of large arable fields and smaller pasture fields close to individual properties
- Primarily large fields enlarged during post-war agricultural intensification although pockets of older post-medieval and planned 18th and 19th century enclosure are present
- A railway divides the character area and travels on an embankment near the valley bottom and through a tunnel in the west where the land rises
- Modern industry establishing on the edge of Galley Common adjacent to the man made hill and comprising white/grey metal and red brick buildings of varying scales and heights

Landscape Features (Trees, grassland and woodland)

- Dense woodland prominent at the valley bottom along a brook close to Galley Common and along the railway
- Woodland at King's Wood and near Ansley Road
- Whytell Pool and Meadows Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (Local Wildlife Site) accessible to Galley Common residents offering a recreational site with nature conservation interest

Built Development

- Housing on sloping ground is evident within the landscape however mature trees on the valley bottom and within housing areas break up and soften views of properties reducing the scale and prominence of houses within the landscape
- Properties on the south-facing valley side at Galley Common are predominantly detached 2 storey houses
- There is a mix of 2 storey properties on the north-facing valley side at Robinson's End including blocks of flats, rows of terraced properties and detached properties
- Properties display a range of styles with no one overriding another. Materials used in construction largely comprise red brick and some painted render with a mix of both red and grey tile roofs. Where present red tile roofs increase the prominence of built development
- Galley Common and Robinson's End in the east and Ansley in the west are separated by the man made hill and arable fields

Views

- Views largely extend across the valley; however some views extend north towards rising ground in the Galley Common Hills and Valleys Character Area and beyond
- Views extend across arable fields towards housing on the valley sides at Galley Common and at Robinson's End and Stockingford. Housing is partially visible limited to upper storeys and roof lines. Views of built development are broken up by mature tree planting through the housing area

11. Galley Common Hill and Robinson's End Valley

- Warehouse units are prominent partly screened from the south by mature tree planting along the railway. Surface car parking adjacent to these buildings is well screened by railway tree planting. Tree planting between warehouse units and adjacent housing assists with screening of this development.
- Views from Centenary Way extend across the valley from higher ground and are enclosed within small pastures defined by mature hedgerow
- On lower ground views are enclosed by woodland along the brook
- Properties on the east side of Ansley are partially visible from the B4112 and adjacent fields
- A man made hill screens views across the valley from Tunnel Road

Other features

- The Centenary Way travels through the character area from Arbury Park in the south
Park Lane falls with the landform from south to north and travels under the railway before rising towards housing at Galley Common
- A sports ground is visible locally on lower ground close to the railway bridge

Landscape Character

This area comprises a rural fringe valley with evidence of alteration predominately relating to a man made hill and modern industry establishing within the valley at Galley Common. Housing development on rising land to the north at Galley Common and south at Robinson's End is visible; however valley bottom woodland and mature trees throughout housing areas particularly in the north assist with integrating development into the landscape.

The field pattern is mostly large modern post-war arable farming although smaller pockets of older post-medieval and 18th and 19th century enclosure are present. Fields are bordered by hedgerows of variable condition. Around arable fields some hedgerows are fragmented and in decline whereas they are more intact around pasture fields. Hedgerow trees are present throughout the landscape, in places without hedgerows.

Woodland is a feature of this landscape predominantly found on lower ground along Galley Common brook. The combination of this woodland with hedgerow trees combines to create a perceived wooded character. A small block of woodland, Kings Wood, is classified as ancient woodland and is primarily oak-ash woodland species.

Views extend across the valley and comprise woodland predominantly on lower ground. Properties are visible on rising ground but are integrated into the valley landscape by mature trees. Views are more enclosed along the brook contained by Whytall Pool and Meadows Local Wildlife Site and mature trees along the railway. On higher ground some views extend north towards the Galley Common- Ancient Arden character area and beyond.



View from Park Lane across farmland towards housing at Galley Common

11. Galley Common Hill and Robinson's End Valley

Quality and condition of the landscape

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Landscape Condition | Good | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> | MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i> | GOOD <i>Conserve</i> |
| | Moderate | POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i> | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> | MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i> |
| | Poor | POOR <i>Restore/Create</i> | POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i> | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> |
| | | Weak | Moderate | Strong |
| Strength of Landscape Character | | | | |

Landscape Strength

This character area has a **MODERATE** strength of character. The area exhibits positive characteristics associated with the valley landform and woodland but shows some evidence of alteration due to the man made hill, construction of modern industrial warehouse units and residential properties along the hill side. The pattern of arable and pasture farming with hedgerow trees and a limited number of woodland blocks combine to create a rural agricultural character which has a sense of place.

Landscape Condition

The landscape condition is considered to be **MODERATE**. Features are generally intact although around some arable fields hedgerows are becoming fragmented and in places are absent. Condition of landscape features is good within the Local Nature Reserve.



Farmland close to Ansley Road



View from Nuthurst Heath Farm towards man made mound and housing in Galley Common

Capacity to accommodate change

This is a rural fringe valley landscape close to the urban edge. Key features that should be enhanced include Whytell Pool and Meadows Local Wildlife Site; valley woodland; and field hedgerows. It is also important to ensure that new development does not become prominent in the landscape and the separation between Robinson's End and Ansley is retained.

Any new development should be complemented with an appropriate landscape scheme that achieves low visibility in valley views and in the wider landscape. Development should reflect the character of a rising roofline with the bottom of the valley remaining primarily wooded. The positioning of properties below the highest ground also helps to reduce their prominence. Building styles and materials should reflect positive aspects of existing development to assist with integrating new built elements into the area.



Whytell Pool and Meadows Local Wildlife Site

11. Galley Common Hill and Robinson's End Valley

Landscape Guidelines

Landscape Features

- Conserve and enhance woodland through management to ensure its longevity. Any replanting should use locally occurring species and natural regeneration
- Any new woodland planting should reflect the scale and form of existing woodland. New woodlands should be small and either along streams at field margins
- New woodland planting should use broad leaved species particularly oak
- Any new hedgerow trees should be oak with smaller amounts of ash
- Conserve the character and frequency of wooded field ponds
- Conserve and enhance Whytell Pool and Meadows Local Wildlife Site along Galley Common Brook
- Conserve the wooded valley side interspersed with built form in views
- Enhance field boundaries through replanting of hedgerows
- Conserve and enhance hedgerows ensuring new hedgerows follow field pattern and reflect locally occurring species within surrounding hedgerows
- Conserve and enhance the pattern of hedgerow trees (particularly oak trees) through appropriate management and replacement
- Conserve areas of post-medieval field patterns

Built Form

- Retain the appearance of development on rising valley sites interspersed with areas of open space and woodland to break the scale and appearance in views
- Retain the wooded undeveloped character of the valley bottom
- Enhance woodland within any new development to ensure that the edges are screened or limited to small clusters of properties from the wider landscape
- Encourage the use of red brick within any new or infill development. The tone of brick should be consistent with that used for housing throughout the area
- Retain some farmland between Robinson's End and Ansley to retain separation between settlements
- Ensure development does not become more prominent within the wider landscape to the north and south by ensuring it avoids the highest ground

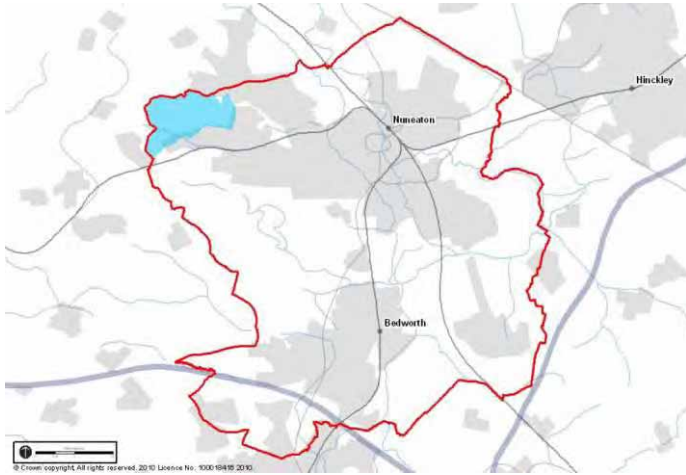
Other development/structures in the landscape

- Enhance existing recreational facilities and any new areas through hedgerow and woodland planting ensuring that they relate to the surrounding field pattern



View across arable fields towards warehouses and Galley Common. Man made mound prominent to the left of view.

12. Galley Common Hills and Valleys



Simple landscape of arable fields with woodland on high ground

Key Characteristics

Landform and hydrology

- Undulating landform of low rounded hills and incised valleys associated with small streams through the landscape creates variety and a sense of enclosure
- Small streams often associated with linear woodland or riverside trees
- Frequent wooded field ponds

Land Use

- Simple landscape of large arable fields and smaller pasture fields close to the urban edge around Galley Common
- Rapid transition from the urban fringes to a remote and rural landscape
- Medium to large sized fields of variable shape. Field shapes are often formed and defined by small streams
- Primarily large fields enlarged during post-war agricultural intensification although there are pockets of older post-medieval and planned 18th and 19th century enclosure towards the north of the character area to the south of Ansley
- Remnants of hedges in the form of individual lines of trees reflect the landscape's previous more ancient pattern
- Agriculture is mostly arable farming although pasture is present in the form of horse paddocks close to Galley
- Common and grazing to the east of Plough Hill Road where fields become smaller in size and show examples of earlier enclosure
- Fields are bounded by hedgerows which are generally low and of variable condition; in places hedgerows are no longer evident

Landscape Features (Trees, grassland and woodland)

- Woodland blocks are prominent on high ground within this landscape. They include Thornyfield Wood and Bret's Hall Wood (both ancient woodland)
Woodlands are often small geometric copses which follow and integrate with the surrounding field pattern
- Mature riparian woodland contributes to tree cover within the landscape
- Clumps of woodland at field corners together with wooded streams and hedgerow trees create an impression of higher wooded cover than actually exists. These woodlands and tree groups often screen or frame views of properties and urban fringes
- Hedgerow trees are present within some hedgerows particularly around smaller fields. They tend to be mature oak and some ash trees
- There are areas of scrub and mature hedgerows around Galley Common where land is used for horse grazing or has been left unmanaged. This contrasts slightly with the lower hedgerows and managed arable farming within the wider landscape

Built Development

- Urban fringes are common within the landscape but mature tree planting along streams and in gardens softens and filters views
- Built development tends to appear as short linear bands of properties on higher ground and smaller clusters on lower ground
- Individual farms close to the urban fringe help to reinforce a rural village edge character
- Buildings are often set just below the highest ground so only upper storeys are visible helping reduce their scale and prominence within the landscape
- Built form displays a varied roofline with the horizon often containing short groups or individual properties surrounded by trees

12. Galley Common Hills and Valleys

- Properties display a range of styles with no one overriding another. The majority are post-war and two storeys in height.
- Properties are a mixture of individual farmhouses, semi-detached and terraced housing along the urban fringe.
- Terraces reflect the area's mining heritage
- Materials used in construction tend to comprise red brick and some painted render with a mix of both red and grey tile roofs. Red tile roofs increase the prominence of built development
- The driving range to the east of Plough Hill Road alters the character slightly however mature trees along roads and streams help to reduce the golf course's prominence
- Although the urban edge forms part of the wider edge of Nuneaton the presence of farmland on both sides of Plough Hill Road in combination with landform helps to create a sense of separation between Galley Common and Plough Hill

Views

- Views are generally limited and enclosed by landform and mature woodland on high ground
- Views on lower ground are typically only across two or three fields towards a wooded horizon
- From public routes on the highest ground views become more extensive across undulating wooded farmland interspersed with small groups of housing
- The most extensive views across Galley Common are available along The Rookery, which is on slightly higher ground. Galley Common appears in these views as a cluster of uniform red tile roofs although it appears as a small settlement rather than part of a larger conurbation
- Galley Common Church, set on high ground with a wooded setting, is a feature within views from the wider countryside

Other features

- Infrequent lanes and tracks are features of the landscape. Main routes such as Plough Hill Road and Tunnel Road have a more urban character through the presence of pavements.
- Lanes such as The Rookery and School Lane are narrow tracks bordered by hedgerows which often restrict and channel views

Landscape Character

This area has a strong rural character with a rapid transition from the urban edge to the rural landscape. The rolling landform, woodland and wooded streams help to reinforce this rural character. The land has a simple pattern of farmland and woodland with views of individual and small clusters of properties.

The field pattern is mostly large modern post-war arable fields although smaller pockets of older post-medieval, 18th and 19th century enclosure are present around the fringes of settlements at Galley Common, Ansley and Nuneaton Common. Fields are bordered by hedgerows of variable condition. Around arable fields some hedgerows are fragmented and in decline whereas they are more intact around pasture fields.

Hedgerow trees are present throughout the landscape although clustered where streams form field edges and around pasture fields. Small clusters are present around field margins. Remnant hedgerows and trees in fields provide a link to a more ancient landscape, more evident outside the borough to the west.

This landscape is perceived as having a wooded character, although only a few woodlands are present. They are on high ground which increases their prominence and combine with wooded streams and clusters of hedgerow trees. Some woodland present is classified as ancient woodland and is primarily oak-ash woodland species.

Views comprise undulating farmland with woodland on high ground. Small clusters of properties are frequent but are well integrated with their rural surroundings. On lower ground views are enclosed and limited to across a few fields close to settlement edges. On higher ground views extend slightly further to adjacent undulating wooded farmland with glimpses of more distant built form.



Galley Common appears as a small cluster of housing

12. Galley Common Hills and Valleys

Quality and condition of the landscape

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Landscape Condition | Good | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> | MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i> | GOOD <i>Conserve</i> |
| | Moderate | POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i> | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> | MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i> |
| | Poor | POOR <i>Restore/Create</i> | POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i> | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> |
| | | Weak | Moderate | Strong |
| Strength of Landscape Character | | | | |

Landscape Strength

This character area has a **STRONG** character. The features are relatively uniform and consistent across the landscape. The pattern of arable and pasture farming with woodlands; hedgerow trees; wooded streams; and clusters of built form combine to create a rural agricultural character which has a sense of place relating to the Ancient Arden character reported in the previous Warwickshire Landscape Guidelines. Character alters slightly around Galley Common where land is sub-divided by wire and tape fences to create horse paddocks.

Landscape Condition

The landscape condition is considered to be **MODERATE**. Features are generally intact although around some arable fields hedgerows are becoming fragmented and in places are absent. Around pasture fields hedgerows tend to be intact and well managed. The field pattern is altering through some expansion and agricultural intensification although the former pattern remains through remnant boundary features. Sub-division of fields with fencing to create horse paddocks also has a localised influence on condition.



Capacity to accommodate change

This is a landscape which retains a strong rural and remote character despite its close proximity to the urban edge. Key features that should be conserved and enhanced include: the undulating landform of low rounded hills; woodland on high ground; wooded streams; and frequent hedgerow trees. It is also important to ensure that development does not become prominent within the landscape and where visible appears as individual properties or small clusters along a village edge.

Built development tends to appear as clusters of properties on lower ground and individual properties or linear ribbon development on higher ground such as Ansley and Ansley Common. The positioning of properties just below the highest ground also helps to reduce the prominence of development.

Change in this landscape which increased the prominence of built form would alter the strong transition from the urban to rural environment. Any new development would need to reflect the infrequent clusters of red brick farmhouse properties within the landscape and ensure it maintains a positive contribution to retaining distinction between settlements particularly Plough Hill and Galley Common. The presence of farmhouses and agricultural buildings and small-scale pasture on the edges of settlements should also be retained to sustain the impression of villages rather than a larger scale conurbation.

12. Galley Common Hills and Valleys

Landscape Guidelines

Landscape Features

- Conserve and enhance the pattern, scale and form of woodland on high ground within the character area
- Conserve and enhance woodland through management to ensure its longevity. Any replanting should use locally occurring species and encourage natural regeneration
- Any new woodland planting should reflect the scale and form of existing woodland and field pattern. New woodlands should be small and either along streams, at field margins or on higher ground
- New woodland planting should use broad leaved species particularly oak
- Any new hedgerow trees should be mainly oak with smaller amounts of ash
- Conserve the character and frequency of wooded field ponds
- Conserve and enhance wooded streams through the landscape
- Retain the natural course of streams and maintain river banks of wooded riparian vegetation
- Conserve the wooded horizons interspersed with built form in views
- Enhance field boundaries through replanting of hedgerows and ensuring where land is used for horses hedgerows are planted or maintained rather than replaced by timber or wire fences
- Conserve and enhance hedgerows ensuring new hedges follow field pattern and reflect locally occurring species within surrounding hedgerows
- Conserve and enhance the pattern of hedgerow trees (particularly oak trees) in the landscape through appropriate management and replacement
- Conserve areas of post-medieval field patterns within the landscape
- Conserve areas of pasture within the landscape
- Conserve the simple repeating pattern of arable and pasture fields interspersed with woodland. Any change in the landscape should respect this pattern

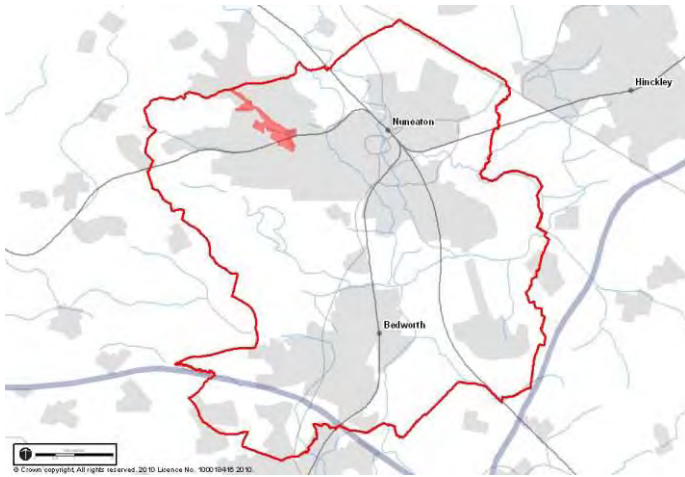
Built Form

- Conserve the rural character of the area ensuring that new development does not increase the prominence of built form within the landscape
- Enhance woodland within any new development to ensure that the edges are screened or appear as small clusters of properties
- Encourage the use of red brick within any new or infill development. The tone of brick should be consistent with that used for farmhouses throughout the landscape
- Any properties visible within the landscape should appear as loose clusters or single farm houses associated with agricultural buildings rather than continuous lines of development
- Retain farmland either side of Plough Hill Road to retain separation between Galley Common and Plough Hill
- Retain and enhance the rural character of properties along School Lane and The Rookery through retaining hedgerows and hedgerow trees and limiting any additional built form along these lanes
- Site new agricultural buildings carefully to reduce their prominence. Scale, form and materials should relate to those used in other buildings in the landscape to enhance distinctiveness
- Conversion of farm buildings should retain the distinctive character of the building such as retaining existing openings e.g. windows and doors and ensuring new openings are in scale. Retain hedgerows and hedgerow trees encouraging the planting of new native boundary features to retain the areas' rural character
- New farm buildings should extend existing groups and relate to the scale and form of surrounding buildings and incorporate tree planting. Reference should be made to local vernacular and reflect surrounding colours and seek to have pitched roofs. Avoid large warehouse 'type' agricultural buildings

Other development/structures in the landscape

- Conserve the rural winding character of tracks and lanes within the landscape. Highway improvements should be carefully designed and implemented to avoid any urbanising effects
- Enhance roads and tracks through maintaining hedgerows and hedgerow trees
- Conserve road side trees which contribute to the wooded farmland character within the landscape
- Conserve the strong rapid transition from urban to rural landscape through maintaining farmland up to the edge of the settlement and restricting change of use and urbanisation of the landscape through sub-division of fields and new recreational facilities
- Enhance existing recreational facilities and any new areas through hedgerow and woodland planting ensuring that they relate to the surrounding field pattern

13. Whittleford Park and Bar Pool River Valley



View across drainage basin in Whittleford Park

Key Characteristics

Landform and hydrology

- Narrow river valley extending through Nuneaton
- Generally flat valley floor rising sharply along the urban fringes on the edge of the character area
- Series of wetlands including pools, ponds, drainage basins and Bar Pool Brook are distinctive features
- Frequent wetlands and associated meadows

Land Use

- Landscape restored to naturalistic open space from former colliery and brick and tile works
- Landscape is currently in transition where housing is being demolished and new housing built on valley sides close to open space, work includes re-modelling of a drainage basin to increase water holding capacity
- Land is mostly naturalistic open space comprising woodlands, meadows, grassland and wetlands. There is a small play area close to new development on Queen Elizabeth Road
- Cemetery along Bucks Hill is surrounded by trees integrating with the woodland in open spaces
- Whittleford Park and Barpool Valley and Nuneaton Common are both designated as Local Wildlife Site

Landscape Features (Trees, grassland and woodland)

- Areas of mature woodland and linear woodland along Bar Pool Brook
- Wetlands including a range of aquatic species and areas of reed beds are common along pools and drainage basins
- Large areas of grassland and wildflower meadows interspersed with scrub
- Areas of young and establishing woodland

Built Development

- Former terraces on Queen Elizabeth Road are in the process of demolition and replacement with modern properties which are a mix of terraced, semi-detached, detached and town house properties of both two and three storeys height
- Urban fringes on sloping ground are common in the landscape. Open space and trees helps to break up the expanse of the urban edge in views to the south
- There are a mix of properties of various ages and styles with no one overriding another. Materials used in construction include red brick and painted render with a mix of red and grey tile roofs.
- Properties on valley sides with a rising roofline are common; properties extend onto the highest ground although in places woodland creates the impression of properties being set in woodland in the south of the character area

Views

- Channelled views along the river valley enclosed by woodland and properties on rising ground
- In places in open space, the urban edge is screened creating a sense of separation from the urban environment

13. Whittleford Park and Bar Pool River Valley

Landscape Character

This is a narrow river valley extending through Nuneaton comprising a series of open spaces associated with Bar Pool Brook and various wetlands and pools. The area is predominantly open space including Whittleford Park and Barpool Valley and Nuneaton Common which are both Local Wildlife Site. Whittleford Park is an area of restored land previously associated with coal mining, brick and tile works.

The landscape is a mosaic of woodland, wetlands and grassland. Wetland features are important in this landscape and include clay pools formed from clay extraction, drainage basins, some of which are being remodelled to improve holding capacity, Bar Pool Brook which meanders through woodland and areas of wetland and marshy ground.

Woodland extends along the watercourse and an extensive area of mature oak, birch and hazel woodland to the south of the character area is thought to be a remnant of Haunch Wood a once extensive woodland dating back to the 14th century. Other woodland includes naturally establishing native scrub and trees on the fringes of grassland, edges of housing and along the railway.

Urban edges are common and extend on valley sides; in places views of properties are filtered by trees. Views are channelled along the valleys across lakes and pools and in places are enclosed by woodland which creates a sense of separation from the urban environment.



New properties under construction at Queen Elizabeth Drive



Bank Strengthening works carried out along the wooded river valley

Quality and condition of the landscape

| | | | | |
|---------------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Landscape Condition | Good | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> | MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i> | GOOD <i>Conserve</i> |
| | Moderate | POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i> | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> | MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i> |
| | Poor | POOR <i>Restore/Create</i> | POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i> | MODERATE <i>Enhance</i> |
| | | Weak | Moderate | Strong |
| | | Strength of Landscape Character | | |

Landscape Strength

This character area has a **MODERATE** strength of character. The area has a distinct sense of place along the watercourses and within the woodland although in areas of grassland close to the urban edge the character is typical of many open spaces in the urban area.

Landscape Condition

The landscape condition is considered to be **MODERATE**. Features are generally intact and there is evidence of improvement works at Whittlefield Park to improve drainage and create new landscape features such as grassland, woodland and wetlands.

13. Whittleford Park and Bar Pool River Valley

Capacity to accommodate change

This is an urban fringe valley landscape providing an area of naturalistic open space close to residents which in places has a sense of seclusion and separation from the urban environment. Urban fringes are common although tend to be on rising ground on the valley sides extending onto the highest ground.

Change in this landscape would need to respect the character of a rising roofline with the valley remaining as open naturalistic land associated with wetlands and woodland. Change which altered this character would fragment the interconnecting open spaces and may in places reduce the sense of seclusion.

Any new development should be complemented by an appropriate landscape scheme including wetlands and woodland to integrate with existing landscape features. Building styles and materials should reflect positive aspects of existing development to assist with integrating new elements with existing properties.



Bar Pool Brook

Landscape Guidelines

Landscape Features

- Conserve and enhance woodland through management to ensure its longevity. Any replanting should use locally occurring species and natural regeneration
- Any new woodland planting should reflect the scale and form of existing woodland. New woodlands could be of various sizes and either along streams or on valley sides to soften the appearance of built development
- New woodland planting should use broad leaved species particularly oak, birch and hazel
- Enhance wetland areas through management of aquatic vegetation to maintain diversity and visual interest
- Seek opportunities to enhance the mosaic of wetlands, woodland and grasslands
- Conserve Whittleford Park and Barpool Valley and Nuneaton Common Local Wildlife Sites
- Conserve and enhance the wooded character of Bar Pool Brook
- Conserve the wooded character of the cemetery
- Conserve and enhance the naturalistic character of open spaces through appropriate management

Built Form

- Retain the appearance of development on rising valley sites interspersing development with areas of open space and woodland to break the scale and appearance in views
- Retain the undeveloped character of the valley bottom
- Enhance woodland within any new development to soften views of new development
- Encourage the use of red brick within any new or infill development. The tone of brick should be consistent with that used for housing throughout the area

Other development/structures in the landscape

- Enhance existing recreational facilities and any new areas through wildflower meadow and wetland creation and woodland planting ensuring that they relate to the surrounding field pattern

8.0 CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1 This study was undertaken to provide evidence to inform Nuneaton and Bedworth Council's Local Development Framework (LDF). It is also intended to help development control decisions on planning applications; to inform negotiations of planning obligations; and to guide actions on landscape enhancement where resources allow.
- 8.2 The desk-based aspect of the study analysed available GIS mapped data and published documents to establish landscape context and confirm draft landscape character areas. These were then verified through field study. The field survey enabled minor adjustments to be made to the character area boundaries. This was based on the analysis of aesthetic aspects and visual interaction between landscape features which are not evident from desk-based study.
- 8.3 A stakeholder workshop was held to gain stakeholders' views on landscape change and comments regarding the character areas defined, their boundaries and key characteristics. The information gathered during this exercise was incorporated into the report and landscape character descriptions.
- 8.4 Thirteen landscape character areas (LCAs) have been identified and are illustrated on Figure 7.1. LCAs are listed below, accompanied by relevant key characteristics within each area to be conserved, enhanced, restored or created.

LCA 1: Hartshill Ridge

ENHANCE and RESTORE – Emphasis should be placed on enhancing the area's sense of place and distinctiveness by appropriately restoring the modified ridgeline and by interpreting the area's post industrial heritage for the benefit of the public.

LCA 2: Anker Valley Estate Farmlands

ENHANCE – Emphasis should be placed on conserving farmland contained by intact hedgerows and clusters of hedgerow trees; linear and copse woodlands and wooded streams; settlement edges appearing as clustered large villages rather than a wider single conurbation. Any change which made urban development more prominent would have a negative effect on the rural character.

LCA 3: Nuneaton Estate Farmlands

RESTORE and CREATE – Emphasis should be placed on enhancing and restoring aspects of the landscape including riparian woodland along streams and rivers; wetlands and meadows; hedgerow trees and remaining intact hedgerows. Positive change would include the restoration of fragmented hedgerows, planting of new woodlands and hedgerow trees and enhancement of the streams and River Anker. Retaining separation between Nuneaton and Hinckley is also important.

LCA 4: Bulkington Rolling Farmland

ENHANCE and RESTORE – Emphasis should be placed on enhancing the pattern of hedgerows and scattered hedgerow trees with long views across rolling farmland to wooded skylines. It is important to retain the appearance of Bulkington as a small clustered rising settlement. Change which reduces the prominence of built form would reinforce rural character. Other positive change would include reinforcing the wetland character along the River Anker through establishing and

enhancing characteristics such as wetland meadows and riparian woodland along the river.

LCA 5: Bulkington Village Farmlands

ENHANCE – Emphasis should be placed on landscape enhancement including hedgerows and hedgerow trees, linear woodland along the railway and some streams and trees and scrub along settlement fringes. Positive change could include management and restoration of hedgerows and enhancement of linear woodlands. This area is sensitive to any changes which may reduce separation between Bulkington, Bedworth and Coventry.

LCA 6: Nuneaton and Bedworth Urban Fringes

ENHANCE and RESTORE – Emphasis should be placed on enhancing and restoring features including canals; wetland meadows; riparian tree planting; hedgerows; hedgerow trees; and woodland. This landscape provides separation between Nuneaton and Bedworth although the separation between the settlements is particularly constrained along the A444 around Griff.

LCA 7: Keresley Urban Fringe

RESTORE and CREATE – Emphasis should be placed on creating a sense of place and distinctiveness whilst retaining and restoring features such as hedgerows, hedgerow trees, woodland and wooded streams through new green infrastructure to reinforce character and a sense of place. New planting could help to reduce the prominence of urban fringes. Change which enhances the wetlands along streams and rivers could provide a positive connection between each pocket of farmland.

LCA 8: Keresley Newlands Ancient Arden

CONSERVE and ENHANCE – Emphasis should be placed on conserving and enhancing the small-scale pasture fields with intact mature hedgerows and frequent hedgerow trees, wooded streams; field ponds; marshy grassland; linear belts of woodland; and blocks of ancient woodland. It is important to ensure that development does not become more prominent within the landscape and where visible appears as individual properties or small clusters filtered by trees and small-scale woodlands particularly close to settlement edges.

LCA 9: Bedworth Woodlands Rural Fringe

ENHANCE – Emphasis should be placed on enhancing the small-scale field pattern and retaining the frequency and density of hedgerow trees and hedgerows. Woodlands, ditches and remaining wooded field ponds are also important features that need to be retained. Changes in land management which restored hedgerows and hedgerow trees, and the former Arbury Canals particularly in the northern part of the character area, could have a positive influence on the distinctiveness of the landscape.

LCA 10: Arbury Parklands

CONSERVE – Emphasis should be placed on conserving and enhancing the rural and remote character. Change would need to respect the parkland character and distinctive vernacular of brick and timber farmhouses and agricultural buildings, and also to maintain the prominence of gate houses and lodges along the surrounding small rural roads. Any change which did not retain and reinforce wooded horizons or that made urban edges more prominent would weaken the pattern and character

of the landscape. It is important to retain the rural wooded farmland setting to Arbury Hall Park and Garden.

LCA 11: Galley Common Hill and Robinson's End Valley

ENHANCE – Emphasis should be placed on enhancing Whytell Pool and Meadows Local Wildlife Site, valley woodland, and field hedgerows. It is also important to ensure that new development does not become prominent within the landscape and the separation between Robinson's End and Ansley is retained

LCA 12: Galley Common Hills and Valleys

CONSERVE and ENHANCE – Emphasis should be placed on conserving and enhancing the undulating landform of low rounded hills; woodland on high ground; wooded streams; and frequent hedgerow trees. It is also important to ensure that development does not become prominent within the landscape and where visible appears as individual properties or small clusters along a village edge.

LCA 13: Whittleford Park and Bar Pool River Valley

ENHANCE – Emphasis should be placed on enhancing Whittleford Park and Bar Pool Valley and Nuneaton Common Local Wildlife Sites, valley woodland, wooded watercourses and the balance of meadows, woodland and wetlands. It is also important to ensure that development reflects the character of development on valley sides.

- 8.5 The capacity of each landscape to accommodate change was evaluated. This was based upon the identification of those features which should be protected and where possible enhanced. It is considered that all landscapes in Nuneaton and Bedworth have the potential to accommodate some form of change provided it is in keeping with each area's key and valued characteristics. This means that some areas will have a high capacity to accommodate changes of various kinds whereas other areas will have relatively low capacity related to a more limited degree of change. The approach requires users of the information to exercise judgement in respect of decision-making regarding potential development and change. It allows flexibility and for decisions to be made over periods of time and as the landscape and different influences on it changes. The characteristics of each landscape character area can be used as evidence on which to base decisions and also monitor change.

APPENDIX 1.0 LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SUMMARIES

National Landscape Character Areas

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council is within and closely bounded by three National Landscape Character Areas as defined by Natural England. These are summarised below:

Character Area 72 – Mease/ Sence Lowlands

The north-eastern area of Nuneaton falls into this character area. This area is described as a gently rolling landform of low rounded hills and valleys. The land along the rivers is flat. The area is characterised by extensive open areas of arable cultivation with strong rectilinear hedge pattern enclosures. Tree cover is confined to copses, spinneys and intermittent hedgerows trees and parks. There are scattered large parks with mansions. Villages are often on hill-tops with red-brick houses. The settlements are described as ridge and furrow. There are isolated 19th Century farmsteads.

Character Area 94 – Northamptonshire Vales and Leicestershire Vales

This character area borders the eastern extent of the Borough. The area is characterised by gentle clay ridges and valleys with little woodland and strong patterns of Tudor and parliamentary enclosure. There are distinct river valleys with flat floodplains and gravel terraces from the rivers Soar, Welland and Nene. The large towns of Leicester and Northampton dominate much of the landscape. There are frequent small towns with red-brick buildings and imposing spired churches. Parks and country houses are prominent. The area is characterised by a great diversity of landscape and settlement pattern with many sub units e.g. Nene Valley and Welland Valley.

Character Area 97 – Arden

The western extent of the Borough is within this character area. The character area is a well-wooded farmland landscape with rolling a rolling landform. The small fields represent ancient landscapes with winding lanes and dispersed, isolated hamlets. There is a contrasting pattern of well hedged, irregular fields and small woodlands interspersed with larger semi-regular fields on former deer parks and estates, and a geometric pattern on former commons. There are numerous areas of former wood-pasture with large oak trees, often associated with heathland remnants. There are narrow, meandering river valleys with long river meadows. The north-eastern area is industrial, based around the former coalfields of Warwickshire with distinct colliery settlements. The north-western area is dominated by urban development and associated urban edge landscapes.

Natural Areas

Natural Area 33 - Trent Valley and Rises

The Trent Valley and Rises Natural Area borders the Borough to the northeast. The Natural Area comprises a geology that produces fertile soil ideal for agriculture; as such, a large part of the area is used for agriculture. A number of important habitats remain, including neutral grassland and a number of acidic and calcareous grassland sites associated with local differences of geology. Wet floodplain grasslands along the Soar and Trent rivers support rich wildlife important for breeding birds. Woodland is sparse and locally concentrated. Important

NUNEATON & BEDWORTH – LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

woodlands present include ancient semi-natural stands, wet woodland and parkland. Standing water habitats of particular wildlife interest are restored gravel pits, reservoirs and canals; there are no natural large standing waters. Numerous gravel pits along the River Trent have been restored to provide habitat for breeding and wintering birds; many have associated habitats such as marsh, swamp and reedbeds. Significant features of the area are rivers, streams and their associated habitats dominated by the Rivers Trent and Soar.

Natural Area 43 - Midlands Plateau

The Midlands Plateau Natural Area covers most of the Borough. The area possesses a diverse nature conservation resource within an essentially urban area. The mineral wealth of the area was a major factor in the development of the Midlands Plateau as an industrial area. The area has a range of geological features from a range of periods. The woodlands of Wyre Forest and the Severn Valley are an indication of what the area would have been like before the forest clearances. The woodlands are home to woodland butterflies and the dormouse. Heathlands dominate on the sandstone, such as Cannock Chase and Sutton Park. Unimproved grasslands, although relatively rare, are also features of the area; acid grassland is associated with the heathlands; neutral grassland with the river systems; and calcareous grassland is restricted to those areas where the limestone outcrops. There is also a range of habitats in the urban areas, including semi-natural habitats, such as valley mires and ancient woodlands, meadows and field ponds.

Natural Area 4 -: Midland Clay Pastures

The Midland Clay Pastures Natural Area borders the Borough to the southeast. The area is gently undulating and is underlain by Lias. The clay produces heavy soils suitable for supporting good quality pasture. Woodland is sparse, with local concentrations south of Daventry and south and west of Coventry. Acid grassland and heathland are very localised on Northampton sand and are characteristics of the sand and gravel deposits to the east of Coventry. Reservoirs are a feature of the eastern side of the Natural Area. Flood meadows occur on the regularly flooded alluvial soils within the headwaters of the Avon and Cherwell rivers.

County Landscape Character Areas

Warwickshire Landscape Guidelines 1989

Warwickshire County Council has identified county level landscape character areas.

Arden, Ancient Arden

This is a small scale farmed landscape with a varied undulating topography, characterised by an irregular pattern of fields and narrow, winding lanes. There is an ancient, irregular pattern of small to medium sized fields. Hedgerows and roadside oaks are present. There are field ponds associated with permanent pasture.

Arden, Arden Parklands

This is an enclosed and gently rolling landscape defined by woodland edges, parkland and belts of trees. Middle distance views are enclosed by woodland edge. There are belts of mature trees associated with estate lands containing ancient pollard oaks. There are large country houses set in mature parkland. Thick roadside hedgerows are present often with bracken.

Arden, Industrial Arden

NUNEATON & BEDWORTH – LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

A variable, often run-down urban fringe landscape characterised by mining settlements often on hill tops, spoil heaps and pockets of farmland. Poorly defined pattern of small hedged fields. There are rows of terraced houses along the roadsides. Golf courses, playing fields and other non-agricultural land are present.

Mease Lowlands, Estate Farmlands

A well ordered agricultural landscape characterised by large country estates and small game coverts. A gently rolling topography of low rounded hills and valleys. There is a late enclosure pattern of large hedged fields. Large country houses are often set in mature parklands. Small hilltop villages often marked by a tall church spire and winding country lanes bounded by wide grass verges.

High Cross Plateau, Open Plateau

This is a large, open rolling landscape characterised by wide views and a strong impression of 'emptiness' and space. The rolling plateau is dissected by broad valleys. There is a medium to large scale, often poorly defined field pattern. There is a sparsely populated landscape of hamlets and isolated manor farmsteads. Deserted medieval villages are surrounded by extensive areas of 'empty' countryside. Prominent belts of woodland occur.

High Cross Plateau, Village Farmlands

A small scale mainly pastoral hedged landscape closely associated with village settlements around the plateau fringe. There is a varied undulating topography associated with small valleys. It has a mainly geometric pattern of small hedged fields and permanent pasture with nucleated settlement patterns of small rural villages. There are scattered hedgerows, roadside ash trees and field ponds.

Local Landscape Character Areas

Warwickshire Landscape Assessment of the Borough of Nuneaton and Bedworth, Sensitivity and Condition Survey, 2008

Warwickshire County Council undertook a Landscape Assessment of the Borough of Nuneaton and Bedworth looking at the countryside around the urban fringe of Nuneaton, Bedworth and Coventry. Landscape Character Types (LCT) were identified which relate to the National Landscape Character Areas. The identified LCT include: Industrial Arden; Arden Parklands; Ancient Arden; Mease Lowlands, Estate Farmlands; Open Plateau; and Village Farmlands. Descriptions of the Landscape Character Types by Warwickshire County Council are described below along with a summary of each LCT's sensitivity and conditions:

Arden, Ancient Arden

Ancient Arden is a small scale, intricate, farmed landscape. It has a varied undulating topography with many low rounded hills, steep scarps, and small incised valleys. It is characterised by an ancient irregular pattern of small to medium sized fields and, narrow winding lanes, often confined by tall hedgebanks. Hedgerow and roadside oaks are typical. Throughout much of the area the landscape has a well wooded character formed by a mixture of woodlands, hedgerow trees, small parks and strongly wooded streamlines. Field ponds are often associated with permanent pasture. Landform combines with tree cover and field pattern to give a strong sense of enclosure and restricted views.

NUNEATON & BEDWORTH – LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

Natural sensitivity in the area is low but cultural sensitivity is high. Visibility is generally moderate. As a result the overall sensitivity of Arden, Ancient Arden is high. The condition of this LCT is variable in the Smorral Lane area and in Keresley Newlands. There is a decline in condition associated with a conversion from pasture to arable. Condition is strongest where livestock forms an important part of farm operations.

Arden, Industrial Arden

The north-eastern part of Arden, between Tamworth and Nuneaton, is an industrial landscape unlike any other in the county. Coal mining and hard rock quarrying have greatly influenced the character of this landscape, particularly with regard to settlement character and the legacy of disused spoil heaps with seminatural grassland and scrub. Rows of red brick terraced housing are common along roadsides. This rather variable, often run-down urban fringe landscape is often dominated by the proximity of urban and industrial land, including housing estates, commercial development, factories, coal mines, and quarries. Roads, railways, canals and pylons are also common features. Areas of farmland are typically surrounded on 2 sides by urban development, which is often ill- defined and frequently broken by fingers of green space such as pony paddocks, allotments, playing fields and golf courses. The farmland itself has a run-down appearance, with gappy, poorly managed hedgerows (particularly apparent where fields have been enlarged for arable cropping) and a generally poorly defined pattern of small hedged fields. Pockets of permanent pasture survive in many places. Often these fields are bounded by ancient hedgerow of hazel and holly, but thorn hedges and wire fences are also common.

Cultural sensitivity is generally moderate to the west of the county and low to the east. Ecology sensitivity is low to moderate, resulting in a variable fragility rating across the Borough. Visibility is generally moderate; therefore the overall sensitivity is moderate. The condition of Industrial Arden is generally weak or in decline. To the south of Nuneaton, from the railway line at Griff to Bramcote in the east, widespread hedgerow removal and hedgerow decline has resulted in a landscape in poor condition.

Arden, Arden Parklands

Arden Parklands is a gently rolling, medium to large scale, planned landscape closely associated with an area of former wood pasture and historic deerparks. Middle distance views are enclosed by woodland edge, parkland, and belts of trees. Woodlands are typically large; many are irregularly shaped semi-natural ancient woodlands. Mature hedgerow oaks and wooded streamlines add to the impression of a sequence of wooded spaces. This heavily wooded appearance maintains a sense of unity in a landscape that is both intensively farmed and under pressure from urban development. Large country houses set in mature parkland are typical of this landscape type. The 18th and 19th century parklands form the centrepiece around the estate house or hall. For example Arbury still retain the classic parkland structure of mature specimen trees with a pastoral setting.

Fragility is high in this LCT due to the well wooded and historic landscape of Arbury Estate. The heavily wooded parkland results in low visibility. Overall sensitivity is high as a result of the cultural sensitivity.

High Cross Plateau, Village Farmlands/Open Plateau

High Cross Plateau is a sparsely populated area characterised by wide rolling ridges and valleys. It is part of the south western section of the Leicestershire Wolds with only part of the area extending into the northeastern fringe of Warwickshire; here it forms around

NUNEATON & BEDWORTH – LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

Bulkington in the south-eastern corner of the Borough. This rolling plateau is dissected by a series of streams, forming deep but poorly defined valleys separated by broad, round ridges. Sands and gravels, giving light, freely draining soils, often cap the summits of these ridges but for the most part the area is characterised by heavy soils with impeded drainage. The physical nature of the area and the historical development have both had a strong influence on the character of the landscape. This is reflected in the pattern of large fields, the nucleated settlement pattern and the strong impression of 'emptiness' in many areas.

High Cross Plateau, Village Farmlands

Small scale, mainly pastoral, hedged landscape, closely associated with nucleated village settlements around the plateau fringe. The clusters of houses and farmsteads, narrow winding lanes, small-hedged fields, and in places, the undulating topography typically associated with small valleys, combine to create a varied, intimate landscape which contrasts strongly with the surrounding large scale Open Plateau. The farmed landscape is characterised by a semi-regular pattern of small fields, enclosed by thorn hedges. Where these are well managed they create a strong sense of scale and visual unity. Scattered hedgerow and roadside ash also emphasise this pattern. Permanent pasture is often associated with ridge and furrow, and field ponds, often fringed by trees and scrub, are also features in this landscape type.

High Cross Plateau, Open Plateau

A remote, large-scale, open, rolling plateau dissected by broad valleys, characterised, for the most part, by wide views and a strong impression of 'emptiness' and space. This is reinforced by an absence of roads and settlements, with sparsely populated hamlets and isolated manor farmsteads prevailing. In places there are extensive areas of largely inaccessible countryside, which relates closely to deserted medieval village sites. Field pattern is generally medium to large in scale but is often poorly defined and tends to be a relatively minor element in this landscape, as the eye is naturally drawn to distant skylines rather than to foreground views. In places, however, smaller fields may occur, often associated with pockets of permanent pasture, and ridge and furrow. Shelterbelts may also form prominent features in an otherwise open and featureless landscape.

Cultural sensitivity in these High Cross LCTs is moderate due to the coherent pattern which exists within this landscape. Ecological sensitivity is low since the area is intensively farmed. Visibility is high due to the absence of tree and woodland cover in this rolling landscape. Overall sensitivity is high due to high visibility and a coherent historic cultural pattern.

Mease Lowlands, Estate Farmlands

This is a well-ordered landscape characterised by: a gentle, rolling topography of low, rounded hills and valleys; a geometric pattern of large hedged fields, characteristic of parliamentary enclosure; many small, regularly shaped game coverts associated with large country estates; large country houses often set in mature parkland; small hilltop villages often marked by a tall church spire; and a dense network of minor roads and lanes typically bordered by wide grass verges. It is an intensively farmed arable landscape with permanent pasture largely restricted to small pockets around villages and along river corridors. Field pattern is generally intact but often poorly defined by low cut or neglected hedgerows. In places extensive removal of hedges has resulted in very large arable fields.

This LCT is a planned landscape with a coherent pattern. It has a moderate cultural rating and a very low ecological rating, resulting in a landscape of low fragility. The area is low lying with small woods, giving it a low visibility rating. As a result, overall sensitivity is low.

NUNEATON & BEDWORTH – LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

Predominance of arable farming has rendered many of the hedgerows redundant and their condition is at best in decline or otherwise weak.

Entec, Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council Landscape Character Assessment (of Areas of Restraint), 2004

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council commissioned Entec in May 2004 to undertake a landscape character assessment of the Areas of Restraint (AOR) as defined in the Borough's Local Plan. The seven AOR at the time of the study were:

1. Grove Lane, Keresley;
2. Attleborough Fields, Nuneaton;
3. West Nuneaton (Galley Common);
4. East Nuneaton (east of St Nicolas Park);
5. Generally between Nuneaton and Hartshill (Judkins area);
6. Weddington; and
7. Bedworth Woodlands.

The areas defined through the landscape character assessment provided a framework in which to assess the areas' ability to meet the criteria set out in the AOR policy.

The desk study systematically divided the study areas into discrete and relatively homogeneous units of land, within which the constituent physical, biological and historical elements occur in repeating patterns. These units of land, termed landscape description units (LDUs), are the building blocks of the landscape and they form the framework on which all the subsequent work was based. The field survey built upon the desk study together with the map and literature based analysis, by providing essential information about the landscape that could not be gained from the desk study. The field survey enabled:

- Identification of aesthetic and perceptual characteristics;
- Determination of key characteristics; and
- Assessment of landscape condition.

In the Character of England Map the AOR fall within two character areas; 'Arden' and the 'Mease/Sence Lowlands'. Landscape character types defined through this study are:

- Enclosed Commons;
- Ancient Farmlands;
- Pasture Farmlands;
- Wooded Slopes;
- Estate Farmlands; and
- Former Industrial.

Enclosed Commons

This is a small scale, densely settled landscape with a small, sub-regular field pattern. Probably an area of former common, it is a pastoral landscape with fields defined by mixed species hedgerows. It is generally an unwooded landscape with tree cover being provided by scattered hedgerow trees, stream side tree lines and tree groups associated with the settlement.

Ancient Farmlands

NUNEATON & BEDWORTH – LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

This is an undulating landscape of mixed farming with tree cover provided by a combination of small ancient woodland relics and scattered hedgerow trees. A landscape of dispersed settlement, it has a sub-regular field pattern defined by mixed species hedgerows.

Pasture Farmlands

This is landscape comprising a regular pattern of small scale fields. These fields are defined by mixed species hedgerows with tree cover provided by a combination of small ancient woodland relics and densely scattered hedgerow trees. A landscape of pastoral land use within which localised patches of wet pasture occur.

Wooded Slopes

This is a steeply sloping landscape that is heavily wooded. Outside the woodland there is a sub-regular field pattern defined by mixed species hedgerows and a dispersed settlement pattern.

Estate Farmlands

This is a predominately arable agricultural landscape with a sub-regular field pattern of medium to large fields. The landscape is often open and gently rolling in character. Field boundaries are defined by mixed species hedgerows and tree cover is provided by scattered hedgerow trees together with tree lines along stream sides.

Former Industrial

This is disturbed landscape that is often characterised by its man made 'artificial' landform of low hills, often created from spoil heaps/waste. It has a dispersed settlement pattern.

Landscape character areas defined through the Entec study are:

- Galley Common Enclosed Commons;
- Galley Common Ancient Farmlands;
- Keresley Newlands Ancient Farmlands;
- Bedworth Woodlands Pasture Farmlands;
- Caldecote Hill Wooded Slopes;
- Coventry Canal Estate Farmlands;
- Weddington Estate Farmlands;
- St Nicolas Park Estate Farmlands;
- Attleborough Fields Estate Farmlands;
- Ansley Former Industrial; and
- Market Hall Former Industrial.

Entec, Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council River Valley Assessment Landscape Character Assessment, 2007

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council commissioned Entec in 2006 to undertake a landscape character assessment of the river valleys: Bar Pool; Galley Common/Kingswood; Anker Valley and Wem Brook. 10 landscape character types and 17 landscape character areas were identified. The relationship between landscape character types and landscape character areas is illustrated in the table on the following page, a summary of landscape character areas then follows.

NUNEATON & BEDWORTH – LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

| Generic Landscape Character Type | Landscape Character Type | Landscape Character Area |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| River Valley | Grassland/Recreational River Valley | Wem Brook Grassland/Recreational River Valley |
| | | Bar Pool Grassland/Recreational River Valley |
| | | Galley Common Grassland/Recreational River Valley |
| | | Anker Valley Grassland/Recreational River Valley |
| Ancient Farmlands | Ancient Farmlands | Kingswood Ancient Farmlands |
| Former Industrial | Woodland – Former Industrial | Haunchwood Woodland Former Industrial |
| | Recreational Land - Former Industrial | Vale View Recreational Land Former Industrial Buck's Hill Mart Hole Recreational Land Former Industrial |
| Urban Community Land | Urban Cemetery | Buck's Hill Urban Cemetery |
| | Urban Woodland | Nuneaton Common Urban Woodland |
| | Urban School and School Grounds | Wem Brook Schools and School Grounds |
| | Urban Amenity Parkland | Wem Brook Urban Amenity Parkland |
| | | Riversley Urban Amenity Parkland |
| | Urban Amenity Open Space | Kingswood Urban Amenity Open Space |
| | | Camp Hill Urban Amenity Open Space |
| Urban Allotments | Anker Valley Allotments | |

Wem Brook Grassland/Recreational River Valley

This is a flat landscape which is unified by the presence of the Wem Brook which flows through it. It is an area of grass used for recreation and amenity planting of poplar and smaller areas of woodland. Settlement to the east and educational establishments to the west influence the area.

Bar Pool Grassland/Recreational River Valley

This is a narrow linear valley which is used for recreation and wildlife habitat. Bar Pool Brook flows through the character area. Tree cover is characterized by riparian planting and scattered oaks and hawthorns. Residential development on the periphery encloses the landscape. Landscape currently undergoing change with new balancing pools being constructed.

NUNEATON & BEDWORTH – LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

Galley Common Grassland/Recreational River Valley

This is a gently valley that rises either side of Whytell Brook. Woodland and tree planting along the river and railway provide some enclosure. Although close to urban development woodland reduces its influence on the landscape and helps to retain a sense of separation from the urban areas.

Anker Valley Grassland/Recreational River Valley

This is a generally flat landscape along the River Anker. The land is primarily used for recreation with areas laid out as rugby pitches and a club house. The remainder is managed for wildlife and amenity grassland. Tree cover is along the river and other areas of amenity planting. Adjacent industrial and residential development and infrastructure have an influence on the landscape.

Kingswood Ancient Farmlands

This area is gently sloping land used for pasture and horse grazing. It contains scattered hedgerow trees and ancient woodland (King's Wood). Although close to the urban edge this is generally screened by woodland which limits its influence and creates a rural character. Ridge and furrow is present. This landscape forms part of a much larger landscape to the west.

Haunchwood Woodland Former Industrial

This is an area of former mineral extraction and brick works. The majority of the area is now wooded with some areas of grassland. Residential development on the fringes of the landscape has a localised influence. Remnant industrial buildings, kiln structures and blue bricks are a reminder of the past use of the landscape.

Vale View Recreational Land Former Industrial

This is on man made ground which is higher than surrounding land, it is an area of former industry and landfill. It is characterised by shrub planting on the fringes of the character area. It provides a contrast with the surrounding urban area and the area provides separation between residential areas of Nuneaton.

Buck's Hill Mart Hole Recreational Land Former Industrial

This area is associated with former mineral extraction although is now grassland managed for recreation. It is characterised by scrub along the edges of the character area and provides contrast with the surrounding urban areas.

Buck's Hill Urban Cemetery

This character area is a cemetery with a formal layout of burial plots and areas of amenity grassland. Amenity trees are present throughout the landscape. A small red brick chapel is in the cemetery. Tree planting adjacent and within the area provide enclosure.

Nuneaton Common Urban Woodland

This area is managed as woodland for nature conservation purposes. The land separates Whittleford from residential development at Nuneaton Common. The land adjoins a railway line which is also wooded.

Wem Brook Schools and School Grounds

This is a school characterised by school buildings, grassland and sports pitches and formal areas of landscape. Tree cover comprises specimen trees and trees along the perimeter fences.

NUNEATON & BEDWORTH – LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

Wem Brook Urban Amenity Parkland

The Wem Brook passes through this landscape. The area is characterised by amenity grassland and sports pitches associated with a leisure centre. The leisure centre building has a strong influence on the character of this area.

Riversley Urban Amenity Parkland

The River Anker flows through this landscape which is characterised by formal open space including George Elliot Memorial Park and Riversley Park. The area includes formal planting of rose gardens, flower beds, surfaced footpaths, benches and a band stand. The area also contains sports pitches.

Kingswood Urban Amenity Open Space

This is an area of amenity open space managed for formal and informal recreation on the side of a valley. Scattered oak trees provide a link to the adjacent ancient farmlands. Adjacent residential development has an influence on the character of the landscape and the area provides transition between the urban area and the countryside.

Camp Hill Urban Amenity Open Space

This land forms part of Camp Hill and includes incised valleys with steep slopes. The land is used for amenity recreation with areas of woodland on the steeper slopes. Adjacent residential development has an urbanising influence on the landscape.

Anker Valley Allotments

This area comprises allotments characterised by regular shaped plots and assorted sheds and other structures.

Landscape Character Assessments of Adjacent Boroughs

North Warwickshire Landscape Character Assessment and Capacity Study August 2010

FPCR LLP was commissioned in November 2009 to undertake a Landscape Character Assessment of North Warwickshire Borough and a Landscape Capacity Study for the land adjacent to the main settlements and local service centres within the Borough. The assessment has been undertaken to provide a better understanding of the District's landscapes in order to;

- provide the context for policies and proposals within the forthcoming Local Development Framework (LDF) for North Warwickshire;
- inform the preparation of the Core Strategy of the Borough; and
- provide a robust evidence base to justify any future policy decisions.

A summary of the character areas bordering Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough are described below:

Character Area 3: Anker Valley

The Anker Valley character area borders Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough to the northwest. The landform is narrow, steep and strongly undulating to the north and an indistinct, gently sloping, broad valley to the south. It is predominantly an intensively farmed arable landscape but with pockets of pastoral land around the settlements and close to the river. The peripheral settlements and connecting lanes have an urbanising influence. The Coventry Canal and River Anker wind discretely through the valley, often only evident by the many hump back bridges.

NUNEATON & BEDWORTH – LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

Busy transport corridors include the A5, M42 and the West Coast main rail line. There is a relatively tranquil parkland and rural character around Grendon Park and Caldecote Hall. The landscape is open with few areas of woodland and pockets of riparian scrub and regenerating woodland on former colliery sites. There are wide open views across the valley from the upper slopes. Mining subsidence has resulted in the wetland flashes at Alvecote and Pooley Country Park.

Character Area 4: Baddesley to Hartshill – Uplands

Character Area 4 is a distinct and unified upland landscape on steeply sloping, undulating rock scarp. There is a complex land use pattern of settlement, woodland, recreation, quarrying, associated industry and farmland. It is heavily wooded with ancient older oak and birch woodland and younger mixed plantations. Pockets of permanent pasture in small hedged fields survive on the steeper slopes around the settlement fringes, bounded by ancient, often overgrown hedgerows of hazel and holly (former wood pasture). Isolated large arable fields between woodland blocks and around Hartshill are present. There are extensive areas of historic and modern rock quarrying. Mining settlements include Baddesley Ensor, Hartshill, Ansley Common and Ridge Lane. There are heathy associations with widespread occurrence of birch, gorse and bracken. Unenclosed commons, supporting remnant heathy vegetation survive adjacent to Baddesley. Outdoor recreational facilities are present, including Hartshill Hayes Country Park and several golf clubs. Merevale Hall is a prominent hilltop landmark set within parkland. There are distinctive spoil heaps in the south east. Scattered modern industrial buildings and communications masts within the south of the Character Area. Long views from highpoints, most notable to the east where long views are possible across the Anker Valley to the Hinckley and Bosworth District.

Character Area 7: Church End to Corley – Arden Hills and Valleys

Character Area 7 borders Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough to the west. The landscape is a broad elevated basin with numerous rolling hills and valleys. It is a mixed agricultural landscape with an ancient pattern of small fields, winding lanes and dispersed, isolated hamlets and farmsteads. There is a heavily wooded character due to presence of large woodland blocks on hilltops and associated with numerous areas of former wooded pasture with large, old oak trees and field ponds, often associated with heathland remnants. Wooded escarpments occur at the northern, eastern and southern boundaries. In places there is a more open network of large arable fields. To the east and south the area is permeated by a number of larger settlements with modern expansion and busy roads. The M6 motorway and rows of pylons are highly visible locally from elevated slopes. There are long views from western slopes across the Blythe Valley to Birmingham.

Hinkley and Bosworth Landscape Character Assessment July 2006

In June 2005 Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council commissioned a Landscape Character Assessment to be undertaken simultaneously with the preparation of the Local Development Framework.

A summary of the character areas bordering Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough to the north are described below:

Stoke Golding Vale Character Area

This character area has a predominately flat landform with only gentle undulations. There is a mix of arable and pasture fields with frequent individual trees. A medium scale rectilinear field

NUNEATON & BEDWORTH – LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

pattern is evident, bounded by mixed hedgerows with scattered hedgerow trees in small copses. Settlement is usually associated with local high points. The area is criss-crossed by a network of small lanes and public footpaths. The Ashby Canal passes through and features numerous attractive canal bridges. The area is open and expansive with views occasionally limited by vegetation. This is a generally tranquil, rural character area despite the proximity of Hinkley and the A5.

Hinckley, Barwell and Burbage Fringe Character Area

This character area is defined by a gently rolling landform with some areas of flat land. There is a mix of arable and pasture fields with isolated areas of woodland. There is increasing industrial use around urban areas. The area has a medium sized rectilinear field pattern bounded by mixed hedgerows and few hedgerow trees. The agricultural land provides open areas of separating landscapes between towns. The landscape is heavily influenced by large urban developments in higher ground, with masts and poles prominent. Significant transport infrastructure subdivides the area. Distinctive landscape features such as Burbage Common and Wood have local and national importance as ecological and recreational resources. Localised containment is provided by woodland, but urban areas are frequently visible on ridged lines.

Fen Lanes Character Area

This is a predominately flat valley landscape with areas of gentle undulations. The landscape is predominately arable with some pasture. Small woodland clumps and willow trees are present, associated with watercourses. There is a mixed field pattern of large to medium size with broken hedgerows. Hedgerow trees are either scattered or in clumps along roads and near water courses. Small dispersed settlements cluster around crossroads, with isolated farmsteads also occurring. The A444 forms the main route through the area with small lanes leading off and many public footpaths present. Views are curtailed by copses, hedgerow vegetation and limited vantage points. There are frequent streams and ditches.

Landscape Assessment of the Borough of Rugby April 2006

The Landscape Assessment of the Borough of Rugby details the work of a broad scale landscape assessment and sensitivity analysis, looking at the countryside around Rugby. It was carried out by the Living Landscapes Project in conjunction with Warwickshire County Council and Rugby Borough Council.

A summary of the character areas bordering Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough are described below:

High Cross Plateau, Open Plateau

High Cross Plateau is a sparsely populated area characterised by wide rolling ridges and valleys. It belongs to the south western section of the Leicestershire Wolds with only part of the area extending into Warwickshire; here it forms the region of high ground between Rugby and Hinkley in the north-eastern corner of the county. This rolling plateau is dissected by a series of streams, forming deep but poorly defined valleys separated by broad, round ridges. Sands and gravels, giving light, freely draining soils, often cap the summits of these ridges but for the most part the area is characterised by heavy soils with impeded drainage. Two major Roman roads cross the area: Watling Street and Fosse Way, which meet at High Cross.

NUNEATON & BEDWORTH – LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

High Cross Plateau, Open Plateau character area borders Nuneaton and Bedworth to the east. This is a remote, large-scale, open, rolling plateau dissected by broad valleys, characterised, for the most part, by wide views and a strong impression of 'emptiness' and space. This is reinforced by an absence of roads and settlements, with sparsely populated hamlets and isolated manor farmsteads prevailing. In places there are extensive areas of largely inaccessible countryside, which relates closely to deserted medieval village sites. Field pattern is generally medium to large in scale but is often poorly defined and tends to be a relatively minor element in this landscape, as the eye is naturally drawn to distant skylines rather than to foreground views. In places, however, smaller fields may occur, often associated with pockets of permanent pasture, and ridge and furrow. Shelterbelts may also form prominent features in an otherwise open and featureless landscape.

High Cross Plateau, Village Farmland

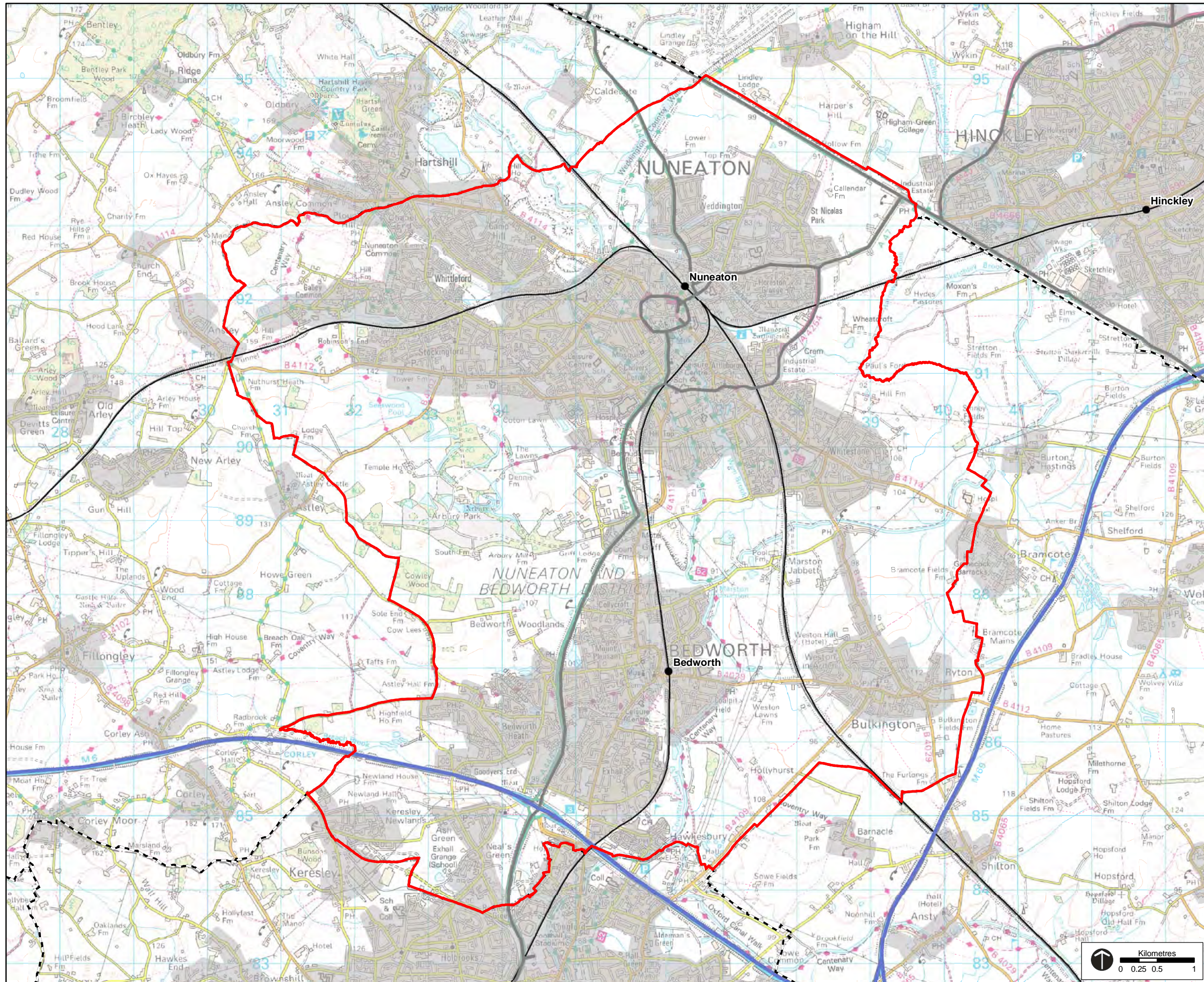
High Cross Plateau, Village Farmland character area borders Nuneaton and Bedworth to the southeast. This is a small scale, mainly pastoral, hedged landscape, closely associated with nucleated village settlements around the plateau fringe. The clusters of houses and farmsteads, narrow winding lanes, small-hedged fields, and in places, the undulating topography typically associated with small valleys, combine to create a varied, intimate landscape which contrasts strongly with the surrounding large scale Open Plateau. The farmed landscape is characterised by a semi-regular pattern of small fields, enclosed by thorn hedges. Where these are well managed they create a strong sense of scale and visual unity. Scattered hedgerow and roadside ash also emphasise this pattern. Permanent pasture is often associated with ridge and furrow, and field ponds, often fringed by trees and scrub, are also a feature in this landscape type.

Mease Lowlands, Estate Farmlands

This character area borders Nuneaton and Bedworth to the northeast. The Mease Lowlands are a relatively low-lying, rolling, agricultural area lying largely outside Warwickshire. Only a small part of the northern-most tip of Rugby Borough falls within this area. The strongly nucleated settlement pattern is a particularly distinctive feature of this area.

This is a well-ordered landscape characterised by: a gentle, rolling topography of low, rounded hills and valleys; a geometric pattern of large-hedged fields, characteristic of parliamentary enclosure; many small, regularly shaped game coverts associated with large country estates; large country houses often set in mature parkland; small hilltop villages often marked by a tall church spire; and a dense network of minor roads and lanes typically bordered by wide grass verges.

It is an intensively farmed arable landscape with permanent pasture largely restricted to small pockets around villages and along river corridors. Field pattern is generally intact but often poorly defined by low cut or gappy hedgerows. In places extensive removal of hedges has resulted in very large arable fields.



Key

- Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Boundary
- Other Local Authority Boundary
- Motorway
- A Road
- Train Station
- Rail
- Settlements

Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2010.

This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Licence No. 100018416 2010.

| Rev | Description | Drawn | Approved | Date |
|-----|-------------|-------|----------|------|
| | | | | |

Genesis Centre
 Birchwood Science Park
 Warrington WA3 7BH
 Tel 01925 844004
 Fax 01925 844002
 email tep@tep.uk.com

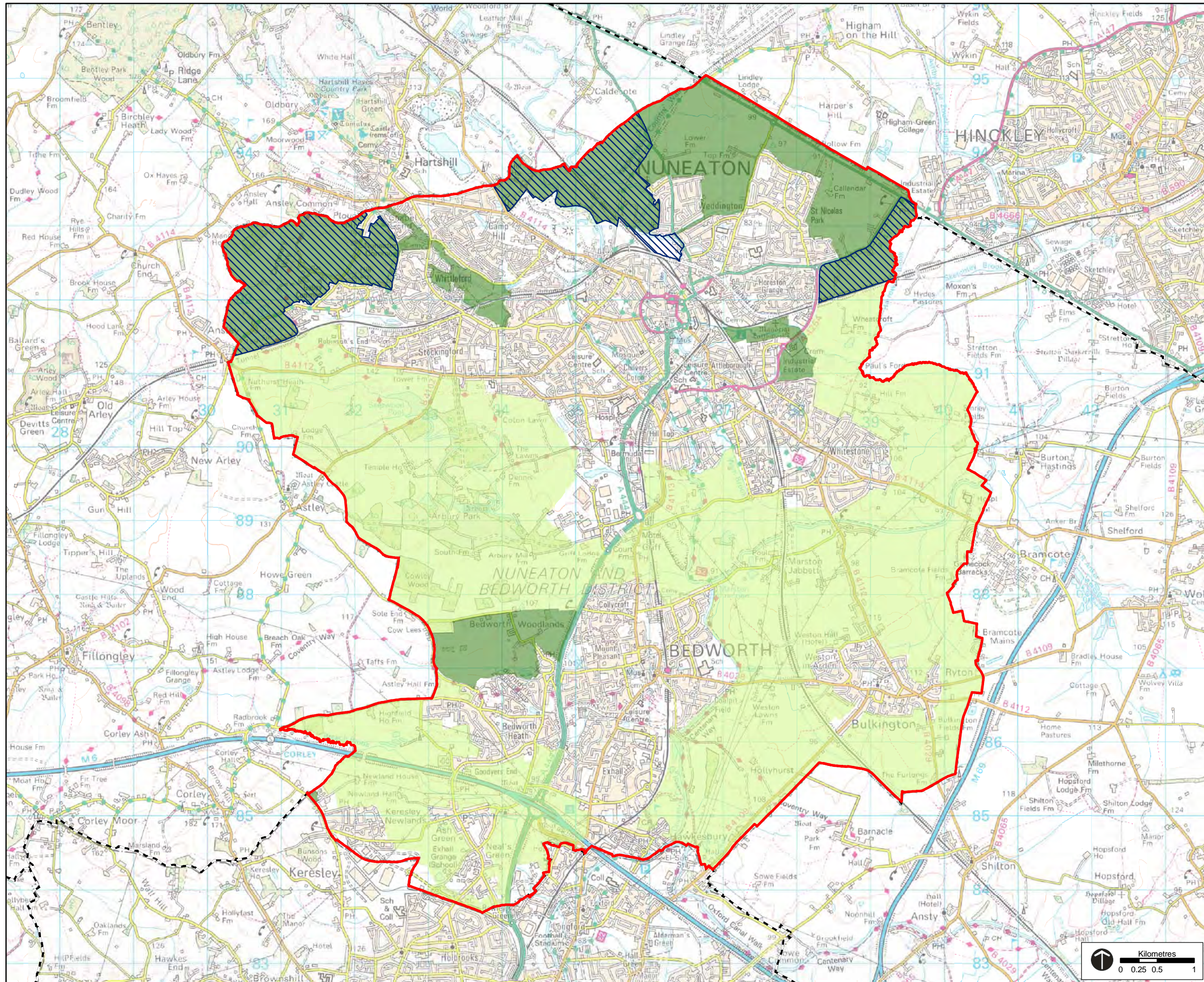
Project: Nuneaton and Bedworth Land Use Survey

Title: Borough Location Plan

Drawing No: Figure 1.1

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| Date: 17/08/10 | TEP Ref No: G2534.001 |
|----------------|-----------------------|

| | | |
|-----------|-------------|---------------|
| Drawn: CB | Checked: TS | Approved: IJG |
|-----------|-------------|---------------|



Key

- Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Boundary
- Other Local Authority Boundary
- Green Belt
- Countryside
- Areas of Restraint

Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2010.
 This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Licence No. 100018416 2010.

| Rev | Description | Drawn | Approved | Date |
|-----|-------------|-------|----------|------|
| | | | | |

TEP Genesis Centre
 Birchwood Science Park
 Warrington WA3 7BH
 Tel 01925 844004
 Fax 01925 844002
 email tep@tep.uk.com

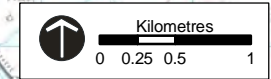
Project: **Nuneaton and Bedworth Land Use Survey**

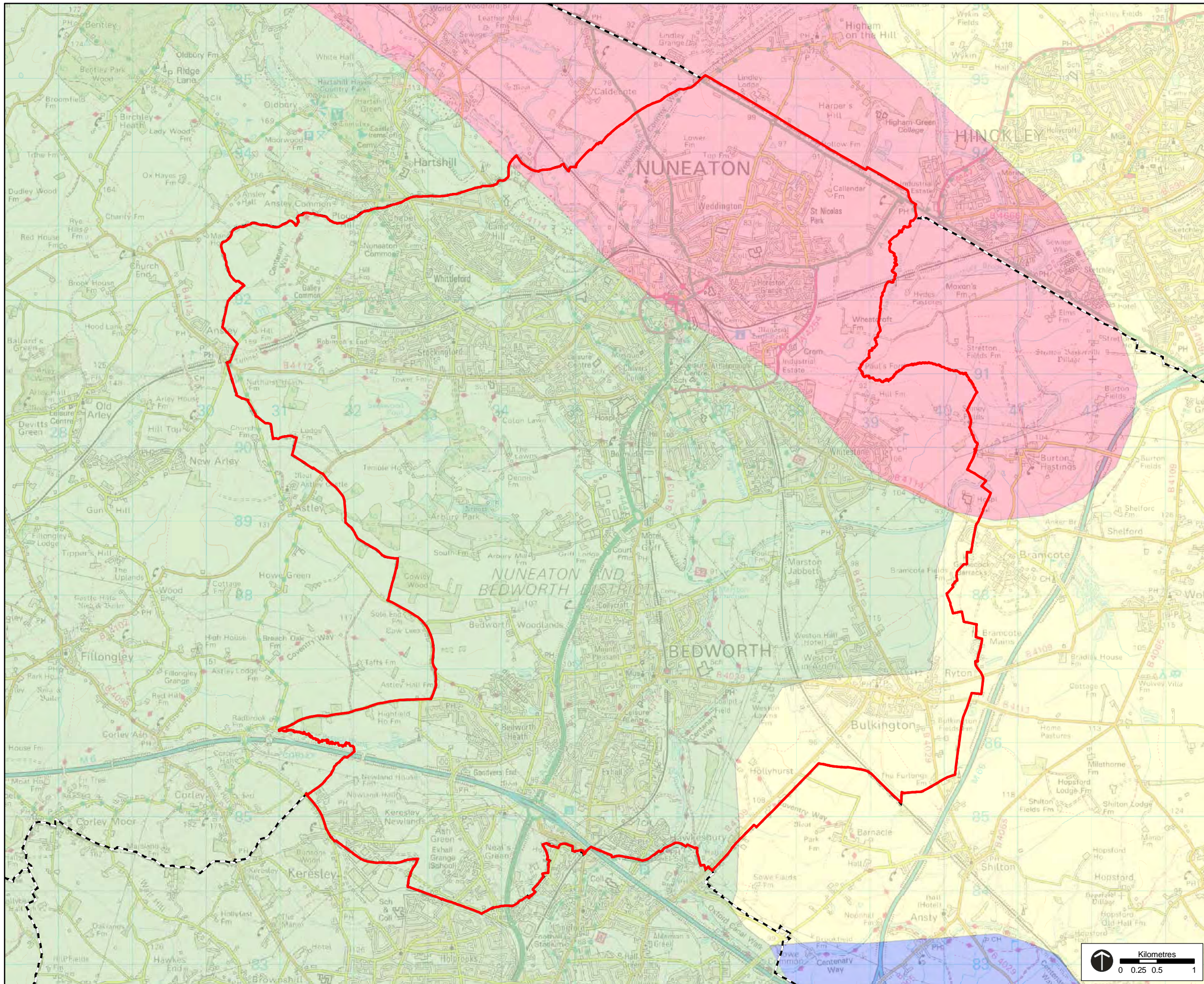
Title: **Borough Green Belt, Areas of Restraint and Countryside**

Drawing No: **Figure 4.1**

Date: **13/10/10** TEP Ref No: **G2534.019**

Drawn: **CB** Checked: **TS** Approved: **IJG**





Key

- Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Boundary
- Other Local Authority Boundary

National Landscape Character Areas

- Arden
- Dunsmore and Feldon
- Leicestershire Vales
- Mease/Sence Lowlands

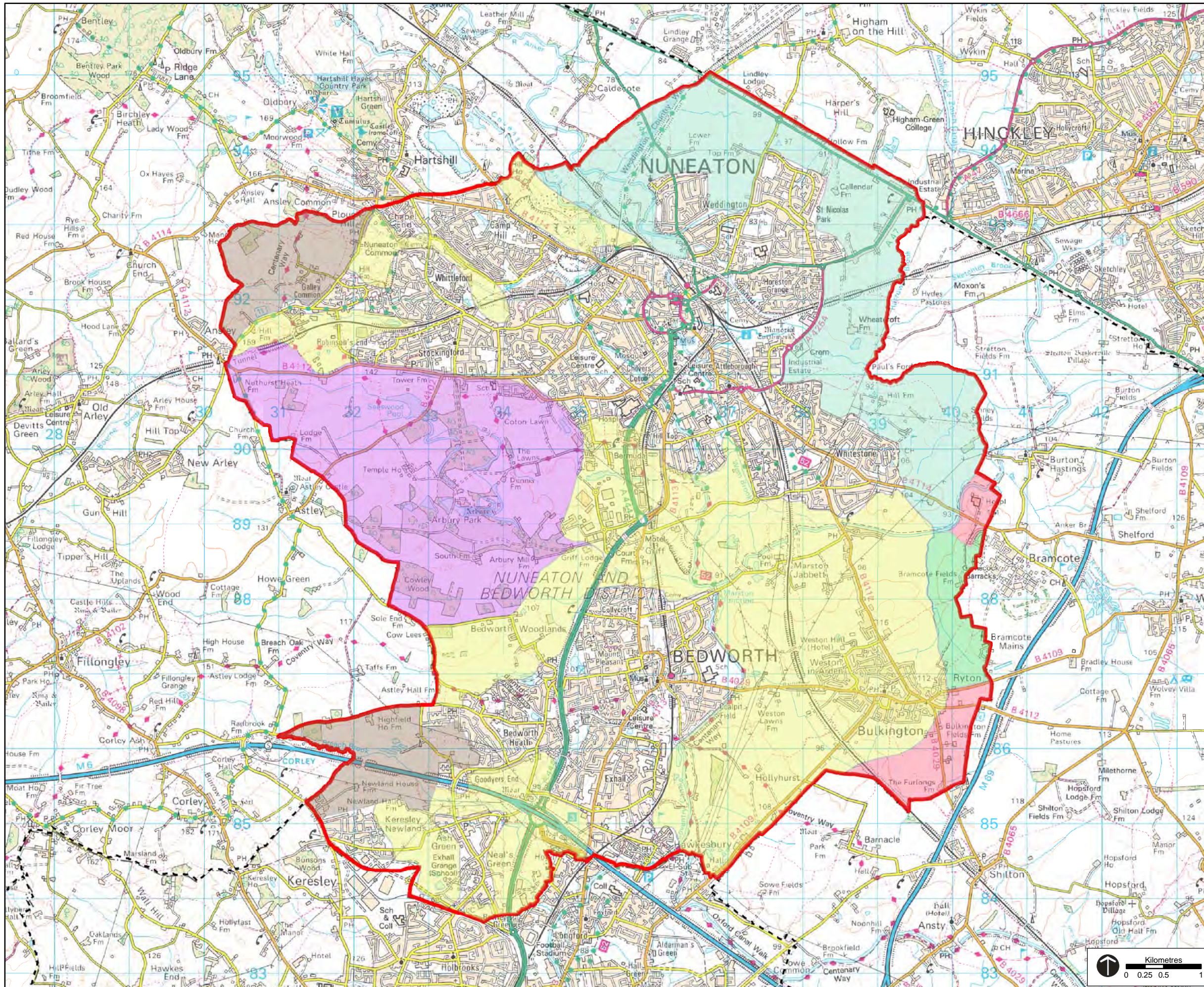
Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2010.

This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Licence No. 100018416 2010.

| Rev | Description | Drawn | Approved | Date |
|-----|-------------|-------|----------|------|
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

Genesis Centre
Birchwood Science Park
Warrington WA3 7BH
Tel 01925 844004
Fax 01925 844002
email tep@tep.uk.com

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Project: | Nuneaton and Bedworth Land Use Survey |
| Title: | National Landscape Character Areas |
| Drawing No: | Figure 5.1 |
| Date: | 13/10/10 |
| TEP Ref No: | G2534.002 |
| Drawn: | CB |
| Checked: | TS |
| Approved: | IJG |



Key

- Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Boundary
- Other Local Authority Boundary

Landscape Guidelines Areas

- Ancient Arden
- Arden Parklands
- High Cross Plateau Open Plateau
- High Cross Plateau Village Farmlands
- Industrial Arden
- Mease Lowlands Estate Farmlands

Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2010.

This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Licence No. 100018416 2010.

| Rev | Description | Drawn | Approved | Date |
|-----|-------------|-------|----------|------|
| | | | | |



Genesis Centre
 Birchwood Science Park
 Warrington WA3 7BH
 Tel 01925 844004
 Fax 01925 844002
 email tep@tep.uk.com

Project: **Nuneaton and Bedworth Land Use Survey**

Title: **Warwickshire Landscape Guidelines**

Drawing No: **Figure 5.2**

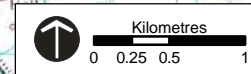
Date: **23/09/10**

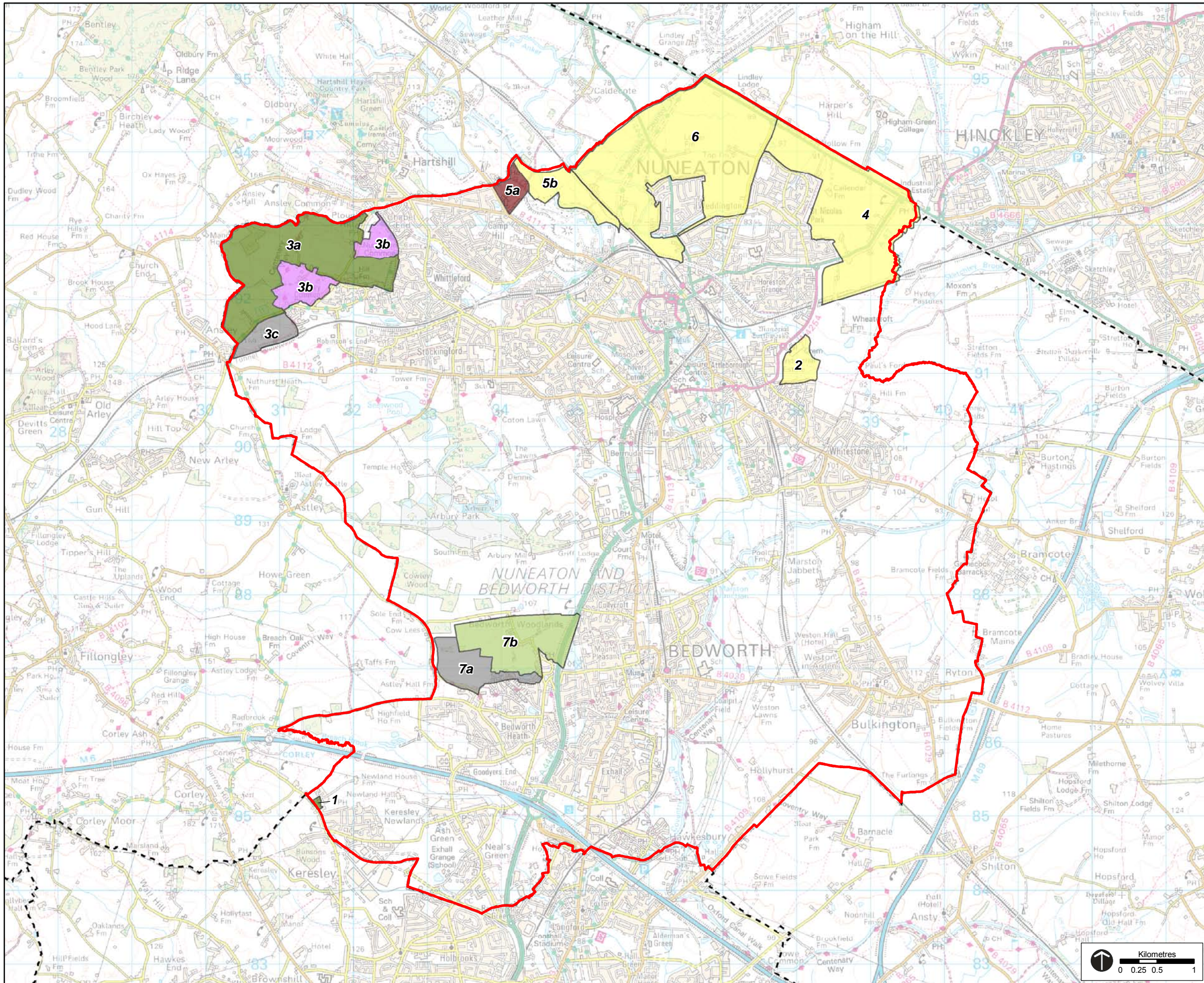
TEP Ref No: **G2534.013**

Drawn: **DH**

Checked: **TS**

Approved: **IJG**





Key

- Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Boundary
- Other Local Authority Boundary

Landscape Character Areas

- Enclosed Commons
- Ancient Farmlands
- Pasture Farmlands
- Wooded Slopes
- Estate Farmlands
- Former Industrial

1 Landscape Character Area Number

The map includes data from the following sources:
 - Nuneaton Borough Council

Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2011.

This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Licence No. 100018416 2011.

| Rev | Description | Drawn | Approved | Date |
|-----|-------------|-------|----------|------|
| | | | | |

TEP Genesis Centre
 Birchwood Science Park
 Warrington WA3 7BH
 Tel 01925 844004
 Fax 01925 844002
 email tep@tep.uk.com

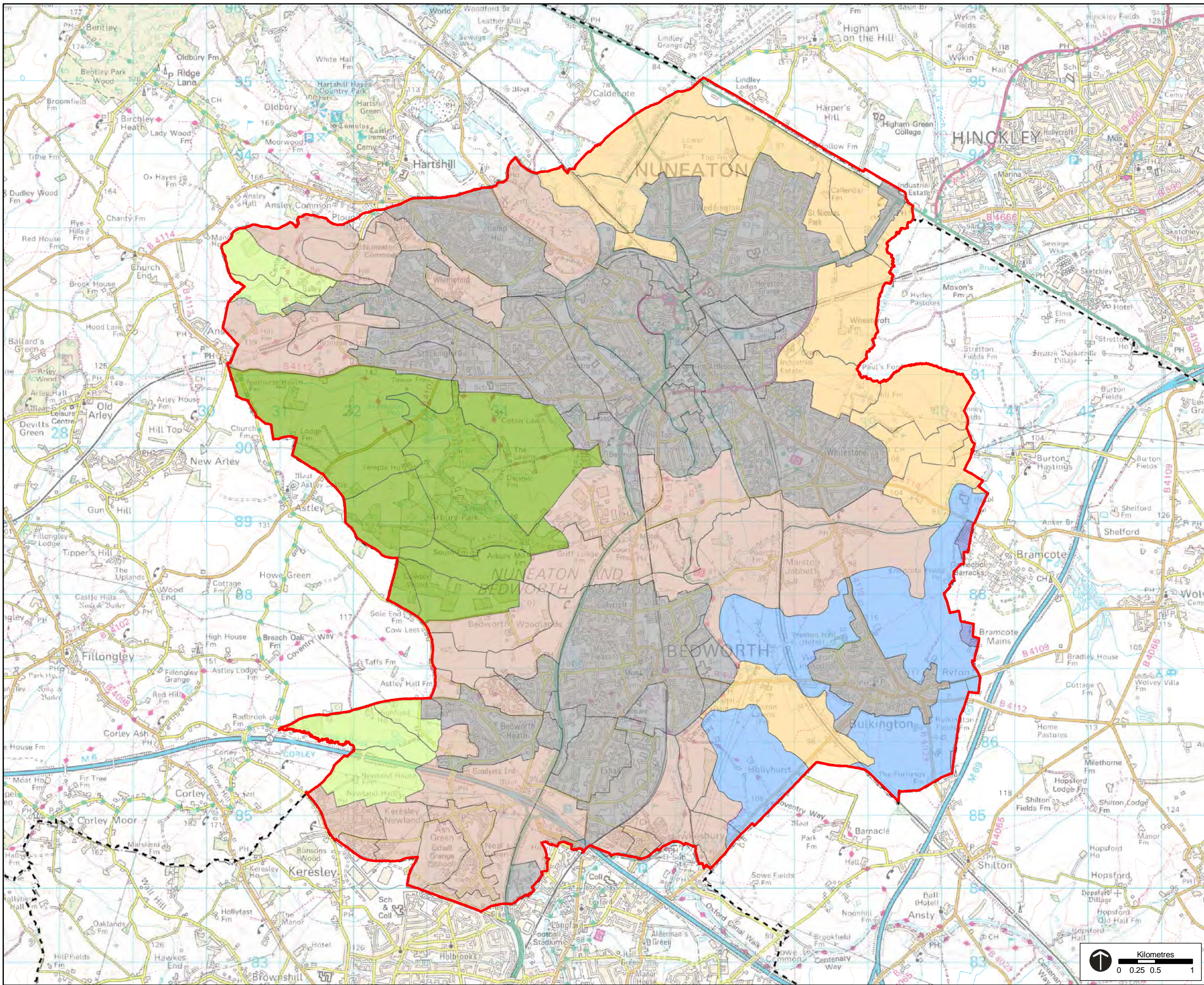
Project: **Nuneaton and Bedworth Land Use Survey**

Title: **Entec Landscape Character Areas (within Areas of Restraint)**

Drawing No: **Figure 5.3**

Date: **21/03/11** TEP Ref No: **G2534.033**

Drawn: **CB** Checked: **TS** Approved: **IJG**



Key

- Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Boundary
- Other Local Authority Boundary
- Arden - Ancient Arden
- Arden - Arden Parklands
- Arden - Industrial Arden
- High Cross Plateau - Open Plateau
- High Cross Plateau - Village Farmlands
- Mease Lowlands - Estate Farmlands
- Urban

Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2010.

This map includes data from the following sources:

- Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council
- Warwickshire County Council
- Landscape Character Assessment of the Borough of Nuneaton and Bedworth - Sensitivity and Condition Study (2008)

This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Licence No. 100018416 2010.

| Rev | Description | Drawn | Approved | Date |
|-----|-------------|-------|----------|------|
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

TEP

Genesis Centre
 Birchwood Science Park
 Warrington WA3 7BH
 Tel 01925 844004
 Fax 01925 844002
 email tep@tep.uk.com

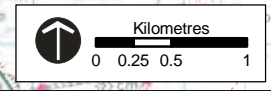
Project: Nuneaton and Bedworth Land Use Survey

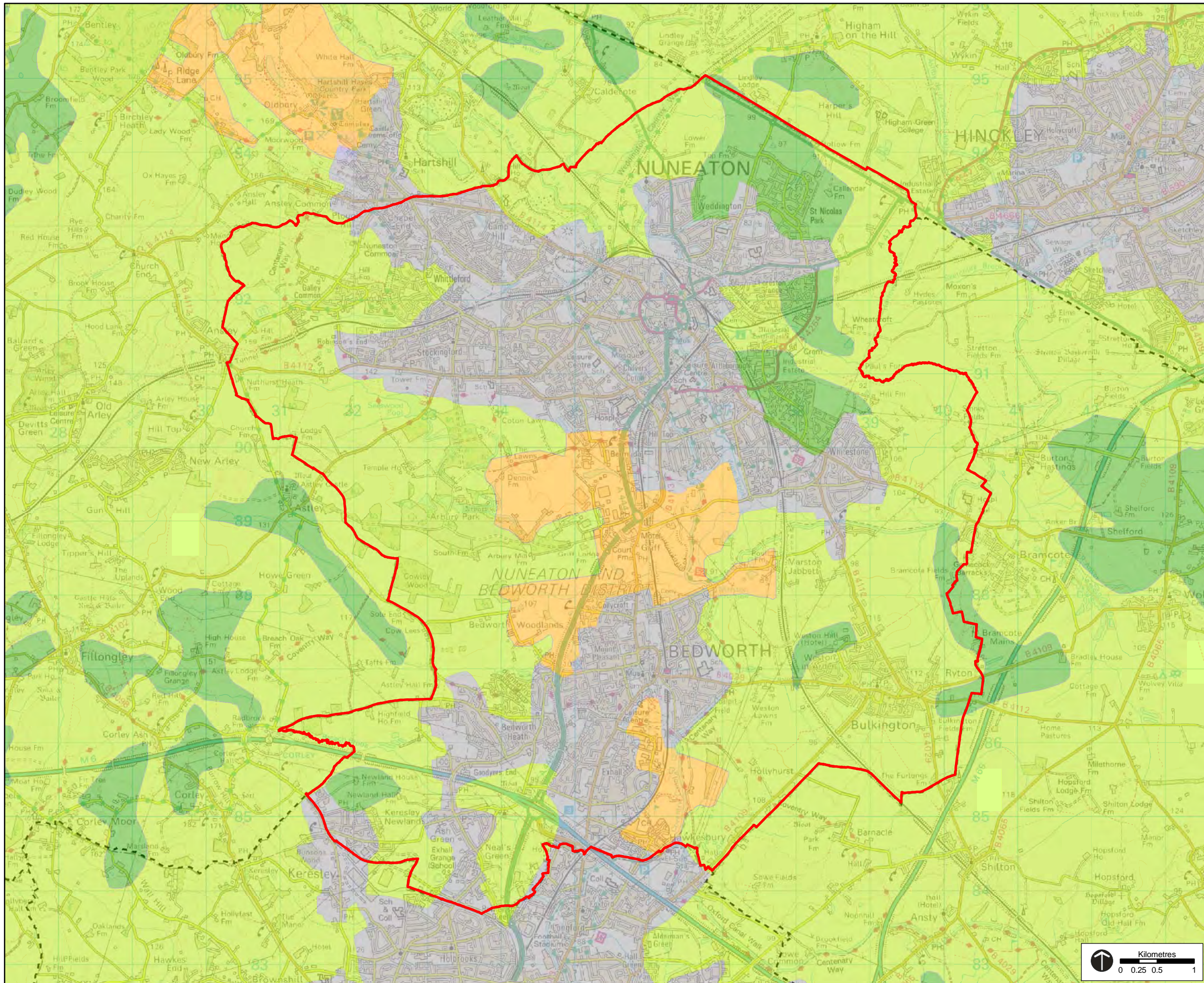
Title: Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council Landscape Character Areas, 2008

Drawing No: Figure 5.4

Date: 17/08/10 **TEP Ref No:** G2534.011

| | | |
|------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Drawn: CB | Checked: TS | Approved: IJG |
|------------------|--------------------|----------------------|





Key

- Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Boundary
- Other Local Authority Boundary

Agricultural Land Classification

- Grade 2 (Very Good)
- Grade 3 (Good/Moderate)
- Grade 4 (Poor)
- Urban

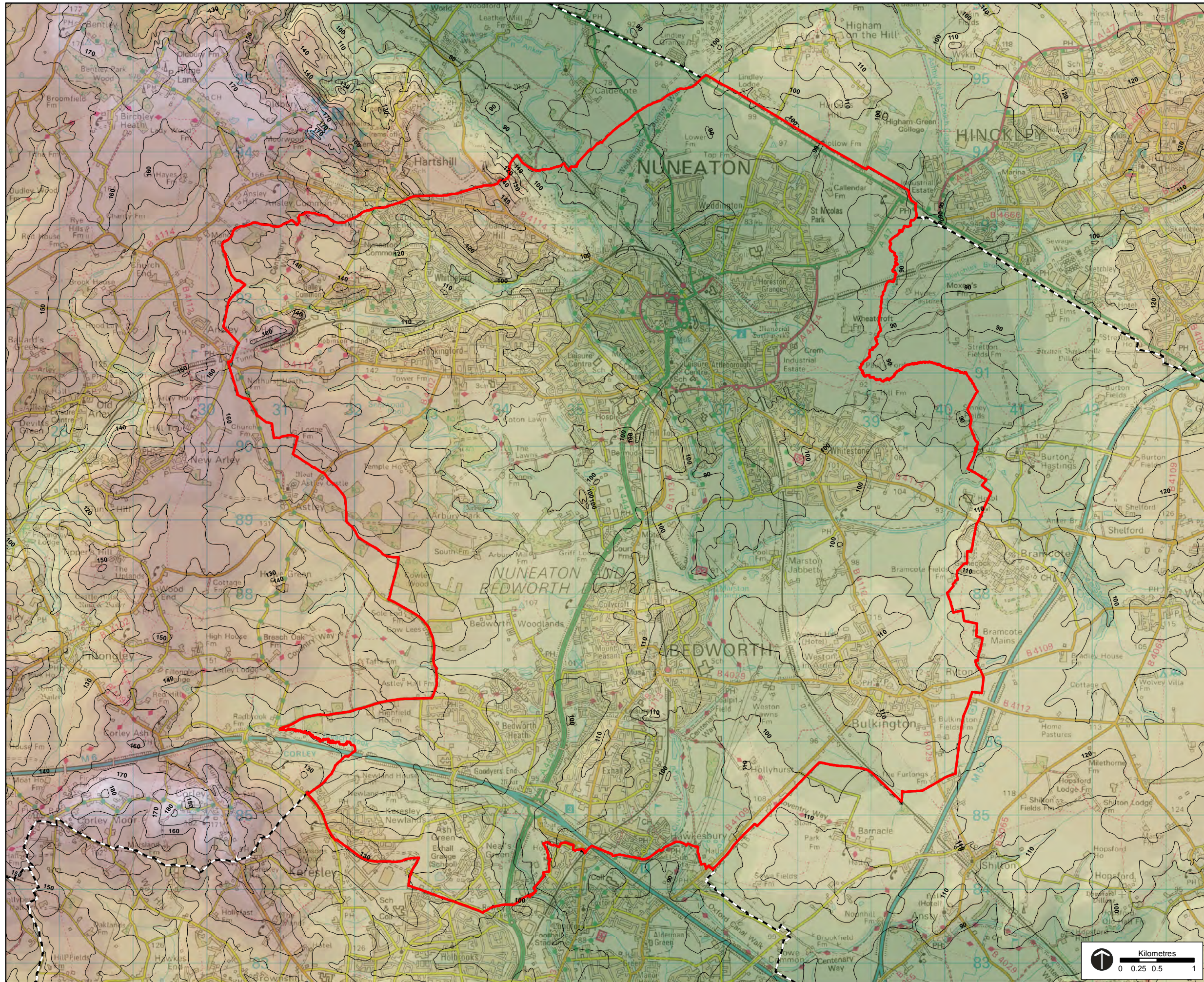
Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2010.

This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Licence No. 100018416 2010.

| Rev | Description | Drawn | Approved | Date |
|-----|-------------|-------|----------|------|
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

Genesis Centre
Birchwood Science Park
Warrington WA3 7BH
Tel 01925 844004
Fax 01925 844002
email tep@tep.uk.com

| | | | |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------|-------------|-----------|
| Project: | Nuneaton and Bedworth Land Use Survey | | |
| Title: | Agricultural Land Classification | | |
| Drawing No: | Figure 6.1 | | |
| Date: | 13/10/10 | TEP Ref No: | G2534.003 |
| Drawn: | CB | Checked: | TS |
| Approved: | IJG | | |



Key

- Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Boundary
- Other Local Authority Boundary

Elevation (in metres)

| | | | |
|--|-----------|--|-----------|
| | 176 - 180 | | 126 - 130 |
| | 171 - 175 | | 121 - 125 |
| | 166 - 170 | | 116 - 120 |
| | 161 - 165 | | 111 - 115 |
| | 156 - 160 | | 106 - 110 |
| | 151 - 155 | | 101 - 105 |
| | 146 - 150 | | 96 - 100 |
| | 141 - 145 | | 91 - 95 |
| | 136 - 140 | | 86 - 90 |
| | 131 - 135 | | 81 - 85 |

10 metre Contour

Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2010.

This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Licence No. 100018416 2010.

| Rev | Description | Drawn | Approved | Date |
|-----|-------------|-------|----------|------|
| | | | | |

Genesis Centre
Birchwood Science Park
Warrington WA3 7BH
Tel 01925 844004
Fax 01925 844002
email tep@tep.uk.com

Project: **Nuneaton and Bedworth Land Use Survey**

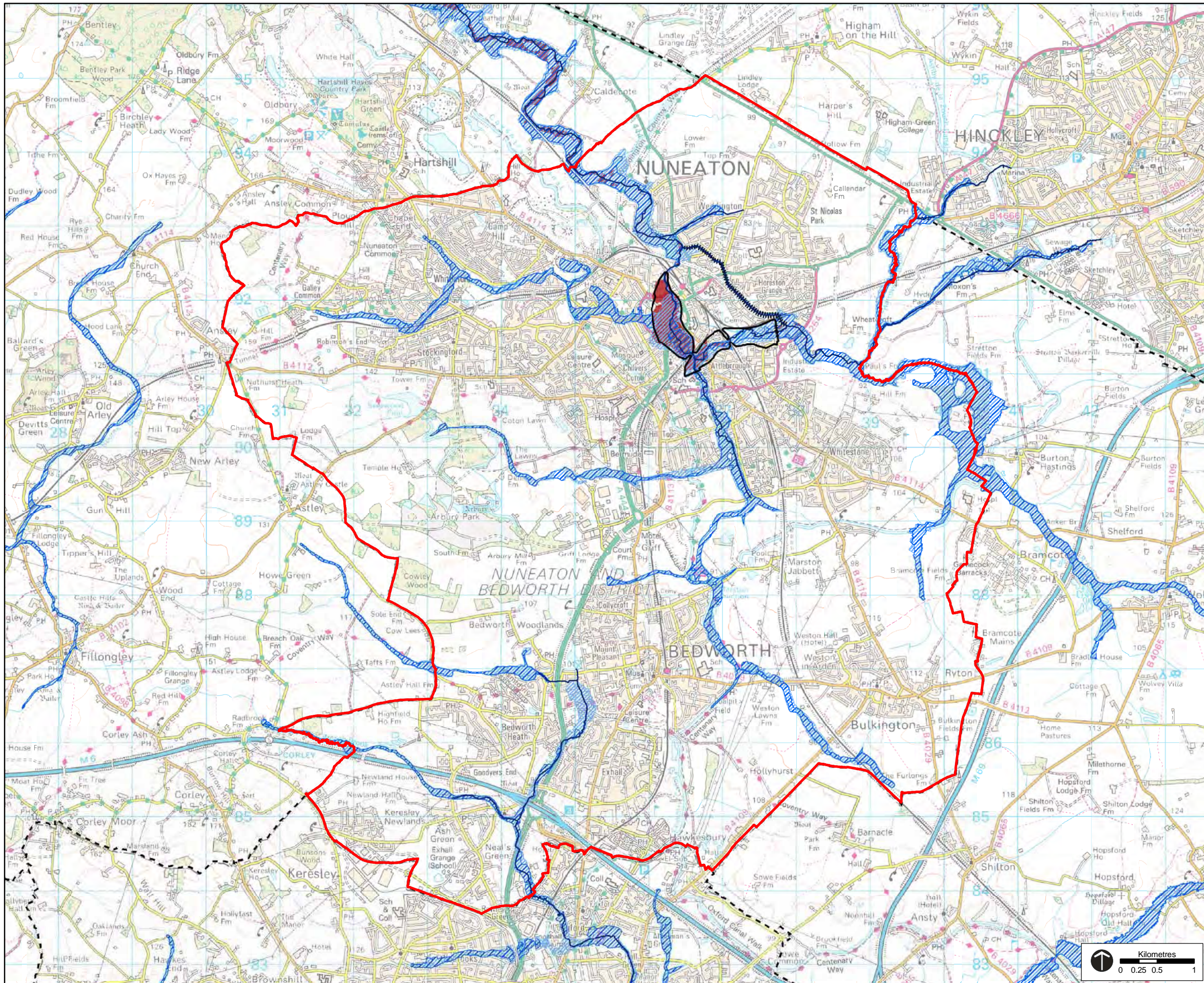
Title: **Topography**

Drawing No: **Figure 6.2**

Date: 15/07/14 TEP Ref No: G2534.004a

| | | |
|-----------|-------------|---------------|
| Drawn: CB | Checked: TS | Approved: IJG |
|-----------|-------------|---------------|

Kilometres
0 0.25 0.5 1



Key

- Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Boundary
- Other Local Authority Boundary
- EA Flood Plain Zone 2 (June 2009)
- EA Flood Plain Zone 3 (June 2009)
- EA Flood Plain Defences
- EA Flood Plain Historic Flood Map
- EA Flood Plain areas which benefit from defences
- EA Flood Plain River Centrelines

Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2010.

This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Licence No. 100018416 2010.

| Rev | Description | Drawn | Approved | Date |
|-----|-------------|-------|----------|------|
| | | | | |

Genesis Centre
 Birchwood Science Park
 Warrington WA3 7BH
 Tel 01925 844004
 Fax 01925 844002
 email tep@tep.uk.com

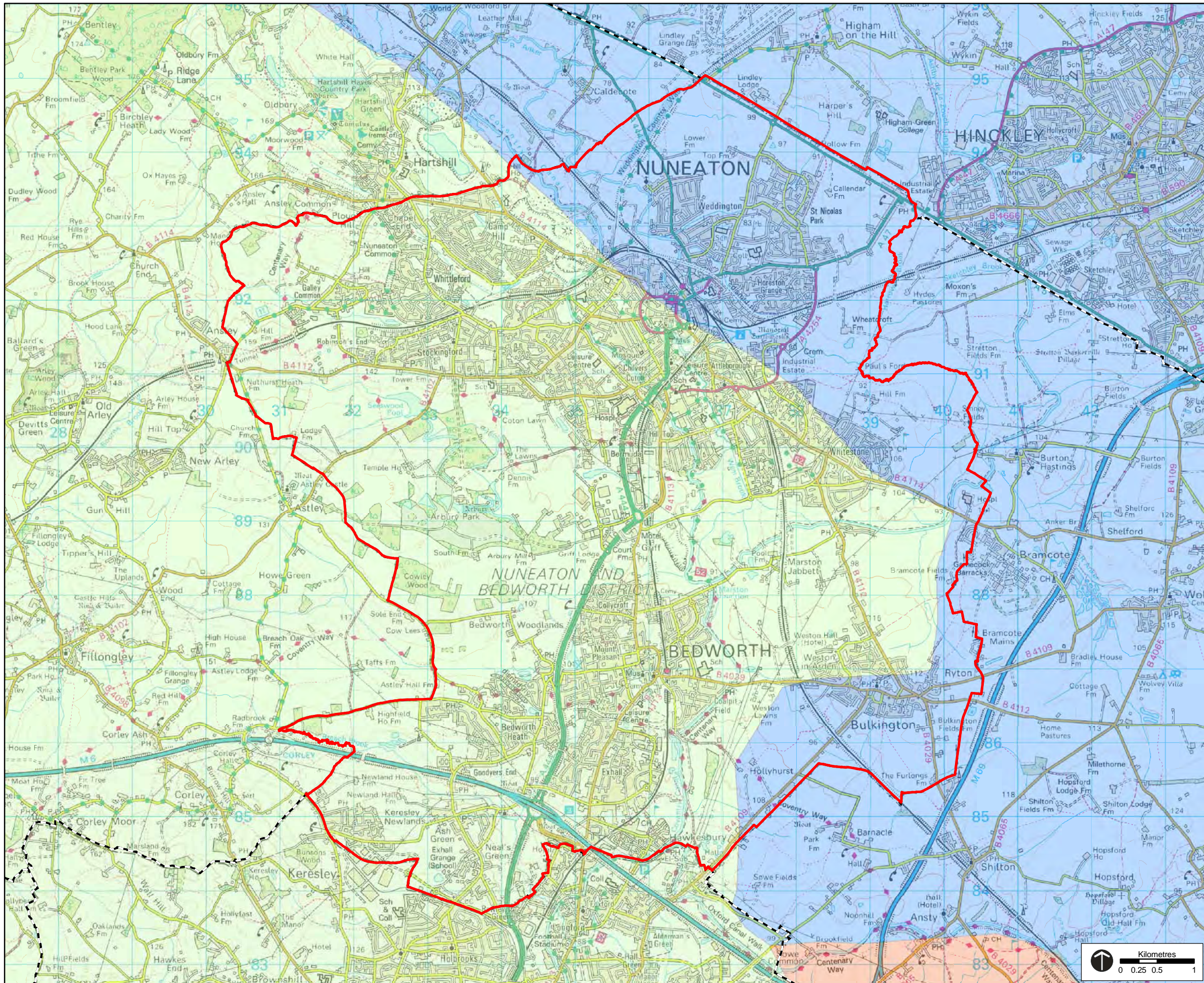
Project: **Nuneaton and Bedworth Land Use Survey**

Title: **Flood Zones**

Drawing No: **Figure 6.3**

Date: **13/10/10** TEP Ref No: **G2534.020**

| | | |
|-----------|-------------|--------------|
| Drawn: CB | Checked: TS | Approved: CG |
|-----------|-------------|--------------|



Key

- Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Boundary
- Other Local Authority Boundary

Natural Areas

- Midland Clay Pastures
- Midland Plateau
- Trent Valley and Rises

Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2010.

This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Licence No. 100018416 2010.

| Rev | Description | Drawn | Approved | Date |
|-----|-------------|-------|----------|------|
| | | | | |

Genesis Centre
Birchwood Science Park
Warrington WA3 7BH
Tel 01925 844004
Fax 01925 844002
email tep@tep.uk.com

Project: Nuneaton and Bedworth Land Use Survey

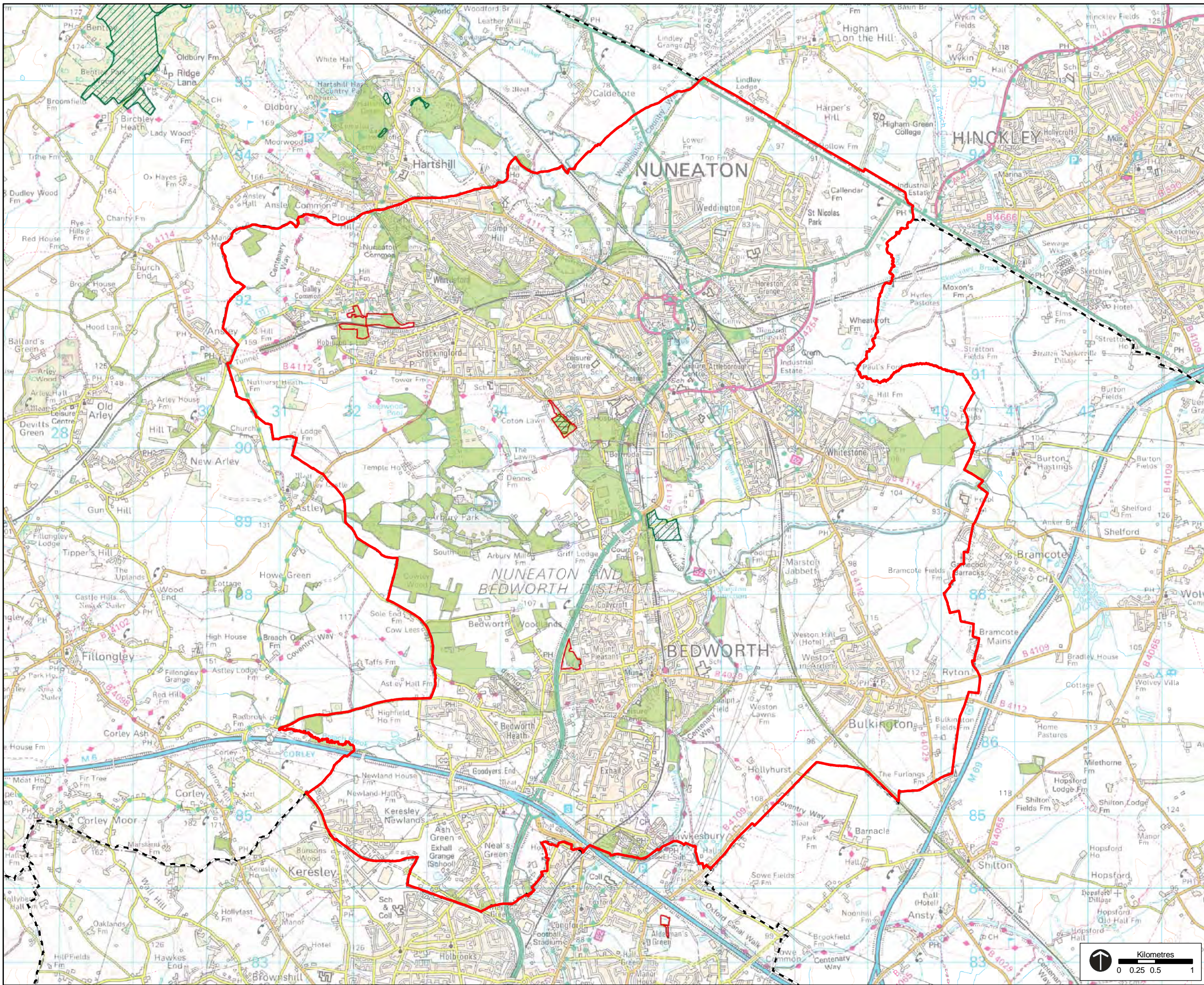
Title: Natural England Natural Areas

Drawing No: Figure 6.4

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| Date: 13/10/10 | TEP Ref No: G2534.021 |
|----------------|-----------------------|

| | | |
|-----------|-------------|---------------|
| Drawn: CB | Checked: TS | Approved: IJG |
|-----------|-------------|---------------|

Kilometres
0 0.25 0.5 1



Key

- Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Boundary
- Other Local Authority Boundary

Ecological Designations

- Special Areas of Conservation
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)
- Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Local Nature Reserve

Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2010.

This map includes data from the following sources:
- Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council

This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Licence No. 100018416 2010.

| Rev | Description | Drawn | Approved | Date |
|-----|-------------|-------|----------|------|
| | | | | |

Genesis Centre
Birchwood Science Park
Warrington WA3 7BH
Tel 01925 844004
Fax 01925 844002
email tep@tep.uk.com

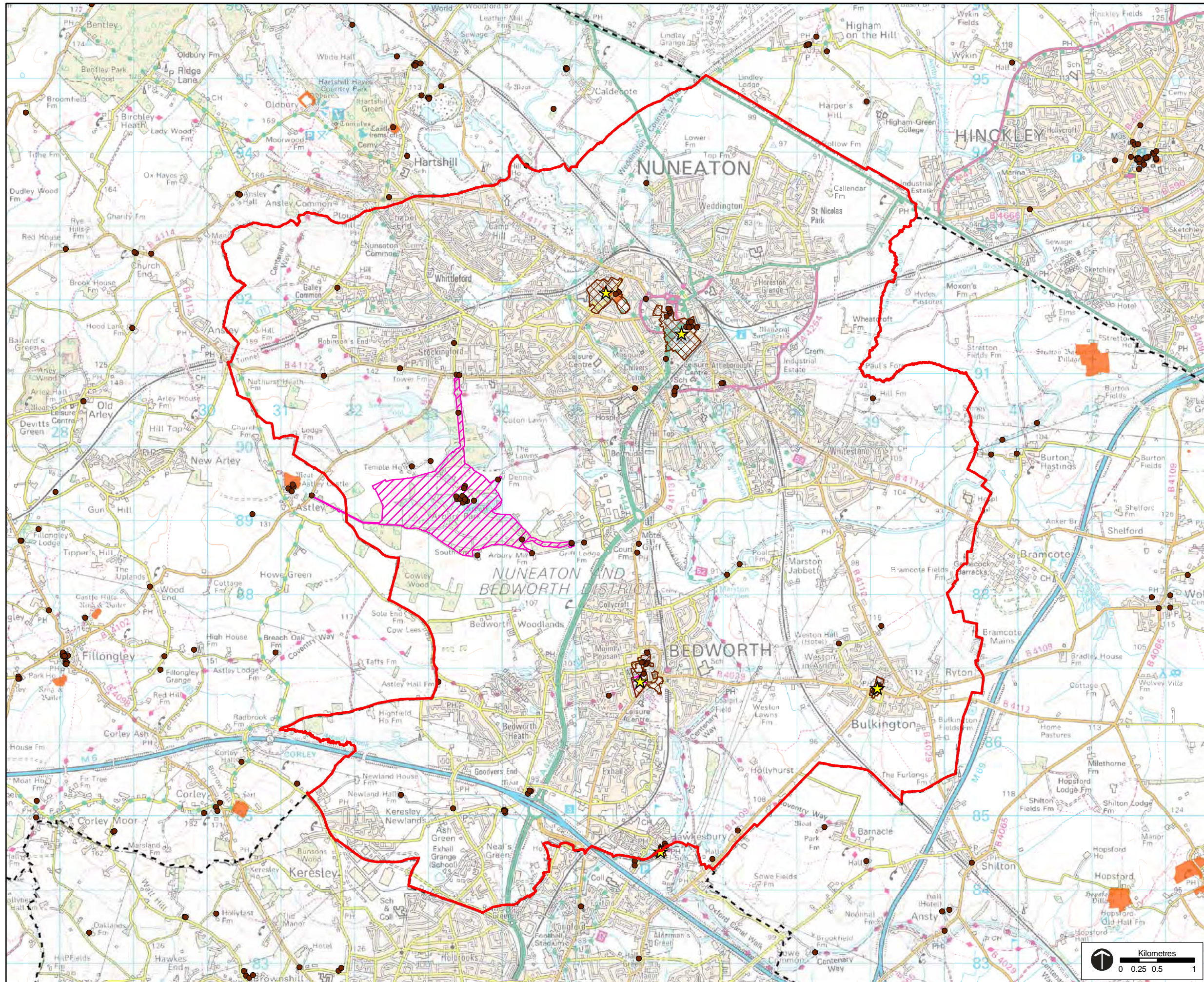
Project: Nuneaton and Bedworth Land Use Survey

Title: Ecology

Drawing No: Figure 6.5

Date: 14/10/10 **TEP Ref No: G2534.022**

Drawn: CB **Checked: TS** **Approved: IJG**



Key

- Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Boundary
- Other Local Authority Boundary
- Archaeological Designations**
- Scheduled Monuments
- Listed Building
- Conservation Area
- Registered Parks and Gardens

Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2010.
 This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Licence No. 100018416 2010.

| Rev | Description | Drawn | Approved | Date |
|-----|-------------|-------|----------|------|
| | | | | |

Genesis Centre
 Birchwood Science Park
 Warrington WA3 7BH
 Tel 01925 844004
 Fax 01925 844002
 email tep@tep.uk.com

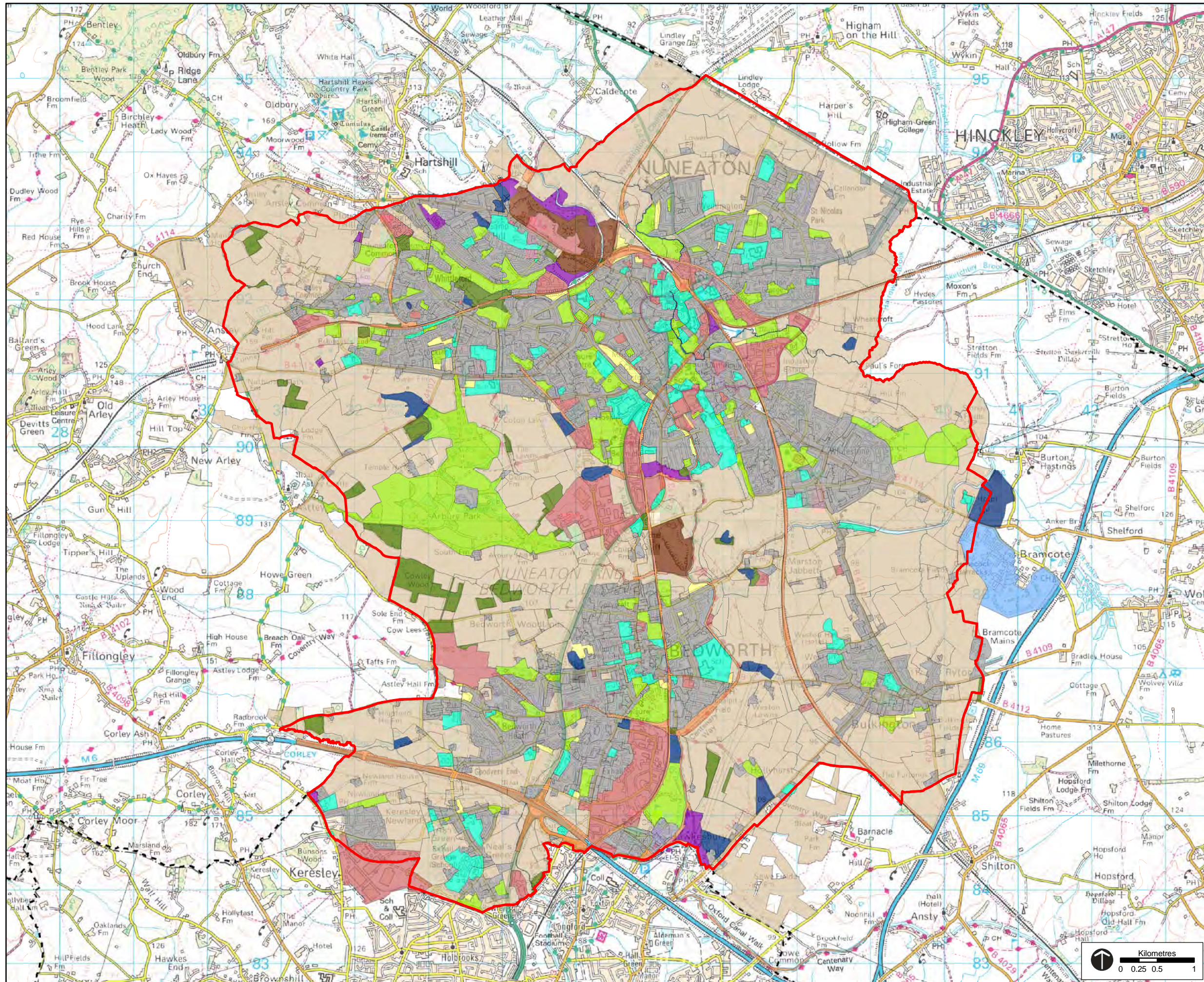
Project: **Nuneaton and Bedworth Land Use Survey**

Title: **Archaeology**

Drawing No: **Figure 6.6**

Date: **24/08/10** TEP Ref No: **G2534.005**

Drawn: **CB** Checked: **TS** Approved: **IJG**



Key

- Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Boundary
- Other Local Authority Boundary

Historic Landscape Character - Broadtype

- Civic and Commercial
- Military
- Fieldscapes
- Orchards and Allotments
- Designed Landscape
- Woodland
- Settlement
- Transportation
- Unimproved Land
- Industrial
- Extractive
- Water and Valley Floor

Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2010.

This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Licence No. 100018416 2010.

| Rev | Description | Drawn | Approved | Date |
|-----|-------------|-------|----------|------|
| | | | | |

Genesis Centre
Birmingham Science Park
Warrington WA3 7BH
Tel 01925 844004
Fax 01925 844002
email tep@tep.uk.com

Project: Nuneaton and Bedworth Land Use Survey

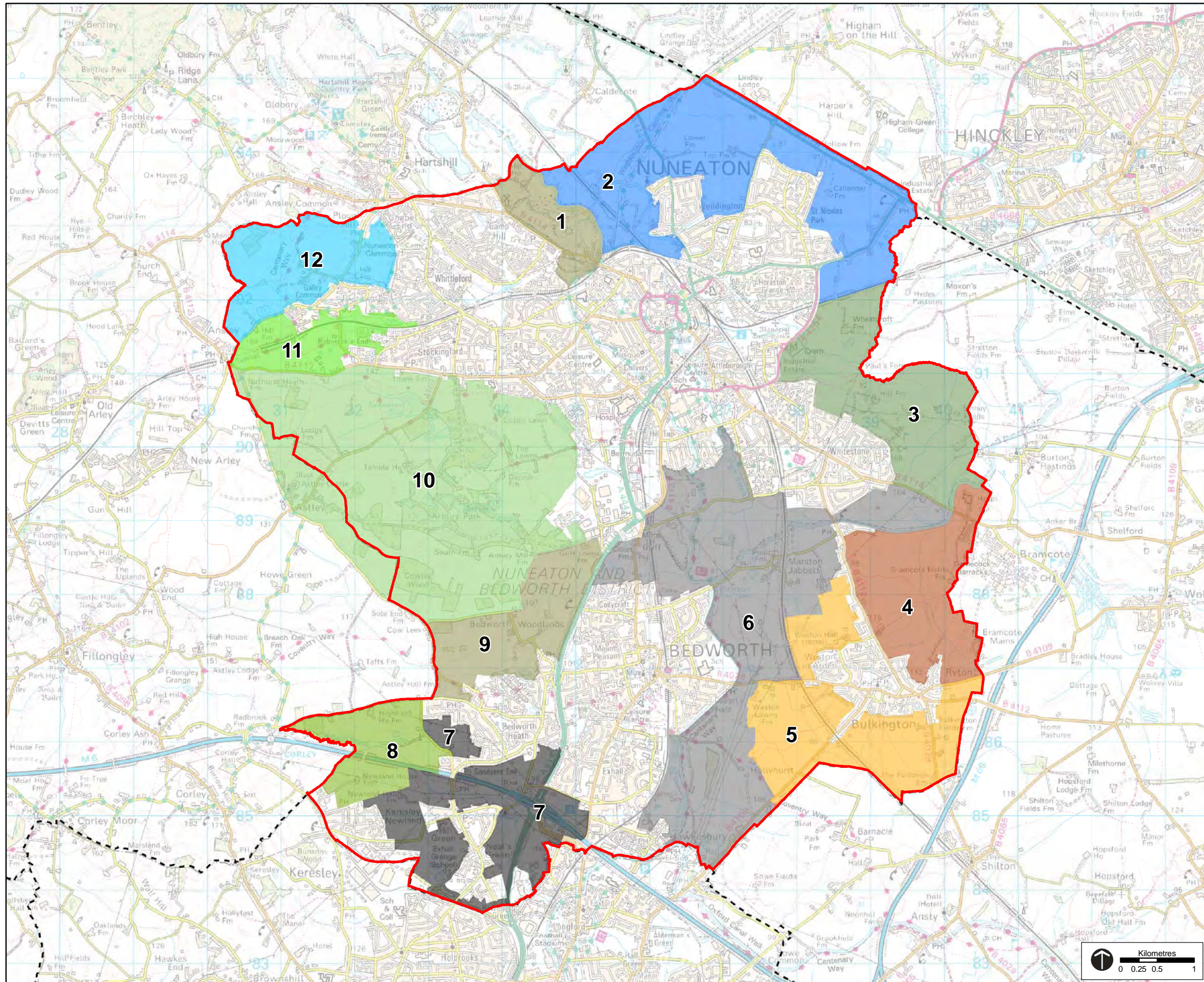
Title: Warwickshire Historic Landscape Character (Broadtype)

Drawing No: Figure 6.7

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| Date: 02/09/10 | TEP Ref No: G2534.008 |
|----------------|-----------------------|

| | | |
|-----------|-------------|---------------|
| Drawn: CB | Checked: TS | Approved: IJG |
|-----------|-------------|---------------|

Kilometres
0 0.25 0.5 1



Key

- Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Boundary
- Other Local Authority Boundary

Landscape Character Areas

- 1 Hartshill Uplands
- 2 Anker Valley Estate Farmlands
- 3 Nuneaton Estate Parklands
- 4 Bulkington Rolling Farmlands
- 5 Bulkington Village farmlands
- 6 Nuneaton and Bedworth Urban Fringes
- 7 Keresley Urban Fringes
- 8 Keresley Newlands Ancient Arden
- 9 Bedworth Woodlands Rural Fringe
- 10 Arbury Parklands
- 11 Galley Common Hill and Robinson's End Valley
- 12 Galley Common Hills and Valleys

Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2010.

This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Licence No. 100018416 2010.

| Rev | Description | Drawn | Approved | Date |
|-----|-------------|-------|----------|------|
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

Genesis Centre
Birchwood Science Park
Warrington WA3 7BH
Tel 01925 844004
Fax 01925 844002
email tep@tep.uk.com

Project: Nuneaton and Bedworth Land Use Survey

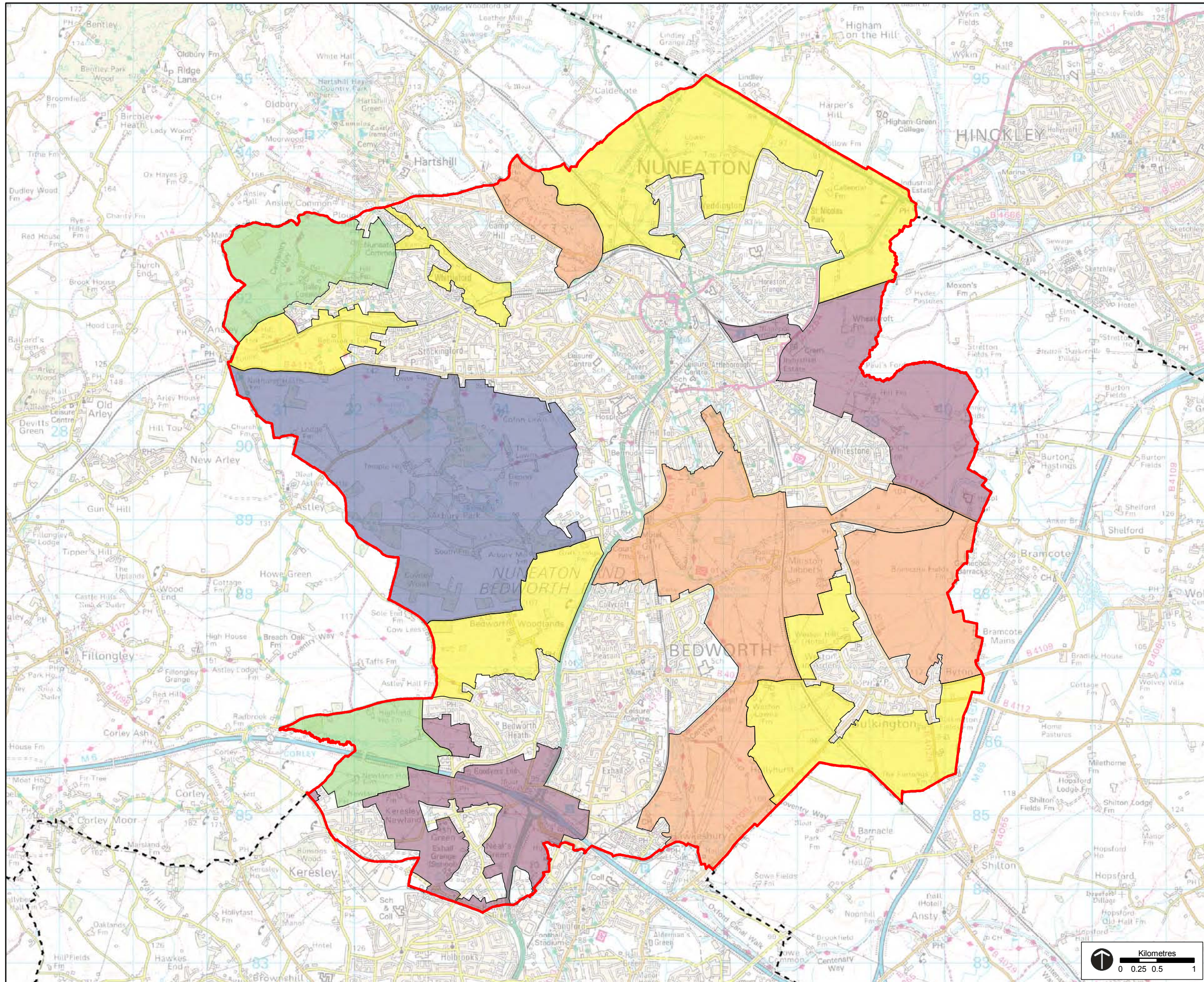
Title: Landscape Character Areas within Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough

Drawing No: Figure 7.1

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| Date: 14/10/10 | TEP Ref No: G2534.023 |
|----------------|-----------------------|

| | | |
|-----------|-------------|---------------|
| Drawn: CB | Checked: TS | Approved: IJG |
|-----------|-------------|---------------|

Kilometres
0 0.25 0.5 1



Key

- Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Boundary
- Other Local Authority Boundary

Landscape strategies

- Conserve and Enhance
- Conserve
- Enhance
- Enhance and Restore
- Restore and Create

Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2010.

This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Licence No. 100018416 2010.

| | | | | |
|-----|------------------------------------|-------|----------|----------|
| C | Landscape Area change, amended key | DH | CH | 30/05/12 |
| B | Landscape Area change | CB | TS | 21/06/11 |
| A | Landscape Area change | CB | TS | 16/03/11 |
| Rev | Description | Drawn | Approved | Date |

TEP Genesis Centre
Birchwood Science Park
Warrington WA3 7BH
Tel 01925 844004
Fax 01925 844002
email tep@tep.uk.com

Project: **Nuneaton and Bedworth Land Use Survey**

Title: **Landscape Management Strategies**

Drawing No: **Figure 7.2**

Date: 28/01/11 TEP Ref No: G2534.032c

| | | |
|-----------|-------------|---------------|
| Drawn: CB | Checked: TS | Approved: IJG |
|-----------|-------------|---------------|

