





OBJECTIVE	TARGET	PROGRESS	PLAN STATUS	
			2008-2010	2011-2019
A. To achieve condition of 55 of the existing sites above 0.25ha that are currently in unfavourable condition to favourable or improving (<i>see criteria below</i>), giving priority to those holding UK Priority Species & Red Data Book species.	2026	Target not achieved. However, improvement is known to have taken place at 7 sites including 4 National Trust properties, Compton Verney, Packington Park and Coombe Country Park (Coventry City Council).	Slight ↑	↑
B. To restore 100ha of degraded habitat to favourable condition.	2026	Our 2026 target has been exceeded. There had been a known 194ha of restoration by the National Trust, Coventry City Council and landowners.		
Key to status: 2010: ↑ Any improvement ↔ No change ↓ Decline				
2019: ↑ Good progress ↑ Some progress ↔ No change ↓ Decline				
Criteria for favourable condition (Joe Taylor, 2014)				
• Average sward height should be: 2-10cm between October – November: 5–15cm between April to May:				
• Between 20% and 80% open grassland with a mosaic of grazed turf, both closely grazed and taller tusks.				
• Less than 5% cover of undesirable weed species, e.g. ragwort, creeping thistle.				
• (In designed landscapes) Tree species and cover to be as close to original historical design as possible. This facilitates the planting of non- natives as is appropriate.				
• There should be obvious protection of archaeological features, either through effect monitoring and management plans, or clear reference and working practice if no management plans exist.				

PROPOSED ACTIONS	BY	REPORTED PROGRESS	NO.OF SITES/ ITEMS	TOTAL AREA/ LENGTH	% OF TARGET	ACTION STATUS ↑↑↔↓
PL1. Ensure that any site meeting the relevant criteria is considered for designation as an SSSI.	ongoing	No progress. 2019: there are no SSSI sites.				↔
PL2. Continue to select all qualifying old parkland sites as LWSs and/or Local Nature Reserves (LNR, or (if appropriate) Scheduled Ancient Monuments and enter onto database.	ongoing	No progress. HBA 2019: there are no specific parkland LWS. However, a few sites have parkland which are combined with other habitats (e.g. Coombe Abbey, Stoneleigh Deer Park south of golf course).				↔
PL3. Ensure that new minor or major developments aim for net biodiversity gain through adherence to the mitigation hierarchy.	ongoing	Some progress: Warwickshire County Council (WCC): all Local Planning Authorities promote biodiversity impact assessments that lead to net gains. No net loss stated. No current examples of net gain to date but will be in the future.				↑

PL4. Protect veteran trees by Tree Protection Orders (TPOs).	ongoing	<p>Little information has been obtained from Local Authorities (LAs).</p> <p>SDC: works within the guidelines for TPOs.</p>				
PL5. Ensure the protection of trees and parklands within formal Conservation Areas via the use of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 in the sub-region.	2018	<p>Little information has been obtained from LAs.</p> <p>Stratford District Council (SDC): works within the guidelines for conservation areas such as parks, LNRs and community woodland.</p> <p>Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council (SMBC): Urban Forestry Strategy 2019- 2029 promotes the crucial role the urban forest plays in our increasingly urbanised lives to ensure its character is maintained and enhanced for the long term.</p>				
SM1. Produce management plans for all priority old parkland within the county.	2020	<p>Some known progress.</p> <p>Sites in Higher Level Stewardship (HLS):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coombe Country Park and Upton House • National Trust sites: Charlecote, Farnborough Hall, Packwood and Baddesley Clinton. <p>Stoneleigh Deer Park has a detailed ecological management plan for the Business Centre area of the site, carried out by Parklands Consortium. There may be a management plan for the veteran trees within the old Royal Show Ground site.</p>	7 sites			
SM2. Continue to achieve favourable condition of 17 priority sites by 2020 and a further 38 priority sites by 2026 by appropriate management, bearing in mind that the condition of the grassland below the trees is also important.	2015-2026	<p>Some known progress.</p> <p>National Trust:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • parkland is managed unintensively under the HC12 maintenance option of the HLS scheme are Charlecote and Farnborough Hall. <p>Coombe Country Park: from 2015-2018, as part of HLS agreement that applies to most of the park, has achieved favourable condition of 81ha by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the use of selective herbicide to control creeping & spear thistle, ragwort and broad leaf dock in areas such as the old deer park pasture, with the help of the local grazier. • effective and ongoing protection of veteran trees allowing natural succession. <p>No information on management at 4 sites:</p> <p>Packington Park: was acid grassland but is now improved (J.Bowley).</p> <p>Talton House, Newbold on Stour: grounds contain veteran trees in good condition (J.Bowley)</p> <p>Shuckburgh Park: grounds contain veteran trees in good condition (J.Bowley)</p> <p>Stoneleigh Parkland: is now sparse but 143ha (3 sites) have been identified as improvable (see RM1); 101ha of it is in the NFU Farming Centre in the middle of the showground</p>	3 sites			

SM3. Restore 50ha of degraded habitat by 2020 and a further 50 ha by 2026, reducing the generation gap by planting new generations of open-grown trees on all priority sites. Target Coombe and Stoneleigh parks.	2020-2026	<p>2020 target vastly exceeded.</p> <p>National Trust: has carried out significant new parkland tree planting at Charlecote, and under the HC13 restoration option at Farnborough Hall (55.7ha), Packwood (24.4ha) and Baddesley Clinton (33.4ha)</p> <p>Upton House: the parkland (which is not in NT ownership) is in an HLS restoration scheme.</p> <p>Compton Verney: habitat restoration of 30ha in 2015 included wild flower seeding.</p> <p>Coombe Country Park: a 50ha parkland pasture restoration began in 2012 with the planting of 100+ standard oaks and an avenue of 25 limes. In 2016 seed from veteran trees was taken to Ryton seed bank.</p>	7 sites	194ha	250%	↑↑
SM4. Confine tree surgery and tree felling to the minimum required for public safety in order to maximise the life of the trees, taking care to retain veteran trees, and riverside trees for otter holts where safe to do so.	ongoing	<p>Some known progress.</p> <p>Coombe Country Park:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> tree surgery is limited to that required for the safety of people, where possible alternative methods to limit surgery, e.g. fencing, is used. 11 veteran trees have had modest management and have been protected by fencing to prevent compaction of roots. 2017/18 funded via Dunsmore Living Landscape NLHF. 	1 site			↑
SM5. Retain decaying wood, both standing and fallen, to maximise its value for wildlife (birds and insects), and for breeding sites, e.g. for lesser spotted woodpecker.	ongoing	<p>Some known progress.</p> <p>Coombe Country Park: all dead wood is left by the parent tree where it falls.</p>	1 known site			↑
RM1. Review sources of information and research all old parkland and veteran trees, in collaboration with Historic Landscape Characterisation, to form the best understanding of the number and total area of old parklands.	2016	<p>Achieved.</p> <p>A desk study by Richard Brown (Coventry University) in 2015 identified 147 sites in Warwickshire (excluding Solihull) in broadly improvable condition ('good', 'improvable' and 'destroyed but improvement possible', out of a list of 698 historical parkland sites, with a priority sub-set of 49 sites covering 1444ha suitable for restoration.</p> <p>Research on the 107 Solihull sites was carried out in 2019 by David Galiana Wallace, another graduate volunteer (see RM3).</p>	49 sites			↑
RM2. Maintain the HBA digitised data set of all parkland.	ongoing	<p>In progress.</p> <p>Habitat Biodiversity Audit (HBA): parkland is a Phase 1 habitat category and any creation of parkland will be recorded in addition to the current 602ha (2018). The extent, location, quality and management needs of all 93 sites of remaining and former wood-pasture and parkland sites and veteran trees in the county was recorded and digitised by the HBA team from the Natural England Wood-Pasture National Inventory updated in 2012.</p>		602ha		↑
RM3. Identify priority sites and potential opportunities for habitat	2015	<p>Achieved.</p> <p>A further desk study by Teveil Walker (University of Warwick) in 2016</p>	17 sites (Solihull)	100ha (Warwick-		↑

restoration (see SM3).		<p>identified 100ha (at 12 sites out of the original 147 'broadly improvable' sites in Warwickshire, see RM1) where it was judged, from a detailed analysis of many factors, that improvement would be achievable.</p> <p>Analysis of the Solihull sites by David Galiana Wallace (WCC Volunteer) in 2019 produced 17 sites with potential for restoration on the basis of proportion of open grassland and a mix of trees and grassland; these 'broadly improvable' sites will be filtered by further analysis and knowledge.</p>		shire)		
RM4. Undertake a series of parkland surveys of saproxylic invertebrates to gain further information regarding range and type of species present, e.g. using the Saproxylic Quality Index (NE, 2011) as a monitor.	2018	<p>Some progress.</p> <p>Coombe Country Park: its monitoring programme of veteran trees included a 2yr. survey of saprophytic beetles by Vane trapping, with investigatory base line survey was carried out in 2013 followed by Vane trapping in 2014.</p> <p>National Trust: no surveys specifically for invertebrates, although the general biological surveys of Baddesley Clinton (2008), Charlecote (2010), Farnborough (2011) and Packwood (2008) did include some sampling of inverts in old, open grown trees.</p>	1 site			↑
RM5. Update the veteran tree database.	ongoing	<p>In progress.</p> <p>The records of 2 pedunculate oaks at Haseley Hill and an oak at Charlecote Park have been added to the database.</p>				↑
CP1. Include veteran tree management at a parkland event.	2016	<p>Some progress.</p> <p>Charlecote: NT tree walks include veteran trees.</p> <p>Coombe Country Park: no specific event held but holds public and schools' education sessions looking at trees of all ages, including estimating the age of some of the veterans.</p>				↑
CP2. Ensure the provision of information on Good Practice guidelines for the retention of standing dead trees and associated fallen wood, and that links are made online.	2016	<p>Achieved.</p> <p>Coombe Country Park: veteran trees are fenced so all dead and fallen wood within drip line remains. A Veteran Tree Management plan was drawn up in 2009 and the restoration work is funded by Warwickshire Wildlife Trust Dunsmore.</p>				↑