

Woodland Management Plan

Woodland Property Name	Example 3	
Case Reference	00003	
Plan Period dd/mm/yyyy (Ten years)	Approval Date:	To:
Five Year Review Date	2019	

Revision No.	Date	Status (draft/final)	Reason for Revision
The landowner agrees this plan as a statement of intent for the woodland			Yes
<p>User Support</p> <p>The functionality in this version of the management plan template has been downgraded to ensure compatibility with Word 2003.</p>			

This document is not protected and as such rows can be added & deleted from tables where needed.

UKFS Management Planning Criteria

Approval of this plan will be considered against the following UKFS criteria, prior to submission review your plan against the criteria using the check list below.

No.	UKFS Management Plan Criteria	Approval Criteria	Applicant Check
1	Forest management plans should state the objectives of management and set out how the appropriate balance between economic, environmental and social objectives will be achieved.	Have objectives of management been stated? Consideration given to economic, environmental and social factors (Section 2.2)	Y
2	Forest management plans should address the forest context and the forest potential and demonstrate how the relevant interests and issues have been considered and addressed.	Does the management strategy (section 6) take into account the forest context and any special features identified within the woodland survey (section 4)	Y
3	In designated areas, for example national parks, particular account should be taken of landscape and other sensitivities in the design of forests and forest infrastructure.	Have appropriate designations been identified (section 4.2) if so are these reflected through the work proposals in the management strategy (Section 6)	Y
4	At the time of felling and restocking, the design of existing forests should be re-assessed and any necessary changes made so that they meet UKFS Requirements.	Felling and restocking are consistent with UKFS forest design principles (Section 5 of the UKFS)	Y
5	Consultation on forest management plans and proposals should be carried out according to forestry authority procedures and, where required, the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations.	Has consultation happened in line with current FC guidance and recorded as appropriate in section 7	Y
6	Forests should be designed to achieve a diverse structure of habitat, species and ages of trees, appropriate to the scale and context.	Do the felling and restocking proposals create or improve structural diversity (refer to the plan of operations)	Y
7	Forests characterised by a lack of diversity due to extensive areas of even-aged trees should be progressively restructured to achieve a range of age classes.	Do the felling and restocking proposals create or improve age class diversity (refer to the plan of operations)	Y
8	Management of the forest should conform to the plan, and the plan should be updated to ensure it is current and relevant.	Has a 5 year review period been stated (1st page) and where relevant achievements recorded in section 3	Y
9	New forests and woodlands should be located and designed to maintain or enhance the visual, cultural and ecological value and character of the landscape.	When new planting is being proposed under this plan is it consistent with UKFS and FC guidance on woodland creation	Y

1. Property Details

<u>Woodland Property Name</u>		Example 3	
Name	Dave Woodland	Owner YES	Tenant
Email	dave.woodland@woodland.uk	Contact Number	01808 888 888
Agent Name (if applicable)		Simon Weymouth	
Email	dave.agent@woodland.uk	Contact Number	01808 888 888
County	South East	<u>Local Authority</u>	South East
Grid Reference	SU 563 350	Single Business Identifier	120 919 889
Management Plan Area (Hectares)		190.09	
Have you included a Plan of Operations with this management plan?		Yes	
List the maps associated with this management plan		Map 1: Location Map 2: Registered Historic Park & Scheduled Ancient Monuments Map 3: Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSSI) Map 4: Ancient Semi Natural Woodland (ASNW) Map 5: Features (water/footpaths/overhead cables) Map 6: Stock map Map 7: Thinning Plan Map 8: Felling & Planting	
Do you intend to use the information within the management plan and associated plan of operations to apply for the following		Felling Licence	Yes
		Thinning Licence	Yes
		Woodland Regeneration Grant	No
Declaration of management control and agreement to public availability of the plan		Yes	

2. Vision and Objectives

To develop your long term vision, you need to express as clearly as possible the overall direction of management for the woodland(s) and how you envisage it will be in the future. This covers the duration of the plan and beyond.

2.1 Vision

Describe your long term vision for the woodland(s).

The vision and associated strategic priorities reflect the Woodlands family's desire to invigorate woodland management on the Estate. Through the increased management of the last 2 years, and the period of this plan, it is our vision to diversify the woodland habitats across the Estate. However, rather than introduce significant changes to tree species present (as the majority of the Estate is native and honorary native broadleaf), this plan will seek to diversify stand structures to the benefit of wildlife, amenity and capital value of the woodland resource.

The second strand of this vision is the restoration of the Parkland setting of The Parish through implementation of the relevant elements of the approved Parkland Restoration Plan. In addition to the felling and planting associated with this Restoration Plan, this is also the subject of the Woodfuel WIG Road Application.

A copy of the complete Parkland Restoration Plan can be supplied in support of this woodland management plan if required.

Underpinning our long term vision will be a foundation of good silvicultural practice and economic activities that will enable the Estate to financially sustain woodland management in to the future. The woodlands contain good quality broadleaf (AH, BE, SY) and our aim is to diversify the woodland structure, creating a wider age class distribution, regenerating tree species appropriate to site conditions. This will increase the woodlands' resilience to pests and diseases and the impacts of climate change, with particular emphasis on the management of Ash in the likely presence of *Chalara*.

Maintaining the traditional shooting interests across the Estate remains a core priority for the Baring family.

Our key priorities are:

- 1: To maintain and enhance the landscape character of the Estate, and in particular the woodland elements of The Parish Parkland Restoration Plan.
- 2: To enhance the amenity, ecological and timber value of the woodlands through active management (including ancient semi-natural woodlands).

- 3: To maximise the economic return from our productive woodlands, providing a sustainable resource of timber to supply to the timber market.
- 4: To invest in infrastructure, both to ensure profitability of future woodland management in certain areas, as well as restore the Parkland landscape around The Parish. We will seek the support of Woodfuel WIG to help achieve this.
- 5: To diversify the age structure and species mix within our woodlands.
- 6: To provide recreational opportunities for both locals and visitors.
- 7: To maintain and enhance the shooting interests within the woodlands.
- 8: To work in partnership with the statutory agencies and stakeholders to help to further the plan's objectives, in particular for the Parkland Restoration Plan.

Management Objectives

State the objectives of management demonstrating how sustainable forest management is to be achieved. Objectives are a set of specific, quantifiable statements that represent what needs to happen to achieve the long term vision.

No.	Objectives (include environmental, economic and social considerations) ¹
1	<p>Overall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To improve the quality and value of the woodlands in terms of timber, landscape and biodiversity in accordance with the United Kingdom Forestry Standard (UKFS) and demonstrating high standards of silvicultural practice. • To work in partnership with the statutory agencies, stakeholder interest groups and businesses to help improve the quality and capacity to deliver the woodland plan's objectives.
2	<p>Landscape</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>To deliver the woodland and infrastructure elements of The Parish Parkland Restoration Plan².</u> • <u>Elsewhere to maintain and enhance the woodland contribution to the landscape, as well as the internal landscape within woodlands³.</u>

¹ General Forestry Practice – Good forestry practice requirement: 9 - Forest management plans should state the objectives of management, and set out how the appropriate balance between economic, environmental and social objectives will be achieved.

² Forests and Landscape – Good practice guidance requirement: 2 - Forests should be designed and managed to take account of landscape designations, designed landscapes, historic landscapes and the various policies that apply.

³ Forests and Landscape – Good practice guidance requirement: 1 - Forests should be designed and managed to take account of the landscape context.

3	<p>Economy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To maintain a positive cash flow, through sustainable timber production to support woodland management activities. Where poor infrastructure inhibits this (such as in the north of the Parkland), seek grant and own resources to invest and address this. • Be open to opportunities to generate income from a range of activities within our woodlands that are complementary to our overall objectives.
4	<p>Environmental</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To maintain and enhance biodiversity with a focus on thinning and coppicing to reintroduce light to the woodland that has not been managed for some time (rides, woodland ground flora). • To enhance the ecological value through <u>management of veteran trees</u>⁴, deadwood habitats and increasing the proportion of native species on ancient woodland sites. Our long term aim is to create a broad range of habitats associated with a wide age class distribution. • To enhance the ecological value of the few areas of Ancient Semi Natural Woodland (ASNW) on the Estate. • To <u>maintain and enhance</u>⁵ <u>those areas of woodland within Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</u>⁶ / Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) areas. • To protect both <u>Scheduled and Unscheduled archaeology</u>⁷ (in consultation with parties such as Historic England) • To manage the shoot in such a way as to continue to allow other wildlife to thrive in the woodlands • To manage deer populations, balancing their cultural and amenity value with the need to regenerate woodlands and enhance biodiversity

⁴ Forests and Historic Environment – Good forestry practice requirement: 4 - Forest management plans and operational plans should set out how important historic environment features, including veteran trees, are to be protected and managed.

⁵ Forests and Biodiversity – Good forestry practice requirement: 1 – Forests and woodlands should be managed in a way that conserves or enhances biodiversity; opportunities for enhancing biodiversity should be considered in forest management plans.

⁶ Forests and Biodiversity – legal requirement: 1 – appropriate protection and conservation must be afforded where sites, habitats and species are subject to the legal provisions of EU directives and UK and country legislation. Advice can be obtained from the relevant authorities on minimising potentially adverse effects for management activity likely to affect them. For Natura 2000 sites likely to be affected, an appropriate assessment is required

⁷ Forests and Historic Environment – Legal requirement: 1 – Scheduled Monuments must not be damaged and consent must be obtained from the relevant historic environment authority for any works that have the potential to damage the monument.

5	<p data-bbox="225 241 1460 291">Access</p> <ul data-bbox="225 291 1460 837" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="225 291 1460 403">• To provide <u>public access for the enjoyment of the woodlands within the permissive access areas and on public rights of way</u>⁸.<li data-bbox="225 403 1460 515">• To provide public enjoyment of The Parish and associated parkland through both organised and informal access/events.<li data-bbox="225 515 1460 627">• To maintain parts of the Estate for private amenity and enjoyment.<li data-bbox="225 627 1460 837">• To ensure the <u>woodlands remain safe through the timely management of hazardous trees</u>⁹, and <u>to promote the responsible use of the woodlands</u>¹⁰.
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⁸ Forests and People – Good practice guidance requirement: 1 - Landowners and managers should consider providing access to their woodland, in addition to that required by statute.

⁹ Forests and People – Legal requirement: 11 – The landowner or manager must discharge their statutory duty of care in relation to people visiting land, whether or not they are there with permission.

¹⁰ Forests and People – Good forestry practice requirement: 5 – Hazards that pose significant and foreseeable risks to visitors should be managed to ensure the risks are minimised, whether or not the area is open to the public.

3. Plan Review - Achievements

Use this section to identify achievements made against previous plan objectives. This section should be completed at the 5 year review and could be informed through monitoring activities undertaken.

Objectives	Achievement
Economic - To manage all areas of woodland and yield an overall net financial return to the Estate	
Economic - To secure funding and own investment to deliver the required new road in the north of the Estate	
Landscape - To restore the views and vistas to and from The Parish as set out in the Restoration Plan	
Environment - To safeguard special features (wildlife, archaeology, watercourses) and enhance where opportunities exist.	
Access - To encourage enjoyment of this environment	

4. Woodland Survey

This section is about collecting information relating to your woodland and its location, including any statutory constraints i.e. designations.

3.1 Description

Brief description of the woodland property:

Located in the South East Downs, the Example 3 is a traditional, mixed agricultural estate on the North side of the York Valley between Wendford and South East. The wooded element of the Estate totals some 200 hectares. The remainder of the Estate is a mix of arable, pasture, water meadows, lakes, stream and a vineyard, which coupled with agricultural premises, domestic properties and The Parish (Grade 1 Listed) requires a breadth of management activities. Much of the agricultural land is managed within Entry Level Stewardship (ELS) and HLS.

Much of the Estate is centred along the York Brook Valley, a beautiful chalk stream of high regard, and designated as a SSSI for much of its length. This stream is a tributary of the York, with its confluence on the Estate.

The woodlands are predominately on higher ground. Soils in these areas are primarily shallow, lime-rich and loamy, with chalk or limestone beneath (Soilscape). The woodlands mainly comprise native broadleaf, with ash, beech and yew. In significant areas there is a major component of sycamore. Locally alternative species have been

planted with mixed results including Norway Spruce, Scots & Corsican Pine, Hybrid and European Larch.

Localised wet woodland occurs adjacent to the lakes and stream, comprising willow, alder and in one location poplar. Also, between the lakes is an area of ornamental tree and understorey planting.

During the last period of intensive management in the 1980's, significant areas of mixed broadleaf were planted in guards at 2-3m spacing. Species include beech, oak, ash, hornbeam, field maple, wild cherry, lime. Some of this planting may also date from the aftermath of the '87 and '90 storms.

In some of the woodlands, and within The Parkland, a range scrub species have been planted to provide game cover. Some areas have very old box. Others are plantings from the 1970-2000 comprising laurel, hazel, sweet chestnut, hawthorn, holly, box, ash, sycamore and birch.

The woodland NVC communities present are principally variants of W8 (Ash/Field Maple) and W12 (Beech/Yew).

3.2 Information

Use this section to identify features that are both present in your woodland(s) and where required, on land adjacent to your woodland. It may be useful to identify known features on an accompanying map. Woodland information for your property can be found on the [Magic](#) website or the Forestry Commission [Land Information Search](#).

Feature	Within Woodland(s)	Cpts	Adjacent to Woodland(s)	Map No
Biodiversity- Designations				
Site of Special Scientific Interest	Yes	34 & 35	Yes	3
Special Area of Conservation	No		No	
Tree Preservation Order	No		No	
Conservation Area	No		No	
Special Protection Area	No		No	
Ramsar Site	No		No	
National Nature Reserve	No		No	
Local Nature Reserve	No		No	
Other (please Specify): Registered Historic Parkland	Yes		Yes	2
Notes				

Feature		Within Woodland(s)	Cpts	Map No	Notes
Biodiversity - European Protected Species					
Bat	Species (if known)	Yes	All		Likely to be present throughout woodlands
Dormouse		Yes	All		Potential presence
Great Crested Newt		No			No records in area on NBN
Otter		Yes			Likely to be throughout Whills and York Valleys
Sand Lizard		No			Not applicable to land type.
Smooth Snake		No			Not applicable to land type.
Natterjack Toad		No			Not applicable to land type.

Biodiversity - Priority Species					
<u>Schedule 1 Birds</u>	Species:	No			Unknown Potential Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, Willow Tit
Mammals (Red Squirrel, Water Vole, Pine Marten etc)		Yes			Potential presence of water vole - lakes and stream, otter, dormouse
Reptiles (grass snake, adder, common lizard etc)		Yes			Potential presence
Plants		Yes			Unknown, but areas of ancient woodland / wet woodland
Fungi/Lichens		Yes			Unknown, but areas of ancient woodland / wet woodland
Invertebrates (butterflies, moths, beetles etc)		Yes			Unknown, but areas of ancient woodland
Amphibians (pool frog, common toad)		Yes			Potential presence of toad
Other (please Specify):		No			

Historic Environment				
Scheduled Monuments	Yes		2	1) The Parish 2) The deserted village of Kingsbury
Unscheduled Monuments	Yes/No			Unknown
Registered Parks and Gardens	Yes		2	Parkland (186ha)
Boundaries and Veteran Trees	Yes			Throughout the parkland and woodlands
Listed Buildings	Yes		2	The Parish
Other (please Specify):	Yes			Parkland is in HLS

Landscape				
National Character Area (please Specify): Hampshire Downs				
National Park	No			
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty	No			
Other (please Specify):	Yes		2	Parkland Restoration Plan with associated landscape elements

People				
CROW Access	No			
Public Rights of Way (any)	Yes		5	Several across the Estate
Other Access Provision	Yes		5	Permissive paths
Public Involvement	No			
Visitor Information	No			
Public Recreation Facilities	Yes			Events at The Parish. Fishing the Whills and York. Shooting days on the Estate
Provision of Learning Opportunities	No			
Anti-social Behaviour	No			
Other (please Specify):	Yes			Events at The Parish

Water				
Watercourses	Yes		5	Whills and York
Lakes	Yes		5	Whills, adjacent to The Grange
Ponds	Yes		5	
Other (please Specify):	Yes			Water meadows along stream valley

3.3 Habitat Types

This section is to consider the habitat types within your woodland(s) that might impact/inform your management decisions. Larger non-wooded areas within your woodland should be classified according to broad habitat type where relevant this information should also help inform your management decisions. Woodlands should be designed to achieve a diverse structure of habitat, species and ages of trees, appropriate to the scale and context of the woodland.

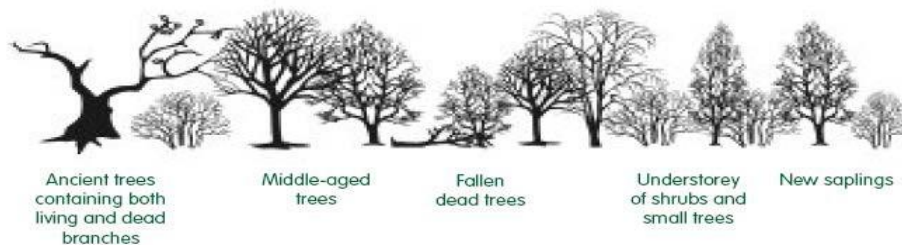
Feature	Within Woodland(s)	Cpts	Map No	Notes
Woodland Habitat Types				
Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland	Yes	13a, 17a, 19a, 27b, 28a	4	Data from Magic
Planted Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS)	No			
Semi-natural features in PAWS	No			
Lowland beech and yew woodland	Yes			W12
Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	Yes			W8
Wet woodland	Yes		6	Willow / alder
Wood-pasture and parkland	Yes		2	The Parish
Other (please Specify):	Yes/No			

Non Woodland Habitat Types				
Blanket bog	No			
Fenland	Yes		3	Water meadows - HLS
Lowland calcareous grassland	Yes			
Lowland dry acid grassland	No			
Lowland heath land	No			
Lowland meadows	Yes			
Lowland raised bog	No			
Rush pasture	No			
Reed bed	No			
Wood pasture	No			
Unimproved grassland	Yes			Potential - unknown.
Peat lands	No			
Wetland habitats	Yes		3	Water meadows and fen
Other (please Specify):	Yes/No			

This section should provide a snapshot of the current structure of your woodland as a whole. A full inventory for your woodland(s) can be included in the separate Plan of Operations spreadsheet. Ensuring woodland has a varied structure in terms of age, species, origin and open space will provide a range of benefits for the biodiversity of the woodland and its resilience. The diagrams below show an example of both uneven and even aged woodland.

Woodland Type (Broadleaf, Conifer, Coppice, Intimate Mix)	Percentage of Mgt Plan Area	Age Structure (even/uneven)	Notes (i.e. understory or natural regeneration present)
Native Broadleaf	70%	Even aged	HAZ often present. Those areas recently thinned are coppicing and regenerating (SY, AH), much of which is escaping browsing height.
Native Broadleaf	27%	Uneven aged	HAZ often present
Coniferous	1%	Even aged	
Intimate mix	2%	Even aged	Even-aged woodland – tidy but of low diversity

Uneven-aged woodland – many wildlife habitats because of high diversity



4. Woodland Protection

Woodlands in England face a range of threats; this section allows you to consider the potential threats that could be facing your woodland(s). Using the simple Risk Assessment process below woodland owners and managers can consider any potential threats to their woodland(s) and whether there is a need to take action to protect their woodlands.

4.1 Risk Matrix

The matrix below provides a system for scoring risk. The matrix also indicates the advised level of action to take to help manage the threat.

Impact	High	Plan for Action	Action	Action
	Medium	Monitor	Plan for Action	Action
	Low	Monitor	Monitor	Plan for Action
		Low	Medium	High
Likelihood of Presence				

4.2 [Plant Health](#)

Threat (e.g. Ash Dieback, <i>Phytophthora</i> , Needle Blight etc)	<i>Chalara fraxinea</i> (Ash dieback)
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Not present yet. Medium within lifetime of this 10 yr plan
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium – uncertain.
Response (inc protection measures)	This disease is thought likely to move across England in the coming years. The main responses to this for the Example 3 are to ensure that woodlands comprise a range of broadleaves, and that where natural regeneration is required, species other than ash need to be present and favoured. As Ash is a substantial component of the woods, supplementary planting will be considered if <i>Chalara</i> is affecting areas of regeneration.

Threat (e.g. Ash Dieback, <i>Phytophthora</i> , Needle Blight etc)	<i>Phytophthora ramorum</i>
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Not present yet. Medium within lifetime of this 10 yr plan
Impact (high/medium/low)	High
Response (inc protection measures)	As part of this plan the few compartments

	containing Larch spp will continue to be thinned and also monitored. Any change in the status of their health will result in prompt felling of the stand (in consultation with FC).
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Threat (e.g. Ash Dieback, <i>Phytophthora</i> , Needle Blight etc)	Dothistroma Needle Blight (DNB)
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	High within lifetime of this 10 year plan
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	As part of this plan the few compartments containing Pine species will continue to be thinned and also monitored. Any change in the status of their health will be monitored and a decision made whether to fell or wait and see if there is recovery the following year. Consultation with FC required if felling.

4.3 [Deer](#)

Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	High – primarily roe but with some fallow and Muntjac
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	The Example 3 employs a full-time Keeper who is responsible for deer management. The Estate has 53 fixed and portable high seats in place. The Keeper both manages deer numbers himself, and through permit and guided stalking. At present 70-80 deer are removed from the population each year.

4.4 [Grey Squirrels](#)

Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	High
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium

Response (inc protection measures)	The Estate uses warfarin to control squirrels, delivered via dedicated hoppers. These hoppers are moved in response to observed presence of squirrels. The Estate also shoots squirrels each year as resources/opportunities allow.
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4.5 Livestock and Other Mammals

Threat (Sheep, Horse, Rabbit etc)	Rabbits and hares
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Medium
Impact (high/medium/low)	Low
Response (inc protection measures)	Where recent thinning has taken place, monitoring has concluded that these species are not affecting natural regeneration/coppice shoots in these locations, at this time. Continue to monitor as this plan is implemented to ensure regeneration is secured.

4.6 Water & Soil

Threat (Soil Erosion, Pollution, Acidification of Water etc)	Sediment inputs to Whills Brook
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Low
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	Where woodlands are in proximity to the stream/lakes, or are on steep slopes above the stream/lakes, any woodland management operations will only take place during dry periods during the summer months so as to avoid soil disturbance. Suitable buffer zones as detailed in UKFS will be maintained and the Environmental Agency and Natural England's consent obtained for any works adjacent water bodies.

Threat (Soil Erosion, Pollution, Acidification of Water etc)	Pollution of Whills Brook / lakes
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Low
Impact (high/medium/low)	High
Response (inc protection measures)	When working in proximity to watercourses adhere to good environmental and UKFS practices. Ensure there is a regular inspection of machinery for oil leaks. All machinery will have adequate spill kits. Re- fuelling will be at a designated point (from

bunded fuel tank) a safe distance from watercourses. Machinery will not be left unattended near watercourses.

4.7 Environmental

Threat (Pollution, Fire, Flood, Wind, Invasive Species, Anti-social Behaviour etc)	Wind
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Low
Impact (high/medium/low)	High
Response (inc protection measures)	In exposed woodlands ensure that the reintroduction of thinning to the site is light and incremental. To heavily thin an area that is overdue a management intervention in an exposed location will increase the risk of damage by storm events.

Threat (Pollution, Fire, Flood, Wind, Invasive Species, Anti-social Behaviour etc)	Invasive species
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	High
Impact (high/medium/low)	Low
Response (inc protection measures)	Continue removal of laurel and similar non-native species and provide alternatives for game cover.

4.8 [Climate Change](#) Resilience

Threat (Uniform Structure, Provenance, Lack of)	Uniform structure/lack of diversity
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	High –in those woodlands where not managed in recent years.
Impact (high/medium/low)	High
Response (inc protection measures)	Reintroduce thinning to these stands to increase light levels, allowing regeneration of several species. Over time this will provide variety to age structure and species composition, thereby increasing resilience.

Threat (Uniform Structure, Provenance, Lack of Diversity etc)	Provenance
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Medium
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	Significant areas of broadleaf planting was undertaken in the late '70's-early '80's. A variety of species were planted, and no doubt from a range of sources. These stands need management to safeguard this investment and to ensure timber quality is achieved. Whilst this is a significant priority in the first 5 years of the plan, thinning elsewhere may present opportunities for new supplementary planting which would require species and provenance considerations.

5. Management Strategy

This section requires a statement of intent, setting out how you intend to achieve your management objectives and manage important features identified within the previous sections of the plan. A detailed work programme by sub-compartment can be added to the Plan of Operations.

Management Obj/Feature	Management Intention
<p>Overall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve the quality and value of the woodlands in terms of timber, landscape and biodiversity in accordance with the UKFS standard and demonstrating high standards of silvicultural practice. To work in partnership with the statutory agencies, stakeholder interest groups and businesses to help improve the quality and capacity to deliver the woodland plans objectives. 	<p>Through this management plan the Estate's woodlands will be brought back in to management. The intention is that, through sustainable <u>thinning regimes</u>¹¹, the woodlands will be enhanced by increasing light levels. This will encourage regeneration and the subsequent <u>development of structural diversity within stands</u>¹², with a range of associated benefits. UKFS guidance and best practice will be adhered to <u>protect European Protected Species (EPS) and priority species</u>¹³.</p> <p>Due to the nature of the Estate, woodland management does not sit in isolation of other interests in this landscape. In order to manage these woodlands, <u>discussion is required at both the management plan stage</u>¹⁴, and at the <u>operational stage</u>¹⁵, to ensure that these plan objectives are delivered. As such the intention is to communicate the objectives and practical delivery of the plan with interested parties to ensure positive outcomes for the woodland, the wider landscape, and to achieve a net income for the Estate.</p>

¹¹ Biodiversity Guidelines: 22 - Identify sites for long-term forest cover and thin them early.

¹² General Forestry Practice Guidelines: 14 and Biodiversity Guidelines: 17 - Maintain a range of stand structures and silvicultural approaches across the forest as a whole, including veteran trees, open-crowned trees, open space and areas of natural regeneration.

¹³ Biodiversity Guidelines: 4 – For new forest and woodland proposals, include an assessment of the potential impacts on priority habitats and species as part of the forest planning process.

¹⁴ People Guidelines: 2 – As part of the forest planning process, consider which individuals and organisations from all groups in society may have an interest in the formulation of forest management proposals, or something to contribute.

¹⁵ General Forestry Practice Guidelines: 2 - Produce a clear operational plan that is understood by all those working on the site.

<p>Landscape</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To deliver the woodland and infrastructure elements of The Parish Parkland Restoration Plan. <p>Elsewhere to maintain and enhance the woodland contribution to the landscape, as well as the internal landscape within woodlands.</p>	<p>The <u>approved Parkland Restoration Plan¹⁶</u> has been prepared to <u>address the landscape objectives for much of the Example 3¹⁷</u>. <u>Where relevant, this woodland management plan¹⁸ intends to implement those findings¹⁹</u>. In addition, the Woodland Management Plan intends to address the need for an alternative lorry access route in the north of the Parkland, and this is the subject of a Woodfuel WIG application.</p> <p>It is intended to undertake a range of thinning operations as part of this management plan. <u>As such the external landscape interest will be maintained²⁰, whilst within the woodlands the internal landscape will be enhanced²¹</u>.</p>
<p>Economy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To maintain a positive cash flow, through sustainable timber production to support woodland management activities. Where poor infrastructure inhibits this, seek grant and own resources to invest and address this. Be open to opportunities to generate income from a range of activities within our woodlands that are complementary to our overall objectives. 	<p>Recent experience has shown that some areas of woodland are uneconomic due to the distance timber must be extracted to the nearest lorry access point. It is intended to remedy this through seeking grant to support the Estate's own resources to invest in this - a Woodfuel WIG application has been made.</p> <p>The Estate will remain vigilant of changes / opportunities in the timber sector. The Estate intends to secure best value in the market place for the timber produced. Whilst there are no specific 'alternative woodland activities' in mind at present, the Estate will be alive to potential business opportunities that can develop in harmony with the environmental objectives of the woodlands.</p>

¹⁶ Historic Environment Guidelines: 10 – Ensure the historic environment considerations are fully integrated into the forest planning process.

¹⁷ Landscape Guidelines: 12 – If the landscape is not listed, but there is evidence that it is part of a park or designed layout, investigate the original design intentions and use these to inform design proposals.

¹⁸ Historic Environment Guidelines 3 and Landscape Guidelines: 10 – Consider the impacts of forestry on the historical context and landscape character in forest management plans; consider opportunities to complement, enhance or re-create landscapes of historic interest.

¹⁹ Landscape Guidelines: 3 – Where new forests or woodlands are proposed, consider the capacity of the landscape to accommodate change, and design them to have a positive impact on landscape character.

²⁰ Landscape Guidelines: 7 - Ensure that forest designs adequately reflect the visual sensitivity and local distinctiveness.

²¹ Landscape Guidelines: 4 – Analyse the visual sensitivity and local distinctiveness of the landscape; consider visibility, how people view the area, the nature of the viewing experience and the importance of views.

<p>Environmental</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To maintain and enhance biodiversity with a focus on thinning and coppicing to reintroduce light to the woodlands that has not been managed for some time (rides, woodland ground flora). • To enhance the ecological value through management of veteran trees, deadwood habitats. Our long term aim is to create a broad range of habitats within woodlands, associated with a wide age class distribution. • To enhance the ecological value of the few areas of ASNW on the Estate. • To maintain and enhance those areas of woodland within SSSI / HLS areas. • To protect both Scheduled and Unscheduled archaeology (in consultation with parties such as English Heritage) 	<p>It is intended to undertake a range of thinning and coppicing operations as part of this management plan. Increased light levels along rides and within the woodlands will promote ground flora and associated invertebrate fauna.</p> <p><u>Veteran trees will be retained, and, where in competition with others – ‘halo’ as necessary to safeguard them²². Stood and fallen deadwood will be left in situ wherever possible²³ – exceptions being where H&S or access precludes this.</u></p> <p>Almost all of the ASNW already supports native broadleaf woodland of varying ages. The only exception is Finchley Wood in the east of the Estate which has <u>a minor component of HL and CP which will be thinned out completely over the next 10-15 years²⁴</u>. However, caution is necessary with respect to the future viability of Ash as part of this species mix.</p> <p>Continue to manage in accordance with Natural England’s site management statements / HLS contract to deliver favorable status.</p> <p>There is no Scheduled Archaeology within the woodlands, <u>but the management needs to be aware of these designated features in the wider Estate²⁵</u>. Elsewhere there are very few known features within the woodlands. The Estate will consider a Woodland Assessment Grant to investigate this further.</p>
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²² General Forestry Practice Guidelines: 11, Biodiversity Guidelines: 24 and Historic Environment Guidelines: 16 - Retain and manage existing veteran trees and select and manage suitable individuals to eventually take their place.

²³ General Forestry Practice Guidelines: 10, Climate Change Guidelines: 10 and Biodiversity Guidelines: 23 – leave a proportion of standing and fallen deadwood: concentrate it in areas of high ecological value, where there is existing deadwood and where linkages can be provided between deadwood habitats – avoid uniform distribution across the forest management unit.

²⁴ Biodiversity Guidelines: 35 – on plantations on ancient woodland sites (PAWS), ensure that features of ancient woodland remnants are protected and consider progressive restoration to native woodland.

²⁵ Historic Environment Guidelines: 21 – Avoid disturbing the ground on or near sites of historical significance.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To manage the shoot in such a way as to continue to allow other wildlife to thrive in the woodlands • To manage deer populations, balancing their cultural and amenity value with the need to regenerate woodlands and enhance biodiversity 	<p>The Estate intends to maintain a low-intensity mixed shoot of partridge and pheasant. Due to the modest scale of this activity, it does not represent a conflict with the wider objectives of enhancing wildlife in these woodlands.</p> <p>The Estate will continue to <u>manage the local deer population through culling²⁶ by the Keeper, supplemented by stalking with Clients²⁷</u>. Across the Estate there are 53 high seats for this purpose. At present some 70-80 deer are removed from the population each year (fallow, Muntjac and roe). <u>Deer Impact Assessment will be completed to demonstrate the effectiveness of this management²⁸</u>.</p>
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²⁶ Biodiversity Guidelines: 42 - take action to control grazing levels that will have negative impacts on the woodland or its biodiversity.

²⁷ General Forestry Practice Guidelines: 20 and Biodiversity Guidelines: 43 – In areas where deer are a threat, develop deer management plans – ideally in co-operation with local deer management groups.

²⁸ General Forestry Practice Guidelines: 19 – Monitor forest damage, and intervene to protect vulnerable trees from browsing and grazing mammals, including voles, deer, rabbits, hares, grey squirrels and livestock.

Access	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide public access for the enjoyment of the woodlands within the permissive access areas and on public rights of way. 	<p>The Estate will <u>maintain existing public access routes through the woodlands and the wider Estate</u>²⁹.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide public enjoyment of The Parish and associated Parkland through both organised and informal access/events. 	<p>The Estate will continue to provide <u>formal and informal opportunities for access</u>³⁰ through a range of events. This allows local people and visitors to the area an opportunity to enjoy this landscape.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To maintain parts of the Estate for private amenity and enjoyment. 	<p>Some areas of the Estate will remain for the private enjoyment of the family.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure the woodlands remain safe through the timely management of hazardous trees, and to promote the responsible use of the woodlands. 	<p>The Estate will continue to manage their Health & Safety responsibilities for hazardous trees through a programme of assessment, monitoring and remedial works as required.</p> <p><u>Should fly-tipping or other anti-social behaviour become a problem</u>³¹ – <u>instigate remedies to dissuade such activity or alternatively to install technology to record evidence of those responsible</u>³².</p>

²⁹ People Guidelines: 3 – Consider increasing public access to forests and options for how this could be achieved.

³⁰ People Guidelines: 14 – Consider providing facilities for public recreation within forests and woodlands and how these can be managed.

³¹ People Guidelines: 23 – In forest management plans, use design solutions to mitigate the problems of vandalism and anti-social behaviour.

³² People Guidelines: 24 – Where vandalism or litter occurs, aim to act promptly to remedy the situation and thus remove the likelihood of further problems.

6. Stakeholder Engagement

There can be a requirement on both the FC and the owner to undertake consultation/engagement. Please refer to [Operations Note 35](#) for further information. Use this section to identify people or organisations with an interest in your woodland and also to record any engagement that you have undertaken, relative to activities identified within the plan.

Work Proposal	Individual/ Organisation	Date Contacted	Date feedback received	Response	Action
Parkland Restoration Plan	Historic England			Restoration plan approved prior to preparation of this plan – so relevant elements adopted	
Parkland Restoration Plan	South East City			As above	
HLS – The Parish, Whills Brook & River York	Clare Bennett, Natural England			HLS management already in place – including minor scrub and tree removal. Therefore not included in this plan.	
HLS – The Parish, Whills Brook & River York	William Flower, South East Wildlife Trust			As above.	

7. Monitoring

Indicators of progress/success should be defined for each management objective and then checked at regular intervals. Other management activities could also be considered within this monitoring section. The data collected will help to evaluate progress³³.

Management Objective/Activities	Indicator of Progress/Success	Method of Assessment	Frequency of Assessment	Responsibility	Assessment Results
Overall. To improve the quality and value of the woodlands	Thinning activities are taking place during the plan period		5 year review	Estate	Areas have been thinned. Opportunities for diversifying the woodland age structure. Timber produced and sold. Net income. Regeneration encouraged, developing and secured from browsing.
To work in partnership	The Parish Parkland Plan is agreed and can be implemented		Annual	Estate	Felling and planting achieved. Old track removed to enhance landscape. New track approved and built.
To deliver the woodland and infrastructure elements of The Parish Parkland Restoration Plan.	Approvals in place. Wood fuel WIG contribution to cost of construction. Felling and planting implemented.		Annual	Estate	Elements of plan completed
To maintain and enhance the woodland contribution to the landscape	Woodlands remain – thinning rather than clear fells		5 year review	Estate	Internal landscape enhanced, external landscape maintained.

³³ General Forestry Practice – Good forestry practice requirement: 16 - Management of the forest should conform to the plan, and the plan should be updated to ensure it is current and relevant.

To maintain a positive cash flow	Annual budget for woodland operations to ensure positive cash flow		Annual	Estate	Positive return on investment (harvesting, infrastructure, staff time)
Be open to opportunities to	New ideas come		Annual	Estate	New ventures investigated.

generate income	forward for consideration				Acceptability in conjunction with woodland management considered.
To maintain and enhance biodiversity	Increased light levels, ride-widening		5 year review	Estate	Well-developed ground flora, diverse woodland habitats with enhanced structure
To manage veteran trees and deadwood habitats	Veteran trees safeguarded. Deadwood present in all stands.		5 year review	Estate	Veterans protected – competing trees removed if required. PAWS sites having increasing % of native species over plan period
To maintain and enhance ASNW sites	For the one ASNW where non-natives are present (Finchley Wood), over 10-15 years thin out remaining conifer		5 year review	Estate	Reduced % of conifer over time, leading to complete removal in 10-15 year period.
To maintain and enhance woodland in SSSI / HLS areas	Continue to work with Natural England to ensure favourable conservation status		5 year review	Estate/ Natural England	Favourable Conservation Status secured
To protect both Scheduled and Unscheduled archaeology	Known sites are protected and increase understanding of historic environment		Annual	Estate / English Heritage / Local Heritage Officer at South East City	Sites safeguarded whenever woodland operations take place
To maintain a low-intensity mixed shoot	Shoot can operate without conflict to wider woodland outcomes		5 year review	Estate	Successful shoot. Woodland management continues to deliver wider benefits within these areas.

To manage deer populations	Deer Impact Assessment. Cull figures		Annual	Estate	Impact Assessments demonstrate low browsing. Record of cull figures
To maintain permissive access areas and on public rights of way	Access routes maintained through programme of work		Annual	Estate	Annual inspection to maintain access, clear back vegetation and any fallen trees.
To maintain organised and informal access/events.	A range of events throughout the year		Annual	Estate	Number of visitors to the Estate to enjoy the parkland, The Parish, and the wider woodlands.
To ensure the woodlands remain safe through the timely management of hazardous trees, and to promote the responsible use of the woodlands	System for assessing, monitoring and implementing tree safety to reduce risks. Record and reduce incidence of antisocial behaviour.		Annual	Estate	Recorded tree safety management system. For antisocial behaviour – a system of recording and associated prevention measures

FC Approval – FC Office Use Only

UKFS Management Plan Criteria	Approval Criteria	Achieved	Notes
Forest management plans should state the objectives of management, and set out how the appropriate balance between economic, environmental and social objectives will be achieved.	Have objectives of management been stated? Consideration given to economic, environmental and social factors (Section 2.2)	Yes	
Forest management plans should address the forest context and the forest potential, and demonstrate how the relevant interests and issues have been considered and addressed.	Does the management strategy (section 6) take into account the forest context and any special features identified within the woodland survey (section 4)	Yes	
In designated areas, for example national parks, particular account should be taken of landscape and other sensitivities in the design of forests and forest infrastructure.	Have appropriate designations been identified (section 4.2) if so are these reflected through the work proposals in the management strategy (Section 6)	Yes	
At the time of felling and restocking, the design of existing forests should be re-assessed and any necessary changes made so that they meet UKFS Requirements.	Felling and restocking are consistent with UKFS forest design principles (Section 5 of the UKFS)	Yes	
Consultation on forest management plans and proposals should be carried out according to forestry authority procedures and, where required, the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations.	Has consultation happened in line with current FC guidance and recorded as appropriate in section 7	Yes	
Forests should be designed to achieve a diverse structure of habitat, species and ages of trees, appropriate to the scale and context.	Do the felling and restocking proposals create or improve structural diversity (refer to the plan of operations)	Yes	
Forests characterised by a lack of diversity due to extensive areas of even-aged trees should be progressively restructured to achieve a range of age classes.	Do the felling and restocking proposals create or improve age class diversity (refer to the plan of operations)	Yes	
Management of the forest should conform to the plan, and the plan should be updated to ensure it is current and relevant.	Has a 5 year review period been stated (1st page) and where relevant achievements recorded in section 3	NA	
New forests and woodlands should be located and designed to maintain or enhance the visual, cultural and ecological value and character of the landscape.	When new planting is being proposed under this plan is consistent with UKFS and FC guidance on woodland creation	Yes	
Approving Officer Name	Florence Carter	Plan approved	Yes