

ENVIRONMENT

through its Single Regeneration Budget. The urban fringes of the Erewash Valley contain many areas of derelict land which would be capable of reclamation to the overall benefit of the area. Where a derelict site is of wildlife value, its reclamation may simply entail fencing and habitat management. It follows that there is no intention to harm wildlife through reclamation schemes and existing habitats will be protected and enhanced if they are considered to be important. As derelict land may contain contaminants, before reclamation takes place an environmental statement will be required where appropriate (in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Assessment of Environmental Effects) Regulations 1988).

- 6.6 Derelict land is also considered to be a valuable resource as potential land for development, particularly in the long term, as other housing and industrial sites are developed and pressure builds up for development in the urban areas, outside the green belt.

PROPOSAL EV2 - DERELICT LAND

DERELICT LAND WILL BE RECLAIMED FOR RECREATION, NATURE CONSERVATION, INDUSTRY OR OTHER USES CONSIDERED APPROPRIATE. PRIORITY WILL BE GIVEN TO SCHEMES IN THE ILKESTON, EREWASH VALLEY, URBAN FRINGE OR GREEN BELT AREAS, WHICH PROVIDE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES OR PROVIDE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND/OR WILDLIFE HABITATS. WHERE A DERELICT SITE IS OF WILDLIFE VALUE ITS RECLAMATION WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN A SENSITIVE WAY FOLLOWING HABITAT CONSERVATION PRINCIPLES. WHERE REQUIRED BY THE REGULATIONS, AN ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT WILL BE REQUIRED.

Protection of Open Land

- 6.7 Between the green belt and the edge of urban areas, there are visually important areas of open land having the dual function of forming buffers between the countryside and the built environment, and providing open space for informal recreation, such as walking.

Green Wedge

- 6.8 Between Ilkeston and Kirk Hallam there is an important open break which maintains the separate identity of the settlements, provides a valuable recreational resource and comprises a mixture of wildlife habitats, some of which are recorded on the Derbyshire Biological Sites Register.
- 6.9 This area, between the Green Belt, on the west, and Ilkeston, on the east, forms a classic "green wedge" and needs to be protected from harmful development. As a green wedge, it compliments the Green Belt and maintains the open land for recreational use, wildlife and as a visual amenity.

PROPOSAL EV3/I PROTECTION OF OPEN LAND - GREEN WEDGE

DEVELOPMENT THAT WOULD LEAD TO THE COALESCENCE OF ILKESTON AND KIRK HALLAM OR HAVE AN ADVERSE IMPACT ON THE WILDLIFE OR AMENITY VALUE OF LAND BETWEEN ILKESTON AND KIRK HALLAM, AS SHOWN ON THE PROPOSALS MAP, WILL NOT NORMALLY BE PERMITTED. DEVELOPMENT WHICH RETAINS THE OPEN CHARACTER OF THE LAND MAY BE PERMITTED.