

**REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR POLICY, PLANNING AND
CORPORATE SERVICES****TRENT VALE LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP****Purpose of the Report**

1. To provide a final update on the Heritage Lottery Funded Trent Vale Landscape Partnership Scheme.

Information and Advice

2. Trent Vale Landscape Partnership (TVLP) Scheme was a three year programme which ran from January 2010 to December 2012. The Scheme covered 55 parishes along the stretch of Trent between Newark and Gainsborough, an area of scattered villages, arable fields, power stations and gravel pits that also contains important wetland and meadow habitats and key heritage features ranging from Roman settlement patterns to Civil War sites.
3. The Partnership consisted of 15 organisations and was led by the Canal and River Trust (formerly British Waterways). It successfully attracted £1,651,000 of funding from Heritage Lottery Fund into a programme with a total value of just over £2,750,000. The contributions from partners to the final programme were £180,000 higher than originally anticipated.
4. Nottinghamshire County Council contributed £85,820 of match funding over 3 years, giving a return for our contribution of 31:1.
5. The aims of the TVLP Scheme were to:
 - Conserve and enhance the natural and built features that make up the historic landscape of the Trent Vale.
 - Provide opportunities for people to learn and understand the value of the natural and cultural heritage of the Trent Vale.
 - Provide opportunities to improve the quality of life for local people by providing training opportunities in traditional crafts and countryside skills.
 - Protect and enhance the network of public access routes, recreational opportunities and visitor facilities in the project area.
 - Conserve, enhance and celebrate the cultural identity of the Trent Vale.
6. To achieve these aims, a total of 21 projects were delivered under four broad programmes, namely: Habitats and Heritage; A Landscape for Learning and Art; Living, Working and Relaxing in the Trent Vale; and, The Lost Vale. The County Council took the lead role for

the heritage aspects of the programme, working closely with Lincolnshire County Council, local communities and a wide range of volunteers.

7. Key heritage achievements included:

- working with volunteers to undertake a riverside audit and discover their river heritage
- graveyard surveys with local community volunteers
- heritage skills training
- 3 summer field schools and opportunities for volunteers to work alongside professional archaeologists and students at Mons Pool
- the creation of a Community Archaeology Handbook
- 3 Time Travel Trent Vale events at Newark Castle
- the creation of school loans boxes with lesson plans and artefacts
- community archaeology, including test pitting with local volunteers.

8. Other key achievements by the partners included the establishment of a breeding herd of Lincoln Red cattle to graze the rare grassland habitats; access improvements including new walk routes, car parking and cycle tracks; new angling pegs and moorings; the creation of new habitats and improvements to nature reserves; school wildlife education visits; art projects and training through short courses and a Conservation Management Diploma.

9. The programme concluded with a celebration event on 13 June 2013 and the publication of a report by an independent team of evaluators. The evaluation report highlighted that the main strength of the programme was the delivery of “people” benefits alongside achieving outcomes for natural and built heritage. “The Landscape Partnership Scheme has been focussed on local needs and has delivered a legacy both of conserved heritage and strengthened communities within the Trent Vale.” (*Trent Vale Evaluation Summary*, June 2013, Countryside Training Partnership Ltd.)

Other Options Considered

10. Not applicable.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

11. The County Council has been a key partner in the delivery of a major Landscape Partnership Scheme for the Trent Vale and has contributed match funding to the Heritage Lottery Fund grant. The Scheme has now concluded.

Statutory and Policy Implications

12. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, the public sector equality duty, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION/S

1) To note the successful completion and achievements of the Trent Vale Landscape Partnership Scheme.

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For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Constitutional Comments ([initials and date xx/xx/xx])

13.

Financial Comments ([initials and date xx/xx/xx])

14.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

Misterton
Tuxford
Southwell and Caunton
Collingham
Farndon and Muskham
Newark East
Newark West
Balderton

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