

Masons Wood

(Plan period – 2024 to 2029)



WOODLAND
TRUST

Management Plan Content Page

Introduction to the Woodland Trust Estate

Management of the Woodland Trust Estate

The Public Management Plan

Location and Access

Introduction to the Woodland Trust Estate

The Woodland Trust owns and cares for well over 1,250 sites covering almost 30,000 hectares (ha) across the UK. This includes more than 4,000ha of ancient semi-natural woodland and almost 4,000ha of non-native plantations on ancient woodland sites and we have created over 5,000ha of new native woodland. We also manage other valuable habitats such as flower-rich grasslands, heaths, ponds/lakes and moorland.

Our Vision is:

“A UK rich in native woods and trees for people and wildlife.”

To realise all the environmental, social and economic benefits woods and trees bring to society, we:

- **Create Woodland** – championing the need to hugely increase the UK’s native woodland and trees.
- **Protect Woodland** – fighting to defend native woodland, especially irreplaceable ancient woodland and veteran trees; there should be no loss of ancient woodland
- **Restore Woodland** – ensuring the sensitive restoration of all damaged ancient woodland and the re-creation of native wooded landscapes.

Management of the Woodland Trust Estate

All our sites have a management plan which is freely accessible via our website

www.woodlandtrust.org.uk

Our woods are managed to the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS) and are certified with the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) under licence FSC-C009406 and through independent audit.

The following principles provide an overarching framework to guide the management of all our sites but we recognise that all woods are different and that their management also needs to reflect their local landscape, history and where appropriate support local projects and initiatives.

1. Our woods are managed to maintain their intrinsic key features of value and to reflect those of the surrounding landscape. We intervene in our woods when there is evidence that it is necessary to maintain or improve biodiversity, safety and to further the development of more resilient woods and landscapes.
2. We establish new native woodland for all the positive reasons set out in our Conservation Principles, preferably using natural regeneration but often by planting trees, particularly when there are opportunities for involving people.
3. We provide free public access to woods for quiet, informal recreation and our woods are managed to make them accessible, welcoming and safe. Where possible, we pro-actively engage with people to help them appreciate the value of woods and trees.
4. The long term vision for all our ancient woodland sites is to restore them to predominantly native species composition and semi-natural structure, a vision that equally applies to our secondary woods.
5. Existing semi-natural open ground and freshwater habitats are restored and maintained wherever their management can be sustained and new open ground habitats created where appropriate.
6. The natural and cultural heritage value of sites is taken into account in our management and in particular, our ancient trees are retained for as long as possible.
7. Land and woods can generate income both from the sustainable harvesting of wood products and the delivery of other services. We therefore consider the appropriateness of opportunities to generate income from our Estate to help support our aims.
8. We work with neighbours, local people, organisations and other stakeholders in developing the management of our woods. We recognise the benefits of local community woodland ownership and management. Where appropriate we encourage our woods to be used for local woodland, conservation, education and access initiatives.
9. We use and offer the Estate where appropriate, for the purpose of demonstration, evidence gathering and research associated with the conservation, recreational and sustainable management of woodlands. We maintain a network of sites for long-term monitoring and trials leading to reductions in plastics and pesticides.
10. Any activities we undertake are in line with our wider Conservation Principles, conform to sustainable forest management practices, are appropriate for the site and balanced with our primary objectives of enhancing the biodiversity and recreational value of our woods and the wider landscapes.

The Public Management Plan

This public management plan describes the site and sets out the long term aims for our management and lists the Key Features which drive our management actions. The Key Features are specific to this site – their significance is outlined together with our long, 50 years and beyond, and our short, the next 5 years, term objectives for the management and enhancement of these features. The short term objectives are complemented by an outline Work Programme for the period of this management plan aimed at delivering our management aims.

Detailed compartment descriptions are listed in the appendices which include any major management constraints and designations. Any legally confidential or sensitive species information about this site is not included in this version of the plan.

There is a formal review of this plan every 5 years and we continually monitor our sites to assess the success of our management, therefore this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme.

Please either consult The Woodland Trust website

www.woodlandtrust.org.uk

or contact the Woodland Trust

operations@woodlandtrust.org.uk

to confirm details of the current management programme.

A short glossary of technical terms can be found at the end of the plan.

Location and Access

Location maps and directions for how to find and access our woods, including this site, can be found by using the following link to the Woodland Trust web-site which contains information on accessible woodlands across the UK

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/visiting-woods/find-woods/>

In Scotland access to our sites is in accordance with the Land Reform Act (of Scotland) 2003 and the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.

In England, Wales and NI, with the exception of designated Public Rights of Ways, all routes across our sites are permissive in nature and where we have specific access provision for horse riders and/or cyclists this will be noted in the management plan.

The Management Plan

1. Site Details
2. Site Description
3. Long Term Policy
4. Key Features
 - 4.1 f1 Informal Public Access
 - 4.2 f2 Ancient Semi Natural Woodland
5. Work Programme

Appendix 1 : Compartment Descriptions

GLOSSARY

1. SITE DETAILS

Masons Wood

Location:	Preston Grid reference: SD542328 OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 102
Area:	6.07 hectares (15.00 acres)
External Designations:	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, County Wildlife Site (includes SNCI, SINC etc), Tree Preservation Order
Internal Designations:	Welcoming Sites Programme

2. SITE DESCRIPTION

Masons Wood is 5.7 hectares in size and is situated in the town of Fulwood which in turn forms the northern section of the City Of Preston in Lancashire. It is located in a small steep sided valley that follows a tributary of Savick Brook and much of the surrounding land use is intensively urban. The site is bounded by a housing estate to the west and a golf course to the east. The local soil type is classified as slightly acid loamy and clayey soils with impeded drainage.

Masons wood comprises mainly of mature mixed broadleaf woodland, mature tree species include English oak, ash, beech, sycamore, wild cherry, alder, silver birch and willow. Some additional structural edge planting of field maple, alder, ash, English oak, willow, white poplar and larch has been carried out along the boundaries. Shrub species include hazel, elder, blackthorn and hawthorn. A rich ground flora exists, comprising of species such as bluebells, ramsons and wood anemones, these species are particularly prominent under the oak dominated part of the canopy. Non-native Himalayan Balsam is also present in the southern half of the wood close to the brook. Part of the woodland is designated as Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland, a Biological Heritage Site and it is also covered by a Tree Preservation Order. Ancient Semi Natural Woodland is a Key Feature at Masons Wood.

Masons wood is ancient woodland and its believed the whole of Fulwood was once part of a Royal Forest. Aside from the Eastway end, the rest remains some distance from the roads; it is off the beaten track. That has always been the case, which means heritage in the form of events lie some distance from it. However this woodland is a good example of demonstrating the nature of Fulwood over a millennium ago; it is a good example of the wild woody expanse that would have covered a great deal of this little township. Its unclear where the name Masons Wood derives from however the following may provide an answer. It is often thought that 'Fulwood' means 'foul wood', from Old English 'ful' and 'wudu'. However, the first part could also be derived from 'fugol' meaning a bird. Given that the area was a known Royal Forest used to hunt deer and game, and that in the past the Squire was reported to have bagged many pheasant and the like, it may have been 'bird wood'.

The site is extremely well used by local people for informal recreation. Public access is good; the site has eight main entrances and a network of approximately 1000 metres of linear surfaced footpaths with bridges and steps. The site provides an excellent informal recreational opportunity for both the many thousands of locally residents who live close by and people who work locally in the light industrial and service sectors. The public footpath links Masons Wood to several other Woodland Trust sites including Moss Leach, Fernyhalgh Wood and Midgery Wood as well as areas of open space owned and managed by Preston City Council. Informal Public Access is a Key Feature of the site.

Masons Wood has a very impressive display of wildflowers in the spring with wild garlic, wood anemone, lesser celandine and bluebell making the wood well worth a visit. Grey squirrels are a common site but early risers may also get a fleeting glimpse of a roe deer if they are lucky.

3. LONG TERM POLICY

Masons Wood will be managed as a mixed broadleaved, predominantly native high forest. The wood will continue to be composed of largely native broadleaved species such as oak, ash, beech, sycamore & birch however it is likely that the percentage of ash will decrease substantially over the next decade due to ash dieback. Despite this ash will continue to be encouraged within the species mix as some of the native stock may exhibit a degree of natural resilience. The wood will be managed so that it is as diverse as possible in terms of structure and species which will ensure that it is as resilient as possible to future changes imposed upon it such as climate change and tree diseases. Both native and non native regeneration will be accepted within the woodland. Gaps created by trees gradually reaching senescence, or by trees been felled for safety reasons will be filled by natural regeneration non native regeneration will be accepted within the woodland.

Threats to the woodland habitat will be monitored and managed if possible, the woodland will be assessed for tree diseases particularly ash die back and species composition and levels of regeneration will also be monitored via regular Woodland Condition Assessments.

Open access will be retained at the wood in perpetuity and there will be a well managed network of approximately 1000 metres of surfaced paths and 8 high quality entrances. The wood will be made as safe as possible via regular safety inspection and any necessary corresponding remedial works. Good information will be made available on site to help enable visitors to explore and navigate around the woodland and to enjoy its inherent qualities. Well defined routes will discourage the creation and use of desire lines thus helping to minimise any negative effect on the ancient woodland.

Local people will be informed of and involved with the site management where appropriate, especially to help understand the management needs of the wood, and the negative effect of some activities such as dumping garden rubbish, which have had a detrimental impact in some parts of the woodland.

4. KEY FEATURES

4.1 f1 Informal Public Access

Description

Masons Wood is located in the suburb of Fulwood which is around six miles from Preston city centre. Masons wood is a long, narrow woodland of even-aged mixed, mature broadleaved trees and shrubs on both sides of the valley of a small stream, the Savick Brook. Masons Wood is varied and attractive, especially in spring, with a good display of wild flowers including bluebells, lesser celandine and wild garlic. There is a network of just over 1km of permissive paths, most of which are surfaced creating a variety of short walks, 11 bridges criss-cross the brook along the length of the route. The paths also link into the new town recreational areas and other Woodland Trust sites. Masons Wood can be argued is the most attractive woodland out of the 9 within the Preston Woods Cluster. The Woodland is a popular amenity woodland on the edge of the urban areas.

Its position in the landscape

Masons Wood is a long, narrow woodland in a busy, suburban area, around 2 miles north of the city of Preston. The wood is directly adjacent to the large new town area of Fulwood with a population of 28,000 and is easily accessible. Preston which is only two miles away has a population of 140,000. Given it's geography and it's linear nature adjacent to housing the woodland is used as an attractive through route to other amenities and also for local recreation. There is a primary school close to the woodland and Preston Golf Club on the opposite side to the east.

General description of the access

The site has a total of 8 pedestrian entrances. The easiest to find is the most northerly which can be found close to B6241 Eastway which is a well-known road locally. Six other entrances can be found to the rear of the housing estate on the western boundary close to The Pennines, Masonwood, Fairways and the Paddock. The final pedestrian entrance can be found on the sites southern boundary neighbouring the golf course. All the pedestrian entrances are squeeze gaps. On site there is approximately 1km of level surfaced footpaths. Parking is available on nearby local roads. The nearest public toilet is at the Asda superstore which is about half a mile from the wood. The nearest bus stop: is on St Vincent's Road, outside Preston College, which is only around 50 metres from the wood.

Specific furniture/ access point description

At present some of the entrances and signage need updating, the paths are in need of resurfacing and a number of the bridges which cross the stream within the woodland need replacing. The woodland has a number of linear paths which run adjacent to the streamside and as such are well used as local pedestrian trails. However they can get wet and muddy in the wetter periods making walking through the woods a less attractive option. There isn't any seating currently within the woodland of other specific furniture including information or orientation panels and interpretation.

The visitor profile

There are 33310 households in the PR2 postal district which covers the Fulwood area. A recent Woodland Trust survey

on site also concluded that the most popular days for visiting the woods are weekdays. A great number of visitors went to the woods with family members or on their own / with their dog. 24% of visitor parties confirmed they had brought a dog with them when visiting Preston Woods. The majority of visitors are locals and regular to the sites, 77% of visitors have been visiting Preston Woods for over 3 years. An overwhelming majority of visitors walk to the site which takes most of them less than 15 minutes. If the visitors use nearby facilities, they usually visit the shops or the nearby pub for example. No visitors were visiting Preston Woods as part of a holiday, the primary reasons for visiting the site were leisure walks, enjoying scenery and landscape, getting some fresh air, tranquillity and peace & quiet, and looking at wild flowers and trees.

Nearby Woodland Trust sites

Masons Wood sits within the Preston Woods Cluster. The main woods are, Moss Leach, Midgery Wood, Fernyhalgh and Sandybrook. Overall there are there are 10 woods in the Preston area which are all to the west of the M6.

Volunteering

We have one volunteer warden at present that covers the woods. There could be scope for more to do patrols of the woods etc and add to the on-site presence. See Short Term Management Objectives for the Plan Period (5 years) for more details.

Significance

Located in a small steep sided valley that follows a tributary of Savick Brook. Much of the surrounding land use is intensively urban. The site is bounded by a new housing estate to the west and a golf course to the east. The site is extremely well used by local people for informal recreation. Public access is good; the site has eight main entrances and a network of linear surfaced footpaths with bridges and steps which link the site to the surrounding open space and public footpath network. Masons wood comprises mainly of mature mixed broadleaf woodland, tree species include English oak, ash, beech, sycamore, wild cherry, alder, silver birch and willow. Some additional structural edge planting of field maple, alder, ash, English oak, willow, white poplar and larch has been carried out along the boundaries. Shrub species include hazel, elder, blackthorn and hawthorn. A rich ground flora exists, comprising of species such as bluebells, ramsons and wood anemones, these species are particularly prominent under the oak dominated part of the canopy. Non-native Himalayan Balsam is also present in the southern half of the wood close to the brook. Part of the woodland is designated as Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland, a Biological Heritage Site and it is also covered by a Tree Preservation Order. Masons Wood can be argued is the most attractive woodland out of the 9 within the Preston Woods Cluster. At Moss Leach Cromwell's Mound is an earthwork constructed to divert water to the moat of Broughton Tower, the mound is a Scheduled Ancient Monument from the 1600's. Increasing enjoyment of woodland is one of the Woodland Trust's key outcomes and given the footfall at this wood and it's location it should be possible achieve the trusts overarching aims here.

Opportunities & Constraints

Significant improvements already made to the accessibility at Masons Wood with the replacement of bridges which cross Savick Brook, improvements to the footpaths with suitable stone surface so they are accessible year round; Installation of some bespoke seating within the woodland. The woodland is narrow and in a stream valley with steep sides and as ASNW there is little scope or requirement for further access creation or features. Volunteering and working groups providing the opportunities for engagement. As a well used urban site with significant improvements already made, the woodland will require a greater level of

annual maintenance, with a periodic (10 year) refurbishment of the entire welcome facilities as well as a higher expectation of the quality of the infrastructure and interpretation provided
Factors Causing Change
Increased public pressure Fly tipping and garden waste tipping
Long term Objective (50 years+)
The site will be well maintained and signposted from all entrances with WT welcome signage. The footpaths are accessible all year round and are topped up with stone where and when necessary, this will encourage more people to use the woodland even in poor weather. A range of woodland users will be at the site from regular dog walkers, local residents, Overall people will cherish the woodland and feel it is a well maintained asset on their doorstep which is a pleasure to visit at any time of year.
Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)
Maintain 8 pedestrian entrances and approximately 1000 metres of permissive paths by cutting back encroaching vegetation and trees; inspect signs, gates, boundaries and furniture; remove accumulations of litter & fly tipping as necessary - to be done via the Estates Maintenance Contract 3 visits per calendar year. Carry out regular safety inspections of trees in high risk zones (i.e. next to buildings, roads and footpaths) and site hazards as per the Trust's safety inspection regime to ensure safety of visitors and neighbours, and undertaking any remedial safety work identified. Refresh entrances and signage as deemed necessary by Site Manager. Monitor public use of the site before the end of the current plan period to review the standard of access, identify any work required and assess if there are any issues/ threats to the wood from public usage, taking appropriate action to address them if necessary.

4.2 f2 Ancient Semi Natural Woodland

Description
A section of the northern half of the site is Ancient Semi- Natural Woodland, probably NVC 8/10 oak/ash. This section of the site is also designated as a County Biological Heritage Site and a Tree Preservation Order. This linear section of ASNW follows along a steep sided valley and the course of a tributary to the Savick brook. To the west of the ASNW a large housing estate can be found, to the east there is Fulwood golf course. The woodland narrows to the north where it meets the B6241 Eastway, to the south can be found secondary woodland which was densely planted with broadleaf and coniferous species by Central Lancashire Development corporation. The canopy is dominated by sycamore, other species which can be found include oak, ash, beech and elm. The understorey includes hazel, elder and hawthorn.

<p>Ground flora is indicative of ASNW and species include wood brome, bluebell, lady-fern, wood sorrel, wood anemone and moschatel.</p> <p>At the northern end of the wood are a group of six former ponds, now heavily shaded and silted forming marshy, seasonally wet depressions. Species include dog's mercury, lord's and ladies, ramsons, marsh marigold, soft rush and lesser celandine.</p>
<p>Significance</p>
<p>ASNW is very rare, locally, nationally and regionally. It is estimated that ASNW cover only 2% of the land surface of Great Britain. Within Lancashire itself this figure drops to just 1% , and again Preston's total of ASNW is estimated to be around 1% of total land use.</p> <p>Therefore this area of ASNW provides local people a unique opportunity to interact with a very rare environment, it also provides a uniquely ecologically rich habitat in a very urban area.</p>
<p>Opportunities & Constraints</p>
<p>The small size of this site, and the fact that it is surrounded by housing limits its value as a wildlife habitat. Unfortunately the woodland does not link with any other habitats, and there is no opportunity to extend it. However it is a mature and stable woodland which provides a refuge for urban wildlife.</p>
<p>Factors Causing Change</p>
<p>Increased public pressure Fly tipping and garden waste tipping Encroachment (gardens/ properties) Invasive non-natives (particularly Himalayan balsam, evergreen honeysuckle, snowberry, laurel, rhododendron) Unauthorised planting adjacent to properties Unauthorised tree cutting adjacent to properties</p>
<p>Long term Objective (50 years+)</p>
<p>Mature, stable broadleaved high forest, with a continuous canopy and diverse age and species range and succession by natural regeneration. As trees gradually reach senescence or are removed for tree safety purposes the gaps left in the canopy will be colonised by natural regeneration of sycamore, oak, ash and birch etc.</p>
<p>Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)</p>
<p>During this plan period the wood will be managed through minimal silvicultural intervention other than for tree safety work identified as part of the tree safety inspection programme. The working woodland group also plan to undertake hand pulling control of Himalayan Balsam.</p> <p>Fly tipping will be removed as soon as we are made aware of it.</p> <p>Garden waste tipping is prevalent, but unless observed or recorded there is little than can be enforced, we will then assess whether removal is achievable (financial constraints, staff capacity, regional priority)</p> <p>Unauthorised tree cutting is prevalent, but unless observed or recorded there is little than can be enforced through the TPO</p> <p>Unauthorised planting will be removed by contractors as part of ongoing site visits, when either notified by site staff, visitors or contractors</p> <p>Encroachment is an ongoing issue, and will be reported to Land and property/ legal for enforcement action.</p>

The health of the woodland will be monitored during the plan period by carrying out a Woodland Condition Assessment to identify any threats from tree disease, pests, non-native invasive species, human impacts, and appropriate action taken where necessary.

Non-native invasives are widespread and very well established across many of the urban new-town sites, including garden invasives and those extensively planted by the commission for new towns in the 1960/70's - particularly evergreen honeysuckle, snowberry, laurel, rhododendron and aucuba. These species will continue to be monitored as part of the Condition Assessment process, once per plan period, and should their presence be perceived as having a negative impact on the woodland habitat, and removal be considered desirable, to then assess whether control or eradication is achievable (eg financial, capacity, regional priority).

5. WORK PROGRAMME

Year	Type Of Work	Description	Due Date
2024	WMM - General Site Management	Works associated with maintaining conservation and physical features within the sites such as boundary ditches, fences and walls, hedges,	March
2024	SL - Tree Safety Works - Zone B	Work associated with planned tree safety works alongside routes such as paths and rides within the woodland	June
2024	WMM - General Site Management	Works associated with maintaining conservation and physical features within the sites such as boundary ditches, fences and walls, hedges,	June
2024	LC - Routine Litter Picks	Planned/routine litter picks using contractors	July
2024	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	July
2024	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	September
2024	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	September
2024	LC - Routine Litter Picks	Planned/routine litter picks using contractors	September
2024	SL - Tree Safety Inspections	The provision of external consultants/contractors to provide specialist tree safety related advice / inspections – such as climbing inspections	September
2024	SL - Tree Safety Works - Zone B	Work associated with planned tree safety works alongside routes such as paths and rides within the woodland	October
2024	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	October
2024	LC - Routine Litter Picks	Planned/routine litter picks using contractors	October

Year	Type Of Work	Description	Due Date
2024	SL - Tree Safety Works - Zone A	Work associated with planned tree safety works alongside areas such as car parks, roadsides and boundaries	November
2024	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	November
2025	WMM - General Site Management	Works associated with maintaining conservation and physical features within the sites such as boundary ditches, fences and walls, hedges,	February
2025	SL - Tree Safety Works - Zone B	Work associated with planned tree safety works alongside routes such as paths and rides within the woodland	February
2025	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	April
2025	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	April
2025	SL - Routine Safety Work	Works associated with undertaking planned visitor and structure safety orientated actions, such as erection/creation or maintenance of safety features such as fencing, rails, re-pointing of retaining walls etc	April
2025	LC - Routine Litter Picks	Planned/routine litter picks using contractors	May
2025	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	May
2025	LC - Routine Litter Picks	Planned/routine litter picks using contractors	July
2025	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	July
2025	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing	September

Year	Type Of Work	Description	Due Date
		pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	
2025	LC - Routine Litter Picks	Planned/routine litter picks using contractors	September
2025	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	September
2025	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	November
2026	LC - Routine Litter Picks	Planned/routine litter picks using contractors	May
2026	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	May
2026	LC - Routine Litter Picks	Planned/routine litter picks using contractors	July
2026	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	July
2026	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	September
2026	LC - Routine Litter Picks	Planned/routine litter picks using contractors	September
2026	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	September
2026	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing	November

Year	Type Of Work	Description	Due Date
		pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	
2027	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	May
2027	LC - Routine Litter Picks	Planned/routine litter picks using contractors	May
2027	LC - Routine Litter Picks	Planned/routine litter picks using contractors	July
2027	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	July
2027	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	September
2027	LC - Routine Litter Picks	Planned/routine litter picks using contractors	September
2027	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	September
2027	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	November
2028	CS - General Consultancy	Use of external consultant to support Woodland Trust site management	January
2028	LC - Routine Litter Picks	Planned/routine litter picks using contractors	May
2028	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	May

Year	Type Of Work	Description	Due Date
2028	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	June
2028	LC - Routine Litter Picks	Planned/routine litter picks using contractors	July
2028	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	July
2028	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	September
2028	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	September
2028	LC - Routine Litter Picks	Planned/routine litter picks using contractors	September
2028	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	November

APPENDIX 1 : COMPARTMENT DESCRIPTIONS

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Designations
1a	5.87	Sycamore	1960	High forest	No/poor vehicular access to the site, No/poor vehicular access within the site, People issues (+tve & -tve), Very steep slope/cliff/quarry/mine shafts/sink holes etc	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, County Wildlife Site (includes SNCI, SINC etc), Tree Preservation Order
<p>The single compartment covers the entire mature woodland, the dominant species are sycamore and beech with ash, oak, field maple, cherry, alder, silver birch & willow. Regeneration is adequate and consists mainly of sycamore, beech & ash. The shrub layer consists of holly, blackthorn ,hawthorn and elder. It is located in a densely urban area and is surrounded domestic properties on all boundaries excluding the eastern boundary which is a golf course.</p>						

Ancient Woodland

Ancient woods are defined as those where there has been continuous woodland cover since at least 1600 AD. In Scotland ancient woods are defined strictly as sites shown as semi-natural woodland on the 'Roy' maps (a military survey carried out in 1750 AD, which is the best source of historical map evidence) and as woodland all subsequent maps. However, they have been combined with long-established woods of semi-natural origin (originating from between 1750 and 1860) into a single category of Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland to take account of uncertainties in their identification. Ancient woods include Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland and plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites (see below). May support many species that are only found in ancient woodland.

Ancient Semi - Natural Woodland

Stands in ancient woods defined as those consisting predominantly of native trees and shrubs that have not obviously been planted, which have arisen from natural regeneration or coppice regrowth.

Ancient Woodland Site

Stands in ancient woods that have been converted to plantations, of coniferous, broadleaved or mixed species, usually for timber production, including plantations of native species planted so closely together that any semi-natural elements of the understorey have been suppressed.

Beating Up

Replacing any newly planted trees that have died in the first few years after planting.

Broadleaf

A tree having broad leaves (such as oak) rather than needles found on conifers (such as Scots pine).

Canopy

The uppermost layer of vegetation in a woodland, or the upper foliage and branches of an individual tree.

Clearfell

Felling of all trees within a defined area.

Compartment

Permanent management division of a woodland, usually defined on site by permanent features such as roads. See Sub-compartments.

Conifer

A tree having needles, rather than broadleaves, and typically bearing cones.

Continuous Cover forestry

A term used for managing woods to ensure that there are groups or individual trees of different ages scattered over the whole wood and that some mature tree cover is always maintained. Management is by repeated thinning and no large areas are ever completely felled all at once.

Coppice

Trees which are cut back to ground levels at regular intervals (3-25 years).

Exotic (non-native) Species

Species originating from other countries (or other parts of the UK) that have been introduced by humans, deliberately or accidentally.

Field Layer

Layer of small, non-woody herbaceous plants such as bluebells.

Group Fell

The felling of a small group of trees, often to promote natural regeneration or allow planting.

Long Term Retention

Discrete groups of trees (or in some cases single trees) that are retained significantly past their economic felling age. Operations may still be carried out within them and thinning is often necessary to maintain stability.

Minimum Intervention

Areas where no operations (such as thinning) will take place other than to protect public safety or possibly to control invasive exotic species.

Mixed Woodland

Woodland made up of broadleaved and coniferous trees.

National vegetation classification (NVC)

A classification scheme that allows an area of vegetation to be assigned to the standardised type that best matches the combination of plant species that it contains. All woodlands in the UK can be described as being one of 18 main woodland types (W1 - W18), which principally reflect soil and climatic conditions. For example, Upland Oakwoods are type W11, and normally occur on well drained infertile soils in the cooler and wetter north and west of Britain. Each main type can be subdivided into numerous subtypes. Most real woods contain more than one type or sub-type and inevitably some woods are intermediate in character and can't be properly described by any sub type.

Native Species

Species that arrived in Britain without human assistance.

Natural Regeneration

Naturally grown trees from seeds falling from mature trees. Also regeneration from coppicing and suckering.

Origin & Provenance

The provenance of a tree or seed is the place where seed was collected to grow the tree or plant. The origin is the geographical location within the natural range of a species from where seeds/tree originally derives. Thus an acorn collected from a Turkey oak in Edinburgh would have an Edinburgh provenance and a southern European origin.

Re-Stocking

Re-planting an area of woodland, after it has been felled.

Shrub Layer

Formed by woody plants 1-10m tall.

Silviculture

The growing and care of trees in woodlands.

Stand

Trees of one type or species, grouped together within a woodland.

Sub-Compartment

Temporary management division of a compartment, which may change between management plan periods.

Thinning

The felling of a proportion of individual trees within a given area. The remaining trees grow to fill in the space created.

Tubex or Grow or Tuley Tubes

Tubes placed over newly planted trees or natural regeneration that promote growth and provide protection from animals such as rabbits and deer.

Weeding

The control of vegetation immediately around newly planted trees or natural regeneration to promote tree growth until they become established.

Windblow/Windthrow

Trees or groups of trees blown over (usually uprooted) by strong winds and gales.

Registered Office:

The Woodland Trust, Kempton Way, Grantham, Lincolnshire NG31 6LL.

The Woodland Trust is a charity registered in England and Wales no. 294344 and in Scotland no. SC038885. A non-profit making company limited by guarantee. Registered in England no. 1982873. The Woodland Trust logo is a registered trademark.