

APPENDIX FIVE: VISION STATEMENTS

Vision Statements

By working in partnership we will transform the landscape of **The Mersey Forest** through woodland planting and the creation of associated habitats, to produce long term, sustainable benefits for the economy, people and wildlife..... We are creating the green infrastructure that complements, promotes and sustains community and economic development.

Red Rose Forest is helping to transform a large part of Greater Manchester into a greener, better place to live, work and invest in.

To renew and regenerate the landscape at the edge of East London and South Essex by creating **Thames Chase**, the Community Forest: a varied wooded landscape for local people to influence, create, use, enjoy and cherish.

The Vision for **Watling Chase**, is to see much of the area under positive and appropriate management by 2025. This will include a substantial increase in trees and woodland, achieved through management of existing woodlands and new planting.

The **Lea Valley** provides an exciting opportunity to create a regional reservation of land and water attractively landscaped, accessible to a large urban population and providing a wide range of formal and informal leisure facilities. When complete, the Regional Park will be a unique mosaic of country parks, nature reserves, wildlife habitats, lakes, public open space, heritage attractions and informal recreation activities, interspersed with purpose-built sport and leisure facilities.

Working in partnership towards a long term vision of a varied countryside within a woodland framework for the benefit of everyone. Our vision for the future of the Forest is to recreate the mosaic of woodland, farmland and open spaces that once covered the area. We are creating a better place for the next generation.

(Marston Vale Forest)

We believe that the **River Nene Regional Park** provides a unique opportunity to bring together issues of environmental conservation, enhancement and land management, with the sub Region growth and economic development aspirations to create a truly unique Regional Park concept. Much more than just a string of connected environmental projects, the Regional Park provides the opportunity to demonstrate new ways of living, to set standards for future growth and development, to test new ideas and practices, to explore the implications of growing communities on rural landscapes and on wildlife, and in so doing, provide outstanding

opportunities for local communities and a working, living environment for mainstream education and lifelong learning.

The Regional Park will be a place that is distinctive and remarkable - that puts Northamptonshire and the East Midlands on the map. It will be a centre of innovation and environmental research, internationally recognised as a beacon of sustainable development and design, supporting the economic prosperity of Northamptonshire. It will provide an outstanding learning environment for schools, local communities and visitors and support the growth in the environmental economy of the County.

It will be a place of great beauty and diversity, combining ancient forests and fertile river valleys where wildlife flourishes and history is revealed. It will contain great buildings, natural and designed landscapes and works of art. It will permeate the main towns creating active, vibrant waterways linked to new development and civic spaces. It will provide safe, easy access to a range of leisure and recreation facilities which will be accessible to all ages and abilities and which will be linked together by footpaths and cycleways along new green corridors. It will be a place that local communities feel proud of and visitors will want to be part of.

In essence, the Regional Park provides a microcosm in which to promote the Region's strategies for Sustainable Development, the Environmental Economy, Conservation and Landscape Management.

The **Colne Valley Regional Park** has four Key Aims:

- 1) To maintain and enhance the landscape (including settlements) and waterscape of the Park in terms of their scenic and conservation value and their overall amenity.
- 2) To resist urbanisation of the Colne Valley Park and to safeguard existing areas of countryside from inappropriate development.
- 3) To conserve the nature conservation resources of the Park through the protection and management of its diverse plant and animal species, habitats and geological features.
- 4) To provide accessible facilities and opportunities for countryside recreation which do not compromise the above.

The **Great Western Community Forest** project is providing a high quality environment for homes, employment, education and recreation. It covers 168 square miles, stretching from Wootton Bassett to Faringdon, the Downs to the Thames. This exciting environmental project is creating a rich mosaic of woodlands, green spaces and areas for wildlife in and around Swindon and the surrounding towns and villages.

The **South Yorkshire Forest** Partnership works to deliver a package of urban, economic and social regeneration. This vision will create high-quality environments for millions of people by diversifying land use, revitalising derelict land use, revitalising derelict landscapes, enhancing biodiversity and providing new opportunities for leisure, recreation, cultural activity, education, healthy living and social and economic development

Trees for Cities is an independent charity working with local communities on tree planting projects. Our aim is to tackle global warming, create social cohesion and beautify our cities through tree planting, community, education and training initiatives in urban areas of greatest need.

Our vision at **Mersey Waterfront** is to transform, energise and connect the collective potential of all our waterfront areas, threading them together to create a special sense of place. A place that draws people in to visit, live, work and invest. A place where the famous warmth and spirit of all our people can flourish.