Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site Key Monitoring Indicators 2023

World Heritage Sites have an obligation to ensure that their Outstanding Universal Value is being maintained over time and interpreted to the public. To achieve this, monitoring indicators have been put in place, tailored to the specific values of each World Heritage Site. The data supports the annual report to stakeholders and the periodic report compiled for UNESCO.

The aims of such monitoring indicators are:

- to assess the state of preservation & interpretation of the site in a given year and measure change over time (recording)
- to provide detailed data to the site managers so that they can improve the protection, interpretation and management of the site (informed action)

The information collected for the indicators is used to help measure impact against the World Heritage Site's Statement of Outstanding Universal Value, approved by the UNESCO World Heritage Committee in 2010.

That Statement of Outstanding Universal Value reads: *The cultural landscape of the Derwent valley was where the modern factory system was developed and established, to accommodate the new technology for spinning cotton developed by Richard Arkwright and new processes for efficient production. The insertion of industrial establishments into a rural landscape necessitated the construction of housing for the workers in the mills, and the resulting settlements created an exceptional industrial landscape. The change from water to steam power in the 19th century moved the focus of the industry elsewhere and thus the main attributes of this remarkable cultural landscape were arrested in time.*

All UK World Heritage Sites have been encouraged to base their own key indicators on an extensive list of generic indicators compiled by ICOMOS UK. The Partnership has selected the indicators relevant to this site and agreed responsibilities for each indicator with key stakeholders.

The information gathered this year will be helpful in providing any further information which may be required by the UNESCO World Heritage Committee following the submission of the State of Conservation Report for the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site, by HM Government, for discussion at the World Heritage Committee in September 2023.

The following indicators cover the period **1 April 2022** to **31 March 2023**.

Theme	**Indicator**	**Assessment**
CONSERVATION		
Protection	1. Size of the WHS (ICOMOS INDICATOR 16)	The DVMWHS covers 1228.7 hectares. There have been no changes to the boundary in the period covered.
	2. Existence of a buffer zone (ICOMOS INDICATOR 17)	A buffer zone for the DVMWHS does exist and has been in place since inscription in December 2001. There have been no changes to the boundary in the period covered. The buffer zone covers 4362.7 hectares.
	3. WHS Policy in the Planning Development Framework (ICOMOS INDICATOR 1)	On 6th August 2020, the Ministry for Housing Communities and Local Government published a Planning White Paper entitled 'Planning for the Future', which set out the Government's proposed reforms to the planning system in England. Although it was anticipated that a Planning Bill would be subsequently published in late 2021 / early 2022 to take forward the Government's proposed planning reforms, many of the proposed reforms set out in the White Paper have been carried forward in the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill, which was published on 19 May 2022. The Bill particularly sets out the Government's proposals to speed up the Local Plan making process, with a requirement for Local Plans to be prepared in 30 months. Proposals in the Planning White Paper for zoning of types of land for

		development growth and protection, however, have not been taken forward in the Bill. Currently, the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 allows departures from a planning authority's development plan in determining a planning application where material considerations indicate that the departure is warranted. The Bill modifies this provision and provides that determinations must be made in accordance with the development plan and national development management policies unless material considerations "strongly indicate" otherwise. The same weight will be given to other types of plans, including neighbourhood plans prepared by local communities. Local planning authorities will have a new power in the Bill to prepare 'supplementary plans', where policies for specific sites or groups of sites need to be prepared. Although the 'duty to cooperate' contained in existing legislation is being repealed, the Bill will also enable groups of authorities to collaborate to produce a voluntary spatial development strategy, where they wish to provide strategic planning policies for issues that cut across their areas. The Bill will require all local planning authorities to have a design code in place covering their entire area. The area-wide design codes will act as a framework guiding more detailed design codes for specific areas or sites and led either by the local planning authority, neighbourhood planning groups or by developers as part of planning applications. There are also measures in the Bill described as strengthening the role of the planning system in protecting the historic environment. Designated heritage assets, including World Heritage Sites, will be afforded the same statutory protection in the planning system as listed buildings and conservation areas. Heritage protection policies are one of a number of issues that apply in most areas which will be set out nationally. These will be contained in a suite of National Development Management Policies to be published by Government, which will be subject to public consultation later in 2023. If the proposed reforms to the planning system set out in the Bill are taken forward into legislation, there will be a key role for the WHS Partnership to work with the relevant local planning authorities across the designated WHS area to ensure that the DVMWHS and Buffer Zone are appropriately defined and designated as a Protected Area in their new style Local Plans. There will also be a role for the partnership to ensure that Local Design Codes appropriately take into consideration the importance of the OUV of the WHS and its Buffer Zone. Furthermore, it will be important for the WHS Partnership to provide comment on the forthcoming consultation on National Development Management Policies that will include policies for World Heritage Sites. The Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill is still passing through the Parliamentary process, but it is anticipated the Bill will receive Royal Ascent after the Summer recess in September 2023. To support the passage of the Bill through Parliament, the Government published a consultation on 22nd December 2022 on its proposed revisions to the National Planning Policy framework. The consultation sought views on: • the proposed approach to updating the NPPF, particularly

		relating to **housing land supply and provision; Green Belt, the Local Plan Process, Building Beautiful and Local Design Codes; the Introduction of a new National Infrastructure Levy; and climate change mitigation and adaptation.** • the proposed approach to preparing **National Development Management Policies**; • Introduction of **Environmental Outcome Reports** to replace the current system of Environmental Impact Assessment; • how policy might be developed to **support levelling up**; and • how national planning policy is currently accessed by users. It should be noted, however, that no specific mention was made in the consultation to revisions to policy on World Heritage Sites. However, further details were included in the consultation on the Government's proposals to replace the Duty to Cooperate with a 'policy alignment test' for Local Planning Authorities working collaboratively on cross-boundary strategic planning matters. Once the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill is enacted it is then anticipated that a revised version of the NPPF will be published by Government later in 2023, that will include policies for the protection and enhancement of World Heritage Sites. **LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS** District and borough councils are responsible for preparing plans and policies for the development and use of land (excluding minerals and waste) in their administrative areas. Derbyshire County Council prepares local planning policies for minerals and waste development, using the 'National Planning Policy for Waste' (16 October 2014) for waste matters. Local planning authorities prepare their Local Plans and determine planning applications in the context of the National Planning Policy Framework and regularly updated online Planning Practice Guidance. **MINERALS AND WASTE PLANS** Derbyshire County Council prepares local planning policies for minerals and waste development, using the National Planning Policy Framework, Planning Practice Guidance, and the updated national waste planning policy, 'National Planning Policy for Waste' (16 October 2014) which replaced 'Planning Policy Statement 10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management' as the national planning policy for waste in England. The Derby and Derbyshire Minerals and Waste Local Plans contain policies which protect interests of acknowledged environmental importance, including the World Heritage Site. These plans are currently being reviewed, particularly to update them to take account of the revisions to the National Planning Policy Framework and Planning Practice Guidance. A public consultation on the Derby and Derbyshire Draft Minerals Plan took place between 2 March and 26 April 2022. A further consultation on the Derby and Derbyshire Pre-Submission Draft Minerals Local Plan took place between 7th March and 2nd May 2023. It is anticipated that the Local Plan will be submitted to the Secretary of State at the end of December 2023, with an Examination in Public of the Plan likely to take place in the Spring of 2024. Consultation on an Issues and Options Waste Local Plan is anticipated in the Spring of 2024.
	4. Planning guidance for development in the WHS (ICOMOS INDICATOR 18)	In October 2021, responding to concerns by UNESCO's World Heritage Centre over planning decisions in the DVMWHS, three training sessions were offered to officers and councillors with responsibility for planning decisions and recommendations across

		each of the authorities covering the DVMWHS. In all, 104 people signed up for the sessions, delivered through Microsoft Teams. For those unable to attend the sessions, a link to a video version of the presentation was made available and can be found at https://youtu.be/wLxYCLCwKqA. The training draws on guidance from the current DVMWHS Management Plan, adopted by the UK Government in 2020. Local planning authorities have been encouraged to use the training video when inducting new councillors and planning officers. Since around 2010, all Derbyshire Local Planning Authorities have carried out reviews of their Local Plans, with the majority of Local Plans having been adopted and which provide an up-to-date context for development. In the meantime, for those authorities which do not have such plans, all relevant (old) Local Plan policies have been "saved" that are needed to determine planning applications and guide development. Since around 2021, most Local Planning Authorities in the County have commenced work on further new reviews of their Local Plans with revised plan timescales of around 2039/40. The World Heritage Site is covered by policies in the Local Plans for the five planning authorities: Derbyshire Dales District Council, Amber Valley Borough Council, Erewash Borough Council, Derby City Council and Derbyshire County Council. **Derbyshire Dales** The Examination in Public of the Draft Local Plan took place in Summer 2017. The Derbyshire Dales Local Plan was formally adopted by Council on 17 December 2017. Policy PD2: Protecting the Historic Environment, seeks to conserve heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance. This will take into account the desirability of sustaining and enhancing their significance and will ensure that development proposals contribute positively to the character of the built and historic environment. The policy indicates that particular protection will be given to designated and non-designated heritage assets and their settings including the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site. Derbyshire Dales District Council has adopted Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) relating to: The Conversion of Farm Buildings (revised and re-adopted - 2019); Shop Fronts & Commercial Properties (revised and re-adopted - 2019); and Landscape Character (adopted – 2007). In early 2021, Derbyshire Dales District Council commenced a review of its Local Plan. On 23 June 2021, the District Council published its Derbyshire Dales Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Scoping Report, which seeks to identify key social, economic and environmental issues that will need to be addressed in the Local Plan Review. Reference is made in Chapter 17: Heritage, to the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site and the aims of the WHS Management Plan, as important considerations which will need to be taken account of in preparation of the Local Plan Review. In July 2021 Derbyshire Dales District Council adopted a 'Climate Change' supplementary planning document.

		Amber Valley The saved policies of the adopted Amber Valley Borough Local Plan (2006) includes a policy relating to the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site, its buffer zone and Management Plan (policy EN29). Policy EN7 also relates to landscape character areas and includes reference to the presence and pattern of historic landscape features. Policy EN32 states that planning permission will not be granted for development proposals that would have an adverse impact on the landscape character of a registered Historic Park and Garden or its setting. Amber Valley Borough Council has adopted Supplementary Planning Documents on Residential Development (which includes extensions and the conversion of farm buildings), Shop Fronts and Advertisements, Listed Buildings and Buildings in Conservation Areas and Development and Recreational Open Space. A Supplementary Planning Document and Planning Brief for land between the A6 and the river Derwent has also been adopted by the Borough Council. A new Amber Valley Borough Local Plan which included a specific policy relating to the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site was prepared and was submitted to the Secretary of State for examination on 2 March 2018. An Examination in Public took place in June 2018 (after the period covered in this review) but was suspended by the Inspector in July 2018 pending further work by Amber Valley Borough Council, particularly the need to carry out a strategic Green Belt Review of the Borough. Following the completion of a Green Belt Review, the Council published a Green Belt Amendments & Additional Site Allocations document in March 2019, for public consultation. Following the receipt of representations, the Council resolved in May 2019 to withdraw the Submission Local Plan. A proposed indicative programme and timetable for the preparation of a new Local Plan through to adoption was agreed by the Council in November 2019 and this was subsequently confirmed in January 2020. This programme and timescale were subsequently refreshed by the Borough Council in June 2021, with a target for adoption by September 2023. On 8 July 2021, Amber Valley Borough Council published Alternative Strategy Options for Housing and Economic Growth as a first key stage of preparation of the new Local Plan. Following the receipt and consideration of representations, on 15 July 2022, the Borough Council published a Preferred Spatial Strategy for Housing and Economic Growth up to 2039, together with draft policies which reflect that strategy, along with some other draft policies relating to other specific issues. On 1 March 2023, the Borough Council then agreed the policies to be included in a Pre-Submission Local Plan, together with a refreshed programme and timetable, including a revised target for adoption by June 2024. Officers were also given delegated authority to agree the detailed format and content of the Pre-Submission Local Plan and other documents, prior to publication. The agreed policies include an up-to-date policy in relation to the World Heritage Site and Buffer Zone to reflect current national policy, as set out in the NPPF. Minor amendments to the wording of the policy, as agreed on 1 March 2023, will be made prior to publication, following engagement with the World Heritage Site Partnership.

		Derby The Derby City Local Plan Part 1 (DCLP1) - was adopted in January 2017. The DCLP1 contains policies specifically relating to the DVMWHS as well as the preservation and enhancement of heritage assets more generally. The Plan also contains a policy specifically relating to the Darley Abbey Mills Complex to help guide sensitive regeneration. These include CP20 (Historic Environment), AC9 (DVMWHS) and AC10 (Darley Abbey Mills). Since the adoption of the DCLP1, the Government introduced a requirement for Local Authorities to review their Local Plans within five years of adoption. The Council carried out a review of policies in 2021 to assess whether they remain consistent with national policies and whether there have been any significant changes in circumstances. A report was taken to Council Cabinet in December 2021 concluding that the only area where existing planning policies are no longer consistent with national policy are those dealing with meeting housing requirements, reflecting changes to the Government's standard methodology. This inconsistency on its own indicates that a new Local Plan is needed. Cabinet subsequently authorised work to commence on preparing a new Local Plan. The intention is to publish a draft Plan in Summer 2024. The change to the housing requirement figure also affects decision making on planning applications. Now that the DCLP1 is beyond its 5-year review date, there is a need to use the standard methodology housing requirement figure, rather than the current Local Plan target, to calculate the 5-year supply of deliverable housing sites. Given the significant increase, the Council cannot currently demonstrate a 5-year supply. As well as necessitating an update to policies, not having a 5-year supply means invoking the presumption in favour of sustainable development or 'tilted balance' in terms of determining planning applications. The Council is working towards developing a new 'Vision' for Derby City Centre. A document titled 'Ambition' was published in summer 2022 which presented a range of ideas and principles for transforming the city centre in the long term. The document was used to stimulate a conversation around the key issues facing the city centre to inform the development of the vision. Written comments were received by some 200 stakeholders, these being in addition to comments made orally at meetings and discussion groups. They were mostly very supportive of developing a Vision for the city centre and of the ideas and proposals in the Ambition document. There was a clear message that action is needed now, not just in terms of developing a long-term vision but also for interventions in the immediate and short term. There was also a strong message that the city centre needs to be more actively managed to help coordinate investment decisions, ensure the Vision is implemented as well as to address issues such as crime and anti-social behaviour. More specifically, there was strong support for not just protecting our built heritage, but acknowledging its importance as an economic asset, whilst there was also strong support for a step change in achieving better designed developments that relate well to their surrounding environments and contribute to increasing vibrancy.

		Erewash The Erewash Core Strategy (Local Plan) was adopted on 6 March 2014. In addition to the strategic policies from the development above, the Borough Council continues to protect the character and appearance of the extent of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site that falls within its boundaries. Specifically, **Saved Policy EV19** demonstrates the planning circumstances in which development will be deemed acceptable within the WHS area as identified through the Council's policies map, whilst also siting key factors which require consideration when planning proposals for this part of the Borough are received (visual impact, traffic generation, scale of design, construction material, loss of historic landscape/cultural heritage and impacts on the wider environment). A number of other local policy instruments exist which, both individually and collectively, help to protect the WHS from inappropriate forms of development that if approved would threaten to harm its character and/or setting. Most notably, the WHS also corresponds with Erewash's designated Green Belt (see Policy 3 of the adopted Erewash Core Strategy), offering the WHS strong policy protection that sees many forms of development considered acceptable in non-GB locations to be viewed as inappropriate by the Borough Council. In addition to the protection afforded to the WHS through its inclusion within the Erewash Green Belt, a number of other policies are in place to help preserve the characteristics of the WHS. Of note, these include Core Strategy **Policy 10: Design & Enhancing Local Identity**, **Policy 11: The Historic Environment** and **Policy 13: Culture, Sport & Tourism**. The WHS given its proximity to the River Derwent also supports a number of water-based ecological assets helping to maintain a thriving and diverse biodiversity within its extent inside Erewash, and **Policy 17: Biodiversity** provides protection to such assets. A range of more Development Control-orientated policies can be found throughout the Saved Policies document. Policies such as **H12: Quality & Design** (of Residential Development), **EV5: Conservation Areas** (Rigga Bank CA is located wholly within the extent of the WHS, whilst a small element of the Little Eaton CA is also situated within the area defined by EV19) and **EV6 & EV7** establish the Borough Council's approach to development affecting Listed Buildings and Buildings of Local Interest. Erewash Borough Council commenced a review of its Adopted Core Strategy (Local Plan) in 2019, which is being carried out concurrently with Local Plan Reviews being undertaken by the other local planning authorities in the Greater Nottingham Housing Market Area. As a first key stage in preparation of the Core Strategy Review, in January 2020, Erewash Borough Council published its Erewash Core Strategy Options for Growth for consultation. This was followed by a further consultation in March 2021 on its Erewash Core Strategy Revised Options for Growth. Consultation on the Submission draft was launched in January 2022, with the draft Erewash Core Strategy Review being submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for Examination in November 2022. **National guidance**

		The Government published its revised National Planning Policy Framework on 20 July 2021, which is supported by associated online Planning Practice Guidance, as part of its reforms to make the planning system less complex and more accessible, to protect the environment, and to promote sustainable growth. The online Planning Practice Guidance is updated on an ongoing basis as needed. The historic environment section includes policies for World Heritage Sites. These are highlighted as being of the highest significance as heritage assets, which are internationally recognised to be of Outstanding Universal Value and that such assets are an irreplaceable resource and should be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance. The new Framework reaffirms that Heritage Impact Assessments are good practice, and changes to World Heritage Attributes must only be in exceptional circumstances. The Framework requires that, when considering the impact of proposed development on the significance of designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset's conservation and the more important the asset, the greater the weight should be. Where a proposed development would lead to substantial harm to (or total loss of) a designated heritage asset, local planning authorities should refuse consent, unless it can be demonstrated that the substantial harm or total loss is necessary to achieve public benefits that outweigh that harm or loss. The revised Framework provides greater emphasis on creating safe, beautiful and sustainable developments of high-quality design. There is a clear emphasis in the Framework on improving the design quality of new developments. Local authorities will now be required to produce local design codes or guides with the intention of creating well-designed, beautiful and safe places. Significant weight should now be given to development which reflects local and government design guidance and policy and development not well designed should be refused. There will be a presumption in favour of sustainable development with a requirement that "all plans should promote a sustainable pattern of development that seeks to: meet the development needs of their area; align growth and infrastructure; improve the environment; mitigate climate change (including by making effective use of land in urban areas) and adapt to its effects". There will be an emphasis on the use of trees in new developments (both tree-lined and in wider green spaces) with a long-term maintenance requirement also introduced.
	5. Designations (ICOMOS INDICATOR 19)	There are 370 Listed properties in the WHS which are comprised of over 860 individual homes, businesses and structures. There are 13 Scheduled Monuments and 812 Monument records (records of other heritage assets) on the Historic Environment Record. The percentage of the WHS protected by designations (including Scheduled Monuments; Conservation Areas; Local Wildlife Sites; Special Protection Areas; Special Areas of Conservation; Ramsar sites; National Nature Reserves; Sites of Special Scientific Interest; Local Nature Reserves) is 55.1%. The percentage of the buffer zone covered by the same designations is 36.4%.
Condition of site	6. List and number of cultural features in poor condition (ICOMOS	A condition survey of key features based on the Outstanding Universal Value of the WHS, including fixed point photography, has been achieved. It has been agreed this survey take place every five

	INDICATOR 2)	years, as part of the quinquennial review for the Management Plan. The latest survey was in April 2017, with the next planned for April 2022. Preparatory work on this began in March 2022. **Buildings at Risk** A general air of relative prosperity throughout the settlements of the World Heritage Site obscures several instances of significant buildings seriously at risk from neglect and under-use. <u>Amber Valley</u> Due to the addition of Belper's East Mill, there are 9 buildings at risk in the Borough that lie within the World Heritage Site, 3 of which are also on the Historic England 'Register of Heritage at Risk' (grade I and II* listed). The North Mill, Bridgefoot, Belper is the earliest example of a completely iron framed mill in the world and is currently in poor condition. Applications for full planning permission and Listed Building Consent for a mixed-use development, including conversion of the iconic East Mill to 117 apartments, were submitted in October 2018; the application is pending and has not been determined. An offer of grant assistance from the WHS-focused NLHF/ACE Great Place Scheme was offered to the owners of the Mill site, for a fully costed condition survey and repairs schedule. The planning applications and the Condition Survey are on-going. Substantial repairs have been completed to the Former Canal Lengthman's Cottage, by Cromford Canal. Following a partial roof collapse, at the end of 2021, work has commenced to convert the former Fuchs warehouse (once occupied by Dalton and Co. Ltd. Silkolene Lubricants, Derby Road) to apartments. It remains one of the 9 buildings at risk, in the WHS until the project is complete. The current mixed use of De Bradelei Mills (Mills occupied by George Brettle and Co Ltd Chapel Street), is the subject of a change of use application to an apartment style hotel to the upper floors of part of the complex. The De Bradelei Mills application is being reviewed, in liaison with the applicant, and further extensive information is being sought on a number of aspects. The new owner of Pottery Methodist Chapel is still developing plans for an application for the re-development of the site. Although the intended submission for 2021 has been delayed by the pandemic, the Authority is still in regular contact with the owner, to monitor progress. Substantial clearance works were previously carried out, internally, and the owner had also purchased a strip of land adjacent to the rear of the property to facilitate better access. <u>Derby</u> There are a number of buildings at risk in the City that lie within the World Heritage Site. A number of these are included within 3 entries on the Historic England 'Register of Heritage at Risk' (grade I and II* listed) which are: ▪ Darley Abbey Mills (South complex) Long Mill and West Mill - roof and general repairs have been completed to Long Mill. It is to remain on the list until necessary repairs have been carried out on all buildings within this entry where needed. ▪ Darley Abbey Mills (North complex) North Mill, Engine House and Boiler House, ▪ Darley Abbey Mills (North Complex) preparation building,

		cottage, workshop & cart sheds. Old Lane, Darley Abbey. Within the buffer zone there was one entry on the Historic England National List; Allestree Hall. There have been applications submitted for the conversion of this building to a wedding venue. The condition of the building is currently being reassessed and is being marketed. <u>Derbyshire Dales</u> Planning permission and listed building consent have expired for the reinstatement of the Cromford Mill Aqueduct (valid until end of 2010). Whilst discussions have taken place with the Arkwright Society, the District Council and Derbyshire County Council, reinstatement is being delayed by the requirements of the Highway Authority. Discussions are intermittently being undertaken with the Arkwright Society, Historic England and Derbyshire County Council Highways Authority. At the end of March 2023, Derbyshire Dales District Council had one entry within the WHS included on the Historic England 'Register of Heritage at Risk' which includes: Buildings 1, 18 & 26, & Aqueduct, Cromford Mill, Mill Road (Grade I). <u>Erewash</u> Erewash does not have any entries on the Buildings at Risk register which relate to buildings situated within the extent of WHS located inside the Borough.
	7. List and condition of natural features within the WHS (ICOMOS INDICATORS 3 & 4)	<u>Woodland</u> There are 1045ha of woodland of all types and all sizes in the WHS and the Buffer Zone. • The area of ancient semi-natural woodland (excluding plantation on ancient woodland site) is 413 ha of which 220 ha is known to be managed positively (53%). • The area of PAWS is 113.5 ha of which 65.5 ha is managed (57%). • The area of secondary woodland is 399.39ha (c.110 ha known to be managed). • 5.76 ha new (since 1980) woodland (2.63ha managed). <u>Grassland</u> The total area of semi-natural grassland in the WHS and the Buffer Zone is 251 ha. This figure includes semi-improved and unimproved grassland (whereas before semi-improved was excluded) Of which – • 27.86 ha lowland dry acid grassland (priority habitat). • 1.73 ha lowland calcareous grassland (priority habitat). • 81.99 ha lowland meadow (priority habitat) – a slight increase of 0.46 ha. This represents: • 9% of the total Ancient Woodland in Derbyshire • 11.29% of acid grassland in Derbyshire (outside PDNPark) • 0.3% of calcareous grassland in Derbyshire (outside Peak District National Park) • 11.5 % of neutral grassland in Derbyshire (outside Peak District National Park)
Develop-ment pressure	8. Number of planning applications in the WHS (ICOMOS INDICATOR 15)	**Amber Valley Borough Council** Total number of applications in the WHS =122. Permitted – 95; Refused – 5; Withdrawn – 14; Application returned – 8.

		Total number of application site in the Buffer Zone = 169. Permitted – 139; Refused – 8; Withdrawn – 17; Application returned – 5. **Derby City Council** Within WHS: 23 Applications received – 18 determined, 4 undetermined. 1 Withdrawn. Determined: 15 Granted Conditionally (4 FUL apps, 10 LBA, 1 CAT - Trees in CA). 3 Raise No Objection (CAT) Undetermined: (2 FUL, 2 LBA) Within WHS Buffer : 93 Applications received – 81 Determined, 10 Undetermined, 2 Withdrawn. Determined: 68 Granted Conditionally (39 FUL, 8 TPO, 6 LBA Consents, 2 CLPD - Certificate of lawful Proposed development, 2 ADV, 7 CAT, 3 Non-material amendment (NONM), 1 Certificate of lawful Existing development). 8 Refused (1 ADV, 7 FUL, 1 CLPD); 4 Raise No Objection (4 CAT); 1 Raise Objection (CAT). Undetermined: (7 FUL, 2 LBA, 1 LCO) **Derbyshire Dales District Council** Applications received between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023: • No of Applications in the WHS = 16 • No of Applications in the Buffer Zone = 43 Total = 59 In WHS (not buffer zone): 9 Approved with Conditions; 3 Refused; 1 Permitted with No Conditions; 0 Withdrawn; 0 raised No objections; 8 for Listed Building Consent; 8 for Planning Permission; 0 for Outline; 0 Variation of Condition; 0 County Matters; 0 for Telecommunications; 0 Agricultural Notifications; 0 Non-Material Amendment; 0 Adverts; 0 Certificate of Lawful Use/Development. In the Buffer Zone: 17 Approved with Conditions; 7 Refused; 4 Permitted with No Conditions; 0 raised No objections; 5 for Listed Building Consent; 27 for Planning Permission; 0 for Outline; 0 County Matters; 1 Adverts; 0 Certificate of Lawful Use/Development, 0 Variation of Condition(s). **Erewash Borough Council** An application to create a cycle route through the WHS was received, but has not been determined. One householder application to extend a domestic garage, and two applications to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area were received and approved. **A38 Derby Junctions Scheme** The A38 Derby Junctions Scheme is being promoted by National Highways for the grade separation of the three existing junctions on the A38 through Derby falling within Derby City (Kingsway and Markeaton Junctions) and Erewash Borough (Little Eaton Junction). The scheme was subject to a Development Consent Order (DCO) application to the Secretary of State for Transport that was submitted by National Highways in April 2019 and for which the Examination in Public took place between October 2019 and July 2020. Although the Secretary of State subsequently granted the DCO for the scheme, the decision was subject to a successful legal challenge in the High Court by a climate change campaign group and the DCO was subsequently quashed. The DCO was then re-

		submitted by National Highways to the Secretary of State in September 2021 to address the reasons for the High Court challenge. A decision by the Secretary of State on the Re-Submitted DCO is anticipated in the summer of 2023, with a likely commencement of the scheme anticipated in the Autumn of 2023. The proposed Little Eaton junction improvements impact on the DVMWHS buffer zone and include a new bridge crossing over the River Derwent and new flyover over the existing Little Eaton roundabout. Landscape and visual impacts on the OUV of the WHS were an important issue that was considered through the examination process, particularly the design of the new bridge crossing and flyover. Extensive landscape mitigation is, therefore, proposed as part of the design of the scheme.
Change and Setting	9. List of physical changes within the WHS, particularly with identified iconic views, & record of any loss (ICOMOS INDICATORS 5, 6, 9 & 46)	Over 40 monitoring views of the World Heritage Site were established and recognised by the Derwent Valley Partnership members in 2007/8. The establishment of a baseline reference in 2007/8 has allowed visual monitoring of these views to begin. It has been agreed this survey take place every five years, as part of the quinquennial review for the Management Plan. The latest survey took place in April 2022 and the updated Monitoring Views can be viewed at http://www.derwentvalleymills.org/about-the-derwent-valley-mills/outstanding-universal-value/monitoring-the-world-heritage-site/.
USES & INTERPRETATION		
Population	10. Number of people living in WHS (ICOMOS INDICATOR 28)	Latest figures are for 2020: World Heritage Site: 4,738. Buffer Zone: 30,309. Age breakdown: 0-15 WHS 587; BZ 4,860 16-29 WHS 619; BZ 4,616 30-44 WHS 879; BZ 5,288 45-64 WHS 1515; BZ 9,041 Retirement Age WHS 1138; BZ 6,504
Tourism	11. Number profile and satisfaction of visitors to the WHS (ICOMOS INDICATORS 8 & 10)	In 2022-2023 the recorded visitors for Middleton Top, High Peak Junction, Leawood Pumphouse, Birdswood, Strutt's North Mill, Belper River Gardens, Cromford Mill, John Smedley's, Masson Mill, Derby Museums (Museum of Making, Museum and Art Gallery and Pickford's House) were 490,432. The figures are increasing following the pandemic but are not yet at the levels of 2019 as more attractions are now open across the DVMWHS. The pilot of the Georgian Derbyshire Festival was held in 2022 but it took place over a period of national mourning so events were more low-key than originally planned with minimal or no promotion taking place in the final few days and on the actual three days festival, which impacted on visitor numbers.
	12. Economic impact (ICOMOS INDICATORS 12 & 14)	For the period covered by this report at Cromford Mills 7 new businesses located to the mill complex, 3 new co-workers during this period, 7 new virtual tenants and 10 new jobs were created. In Darley Abbey Mills 3 new businesses located to the mill complex and created 10 new jobs. In the Amber Valley area of the DVMWHS, 15 businesses were supported over the year with training. The data collected by AVBC is different to previous years as the focus has changed since the end of the pandemic. The value of secondary spend in the DVMWHS was worth £12,049,426 (this is calculated on visitor numbers using the Economic Value of the Independent Museum Sector: Toolkit)
	13. Local Community Involvement (ICOMOS INDICATOR 37)	Community groups which support one or more of the aims of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site include: The Arkwright Society; Friends of Cromford Canal; Belper Historical Society;

		Belper North Mill Volunteers; Darley Abbey Community Association; Darley Abbey Society; Friends of Belper River Gardens; Friends of Darley Open Spaces; Belper Clusters Group, Belper Neighbourhood Plan Group, Accessible Belper, Darley Abbey Historical Group, Milford and Makeney Community Group and The Belper Strutts Society. There are usually about 70 active volunteers helping at the key mill sites. During the pandemic, this reduced significantly, and did not return to pre-Covid 19 levels during the time covered by this report. Community engagement projects are diverse and manifold across the site. Some are aligned closely with the work of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site team; others involve the work of partners but take place within the World Heritage Site itself and help promote the site. The community engagement projects which have taken place in the reporting period – i.e. during the pandemic – were carried out through the National Lottery Heritage Fund and Arts Council England funded Great Place Scheme using digital media. Over the year 22,021 volunteer hours were recorded from Strutt's North Mill, Cromford Mill and Derby Museums, Friends of Cromford Canal and Leawood Pumphouse. The volunteer hours are now increasing as more of the attractions are open and running more regularly. The number of Ambassadors for Belper (162), Darley Abbey (30) and Milford Ambassador (5) remained static during the time covered by this report, as pandemic restrictions made delivery impossible. Work was carried out to prepare a new Cromford Ambassador Scheme, and update the three other schemes, ready for a re-launch in 2023.
Education and Promotion	14. Educational resources and activities (ICOMOS INDICATOR 11)	The Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site (DVMWHS) education and promotion continued throughout this period with significant changes across a lot of the sites and organisations. The DVMWHS Learning Group was coordinated by Derbyshire Environmental Studies Service for this year. Meetings took place online sharing best practice and monitoring progress against the DVMWHS management plan. The DVMWHS central coordinating team does not have its own learning or engagement coordinator. The role and support provided by Derbyshire Environmental Studies Service over the past 6 years ceased in March 2023 as the team were moved to a different section within Derbyshire County Council with a new focus and staff capacity reduced. This will impact on delivery and coordination over the coming year with any coordination of education and promotion work returning solely to the central coordinating team. **Georgian Derbyshire Festival:** Derbyshire in the Georgian Era was a place of wonder, of surprises and innovations – a place which attracted the attention of the rich and provided better homes for workers. In the valley of the River Derwent, water was put to work to power the world's first factories. Further north, the stark, beautiful landscapes of the Peak District and health-giving waters brought the county's first tourists to Buxton and Matlock Bath. To celebrate this fascinating era, the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site Partnership and the Buxton Crescent Heritage Trust

		worked together to provide three days of public events and activities to raise the profile of Derbyshire's contribution to world history at that time which took place over the weekend of the 16th – 18th September 2022. Although events were sadly disrupted by the death of Her Majesty the Queen the 24 events that went ahead attracted 883 attendees at a wide variety of tours, walks, talks and activities. Artist Rebecca Morledge created a 'build and paint your own' activity to recreate the Silk Mill (Museum of Making, Derby) to explore the architecture of the Georgian period with families. **Enslavement Acknowledgement, Diversity and Representation:** Research has continued into the global cotton connections and links to enslavement across the DVMWHS. Information is being shared as available at: https://www.derwentvalleymills.org/discover/derwent-valley-mills-research/recent-research/global-cotton-connections/ The Legacy Makers group from Bright Ideas, Nottingham have been researching the links between Darley Abbey Mills and global cotton communities and enslaved peoples for inclusion in new interpretation and wayfinding boards for launch in 2023-2024. **Special School Rail Project Pilot:** Derbyshire Environmental Studies Service led a pilot project working with a special school to use the Derwent Valley Rail Line for school visits. The project was funded by East Midland Railway and Derwent Valley Line Community Rail Partnership. The pupils taking part in the project all had autism or specific learning needs and the project was carefully planned, delivered and resourced to: • Build life skills for the pupils in preparing, planning and using local rail transport confidently and safely • To travel as a group on the Derwent Valley Line sustainably, safely and enjoyably • Develop and practice a variety of life skills: navigation, working towards independent travel, social skills, local knowledge, confidence in working and speaking with new people, documentary photography skills etc. • An understanding of their local area, particularly the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site (DVMWHS) and why it is special • To take part in a visit to Cromford within the DVMWHS and experience some of the heritage and leisure activities available. The school staff were provided with lesson plans, activities, presentations, videos and activity resources and support for in school introductory sessions, a trial visit to their local train station, their own journey to Cromford Mills and activities to share their learning and follow up on their visit. It is hoped to expand this project in the future. More information is available at: https://derwentvalleyline.org.uk/news/derwent-valley-rail-project-alderwasley-hall-special-school/ **DVMWHS Joint Projects and Joint Learning for Schools:** A shared learning leaflet for the DVMWHS is available along with a wealth of resources for schools to help teach about the site available here: https://www.derwentvalleymills.org/discover/learning-for-all/learning-schools/. Cromford Mills worked with Derbyshire Environmental Studies Service to redevelop their schools learning offer for on-site visit experiences and led session. This has proved very popular and has received the national Sandford Award in recognition.

		The DVMWHS responded to the Newcastle University World Heritage and Peace Project submitting a paper outlining the work of the site contributing to this important UN agenda. **DVMWHS Activity Loan Boxes:** Created as part of the DVMWHS Great Place Scheme there are 8 loan boxes available for early years, schools, adults and older people which schools, organisations and sites can borrow to run craft and creative activities and events on their sites. This year the boxes were loaned out 13 times reaching over 300 people. More details are available about the loan box contents here: http://www.derwentvalleymills.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/DVMWHS-ACTIVITY-LOAN-BOXES.pdf **High Peak Junction Events:** Derbyshire Environmental Studies Service delivered a series of free Thursday activities during school holiday periods at the Railway Workshop at High Peak Junction and on the Cromford Canal all linked to the heritage of the DVMWHS. On each day Leawood Pumphouse was opened by volunteers to explore this amazing building nearby. These included: • Free sketch books for activities along the Canal and landscapes of the DVMWHS • Habitat exploration and Canal dipping to find out about the nature of the Cromford Canal. • Jubilee activities – painting paper plates in the style of Royal Crown Derby or making clay coasters inspired by the area. • Renewable Energy – making waterwheels and finding out about the renewable energy in the valley. • Engineering – exploring the kits with model trains, tracks and weights that explain how the train carriages operated at High Peak Junction and on the Middleton Incline. • Bug hunts and Bird feeders: Minibeast safari in the natural habitats in the areas and making recycled bird feeders. • Spooky activities for Halloween: a Halloween trail exploring the area with interesting, related facts and stories and making circular knitting cobwebs based on Strutt's inventions and the Derby Rib! **Strutt's North Mill, Belper:** April 2022 to March 2023 was a busy period for the Belper North Mill Education Team Volunteers and helpers. Although the Museum at Strutt's North Mill closed in September 2022 the educational volunteers continued to be active up until that point and have developed an offer now there is only access to the basement of the North Mill. 455 adults, children and young people were hosted for a variety of activities. These included tours around the Mill Museum and workshops for schools, Brownies, Cubs and Guide groups. Outreach education was provided to 2 schools. Special interest groups received talks in other premises. 7 craft sessions were offered in The River Gardens, Bateman's Hall and Belper Community Centre during this period. These enabled the BNM team to engage with a further 120 children, young people and adults; sharing the story of The Strutts, The Industrial Revolution and its impact on working life and the OUV of the DVMWHS through creative activities. For the first time a fully booked Wreath Making session was offered to adults and this will be featured in Belper's East Midlands in Bloom submission.

		The closure of the Mill Museum in September 2022 necessitated an evolving offer that continues to engage children, young people and adults with local history in meaningful and creative ways beyond the museum gallery. Schools can visit the North Mill site and other areas of significance in the town, whilst being hosted in Bateman's Hall for a full day visit and workshops. Family Friendly Heritage Walks have been devised and are being delivered in addition to the activities noted above. The BNM Education team are actively reaching out to schools with the following offer. 'For tailor made visits to the Mill site and settlement OR interactive school visits to your classrooms. We cover : the story of cotton, the building of the Belper Mills, the importance of the Strutt family in Belper, the life of the mill children, enslavement, World Heritage status and the first fire-proof mill, waterpower, social order in the 18th century and the role of Belper in the Industrial Revolution.
	15. Number of visitors to website (ICOMOS INDICATOR 35)	The www.derwentvalleymills.org website continues to be available and updated regularly providing a globally-accessible source of in-depth information about the Derwent Valley Mills. Due to staffing, analytic system and administrative changes it has not been possible to gather the visitor data for 2022/2023 but the data is now being collected for 2023/2024 for future analysis. The WHS Facebook page continues to grow slowly with 2422 followers, the Twitter account is followed by 5186 people. We have 1,083 Instagram followers although little posting has happened on this channel due to staffing capacity.
Sustainable transport	16. % of visitors arriving or travelling within the WHS by other means than car (ICOMOS INDICATOR 40)	Trying to establish a percentage of people not using a car to visit and move around the WHS has proven to be difficult, as so much movement within the Site is not recorded. In December, weekday commuter trains returned to Nottingham from the Derwent Valley Line stations with three morning and three evening train services in each direction reducing the journey time between Derwent Valley communities and Nottingham. In February 2023 it was confirmed that all Derwent Valley Line services would be reinstated from Nottingham, providing an hourly Monday to Saturday service between Nottingham, Derby and Matlock from May 2023. Derwent Valley Line passenger journeys have recovered to about 75% of pre COVID levels. There has been a strong recovery in leisure travel with Matlock Bath at 95% of the pre pandemic level, but lower levels of commuting due to hybrid and home working.
Green agenda	17. Environmental policy (ICOMOS INDICATOR 42)	Derbyshire County Council commissioned a Derby, Derbyshire and Peak District National Park Renewable Energy Study on behalf of the County Council, Derby City Council, the eight district and borough councils and the Peak District National Park Authority. The study was commissioned in December 2021 and a final version of the Study completed in 2022. A key aim of the study was to provide the constituent local planning authorities in the study area with essential evidence to inform the development of future planning policy on renewable energy and guide new renewable energy developments to the most suitable locations in the study area, taking into account key policy and environmental constraints, which includes the World Heritage Site. Units of electricity produced by hydropower from turbines at the mill sites in the DVMWHS, between April 2022 and March 2023 are as follows:

		Milford - 491 MWh Belper - 1470 MWh Masson – 598 MWh Total – 2559 MWh A general offset in CO2 emissions can be calculated using a 0.25 multiplier per MWh, this is just a rule of thumb as the UK energy mix varies over time. This gives us a figure of 640 tonnes of CO2 saved per year, a reduction on last year due mainly to temporary operational constraints at Milford. Support for Transition Groups continues in the DVMWHS. Transition Belper actively promotes a green agenda for the area and maintains a list of around 800 subscribers to its e-bulletins. Subscriber rates for its bulletins increased throughout 2022 / 2023 from April 2022 (798) to March 2023 (836). In addition, the Transition Belper facebook page now registers at 1.5k followers. The Transition Belper Group successfully converted into a Community Interest Company in December 2022 and is now known as Transition Belper CIC. In 2022, Transition Belper CIC also enabled the start-up of Belper Community Energy (a Community Benefit Society aiming to facilitate the installation of solar panels for community benefit) a project that arose from the "What if" Community Conversation held in October 2021. After covid postponed events in 2020 and 2021, Transition Belper successfully returned to staging its annual eco festival, "Belper Goes Green" over the weekend of 10-12 June 2022 (attracting around 2,000 attendees over 3 days).
Climate change	18. Number of floods (ICOMOS INDICATOR 43)	Objective 1.9 of the 2020 Derwent Valley Mills WHS Management Plan states: 'Ensure owners and partners have plans in place to accommodate unexpected change, such as natural disasters and climate change'. The Environment Agency has identified significant parts of the Derwent Valley floodplain which should remain undeveloped, thereby allowing for emergency water storage capacity in the event of flooding, helping to protect more vulnerable sites within the valley. Emergency Flood Plans are in existence, which refer to the World Heritage Site under "Special Considerations". These plans are regularly reviewed by the relevant Emergency Planning Authority. There were no serious flooding incidents in 2022/3 within the DVMWHS.
MANAGEMENT		
WHS manage-ment (All in ICOMOS INDICATOR 7)	19. Management Plan	A Management Plan does exist for the Derwent Valley Mills WHS. This was adopted in 2002, with amendments in 2003 and again in 2007 following the quinquennial review. A full review took place in 2011-13, and was adopted in 2015. Work on the latest iteration of the Management Plan began in 2018 and was endorsed by Historic England and DCMS, and sent on to UNESCO Centre in 2020.
	20. Steering Group	Management of the World Heritage Site was reviewed in 2018-2020, as part of the 2020 Management Plan revisions, and the Steering Group replaced with a new Strategic Board which is now operating.

	21. Officer or WHS team	Since March 2017 the coordination team has reported to the Head of Conservation, Heritage and Design at Derbyshire County Council. In the time period covered by this report, there were two full-time permanent posts of Heritage and Development Co-ordinators. The part-time post of Business Services Assistant was abolished when the post holder retired in April 2022. A third post of Assistant Coordinator was created and filled in March 2023. This is a reduction in resources for the core team, which once had five full-time posts. Whilst much of the work of the team continues to be maintained, its long-term ability to provide an appropriate level of service is under strain.