



Case Study

Elba Park

Location: North East

Size:
Client:

52 hectares
Homes & Communities Agency

the Land Trust's Role:
From:
To:

Protecting asset value
Colliery
Country Park

Elba Park is a regeneration success story - one of the most contaminated sites in the North East has now become one of the best green spaces in the country, earning three prestigious Green Flag awards.

The park, alongside a new housing development, is a flourishing green space and has been a major selling point for the 300+ new homes; has added value to the development and has become a thriving space, well used and appreciated by the local communities and wildlife alike.

This park is a former colliery and coke works, experiencing years of dereliction after operations ceased in the 1980s. The Land Trust worked closely with the HCA and other partners to transform the site into a country park, using funding from the National Coalfields Programme, and invested an endowment which has secured its long-term future.

The Land Trust has been able to use its expertise in sustainable land management to plan a network of 3,700 metres of paths, connecting woodland, wetland and grassland areas, planted 77,000 trees and preserved the area's coal mining heritage by installing 5 carefully designed pieces of public artwork.

The thriving park provides access to open spaces for people, vital havens for wildlife and now, with an active Friends group and volunteers, is an important resource for schools and education, offering a multitude of regular events, bringing the community together.



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