

## **River and Stream Corridors**

- 4.92 Linear features such as rivers, streams and canal corridors provide important amenity and wildlife resources. The importance of such features cannot be underestimated, since it is increasingly recognised that wildlife cannot survive in isolated sites separated by development or hostile environments. This is particularly relevant in Selby District which has been subjected to intensive farming practices for several decades.
- 4.93 In addition to providing important resources for nature conservation, many river and stream corridors provide valuable opportunities for informal recreation, outdoor relaxation and education. Within urban areas, particularly where they are tree-lined, they also contribute to the visual character and general amenity of an area.
- 4.94 It is important to ensure that the nature conservation, recreational and general amenity of river and stream corridors is not impaired by new development. Existing features may be enhanced and new links provided in association with specific development allocations and through other proposals for development.

**ENV12 Proposals for development likely to harm the natural features of or access to river, stream and canal corridors will not be permitted unless the importance of the development outweighs these interests, and adequate compensatory measures are provided.**