East Riding of Yorkshire Important Landscape Areas Boundary Refinement

Scope of Work
Golder Associates (UK) Ltd (Golder) was commissioned by East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC) in July 2013 to review and map the definitive boundaries of the ‘Important Landscape Areas’ (ILAs) as defined by Policy ENV2 of the draft Local Plan 2013-2029. (Policy ENV 2 is included in Appendix A of this report).

There are six ILAs within the Draft Local Plan area:

- The Yorkshire Wolds;
- Heritage Coast at Flamborough;
- Heritage Coast Spurn;
- River Derwent Corridor;
- Lower Derwent Valley and Pocklington Canal; and
- Thorne, Crowle and Goole Moors.

The ILAs are based on the East Riding of Yorkshire Landscape Character Assessment, 2005 and their boundaries generally coincide with the high quality Landscape Character Areas identified at the time.

(The key attributes of the ILA based on the corresponding LCA are listed in Appendix B)

The objective of this commission was to redefine and rationalise the boundaries of the ILAs (currently plotted at 120,000 scale) to align them where possible to geographical features such as roads, rivers and field boundaries, taking into account the key characteristics of each LCA and the objectives of the designation.

The work will support the landscape evidence for the emerging East Riding Local Plan.

Method for refining the boundaries of the ‘Important Landscape Areas’

The method employed for refining and updating the boundaries is set out below:

- The existing ‘regional scale’ boundaries were superimposed onto larger scale OS base maps and their alignment was assessed in relation to key landscape characteristics and evidence from the 2005 Landscape Character Assessment. Where necessary the boundaries were adjusted to include, or exclude as appropriate, areas which it was considered did, or did not, display the valued attributes of the ILA.

- The boundaries were defined using aerial imagery, topographical data and Ordnance Survey mapping to identify geographical features, land cover and changes landscape patterns indicating to define the ILA boundaries.

- The proposed alignment was verified in the field to ensure it was logical, defensible and encompassed the qualifying ILA attributes. Based on site observations the boundaries were revised further in relation to the criteria given below.
Comments on the ILA received by ERYC during the consultation period for the Draft Local Plan were assessed in relation to the findings of both the desk study and field study to ensure all the issues had been considered and that the selection criteria had been applied consistently in these areas.

Criteria used to define the ILA boundaries

- The new ILA boundaries are plotted on 1:25,000 OS maps. The previous LCA boundaries (on which the ILAs are based) are plotted at 120,000.

- The boundaries only encompass areas displaying the valued attributes of the ILA. (The features that make each ILA important are listed in Appendix B). Land that does not display these attributes is excluded from the designated areas;

- ILA boundaries demarcate the transition between areas of different landscape characteristics and landscape quality;

- The boundaries are where possible aligned to physical features such as roads, field boundaries, watercourses, hedge lines, woodland, urban edges or distinct changes in topography;

- Where it is not possible to follow physical features or the alignment crosses large open fields adjacent landmarks and identifiable features are used to locate the boundary on the ground (i.e. trees or buildings either side of the field);

- Boundaries are where possible logical, apparent and defensible, avoiding multiple changes in direction, small pockets of isolated land and overly complex shapes resulting in ‘week’ fragmented edges to the ILA;

- Generally, to ensure a relationship is maintained between the ILA and the LCA the deviation between the old and the new boundaries is limited a maximum of 500 m.

- Where it is proposed that new boundaries deviate from the existing alignment by more than 500m the rationale behind the decision is explained to and approved by ERYC;

- Comments received on the East Riding Draft Local Plan January 2013, in relation to the ILA boundaries are considered on a case by case basis and where applicable the boundaries can be adjusted in accordance with the defining criteria.

- The assessment is undertaken by a Chartered Landscape Architect using professional judgement and the application of the defining criteria is applied consistently to all ILA boundaries.
Appendix A
Extract from Policy ENV2

Policy ENV2: Promoting a high quality landscape

1. Development proposals should be sensitively integrated into the existing landscape, demonstrate an understanding of the intrinsic qualities of the landscape setting and, where possible, seek to make the most of the opportunities to restore and enhance landscape characteristics and features. To achieve this, development should:
   1. Maintain the physical separation of settlements and protect the character and function of Key Open Areas, including those settlements and Key Open Areas identified in Policies A1-A6.
   2. Protect and enhance important open spaces within settlements which contribute to their character.
   3. Ensure important hedgerows and trees are retained unless their removal can be justified in the wider public interest. Where important hedgerows and trees are lost replacements will usually be required.
   4. Maintain or enhance the character and management of woodland where appropriate.
   5. Retain and not detract from existing wetland and water feature characteristics.
   6. Protect and enhance views of valued landscape features.
   7. Protect and enhance the undeveloped coast.

2. Proposals should respect and enhance existing landscape character as described in the East Riding Landscape Character Assessment, in particular, within the following Important Landscape Areas as shown on the Policies Map:
   1. The Yorkshire Wolds, with special attention to ensuring developments are of an appropriately high quality and will not adversely affect the historic and special character, appearance or natural conservation value.
   2. The Heritage Coast designations at Flamborough and Spurn Head.
   3. The River Derwent Corridor and Lower Derwent Valley.
   4. The Thorne, Crowle and Goole Moors.
Appendix B

Valued attributes of the Important Landscape Areas (based on Landscape Character Area Descriptions)

The Yorkshire Wolds

Valued attributes based on East Riding of Yorkshire Landscape Character Assessment 2005. The Yorkshire Wolds comprises Landscape Character Areas: 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15:

Key attributes of the Complex Sloping Farmland of the Yorkshire Wolds (Landscape Character Area: 10)

- Sloping Landform of the west facing Yorkshire Wolds scarp slope.
- Steep sided dales with small water courses.
- Diverse landform from the steep sided dales to the rolling elevated farmland.
- Narrow roads winding up the dales to the elevated Wolds tops. Straight roads across the Wold tops.
- Extensive woodland and tree cover.
- Remote, attractive diverse landscape that has a tranquil nature.

Key attributes of the Jurassic Hills Farmland in the Yorkshire Wolds (Landscape Character Area: 11)

- Sloping landform with undulating topography.
- Strong hedgerow boundaries with pockets of acidic grass and heathland
- Parkland and estate farmland associated with Hotham and Houghton Hall.
- Stone and brick built nucleated villages dispersed across the sloping land are smaller scale than the surrounding open farmland.

Key attributes of the Sloping Wooded Farmland the Yorkshire Wolds (Landscape Character Area: 12)

- Sloping Landform and steep sided wooded dales incise the scarp slop of the Wolds.
- Sparsely populated area.
- Brantingham Estate Parkland is a distinctive area.
- Contrasting land management of the steep sided grassland dales and flatter arable Wold tops.
- Extensive views west over the Jurassic Hills to the Humberhead Levels.

Key attributes of the Open High Rolling Farmland the Yorkshire Wolds (Landscape Character Area: 13)

- Elevated rolling landform of the Yorkshire Wolds.
- Large scale open landscape with long distance views and dominated by the sky.
- Sparsely populated area with villages scattered villages and Farmsteads.
- Open landscape with large and very large rectilinear regular arable fields and fragmented hedgerows
- Pockets of parkland and estate land to the east on the lower slopes.
Key attributes of the Sloping Wooded Farmland the Yorkshire Wolds
(Landscape Character Area: 14)
- Rolling elevated landform cut by occasional deep steep side dales.
- Intensive arable production on the elevated rolling land contrasts with the grassland of the steep sided valleys.
- Enclosed character of the dales contrasts with open elevated land in between.
- Sparse woodland cover overall.
- Large rectilinear enclosure field pattern

Key attributes of the Wolds Valley Farmland the Yorkshire Wolds
(Landscape Character Area: 15)
- Broad valley landscape with small intermittent water course.
- Sloping valley sides with large rectilinear arable fields bound by hedgerows.
- Woodland cover at lower elevations.

Heritage Coast at Flamborough

Valued attributes based on East Riding of Yorkshire Landscape Character Assessment 2005. The Heritage Coast at Flamborough comprises Landscape Character Area 13:

Key attributes of the Open High Rolling Farmland the Yorkshire Wolds
(Landscape Character Area: 13)
- Elevated rolling landform of the Yorkshire Wolds dip slope falling east.
- Large scale open landscape with long distance views and dominated by the sky.
- Sparsely populated area with villages scattered villages and Farmsteads.
- Large and very large rectilinear regular arable fields.
- Fragmented hedgerows
- Open landscape.
- Shelterbelts around farmsteads on the hill tops are a prominent feature.
- Pockets of parkland and estate land to the east on the lower slopes.

Heritage Coast Spurn

Valued attributes based on East Riding of Yorkshire Landscape Character Assessment 2005. The Heritage Coast at Spurn comprises Landscape Character Area 21A:

Key attributes of the Spurn Point Heritage Coast
(Landscape Character Area: 21A)
- Flat low lying extensive area of coastal sand dune and coastal spit.
- Regular drainage pattern forming field boundaries.
- Large scale fertile arable landscape.
Open, extensive views across the simple remote landscape.
The sky dominates views across the flat open landscape.
Few hedgerows, many of them fragmented.

**River Derwent Corridor**

Valued attributes based on East Riding of Yorkshire Landscape Character Assessment 2005. The River Derwent Corridor comprises Landscape Character Area 3:

**Key attributes of the River Corridors in the Vale of York**
*(Landscape Character Area: 3)*

- Low lying flat floodplain
- Combination of grassland pasture and meadow subject to seasonal flooding
- Manmade embankments formed as a result of dredging in the twentieth century
- Riparian woodland and trees in the corridor
- Small areas of organic arrangement of medium sized fields combined with more regular boundaries of enclosed fields.
- Edges of the floodplain defined in some areas by lanes and linear settlements.
- Intimate isolated corridor landscape that is a marked contrast from surrounding intensively farmed land.

**Lower Derwent Valley and Pocklington Canal**

Valued attributes based on East Riding of Yorkshire Landscape Character Assessment 2005. The Lower Derwent Valley and Pocklington Canal comprises Landscape Character Area 4:

**Key attributes of River Corridors in the Humberhead levels**
*(Landscape Character Area: 4)*

- Low lying flat floodplain
- Combination of grassland pasture and meadow that are subject to seasonal flooding
- Manmade embankments formed as a result of dredging in the twentieth century
- Riparian woodland and trees in the corridor
- Areas of species rich alluvial flood meadow habitat
- Small areas of organic arrangement of medium sized fields combined with more regular boundaries of enclosed fields
- Intimate isolated corridor landscape that is a marked contrast from surrounding intensively farmed land

**Thorne, Crowle and Goole Moors.**
Valued attributes based on East Riding of Yorkshire Landscape Character Assessment 2005. The Thorne, Crowle and Goole Moors. comprises Landscape Character Area 9A (Thorne Moors):

**Key attributes of Thorne Moors (Landscape Character Area: 9A)**

- Thorn Moors, part of the Thorn Crowle and Goole Moors SSSI
- Expanse of lowland raised mire modified by commercial peat extraction
- Low lying and flat landform.
Appendix C
Initial Comments on proposed boundary alignments over ±500 m

Refer to relevant boundary alignment drawings.

Text to be developed following coordination and settlement studies

The Yorkshire Wolds:
Notes on Yorkshire Wolds Boundary realignment:

1. Holiday home/caravan development removed from Yorkshire Wolds as this land use in this location acts as a detractor and alters the character of the site;

2. Wolds ILA aligned with northern urban edge of Bridlington. Agricultural fields in this area are of same character as those to the north;

3. Inclusion of Stubble Fields as this area has landscape characteristics of that defined as the Yorkshire Wolds;

4. Aligned to New Pasture Lane to include agricultural fields of same character as that to the north;

5. Aligned to A614 to incorporate landscape of similar character (rolling landscape with good vegetation/field boundaries). South of A614 is clear landscape character change.

6. Aligned to A614 to incorporate landscape of similar character (rolling landscape with good vegetation/field boundaries). South of A614 is clear landscape character change.

7. Alignment up to Church Lane to include the continuation of surrounding agricultural land and landscape features associated with Elmswell Beck;

8. MOD area is flat and out of character with surrounding Wolds landscape – boundary aligned with edge of this flat area and utilising vegetation as clear boundary landscape feature.

9. Aligned to the B1248 to incorporate landscape of similar character (rolling landscape with good vegetation/field boundaries). East of B1248 is clear landscape character change.

10. Aligned to the B1248 to incorporate landscape of similar character (rolling landscape with good vegetation/field boundaries). East of B1248 is clear landscape character change.

11. Inclusion of Killingwoldgraves to incorporate undulating agricultural landscape, similar in character to that of the surrounding Yorkshire Wolds area.

12. Aligned to A1079 to incorporate landscape of similar character (rolling landscape with good vegetation/field boundaries). North-east of A1079 is clear landscape character change with flatter topography moving towards urban area of Beverley.

13. Aligned to B1231 to include agricultural fields of same character as that to the north of the A63;

14. South Hunsley School removed from Yorkshire Wolds as not of a landscape character consistent with this ILA;

15. Aligned with the urban settlement edge and A63;

16. Aligned with Ellerker Lane and Sand Lane to omit area of landscape more aligned to more open, more gently sloping Humber Estuary;

17. Aligned with track to east of Market Weighton to omit school grounds and adjacent agricultural land due to being very flat and not consistent with the landscape character of the Yorkshire Wolds;

18. Boundary refined to be aligned with Yorkshire Wolds landscape character and identifiable landscape features such as field boundaries and public footpaths;

19. Aligned to edge of Burnby settlement to incorporate sloping landform which is consistent with Yorkshire Wolds landscape character;
20. Aligned with B1246, urban edge of Pocklington and Pockington Wood to ensure that a landscape consistent with the Yorkshire Wolds character is incorporated. The land is of a high value, well vegetated with sloping topography;

21. Aligned to Bishop Wilton Road and agricultural field boundaries at the foot of the sloping landform to incorporate landscape of similar character (rolling landscape with good vegetation/field boundaries) of the Yorkshire Wolds. Land to south west is sloping, however is open in character with little vegetation

22. Aligned to A166 and Garrowby Road to create clearer edge. Land to south west is sloping, however is open in character with little vegetation

23. Aligned to road west of Bugthorpe to incorporate landscape of similar character (rolling landscape with good vegetation/field boundaries). Western area is a clear landscape character change.

24. Aligned with A63 and agricultural field boundaries. This creates a definable boundary to the ILA.

25. Aligned with A164 and substantial tree block north of Boothferry Road. This creates a definable boundary to the ILA.

**Heritage Coast at Flamborough**

**Boundary as Previously shown**

**Heritage Coast Spurn**

**Boundary as Previously shown**

**River Derwent Corridor**

**Notes on River Derwent Boundary realignment:**

1. Aligned with Dolgate to create a clear defined eastern edge to the River Derwent ILA. Beyond, the landscape becomes dominated by agricultural uses and begins to slowly rise from the flatter areas associated with the river;

2. Extend boundary along river frontage to edge of urban areas of Stamford Bridge to incorporate Derwent landscape character;

3. Aligned with Low Catton and associated north/south access roads. This creates a definable boundary to the Derwent ILA. Agricultural fields to the east have been omitted to avoid a fragmented edge and isolated pockets of the Derwent ILA that do not have a strong physical link to the river itself;

4. Aligned with Long Lane, A1079 and agricultural field boundaries to create a definable boundary. Further to the east, the landscape character is dominated by agriculture;

5. Aligned with Birker Goit (drain) and Newton Common included to ensure boundary is definable, however the width of the ILA does not become too narrow so as to weaken its value by utilising field boundaries further to the west;

6. Aligned with Sutton Upon Derwent and associated north/south access roads. This creates a definable boundary to the Derwent ILA. Agricultural fields to the east have been omitted to avoid a fragmented edge and isolated pockets of the Derwent ILA that do not have a strong physical link to the river itself;

7. Aligned to Wilberforce Way to incorporate area currently identified by Carstairs Countryside Trust as being an Area of Habitat Protection, and also an area that is an important backdrop/buffer to Wheldrake Ings;
**Lower Derwent Valley and Pocklington Canal**

**General Notes on Lower Derwent Valley and Pocklington Canal Boundary realignment:**

1. Aligned to Wilberforce Way to incorporate area currently identified by Carstairs Countryside Trust as being an Area of Habitat Protection, and also an area that is an important backdrop/buffer to Wheldrake Ings;

2. Aligned with agricultural field boundaries to create a definable boundary. Further to the north, the landscape character is dominated by agriculture as the landform begins to slope up out of the river floodplain;

3. Aligned with agricultural field boundaries along northern edge of Lower Derwent Valley SPA and Ramsar site to create a definable boundary. Further to the north, the landscape character is dominated by agriculture as the landform begins to slope up out of the river floodplain;

4. Aligned to Gatehead road and the Storwood development to incorporate the area currently identified by Carstairs Countryside Trust as being an Area of Habitat Protection, and also this alignment ensures the incorporation of existing built development of Storwood, identified as having heritage value;

5. Aligned with Melbourne and associated east/west access roads. This creates a definable boundary to the ILA. Agricultural fields to the south have been omitted to avoid a fragmented edge and isolated pockets of the ILA that do not have a strong physical link to the river itself;

6. Aligned with agricultural field boundaries to create a definable boundary. Further to the north, the landscape character is dominated by agriculture as the landform begins to slope up out of the river floodplain;

7. Aligned with agricultural field boundaries to create a definable boundary. Further to the south the landscape character is dominated by agriculture as the landform begins to slope up out of the river floodplain;

8. Aligned with agricultural field boundaries to create a definable boundary. Further to the north the landscape character is dominated by agriculture as the landform begins to slope up out of the river floodplain;

9. Aligned with Galecarr Lane, the edge of Bielby and agricultural field boundaries to create a definable boundary. Further to the south the landscape character is dominated by agriculture as the landform begins to slope up out of the river floodplain;

10. Aligned to Postern Lane to incorporate area currently identified by Carstairs Countryside Trust as being an Area of Habitat Protection, and also an area that is an important backdrop/buffer to Storwood Ings. Aligned with Postern Lane to create a clear and definable boundary to this ILA;

11. Aligned with East Cottingwith and Langrickgate Lane. This creates a definable boundary to the ILA. Agricultural fields to the south and south east have been omitted to avoid a fragmented edge and isolated pockets of the ILA that do not have a strong physical link to the river itself;

12. Aligned with Hag Lane running south of East Cottingwith. This creates a definable boundary to the ILA. Agricultural fields to the east have been omitted to avoid a fragmented edge and isolated pockets of the ILA that do not have a strong physical link to the river itself;

13. Aligned with Ellerton and Cow Pasture Lane to the north and the public footpath running south to Aughton. This creates a definable boundary to the ILA. The landscape character of the agricultural fields to the east is dominated by agriculture as the landform begins to slope up out of the river floodplain;

14. Aligned with Aughton and agricultural field boundaries. This creates a definable boundary to the ILA. The landscape character of the agricultural...
fields to the east is dominated by agriculture as the landform begins to slope up out of the river floodplain;
15. Aligned with Gunby road to create a clear identifiable boundary to the ILA. The landscape character changes to the east too that with no special qualities, such at the disused airfield;
16. Aligned with farm tracks and agricultural field boundaries. This creates a definable boundary to the ILA.
17. Water treatment wrks removed from ILA boundary. This landscape detractor is out of character of the ILA, however the frontage along the Derwent is important to be protected as this provides continuation along the river corridor;
18. Aligned with Marsh Lane and agricultural field boundaries. This creates a definable boundary to the ILA.
19. Boundary extended into Barmby Tidal Barrage following county boundary line. This, while a different landscape character as defined in 2005 assessment, is of a quality that should be recognised and incorporated into the ILA to provide a protected and continuous river corridor.

**Thorne, Crowle and Goole Moors.**

General Notes on Thorne, Crowle and Goole Moors Boundary realignment:
1. Boundary aligned to edge of moorland landscape character;
2. Agricultural land uses omitted from within boundary.
3. Rawcliffe Moors forms part of same landscape character
The Yorkshire Wolds Original (2005) Important Landscape Area Boundary

Thorne, Crowle and Goole Moors Original (2005) Important Landscape Area Boundary

Lower Derwent Valley and Pocklington Canal Original (2005) Important Landscape Area Boundary

River Derwent Corridor Original (2005) Important Landscape Area Boundary

Proposed Important Landscape Area Boundary Amendments

Proposed Important Landscape Area Boundary Amendment

Target Note on Proposed Important Landscape Area Boundary Amendment. Refer to Methodology for notes.
Thorne, Crowle and Goole Moors.
Important Landscape Area
Sheet 1. 1:25,000 @A3
The Yorkshire Wolds Important Landscape Area
Sheet 3. 1:25,000 @A1