East Riding of Yorkshire

Landscape Character Assessment
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INTRODUCTION

1.1 SCOPE

East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC) commissioned AECOM to undertake an update to the 2005 Landscape Character Assessment of the East Riding of Yorkshire area. The study has been steered by a small team of officers representing the local authority. The work was carried out between September 2016 and June 2018. The aim of this Study was to bring the 2005 assessment up to date to inform the preparation and review of the East Riding Local Plan, support decision making on the location of development across the Authority’s administrative area and provide information about landscape character across the East Riding.

A brief to carry out the update to the Landscape Character Assessment for the East Riding of Yorkshire was prepared by the local authority and is contained in Appendix 1 of this document. The Brief required a review and update to the landscape character types by relating evidence from the LCA to changes that have occurred to the landscape since 2005. The updated Study needed to include the following:

- Summarise the project brief, and describe the purpose and scope of the study, including the role played by stakeholders and the intended audience;
- Explain the methodology followed;
- Include a contextual description of the study area;
- Indicate how the assessment fits with other landscape, seascape and/or townscape character assessments at the same and/or different scales and in adjacent administrative or geographic areas;
- Include a map(s) at an appropriate scale showing the extent of the landscape character types and/or areas identified;
- Include clear and accurate descriptions of the character of each landscape character type and/or area identified (including features such as; geology, landform, land cover, flora & fauna, use, touch, feel, smell, pattern, texture and colour) - avoiding value laden terminology;
- Include an assessment of ‘overall landscape sensitivity’ for each landscape character area to help inform the type and location of future development;
- Include photographs, diagrams and sketches as appropriate, to illustrate the character being described; and
- Identify key characteristics for each landscape character type and/or area, in order to capture the combination of elements that make a particular contribution to creating distinctive character.

To achieve the above objectives this document identifies and describes the characteristics and features of the East Riding landscape. The district has been divided into Landscape Character Types and Areas. This has been done in the context of the updated Natural England National Area Profiles which identified National Character Areas for England. Section 2.0 Landscape Context explains how these areas fit into this assessment.

The landscape of the East Riding of Yorkshire is a fundamental resource reflecting not only physical environmental features but also how these have been influenced by human activity.

Assessing the landscape by description and analysis allows characterisation and classification i.e. sorting various landscapes into different types. Subsequent appraisal and/or evaluation can then follow against particular criteria.
1.2 CONSULTATION
Consultation has been undertaken as part of this assessment. In October 2016 stakeholder organisations were contacted to gain their views on a number of matters in relation to the updated Study. The questions were:

- What significant changes to the landscape since 2005 are relevant to you?
- Do you currently use the LCA document and if yes, when and how?
- Have you found any specific parts of the LCA document easy or helpful to use?
- Do you have any recommendations for improving the LCA document?

The consultation responses were collated and summarised. The results of this consultation exercise have been incorporated into the updated report, where appropriate to do so. A document setting out how the consultation responses have been incorporated is available from ERYC. A list of all those consulted is contained in Appendix 2.

Further consultation has been held with Natural England and Historic England on the methodology and content of the Study.

1.3 METHOD

The assessment was undertaken in the following stages:

Stage 1 Desk Study: This involved a review of each characteristic within each of the existing Landscape Character Types (LCT) (23 in total) and Landscape Character Areas (LCA) (82 in total) and identifying where changes have taken place since 2005. This included new ecological designations, major archaeological finds, development within or adjacent to the LCA and major development including the presence of wind turbines.

This involved gathering the existing information about the physical environment in digital format where possible. ERYC passed on their relevant GIS layers including Geology, Agricultural Land Classification, Development Limits, Conservation Areas, Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Registered Parks and Gardens, Historic Land Classification, Local Nature Reserves, Local Wildlife Sites, National Nature Reserves, SSSIs, Ramsar sites, SACs, SPAs, Ancient woodland, Contours and the Landline OS base. In addition, the 1:25000 O.S. Explorer Maps for the East Riding was used. An assessment was made of the various components that contribute to landscape character including ecology, cultural heritage, aspect, topography, gradient, Agricultural Land Classification, land use, hydrology, settlement pattern, woodland cover and field size.

Stage 2 – Field Survey: To verify any identified changes to the LCT and LCA a field survey was carried out. This enabled any key observations in changes to the characteristics within the LCT and LCA to be recorded. Site visits were undertaken to key locations to record the landscape characteristics for specific LCA. The landscape value for each LCA was also recorded during these visits. An example field survey sheet is contained in Appendix 3 which follows the methodology as contained in An Approach to Landscape Character Assessment. The field survey was conducted between April and August 2017.
Stage 3 – Making Judgements: A requirement of the brief was to make judgements regarding the sensitivity of the landscape to specific types of development including residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural and recreational. A separate study makes judgements regarding the sensitivity of the landscape to wind turbine development and is contained in Annex 1. Assessments of sensitivity of the landscape to specific forms of development considered the value of the landscape and how susceptible to change that landscape would be (potentially affecting its fabric, character, quality or amenity value). The landscape sensitivity methodology is contains in Annex 1.

Landscape value is the intrinsic value that is attached to the landscape and often reflected in a designation. It is influenced by a number of factors including: landscape quality (condition); scenic quality; conservation interests including wildlife, archaeological, historic or cultural; recreational value; perceptual aspects including openness, wildness, tranquillity or remoteness; and associations with people or events.

Landscape sensitivity to development is assessed through the combining of landscape value and susceptibility. Susceptibility is defined as the ability of a landscape to accommodate the specific proposed development without undue negative consequences. It is generally accepted that a combination of high value and high susceptibility is likely to result in the highest sensitivity, whereas a low susceptibility and low value is likely to resulting in the lowest level of sensitivity.

Landscape capacity is the degree to which a particular landscape character type or area is able to accommodate change without significant effects on its character, or overall change of landscape character type. Capacity is likely to vary according to the type and nature of change being proposed.

Cumulative impact of development also needs to be considered when making judgements. Increasing the density of a particular type of development can result in increased adverse impact and ultimately a change or loss of character.

A Landscape Strategy is proposed for each LCT based upon the quality of the landscape and the potential forces for change in that landscape. The strategy includes guidelines for each LCT.

Stage 4 – Reporting: This stage involved the production of this document and an updated digital map of the LCT and LCA. The boundaries for each LCT and LCA were reviewed and updated to provide a consistent approach in relation to settlements.

1.4 LIMITATIONS OF THIS STUDY

This study has used mapped information available from ERYC, and a range of reference material listed in Section 6.0 References.

This report used the information contained in the Draft Historic Landscape Character Assessment (HLCA) for the East Riding. Historic Landscape Character Assessment can make an important contribution to the understanding of key landscape characteristics and how they developed. This current assessment has considered the characteristics of the historic landscape and other cultural heritage information for the East Riding.

It should be recognised that this study only considers landscape and visual aspects when making judgements.

The study is intended to help inform decision making at a strategic level and provides judgements on sensitivity to specific types of development at
a LCA level. The study will provide a starting point for identifying key characteristics in an area and the potential effect on character. However, a local site specific assessment would be required for development proposals taking account of landscape impact at a site level.

This study does not negate the need for detailed considerations of landscape and visual impact on a case by case basis.

The study has not looked at the potential impact on views from and to the sea as a result of development but may be used as a starting point for assessing this. This assessment concentrates on the character of rural areas and gives an overview of local character that contributes to the setting of towns and provides the context for urban green space. Townscape character has not been assessed and as a general rule development limits mark the boundary of the assessment.

It should be recognised that landscape character is transitional by nature and that boundaries between character types and areas are indicative rather than definitive. Therefore, a landscape close to the boundary between two landscape character types may share many characteristics with its neighbour.

1.5 STRUCTURE OF THIS REPORT

Section 1: Introduction. This section explains the reasons for this study and outlines the objectives in the brief and the process which has been followed in developing this Landscape Character Assessment.

Section 2: Landscape Context. This section sets the scene for this assessment and explains how it fits with current assessments and the planning policy.

Section 3: Overview. This section provides an overview of the characteristics of the East Riding.

Section 4: Landscape Character Types and Areas. This section identifies and describes 23 LCT within the Natural England National Character Areas that cover the East Riding. Each of the LCT are then broken down into more detailed LCA. Once the LCT and LCA have been described, judgements are made. The evaluation section of each description identifies positive landscape features, and assesses condition and strength of landscape character to help determine landscape quality. The evaluation then goes on to identify forces for change and landscape sensitivity and capacity to accept change. Finally, a landscape strategy and guidelines are identified for the LCT.

Section 5: Summary. This section is a summary of the findings of the study with recommendations relating to landscape policy and local landscape designations. The summary also identifies major changes in Landscape Character since the last assessment that was conducted in 2005.

Section 6: References. This section is a list of reference material that has been used in preparing this Landscape Character Assessment of the East Riding.

Section 7: Glossary. This section is a list of terms and their definitions.
LANDSCAPE CONTEXT

The East Riding of Yorkshire covers an area of 240,768 hectares. The majority of the East Riding is located north of the River Humber, and west of the River Derwent. A small area extends south and west near Goole.

The East Riding contains a diverse range of land forms that give particular areas a distinctive character. These are described through the National Character Areas (NCA) as indicated on the National Character Areas plan and include: the chalk uplands of the Yorkshire Wolds; meandering rivers and streams of the Vale of York; watery raised mires of the Humberhead Levels; coastal plain of Holderness; and broad expanse of the Humber Estuary and its surroundings. Along the East Riding’s coast the landscape changes from the dramatic chalk cliffs of Flamborough Head in the north, through the crumbling clay cliffs of Holderness, to the nationally unique Spurn Head at the southern tip of the coast. Two sections of the coast, at Flamborough and Spurn Head, are designated as Heritage Coast and are protected for their special scenic and environmental value.

These rich and diverse landscapes, open spaces and coastal areas are a source of great pleasure to local people and visitors. This includes an extensive (1,600km) Public Right of Way network, for example the Yorkshire Wolds National Trail and the Trans Pennine Trail. There are also areas of high landscape quality that are of local importance, including parts of the Yorkshire Wolds and the Lower Derwent Valley and at Flamborough Headland and Spurn Head.

There are many sites in the East Riding that are designated because of their international, national or local ecological importance. This includes sites such as Hornsea Mere, the Humber Estuary and Thorne Moors, which should be protected and, where possible enhanced. In addition, parts of the administrative area lie within the Humberhead Levels Nature Improvement Area, specifically the area around Goole and the River Foulness corridor. These provide a wide variety of habitats such as lowland heath, salt marshes and flood meadows, as well as the most northerly chalk stream in the world.

Hedgerows form the field boundaries for much of the district and their condition varies throughout as does the size and pattern of the fields which they surround. The East Riding has a low percentage of woodland cover overall but there are areas where woodland cover is significant, contributing to a distinctive landscape character particularly on the western scarp slope of the Yorkshire Wolds running through the centre of the district on a north south axis.

The East Riding also has an important and diverse built heritage. It has the second highest number of designated historic assets in Yorkshire and the Humber with over 2,402 Listed Buildings and 344 Scheduled Monuments. Additionally, there are over 100 Conservation Areas illustrating the East Riding’s rich historic character.

There is considerable evidence for human activity in the area, dating back to early prehistoric times. However, evidence for the way in which historic activity has influenced landscape character is limited before the medieval period, and the present landscape is predominately a product of post-18th century processes. Nevertheless, evidence for earlier influences can be seen, for example in the location of towns and villages, many of which have names indicating Roman or Anglo Saxon origins. Remnants of the medieval landscape, such as drainage systems and field patterns, can be seen in the more rural areas but earlier features, such as prehistoric monuments on the Yorkshire Wolds, now survive in isolation divorced from their original context.
1.6 NATIONAL CHARACTER AREAS
Refer to the National Character Areas Figure.
1.7 BACKGROUND

The 2005 LCA was prepared by Carl Bro and Golder Associates, and identifies the areas of distinct landscape character (their quality, value, sensitivity and capacity for new development) within the East Riding.

Natural England carried out an updated assessment of landscape character at a national level between 2014 and 2015 which identified 159 National Profile Areas for the country. These Profiles supersede the Typologies which were produced by the Countryside Agency (now Natural England). The East Riding includes five of the National Character Areas (NCA) for England which are:

- Natural England National Character Area (NCA) profiles:
  - NE348: NCA27 The Yorkshire Wolds (updated 2015/01/08);
  - NE367: NCA28 The Vale of York (updated 2014/11/04);
  - NE422: NCA39 Humberhead Levels, (updated 2014/11/04);
  - NE437: NCA40 Holderness (updated 2015/02/24);
  - NE344: NCA41 The Humber Estuary (updated 2014/11/12)

This assessment for the East Riding of Yorkshire at 1:25,000 scale reflects the distinctions between the National Character Areas of the East Riding and looks at them in more detail splitting the areas into landscape character types and sub dividing those types in landscape character areas. However, it should be recognised that the boundaries between the National Character Areas have been set at a national level and are broad brush as a result.
A total of 23 Landscape character types have been identified in the East Riding and these have been split further into 81 landscape character areas. Table 1 shows the Character Types and Areas in relation to the National Character Areas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NATIONAL CHARACTER AREAS</th>
<th>LOCAL LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPES</th>
<th>LOCAL LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vale of York</td>
<td>1. Flat Open Farmland</td>
<td>A Shiptonthorpe and Market Weighton Farmland</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>B Everingham Estate Farmland and Parkland</td>
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<td>C Newton upon Derwent, Wilberfoss, Allerthorpe and Hayton Farmland</td>
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<td>D Barmby Moor Farmland</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2. Open Farmland</td>
<td>A High Catton Ridge Farmland</td>
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<td>B Full Sutton and Fangfoss Farmland</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>C Bugthorpe/Bishop Wilton Wooded Rising Farmland</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D South east Pocklington Rising Farmland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. River/Canal Corridors</td>
<td>A River Derwent Corridor, Buttercrambe to Stamford Bridge Reach</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>B River Derwent Corridor, Stamford Bridge to Pocklington Canal Reach</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C Pocklington Canal and Beck Corridor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humberhead Levels</td>
<td>4. River Corridors</td>
<td>A Derwent Valley, Barmby on the Marsh to Pocklington Canal Reach</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>B River Ouse Corridor, Barmby on the Marsh to M62 bridge</td>
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<td>C River Ouse Corridor Howden Dyke to the River Trent Reach</td>
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<td>D River Aire corridor, Gowdall and Snaith to the River Ouse Reach</td>
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<td>5. Open Farmland</td>
<td>A Howden to Bubwith Farmland</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>B West of Holme on Spalding Moor Farmland</td>
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<td>6. Wooded Open Farmland</td>
<td>A South of Pocklington Canal Wooded Farmland</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>B South Cliffe and Hotham Common</td>
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<td>7. Foulness Open Farmland</td>
<td>A South of Holme on Spalding Moor Farmland</td>
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<td>B Eastrington Farmland</td>
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<td></td>
<td>8 M62 Corridor</td>
<td>A M62 Corridor Howden to Gilberdyke</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>B M62 Corridor Gilberdyke to North Cave</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C M62 Corridor Hook to Pollington</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9 Drained Farmland</td>
<td>A Thorn Moors</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>B Goole Fields</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C Twin Rivers Farmland</td>
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<td>D Blacktoft and Laxton Farmland</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>E Walling Fen and Ellerker Sands Farmland</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Yorkshire Wolds

10. Complex Incised Sloping Wooded Farmland

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local Landscape Character Areas</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Warter Parkland and Estate Farmland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Lodesborough Parkland and Estate Farmland</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Garrowby Parkland and Estate Farmland</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Millington Pasture</td>
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<td>E</td>
<td>Deep Dale</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>Kirby Underdale</td>
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<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>West Wolds Edge Elevated Farmland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>West Facing Scarp Slope</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. Jurassic Hills Farmland

12. Sloping Wooded Farmland

13. Open High Rolling Farmland

14. Central Dissected Plateau

15. Wolds Valley Farmland

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local Landscape Character Areas</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Gypsy Race Corridor Rudston to Bridlington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Gypsy Race Corridor Wold Newton to Rudston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Elmswell Beck Valley</td>
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</table>
### COUNTRYSIDE CHARACTER AREA

<table>
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<tr>
<th>LOCAL LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPES</th>
<th>LOCAL LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Holderness 16 Sloping Farmland (edge of Wolds)</td>
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<td>B Kilnwick Percy Wooded Parkland</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C Beverley Westwood</td>
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<td></td>
<td>D Nafferton Sloping Farmland</td>
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<td></td>
<td>E Lund Sloping Farmland</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>F Beverley Parks Farmland</td>
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<tr>
<td>17 Farmed Urban Fringe</td>
<td>A Hedon, Preston and Bilton Farmland</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B North Cottingham Farmland</td>
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<td>C South Cottingham Farmland</td>
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<td></td>
<td>D North Hessle Farmland</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 Low Lying Drained Farmland</td>
<td>A River Hull Corridor</td>
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<td></td>
<td>B Quarry Farmland</td>
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<td>C Catfoss Dyke</td>
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<td>D Hornsea Mere</td>
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<td>E Kelk Beck Farmland</td>
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<td>F Figham and Swinemoor Common</td>
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<td>19 Open Farmland</td>
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<td>B Burton Constable Farmland and Parkland</td>
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<td>C North Holderness Open Farmland</td>
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<td>D Central Holderness Open Farmland</td>
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<td>E Burstwick to Withernsea Farmland</td>
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<td>20 Coastal Farmland</td>
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<td>B Hornsea to Withernsea Coast</td>
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<td>C Bridlington to Hornsea Coast</td>
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<td>Humber Estuary 21 Drained Farmland</td>
<td>A Spurn Point Heritage Coast</td>
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<td>B Sunk Island</td>
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<td></td>
<td>C South Patrington, Ottringham and Keyingham Farmland</td>
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<td>D Paull Farmland</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 Farmed Urban Fringe</td>
<td>A North Ferriby Farmland</td>
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<td>23 Humber Banks</td>
<td>A Brough to Yokerfleet River Bank</td>
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<td></td>
<td>B Blacktoft Sands</td>
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</table>
1.8 PREVIOUS LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENTS

An Assessment of the Landscape North and South of the Humber with Management Guidelines was produced in 1995 for and on behalf of the former Humberside County Council, Ryedale District Council, Scarborough Borough Council and the Countryside Commission by Gillespies. The document is titled “Our Landscape Today for Tomorrow”. The area covered by this assessment extends beyond the boundaries of the current East Riding of Yorkshire Council. The objectives contained in the brief for this assessment are comparable to those for this assessment. However, the scale at which the bulk of the 1995 assessment was carried out is 1:50,000 while this assessment is being carried out at 1:25,000 scale. Therefore, comparisons made should bear in mind the difference in the scales. Assessment methods and guidance from Natural England has also progressed since 1995. In 2002 the Countryside Agency with Scottish Natural Heritage produced Guidelines for Landscape Character Assessment, England and Scotland. In 2014 Natural England produced An Approach to Landscape Character Assessment which updated the previous guidance.

The method adopted in carrying out this assessment follows the latest guidelines.

Character types and areas do not take account of administrative boundaries and as a result character types and areas extend into neighbouring authorities. Neighbouring landscape character assessments have been carried out for Selby District Council (1999), Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council (1994) and Scarborough District Council (1994). Ryedale District Council uses the Landscapes of Northern Ryedale (1999) and the 1995 Assessment of the Landscape North and South of the Humber. North Lincolnshire Council produced a Landscape Character Assessment for their district in 1999 and North East Lincolnshire Council updated their landscape character assessment in 2015. The regional landscape character document North Yorkshire and York Landscape Characterisation Project was produced in 2011.

1.9 LANDSCAPE POLICY CONTEXT

The East Riding Local Plan is the name for a portfolio of planning documents that together provide the framework for managing development and addressing key planning issues in the East Riding. Each individual document is used to guide investment decisions and determine planning applications.

A number of documents make up the Local Plan. These are listed below and illustrated by Figure 1.

- **Strategy Document** - sets the overall direction for the Local Plan, providing strategic policies to guide decisions on planning applications.
- **Allocations Document** - allocates sites for development (such as housing, retail, or industry) or protection (such as open space or land for transport schemes).
- **Bridlington Town Centre Area Action Plan** - provides specific policies to guide development and contribute to the urban renaissance of Bridlington Town Centre.
- **Policies Map** - shows Local Plan designations such as areas of open space, important landscape areas and allocations for particular land use(s), which relate to specific policies in the Local Plan.
The Strategy Document was adopted by the Council in April 2016. Policy ENV2 seeks to restore and enhance landscape characteristics such as key open areas, important hedgerows and identifies a number of Important Landscape Areas (see Strategy Document figure 11 below). The sub area policies A1-A6 provide a local interpretation of the most important spatial planning objectives for specific areas across the East Riding. This includes the identification of specific important environmental features such as the location of key open areas, landmarks, habitats and heritage assets. This is evidenced in part by the 2005 LCA and further work undertaken by Golder Associates in 2013.

In addition, Strategy Document policy ENV3 (Valuing our Heritage) identifies the importance of significant views, setting and character of heritage assets as well as the need to protect and enhance them. Policy ENV5 (Strengthening green infrastructure) sets out the Council’s approach towards the creation, protection, enhancement and management of green infrastructure corridors. The green infrastructure benefits that are of particular importance to the East Riding are: climate change adaptation, flood attenuation, habitat provision, place making/urban renaissance, contribution to local character and access to nature and recreation.

The Local Plan Allocations Document allocates land for development through the application of the Council’s Site Assessment Methodology. This has considered evidence from the 2005 LCA together with settlement specific landscape character assessments produced by Golder Associates in 2013. The Allocations Document (July 2016) was adopted shortly after the Strategy Document. The updated LCA will be used as evidence to aid the delivery of the individual site allocation planning applications as well as any future windfall developments.
OVERVIEW

1.10 GEOLOGY

Four main geological periods are represented in the East Riding of Yorkshire. Geologically the area is significant as the chalk that forms the major topographical features of the Yorkshire and Lincolnshire Wolds, is of particular interest because the type areas of its three lowest formations in northern England are found in the district.

The oldest rocks in the area are from the Triassic period (248-213 million years ago), and these are found west of the Wolds underlying the Vale of York and the Humberhead Levels. They are composed mainly of sandstones and marls which dip (slope) gently towards the east, and are represented by the Sherwood Sandstone Group, the Mercia Mudstone Group, the Penarth Group and part of the Lias Group.

The Sherwood Sandstone Group occur at the bottom of the sequence, and consist of mainly red-brown, fine to medium grained sandstones interspersed with sporadic thin lenses of mudstone. These rocks are thought to represent a sequence of fluvial sediments deposited along the western margin of the intracontinental Southern North Sea Basin. Within this sequence, the lowest sandstones are micaceous, clayey, silty, well sorted and fine grained. The later rocks of the main part of the formation are dominantly red and less argillaceous (clayey), coarser grained and occasionally pebbly. Much of this material has been described as unconsolidated, friable, porous and permeable. In the higher beds, the rocks are calcareous, dolomitic or gypsiferous, and there is a transition into a finer grained and more argillaceous sandstone which is indicative of an aeolian (wind-blown) environment.

The Mercia Mudstone Group mostly consist of red argillaceous rocks comprising reddish brown to greenish grey, locally dolomitic and anhydritic or gypsiferous mudstones with some siltstones. These strata represent coastal plain, fluvial, littoral, lagoonal and shallow marine sediments which were deposited around the western margins of the Southern North Sea Basin. There is little variation in the thickness of the Mercia Mudstone in the area.

The Penarth Group, formerly called the Rhaetic, contains the Westbury and Llistock formations. Both are largely argillaceous. The Westbury formation results from marine deposition and is dark grey, having many features in common with the overlying Lias. The Llistock formation varies from greenish grey to reddish brown in colour and is similar to the uppermost parts of the Mercia Mudstone. The rocks of the Penarth Group reflect a transition from an intracontinental basin to fully marine conditions.

The intermediate rocks of the area are from the Jurassic period (213-144 million years ago). These rocks are present at the surface along the eastern edge of the Vale of York, and comprise clays, shales, limestones and sandstones which also dip to the east. The Jurassic succession comprises four main divisions. The lowest is the Lias Group, which consists mostly of mudstones with subordinate limestones and siltstones and three thin ironstone bands. The Redbourne Group, which rests unconformably on the Lias, is formed by limestones, sandstones and mudstones. It is overlain by the Ancholme Group which consists predominantly of mudstones. These are, in turn, overlain unconformably by the Spilsby formation. The Jurassic strata reflect the changing depositional environments of the region at that time, and there are several variations in the characteristics and thickness of the rocks, as well as depositional breaks.
The youngest rocks in the area belong to the Cretaceous period (144-165 million years ago). These rocks form the Yorkshire Wolds, and they have been folded into a syncline (trough) whose axis runs north-west/south-east and dips gently towards the south-east. This syncline is responsible for the arcuate form of the Wolds escarpment, with its west- and north-facing slopes. The Lower Cretaceous rocks are represented by clastic sediments brought into the area while the Upper Cretaceous is chalk which has been deposited in situ. It is the Upper Cretaceous Chalk Group comprising the Ferriby, Welton, Burnham and Flamborough chalk which is most dominant in the area. Although superficially they are the same, each of these formations has slightly different characteristics. The Ferriby Chalk is a soft white and coloured flintless chalk, heterogeneous but mainly marly and commonly tinted brick-red at the base (Red Chalk). The Welton Chalk is white with thin marl partings and mainly nodular flint beds. The Burnham Chalk is a hard white chalk with thin marl partings and abundant, mainly tabular, flint beds. The Flamborough Chalk is a soft white chalk with marl partings and little flint.

The most recent deposits, collectively known as drift, are from the Quaternary period (the last 2 million years). These deposits cover nearly 70% of the Riding and are most extensive and thickest in low-lying areas. They range from clays to gravels and are the result of a variety of different depositional agencies which include glacial, periglacial (notably solifluction (soil movement) and aeolian (wind-blown)), lacustrine, fluvial, estuarine and marine. The majority of the deposits were laid down during the most recent ice age of the Quaternary, known as the Devensian. Throughout much of this period the area experienced substantial denudation and deep fluvial incision caused by a greatly lowered sea level, and solifluction during severe periglacial conditions produced head deposits. Late in the Devensian, an ice sheet advanced west over Holderness and the lower parts of the Wolds dip slope, depositing glacial sediments over the chalk bedrock. Two units of till (boulder clay) have been identified, the Skipsea Till, which covers most of the area, and the Withernsea Till which is confined to the south-east part of Holderness. Another ice sheet moved south across the Vale of York, forming two ice-dammed lakes, Lake Pickering and Lake Humber, the latter occupying much of the Vale and the Ancholme Valley. This resulted in the deposition of fine-grained lacustrine sediments while levee deposits formed on the plains. The Wolds were largely unglaciated during the Devensian, but the cold dry periglacial conditions meant that a thin veneer of loess (wind blown silt) was deposited over the chalk.

The melting of the ice sheets during the subsequent Flandrian led to a rise in sea and river base levels, and this resulted in riverine and estuarine alluvium being deposited in the valley floors. The small meres and lakes which had formed in the deglaciated surfaces of Holderness became infilled, and peat also started to accumulate in other poorly-drained, low-lying areas around the Humberhead Levels. Most recently, during the past few centuries, artificial drainage and reclamation around the Humber estuary has seen the accumulation of warp deposits, where sediments have been allowed to settle out of estuarine water to produce better agricultural land.

1.11 SOILS
The soils of any area result from the interaction of a number of factors, including geology, climate, relief, biota, time and human activity. Geology is the major control, as this determines soil characteristics such as particle size and chemical composition. Within the East Riding, the other main controlling factors are relief and human activity.

The soils of the Yorkshire Wolds are generally freely drained because of the permeable chalk bedrock and the sloping relief. They are not, however,
derived entirely from the breakdown of the bedrock itself – the upper parts comprise silt-rich loess, blown on to the chalk surface under periglacial conditions during the Devensian period (see above).

This gives them a greater thickness and moisture retention than would otherwise be the case. On the steeper slopes, the soils are often no more than 20cm thick, and these are known as *rendzinas*. On the more gently sloping areas, the soils are thicker (typically 30-50cm), and these are known as *brown earths*. Although the rendzinas are often left under pasture or woodland, the brown earths are now extensively cultivated due to their lower gradients and greater moisture retention. Many soils on the Wolds were probably thicker in the past, but have become thinner due to soil erosion associated with cultivation. As a result, the soils at the bottoms of slopes or on the floors of the dry valleys are often deeper than those at higher altitudes.

Two main types of soil can be recognised in Holderness and the Hull valley. In the flat, more poorly drained areas *gleys* soils are found, while on the undulating, more freely drained areas *brown earths* occur. Gleys are characterised by waterlogging, either near the surface or at depth, and so these are known as *surface-water (stagnogleys)* or *groundwater gleys*. Both the brown earths and gleys generally have a high clay content as they were developed in glacial till or post-glacial alluvium. Both are fertile, although historically the gleys were often uncultivated because of their restricted drainage. With the advent of artificial drainage however, the majority of soils in Holderness and the Hull valley are now under cultivation, and few areas of pasture or woodland remain. In southern Holderness, brown earths occur on the artificially reclaimed deposits around Sunk Island.

In the Vale of York the pattern of soil types is more complex. Many of the undulating, more freely drained areas possess brown earths. In some of the sandy areas however, more acidic, nutrient-deficient soils, known as *podzols*, are found. The more poorly drained areas support gleys, while in the southern part of the Vale, large areas of warp occur, which support brown earths. *Pelosols* are found only in the northern part of the Vale - these are clay-rich soils which have restricted drainage when wet but are prone to extensive cracking during the summer. With the exception of podzols, most of the soils in the Vale are fertile, and once again artificial drainage has resulted in widespread cultivation. In the sandier areas this has made the soils susceptible to erosion by strong winds when the surface is not protected by a crop cover.

### 1.12 TOPOGRAPHY

The East Riding of Yorkshire can be divided into three main topographic regions, the Vale of York in the west, the Wolds in the centre and Holderness to the east.

The escarpment of the Wolds is the major relief feature of the region, rising to around 160m above sea level in the south, 240m in the north and 140m in the east. The west and north scarp slopes overlook the Vales of York and Pickering respectively, and the dip slope runs east and south to meet the Hull valley and the Holderness plain. The Wolds terminate at the coast in the steep and spectacular cliffs of Flamborough Head. The natural vegetation of the Wolds has been progressively cleared since prehistoric times and the landscape is now dominated by arable farming, with grassland being mostly confined to the dry valleys, and woodland being established as small plantations within the last few centuries.
The gently undulating plain of Holderness rises only to around 30m above sea level, while to the west in the Hull valley there is little relief and most of the area is less than 10m above sea level. In the southern part of Holderness much of the land has been reclaimed from the Humber estuary during the last few centuries. The smooth curve of the Holderness coastline comprises low cliffs, notorious for their rapid rate of erosion, and there are no natural anchorages. At its south-eastern tip lies Spurn Point, a sand and shingle spit which extends some 5km into the mouth of the Humber. As with the Wolds, progressive vegetation clearance has resulted in much of Holderness now being under the plough, with grassland being confined largely to the wetter more poorly drained areas and woodland occurring in small plantations.

The Vale of York also has generally little relief and much of this part of the East Riding lies at less than 10m above sea level. One notable exception is Church Hill at Holme-on-Spalding Moor, which rises to over 40m in the east of the Vale.

1.13 DRAINAGE PATTERN

The entire district lies within the catchment of the River Humber, which also forms the southern boundary of the County. The estuary is one of England’s major features, and it has a tidal length of around 140km and a maximum tidal range of 7.2m.

The East Riding has a varied drainage pattern that is the result of both natural and man-made watercourses. The artificial drainage systems that have been used to take water away from the land have developed over centuries and it is known that drainage was carried out during the Roman period and possibly earlier. However, most of the drainage systems seen in the landscape today tend to be the result of more recent improvements, dating from the 18th century. In the low-lying areas along the Rivers Derwent, Ouse, Hull and Humber pumped systems have been installed along with embanking to provide a protection against flooding.

The River Derwent, which forms the eastern boundary of the East Riding, drains into the River Ouse which is itself a tributary of the Humber. The River Aire also forms part of the boundary of the East Riding, and it drains into the River Ouse to the north-west of Goole. Each of these rivers drain the surrounding land by a network of improved streams and man-made dikes.

The River Foulness is a smaller watercourse that drains the agricultural land to the south of Holme-on-Spalding Moor, into the River Humber via the man-made Market Weighton Canal. The Foulness has been improved for drainage purposes but it continues to follow a meandering course through much of the landscape surrounded by a network of rectilinear drains. The area to the south of the Foulness is characterised by long north-south drains dug to assist with the drainage of this particular area. The northern part of the Vale of York is drained through a number of the becks which flow into the River Ouse or a main collecting drain which runs parallel to the Pocklington Canal.

Many of the drainage systems of east Holderness reach the North Sea by flowing west into the Hull valley and then into the Humber, rather than flowing directly to the coast. This is because the highest parts of Holderness, which form the watershed, lie only a short distance inland. The 70 or so lakes or meres that once occurred throughout Holderness have now become silted up or artificially drained, although Hornsea Mere survives and is a significant landscape feature.

The course of the River Hull meanders through the Hull Valley, from Driffield in the north to Hull in the south. Roughly parallel to it is the Beverley and Barmston Drain, a man-made watercourse constructed in c.1801 to facilitate...
the drainage of the valley and decrease the risk of flooding. This drain was augmented by others such as the Beverley and Skidby Drain, the Holderness Main Drain, the Cottingham Drain and the Barmston Main Drain. Some of the other drains, such as the Monk Dike and Forth Dike, were constructed in medieval times. In several locations along the north bank of the Humber land has been reclaimed from the estuary resulting in distinctive drainage patterns that contribute to landscape character, for example at Sunk Island, Cherry Cobb Sands and Ellerker Sands.

The Wolds is now almost completely devoid of watercourses. However the area contains a complex network of steep-sided dry valleys, most of which no longer carry water due to a lowering of the water table as a result of climatic change. The main exception to this is the Great Wold Valley, which carries the stream of the Gypsey Race to Bridlington, although some sections of this are now dry except in the wettest conditions.

Hydrogeology

The drainage of the area is into the Humber via the River Hull and the River Derwent and the River Ouse. Water supply north of the Humber is the responsibility of the Yorkshire Water Authority. Kingston upon Hull and Scunthorpe are the main demand centres within the area. Kingston upon Hull receives it’s water supply from an intake on the River Hull at Hempholme Lock and from the River Derwent at Barmby Barrage, respectively north and west of the district, and from boreholes in the chalk immediately north and west of the city. The average annual precipitation, affected by topography, approaches 700 mm on the Yorkshire Wolds. Mean monthly rainfall varies from 40-70 mm, but seasonal variation in potential evapotranspiration (annual average is 400-500 mm) results in a soil moisture deficit between May and August and a water balance surplus between November and March. Recharge to aquifers from precipitation takes place during the period of surplus, although rises in water levels after heavy summer storms suggests fissure flow recharge of the chalk. Average annual infiltration, and therefore recharge, depends on the nature of the aquifer and it’s cover, if any. Till and other impermeable Quaternary deposits confine the underlying chalk and result in artesian conditions where not affected by abstraction. The chalk is the major aquifer of the area and has been extensively utilised on both sides of the Humber. To the north of the Humber the hydrogeology has been summarised by Foster and Milton (1976) and Foster et al (1976).

In recent years water supplies from the main British aquifers on chalk, limestone and Triassic sandstone have shown rising nitrate levels especially in eastern England. In some districts levels have risen in excess of the EC’s directive on the maximum acceptable concentrations. It has also been shown that concentrations of sulphate, chloride and pesticides are increasing and may cause the water supply companies problems in the future. The major source of nitrate pollution to rivers and aquifers is derived from agricultural fertilisers which are leached through the soil.

1.14 HISTORIC LANDSCAPE

The East Riding has been shaped by man’s activities over the past 10,000 years. As a result, the region contains a rich heritage of archaeological sites, dating from the early prehistoric periods to the 20th century, which reflect the region’s varied social and economic history. There are currently 344 Scheduled Ancient Monuments in the county (Source: Historic England’s National Heritage List for England, 2018).

Most of the sites dating to the prehistoric and Romano-British periods are buried, and are only visible as cropmarks seen from the air. In many respects, these sites have lost their original context and have little influence on the present-day landscape. Nevertheless, there are a number of
upstanding prehistoric monuments, predominantly burial mounds and parts of linear dyke systems. Sites dating to the medieval period are more obvious, and rural sites include moated sites, the remains of monasteries and mills, and areas of ridge and furrow cultivation. Many of the villages and towns originate from the early medieval period, and they retain some medieval structures such as churches as well as elements of their original plan forms. It should also be remembered that the low-lying parts of the East Riding have a considerable palaeo-environmental resource, and the study of the wetland deposits such as the peats, silts and clays provides important information on past environments and climatic conditions.

1.14.1 THE PREHISTORIC PERIODS (UP TO C.700BC)

The earliest phases of prehistoric occupation are poorly understood in this part of Yorkshire, but this era is generally characterised by an increasing exploitation of natural landscape and its resources. The recovery of worked flints and other artefacts suggests that there was a human presence in Holderness during the Palaeolithic period, and sites have been identified at Brigham and to the south of Weel. However, the level of any overall activity is unknown, as much of the evidence will have been destroyed by the movements of the later Devensian ice sheets. Once the ice had retreated, the climate improved leading to the re-establishment of the forests, and plants and animals became available for exploitation. The low-lying area of Holderness saw some transient human activity in the Mesolithic period (c.8,500–3,500 BC), for example around Brandesburton and Gransmoor, but there was also a significant population on the Wolds, centred on "activity areas" associated with ponds and springs. However, the flimsy construction of their temporary camps and later agricultural disturbance means that detailed archaeological evidence from this period is rare, although there are indications of several areas of settlement in the Great Wold Valley.

The number and density of sites on the Yorkshire Wolds implies that this higher land was well-populated during the subsequent Neolithic period (c.3,500–2,000 BC). The presence of domesticated animals coupled with some forest clearance initially led to a pastoral society, but the gradual introduction of grain crops resulted in a more widespread mixed agricultural regime. The construction of large communal burial mounds, firstly long barrows (for example at Kilham and on Willerby Wold) and then large round barrows (e.g. Kemp Howe in Cottam parish, at Wold Newton and South Side Mount near Rudston) as well as other sacred or ritual sites, such as henges and mortuary enclosures, suggests that there was an organised, communally-based society. The Rudston area is particularly important for Neolithic sites, as four long cursus monuments, possibly processional ways, converge on a 7.7m high standing stone located in the churchyard and at a right-angled bend of the Gypsey Race watercourse; this standing stone is the largest in the country and was brought from a site at least 16km away. The recovery of polished flint and stone axes, together with smaller flint tools such as arrowheads and knives, from the lower ground of Holderness and the Vale of York implies that activity was also significant in these areas.

Recent fieldwork has identified ten new Neolithic sites in the Hull Valley, all associated with the river and located on till outcrops. Excavations in Driffield and on Beacon Hill at Flamborough have also revealed evidence of Neolithic occupation while "lake-side settlements" or crannogs have been recorded at West Furze and Round Hill, in Ulrome parish. A possible Neolithic henge and cursus have also been identified in the Derwent Valley, at Catton.

The increasingly settled societies of the late Neolithic and the following Bronze Age periods (c.2,000–700 BC) led to the development of regional cultural differences. The numerous earthworks, burial mounds and artefacts that survive from this period, mostly as cropmarks but with some
earthworks, show that large parts of the Yorkshire Wolds continued to be occupied, with continued forest clearance. However, over time, a more stratified society appears to have developed which is reflected in the spread of individual, rather than communal, burial practises, and there is a wide variation in the richness and elaboration of the burials themselves. Many of the burial mounds were excavated in the 19th century by local archaeologists. It is also believed that the long linear earthwork boundaries, which have been traced for considerable distances across the Wolds, originated in this period, and they may have marked out agricultural estates or territories. Most of these boundaries are now ploughed out, but isolated upstanding sections can be seen near Huggate and Slemdere. The widespread distribution of Neolithic and Bronze Age pottery and other artefacts also shows that an extensive trading network had been established by this time.

A climatic deterioration from about 1,200 BC meant that agricultural production could no longer support the expanding population. As a result, the need to gain and protect land led to the growth of a warrior society and the accelerated development of bronze weapons. Defended settlements, such as those seen at Thwing, Staple Howe and at Greenlands near Low Caythorpe, became more common, and their distribution within the system of large linear earthworks implies an early phase of territorial development. However, there is also some evidence for unenclosed settlement during this period, often associated with trackways and small paddocks.

The Bronze Age is also well represented in Holderness and the Hull Valley, mostly by round barrows, ring ditches and the recovery of various implements. A Bronze Age structure was built on top of the Neolithic site at West Furze in Ulrome, and it may have been associated with a trackway running across the marsh.

However, one of the most important finds is a collection of three oak plank-built boats found at different times on the North Ferriby foreshore. The most complete boat is estimated to have been over 15m long and they show that there was considerable trading activity in and around the estuarine creeks and inlets at this time. Single timbers and sections of hurdle fences have also been found nearby at Melton while Bronze Age cremation cemeteries have been found at Seaton and Kilnsea.

1.14.2 THE IRON AGE AND ROMANO-BRITISH PERIODS (700BC-C.450 AD)

Several forms and types of Iron Age and Romano-British occupation have been identified from the cropmark evidence, suggesting that the East Riding was a densely settled and intensively farmed landscape in these periods. Smaller sites are represented by discrete, scattered, rectangular or rectilinear enclosures containing one or more large huts with droveways or tracks providing access to the adjacent field systems. Many of these enclosures are separated from each other by open ground, and they probably represent a series of independent farming units. Slightly larger sites are formed by groups of two or three co-joined or closely spaced enclosures, and these may represent larger farmsteads.

However, many, if not most, of the enclosures appear to have been contiguous, forming long linear complexes arranged along one or both sides of a trackway or ditch, or at junctions of linear features or boundaries. These complexes are often referred to as “ladder settlements” and they are a characteristic of the East Riding archaeological landscape. Over 125 examples have so far been noted and in some cases the cropmarks extend for distances of over 1.5km; major complexes, often showing several phases of expansion and contraction, have been mapped on the Yorkshire Wolds, for example in Wetwang, at Garton Slacks and to the north of Rudston,
although they are also seen in other areas. A combination of the available evidence suggests that they represent a more centralised, nucleated form of settlement, similar to medieval villages. Many of these ladder settlements were in use for a considerable length of time, and some, although not all, exhibit continuity of occupation into the Roman period.

The Iron Age (c.700 BC-AD 43) of the East Riding is also characterised by small square barrows grouped together in both large and small cemeteries. Over 350 examples have been identified, now mainly ploughed flat, on the Wolds and in the Vale of York, although there are outlying examples for example at Scortonborugh and Melton. Many of the cemeteries are found in valley locations, and there is a particular concentration along the Great Wold Valley, reinforcing the fact that this was an important area or corridor during the whole of the pre-mediterranean period. Several barrows have been excavated and occasional examples include very rare "chariot" or more correctly termed cart burials, for example one found within a housing development in Wetwang.

The cropmarks show that the Vale of York was also extensively settled and farmed during this period. Large areas of ditched field systems and settlements have been noted around Holme-on-Spalding Moor, while more complex sites have been seen at several locations including South Cave. The area around the River Foulness was an important iron working centre during the Iron Age, and the fact that many of these sites are located on the contemporary creek system implies that raw materials and finished products were transported over water. An Iron Age wooden boat, over 12m long and built from a single tree, was discovered at Hasholme near Holme-on-Spalding Moor in 1984, and this might be associated with this trade.

Holderness does not appear to have been as densely occupied and farmed as the other areas of the county during this period, although this may be a reflection of poor cropmark generation and a lack of previous research. However, important sites or complexes have been identified at Barmston, Gransmoor, Little Kelk, and around Wansford and Skerne. Conversely, it is known that the lower parts of the Hull valley were comparatively well settled at this time and the river appears to have been an important transport route. A pre-Roman trading port was also established at Redcliffe on the River Humber.

The Humber river and estuary acted as a natural barrier and protected the region until the Roman invasions in c.AD71. The Romans established a military base and harbour at Brough (Petuaria), and a civilian settlement soon grew up around it. This is the major Roman town of the region, and it subsequently developed into the tribal capital of the conquered Parisi, whose territory equates roughly with the present East Riding.

The Romans built a number of military roads in East Yorkshire. One road links Brough with the important capital at York (Eboracum), and this road is now represented by sections of the present A1034 and A1079, although it passes to the south-west of Market Weighton. At Barnby Moor another road branches off this main alignment to run north-west towards Stamford Bridge (where the Roman Town "Derventio" may have been constructed to the south of the village). From South Newbald, a road follows the western side of the Wolds, running north through Londesborough and across High Callis Wold to Malton (possibly the Roman Settlement of Delgovicia). Other Roman roads run east-west across the Wolds, from Stamford Bridge to Bridlington and from Malton to Filey. Another route has also been identified running east-north-east from Brough, but any continuation into Holderness has not yet been traced. A fort was established at Hayton and a small
roadside town was built close to the village of Shiptonthorpe. There may also have been a town and port at Bridlington, although it seems to have been lost to coastal erosion.

Roman villa sites have been identified on the Yorkshire Wolds at Brantingham, Harpham, Rudston and Welton and excavation has shown that many of them were constructed on top of earlier Iron Age farmsteads. These “Romanised” sites appear to represent the homes of the tribal elite, and they formed the centres of large agricultural estates. Many of the native Iron Age nucleated villages continued to be occupied well into the Roman period, and these houses retained their circular form. A marine regression also provided opportunities for new settlements to be established in the Vale of York (e.g. Flaxfleet) and in Holderness (e.g. Kilnsea). Not all these sites are agriculturally-based, and there was a thriving pottery and tile industry centred on Holme-on-Spalding Moor, where over 40 kiln sites have been identified.

1.14.3 THE ANGLO-SAXON PERIOD (C.450-1066)

The end of the Roman period in East Yorkshire occurs in AD 410, which is when the military forces were withdrawn. Environmental evidence suggests that there was a major marine transgression in the 4th century and this led to the widespread abandonment of settlements and industrial centres in Holderness and the Vale of York. However, there is some evidence to show that some of the villas and settlements on the higher Wolds continued to be occupied.

The occurrence of specific place-name elements has often been used to provide clues to the distribution of settlement and ethnic groups between the 4th and 9th centuries, and it is clear that many villages and towns have their origins in the Anglo-Saxon period. The extent of Anglian colonisation can be seen through villages with suffixes such as -ham (meaning a village, homestead or manor), -ton (farmstead), and -wic (a village or dairy farm), while elements such as -by (a farmstead), -thaite (a clearing), -saeter and -booth provide examples of Scandinavian settlement, many pre-fixed with personal names. The part played by the Danes in the colonisation of the marshy land is also emphasised by the frequency of minor names incorporating -holm (island) and -carr (boggy ground), in contrast to the preceding periods, archaeological evidence for Anglo-Saxon rural activity on the high Wolds remains relatively sparse. It is possible that some of the curvilinear cropmark complexes may represent one element of post-Roman occupation, and several excavations have revealed evidence for Anglian activity and burial (for example the deserted medieval village and associated manorial complex of Low Caythorpe). However, the known settlements and cemeteries seem to cluster around the edge of the Wolds, suggesting that the highest land was given over to pasture linked by a series of long distance trackways. The routes of some of these tracks still survive in the present landscape, either as parish or township boundaries or as green lanes, for example in Tibthorpe and Sledmere.

1.14.4 THE MEDIEVAL AND EARLY POST-MEDIEVAL PERIODS (1066-1750)

The landscape was significantly modified during the medieval and later periods, and East Yorkshire is rich in sites of this era. The existing villages tended to expand at the start of the middle ages, and many of the churches were either built or extended. A large number of villages and their associated field systems were also deliberately created by the large landowners at this time, as way of increasing incomes and expanding the areas under cultivation. These villages are characterised by a planned layout of regular plots and parallel back lanes, for example Bishop Wilton, Wetwang,
Wold Newton and North Frodingham, although many villages contain some planned elements within an apparently haphazard layout. Other settlements were created for other purposes, for example Hedon which was founded in the 12th century as a port. By the 13th century, large areas of the countryside were given over to open fields, divided into individually-owned strips but farmed on a communal basis. On the Wolds, many of the prehistoric burial mounds and field systems were ploughed for the first time during this period, and some of the linear earthworks and trackways were used as boundaries between individual fields or townships.

Towards the end of the middle ages a number of villages shrank in size or were abandoned, leaving being the earthworks of former houses and field systems. The reasons for this desertion or shrinkage are many, but they are generally associated with changing economic and climatic fortunes, for example landowners deciding to convert arable land into more profitable pasture for sheep, or disease and soil exhaustion. There are numerous examples of well-preserved deserted Wolds villages, now marked by a single later 19th century enclosure farmstead, for example Argham, Cottam, Cowlam, Swaythorpe and Low Caythorpe, while shrunken villages can be seen at Huggate, Barton, Grindale and Fimber. Other low-lying deserted villages include Eske, Raventhorpe and Riplingham. Many of these sites are Scheduled Monuments. Some areas of ridge and furrow earthworks, representing areas of former arable cultivation also survive around the present villages, but large areas have been ploughed out in the recent past. Nevertheless, the locations of the former open fields can often be traced from field names and the pattern of later field boundaries. The rapid erosion of the east coast means that many medieval villages have been swept away, including the important 13th century town and port of Ravenser Odd close to Spurn Head.

The medieval period is also characterised by fortified or defended sites. Well preserved motte and bailey castles survive at Sutton on Derwent, Aughton, Bilton and Wawne. The castle at Skipsea represents the largest and most impressive site in the county; this was surrounded by a lake and the complex included a harbour and a planned town (Skipsea Brough). Few of the East Riding castles now survive to any extent beyond earthworks, the exception being Wressle Castle, a quadrangular structure built in c.1380 by Sir Thomas Percy. Moats surrounding domestic, religious, manorial and agricultural buildings are also scattered throughout Holderness, the Vale of York and the Humberhead levels. Most were constructed in the 13th and 14th centuries and over 185 examples are known, making this type of site one of the most common in the county. Complex moats surrounding manorial centres are known in Cottingham, Lockington, Aughton, Burstwick and Leconfield and, while many are associated with medieval villages, many also occur in isolation in the countryside. These latter examples represent the gradual expansion of medieval settlement into the wetter and poorer agricultural land. Another important feature of the medieval landscape were deer parks, private hunting reserves held by the nobility, bishops and monasteries. These areas contained lodges and areas of woodland, and were surrounded by a substantial bank and ditch. Many parks have since been broken up and returned to agriculture, for example Leconfield and Wressle, although some have survived to form the core of later landscaped parks (see below).

Large parts of the East Riding were owned by monastic institutions, either as the site of the monastery itself and its surrounding land, or as outlying estates controlled by a system of granges. One of the largest of the monasteries was the Cistercian house at Meaux. This was founded in the mid 12th century and it had extensive areas of sheep pasture on the higher parts of the Wolds. The main site in the Hull Valley survives as a complex of well-
preserved earthworks complete with abbey and cloisters, fishponds, canals and outlying structures.

The sites of many of its granges are still represented as farmsteads, for example, Blanch Farm in Warter parish which was mentioned in 1156, although other sites have since been deserted, for example at Octon. Another well-preserved Cistercian house survives at Swine and a rare double house of nuns and monks was founded by the Gilbertines in c.1150 at Watton. Augustinian priories were established at Water, North Ferriby and Cottingham (subsequently moved to Haltemprice) and there were Benedictine nunneries at Nunburnholme, Nunkeeling and Wilberfoss. The urban centres of Hull and Beverley also contained a large number of houses associated with the mendicant orders such as the Dominicans, Franciscans and Carmelites. The East Riding also contains a significant number of ancillary monastic buildings, such as the sites of medieval colleges and hospitals.

1.14.5 ENCLOSURE

The process of enclosure involved a change from communal farming in the open field systems around the villages to the creation of regularised, individually owned or tenanted fields grouped around a farm. Enclosure was also a means by which marginal land, pasture, meadow or common could be brought into cultivation. The process of enclosure could be undertaken by agreement or by Parliamentary Act, the former usually before the latter, and the two different approaches tend to produce noticeably different landscapes.

Most of the Yorkshire Wolds were enclosed by Act, and the large rectangular fields, broad straight roads with wide grass verges and substantial isolated farm complexes surrounded by shelter belts often survive today. These enclosures tend to date from the late 18th and early 19th centuries, when high corn prices made it advantageous to switch to more efficient methods of arable farming. However, the process of enclosure in the low-lying areas of Holderness and the Vale of York was more complex. Large parts of these areas were already enclosed by agreement before 1780, some as early as 1596 (Skerne) but mostly in the 17th century, and these areas are characterised by a more curvilinear and less regularised field pattern; some of the field shapes bear a direct relationship to the long sinuous strips of the open medieval furlongs, for example at Allerthorpe. Neighbouring parishes were enclosed at different times and the differential phases can be seen in the different sizes, shapes and orientations of the field boundaries and the distribution of farmsteads. Subsequent enclosure tended to concentrated on the draining and clearing the marginal land, and many of the former carrs and marshes have different field patterns, for example Walling Fen (5,000 acres) and Holme-on-Spalding Moor (7,000 acres). Unfortunately, modern farming regimes have removed many field boundaries, and these patterns are slowly becoming lost.

1.14.6 INDUSTRY AND COMMUNICATIONS

The majority of the industries in the East Riding deal with the processing of agricultural produce, such as milling, malting, tanning and textiles. Of these, milling has left the most obvious remains in the landscape, either through ruined structures or water-filled mill ponds. There were some 60 watermills and over 170 windmills grinding corn in the county in the early 1850s, but only a small number now survive and even fewer retain their working machinery, for example at Skidby and Beswick. Some have been converted, such as the five storey 18th century water mill at Stamford Bridge. The later windmills were predominantly tower mills, and ruined examples can be seen scattered around the county, for example at Nafferton and Bainton.
Brick making was also a significant rural industry, using the naturally occurring clays of Holderness, the Vale of York and the River Humber as a raw material. Most works were small-scale and village-based, and by 1850 there were at least 80 brickyards in operation. However, there were also larger concentrations adjacent to canals and railways which could be used to distribute the bricks and tiles, for example Beverley and Newport. There were seven works at Newport by 1823 producing some 2 million bricks a year, and the industry was responsible for the creation and growth of the village on the Market Weighton canal. Many of the disused brick pits are now filled with water, and are used as wildlife havens or for water sports.

Other industries, such as brewing, malting and tanning, tended to be concentrated in the major centres such as Beverley, Stamford Bridge and Bridlington, although there were also smaller village breweries in Burton Pidsea, Barstom and Bubwith. Market Weighton was a rope making centre, and the elongated plots running back from the High Street and Linegate probably represent former rope walks. There were also smaller ropeworks at Garton, Middleton and Wetwang on the Yorkshire Wolds. There were flax mills in the Howden, Driffield and Bridlington areas, as well as one large mill at Enholmes near Patrington. In the later 18th century textile mills were established at Boynton (1770), Wansford (1788) and Driffield (1792); the latter employed 400 people in the 1790s and a small industrial village was created to house the workers.

The movement of raw materials and finished goods was made easier as communications improved. The existing road network was improved through a system of turnpikes. Hull and Beverley were focal points, and the Hull to Beverley road was the first to be turnpiked in 1744. Others soon followed, for example the Beverley-Market Weighton-York road in 1764-65 although the road between Hull and Hedon was not constructed until 1830. None of the toll houses survive in the East Riding, but there are numerous milestones and mileposts.

The creation of the inland waterways, consisting of navigations, improved rivers and purpose-built canals, took place at the same time, although some of the waterways, such as the Beverley Beck and those around Meaux, date from the medieval period. The Derwent Navigation was set up in 1702 and the River Hull was improved as part of the construction of the Driffield Navigation which opened in 1770. The Market Weighton canal, built 1772-82, links into the Humber via a large lock at Broomfleet. The Pocklington Canal opened in 1818, and has a series of locks and well designed bridges with curved parapets. The largest of the canals, in terms of traffic, was the Knottingley and Goole Canal, which opened in 1826 as the eastern section of the Aire and Calder Navigation. The importance of this route was such that the canal company created the town of Goole between 1824 and 1830 as a coal transhipment port. Many of the town's original buildings are Listed, as are the surviving coal hoists. The Dutch River, dug by Vermuyden in the early 17th century to drain the surrounding areas, also exits at Goole. Many of these waterways are important surviving features which contribute to landscape character, for example in Driffield and near Pocklington where late 18th-early 19th century warehouses and other features survive around the canal basins.

Coastal trading also increased at this time, and the surviving harbour at Bridlington Quay dates to the early-mid 19th century when the earlier 16th century structures were reconstructed. The first of three lighthouse was built on Spurn Point in the 17th century, and there are two others at Flamborough, the earliest being an octagonal chalk structure built in 1674. However, the earlier medieval harbours or havens, for example at Hedon,
Patrington and Howden, had silted up by this time and trade had been forced to move elsewhere.

However, it was only with the coming of the railways that the county was able to be opened up for trade. The first line, between Hull and Selby, was opened in 1840 and was one of the earliest routes in the country. Subsequent main lines included York to Scarborough (1845), Hull to Bridlington (1846) and Scarborough to Bridlington (1847). Railway Mania then followed, with George Hudson, who had bought the Londesborough estate, building two lines across the Vale of York to Market Weighton, from York (1847) and Selby (1848). Other lines through the Wolds and to the coast soon followed, and by the late 19th century the North Eastern Railway had a monopoly on traffic. This was challenged in the 1890s by a new line from Hull to the West Riding, which terminated in newly created docks in Hull. Since 1950 the network has radically contracted and most routes are now closed.

Some sections of the rail network have been retained as ecological corridors or long distant footpaths, for example the “Hudson Way” which follows the Market Weighton to Beverley line. The notable railway architect G T Andrews was responsible for many of the station buildings, for example at Pocklington, Beverley, Lockington, Driffield and Nafferton, and many are of architectural significance. Another notable feature is the viaduct across the River Derwent at Stamford Bridge, built in 1846-7.

1.14.7 MILITARY SITES

The East Riding contains a significant number of military sites, over and above those sites, such as the castles, mentioned above. One of the most important is the Battle of Stamford Bridge, which took place in September 1066 between King Harold and the Vikings under Harold Hardraada of Norway. The day was won by the English, but it delayed King Harold’s march to the south and he subsequently lost his throne and life to William the Conqueror at the Battle of Hastings.

The site of the battle lies to the south-east of Stamford Bridge and is a Registered Battlefield. Beverley and Hull were also key locations in the English Civil War of 1642-45, but there were also minor skirmishes at Driffield, Cowlam, Stamford Bridge and Bridlington.

Being a coastal county, there are a large number of military sites associated with the two World Wars, both defensive and offensive. There are 1WW batteries along the coast, for example at Easington and on Spurn Point, as well as concrete acoustic sound mirrors at Kilnsea and Easington, part of Britain’s pre-radar early-warning system designed to listen for approaching airships. Some of the airfields also have their origins in the 1WW, such as Brough and Elsham, and there was a seaplane station on Hornsea Mere. One of the more interesting sites is the steel and concrete Bull Sand Fort, located some 4km off Spurn Point, which was built in 1915-19 to guard the Humber Estuary.

However, by far the most numerous of the military sites are those associated with the 2WW, and of these the military airfields are the most numerous (approximately 25). Good examples still survive at Driffield, Carnaby, Holme-on-Spalding Moor and Pocklington. While many are now disused and in some cases mostly returned to agriculture, some important airfield structures remain, for example at Catfoss, Brighton, Driffield, Pocklington and Bubwith. Hull was a prime air target during the 2WW, and there are several decoy towns and ports in the rural areas to the east, for example at Paull, Bilton, Bugthorpe, Aldbrough and Preston, which were designed to draw enemy bombers away from Hull.
Some of the larger airfields also had their own decoys, for example Driffield with decoys at Skipsea and Skerne. There are several searchlight and anti-aircraft batteries in the county, e.g. Ringborough (Alborough), Flamborough, Beverley and Atwick, the latter in association with a radar station. In terms of defensive structures, there are many examples of pillboxes, anti-tank cubes and anti-landing ditches in the county, and there were barrage balloon sites at Paull and Preston. A significant number of “resistance sites” also survive, associated with the Home Guard and guerrilla bases should the country be invaded.

1.15 BUILT HERITAGE
The East Riding has a significant and important built heritage, dating from the medieval to the modern periods. This is reflected in the high number of Listed Buildings (2404 in 2018 – Source: Historic England’s National Heritage List for England, 2018) and Conservation Areas (105 in 2018 – Source: East Riding of Yorkshire).

Until the 19th century, construction in the East Riding was heavily reliant on locally-sourced building materials. None of the stone of the East Riding provides a particularly good building material, and wood was in relatively short supply. Nevertheless, the Jurassic limestones and sandstones from the western edge of the Wolds were used, as was the chalk from the Wolds and cobbles collected from the beaches and fields in Holderness. However, clay was readily available and brick making became an established industry in the East Riding by the early 14th century.

The more prestigious medieval buildings in the area, for example Beverley Minster, Howden bishop’s palace, Wressle Castle and the principle churches, used imported stone such as Magnesian Limestone from Tadcaster, transported on the rivers in barges. There is also evidence for some timber-framed structures in some of the urban centres such as Beverley and Hull, as well as several rural examples although more probably remain to be discovered. One substantial timber-framed structure is the late 15th century tithe barn at Easington. Other significant buildings used brick, such as the North Bar in Beverley (1409-10), Watton Priory gatehouse and Paull Holme Tower (both 15th century).

Until the 18th century most rural buildings were single storey structures of mud and thatch, or with timber frames supported on chalk foundations. However, brick production increased significantly and by the late 17th century it was the dominant building material of the East Riding. Pantiles replaced thatched roofs and the improving transport networks, such as canals and then railways, meant that other items such as slate became more widely used. These brick and pantile structures provide important character to the village scene, and shaped or tumbled gables (triangular wedges of brickwork) are a characteristic of the East Riding’s architectural heritage. Although these buildings appear superficially plain, many show a surprising degree of architectural complexity.

Some of the earliest buildings in the East Riding are ruins, for example Howden Minster, but many others survive, such as the 12th century Norman Hall at Burton Agnes. Several medieval churches remain more-or-less intact, for example at Skirlaugh, Newbald and Goodmanham, although many were heavily restored or rebuilt during the Victorian period. Beverley Minster, the largest medieval church in the East Riding mostly dates from between 1220-1400 and incorporates three styles of Gothic architecture. Other significant large medieval churches include St Patrick’s at Patrington, St Mary’s in Beverley and St Augustine’s in Hedon.
There are several country houses in the East Riding. Burton Anges Hall, a brick-built house built between 1601 and 1610, is a fine example of Jacobean architecture. Burton Constable Hall is a much larger and more complex structure, medieval in origin but mostly 16-17th century in date. Other important houses of this period include Beswick Hall, Boynton Hall and Elmswell Old Hall. Later 18th century country houses include a group around Bridlington, such as The Avenue in Westgate, Thorpe Hall in Rudston, Sewerby Hall and Buckton Hall. Sledmere House on the western edge of the Wolds, is perhaps the best example of a late 18th century house in the region, although it was sympathetically restored and remodelled after a fire in 1911. The noted regional architect John Carr was responsible for many fine houses in the East Riding. Many of these country houses were surrounded by designed landscapes incorporating parks and gardens (see above).

Two distinct types of village can be seen in the East Riding. The “closed” or estate village is a characteristic of areas which were controlled by the large landowning families of the 18th and 19th centuries, for example the Sykes of Sledmere and the Earls of Londesborough on the Yorkshire Wolds. These owners built estate villages for their workers, as well as other infrastructure such as churches, schools, almshouses and farms. Many of these estate buildings have their own architectural styles and a uniformity of design. The most-often quoted example is Sledmere where the existing village was removed and replaced with a handful of new structures close to the house, together with two groups of cottages further away and a handful of well designed farms around the newly enclosed landscape. Other estate villages include Warter, Swine, South Dalton, Everingham and Howsham, and they contain a high proportion of Listed Buildings. These planned settlements contrast sharply with the “open” villages, where there were fewer constraints on development and freeholders were able to rebuild their houses and provide speculative housing for agricultural labourers, for example at Nafferton, Hutton Cranswick and Barmby on the Marsh.

Many of the enclosure farmsteads are substantial complexes, often incorporating threshing barns, workers housing, fold yards, dovecotes, engine houses and double-pile two-storey farmhouses, all surrounded by shelter belts and plantations. These farms form prominent features in the landscape, especially on the Yorkshire Wolds, but largely unaltered examples are now rare. Many of the outlying structures no longer serve a purpose or have been adapted to serve differing agricultural needs. There are few model farms in the county, but well known examples include Sanction Hill Farm (1856-62), now mostly demolished, and Enholmes Farm near Patrington.

In addition to restoring medieval churches, the Victorians also built a large number of new churches. Many of these are important landmarks in the district, for example the church spire of St Mary’s at South Dalton and its half-size replica at St Leonard’s at Scorbiton. Almost every East Riding village also contains a Nonconformist chapel, either Methodist, Wesleyan or Primitive; the best survivors include those at Market Weighton (1786), Newport (1814) and Acklam (1821), although many are being demolished or converted.

Seaside resorts also developed during the Victorian period, primarily as a result of the introduction of the railways. Well established coastal towns such as Bridlington received a renewed impetus although planned developments at Hornsea were not implemented. The Hull and Holderness Railway Company also proposed large-scale developments at Withernsea in 1854, although the ambitious plans were not fulfilled. However, tourism does
not seem to have taken off as it did elsewhere, for example at Filey, perhaps a reflection of the scenic quality of the coast in much of the county.

Modern architecture has also made its mark on the present landscape, and several structures have become landmarks in their own right. The most obvious example is the Humber Bridge, built between 1972-81, and the Tidal Surge Barrier at the mouth of the River Hull (1980). However, most of these new structures are confined to the urban centres, although other rural examples include The Lawns in Cottingham (1963-66), new additions to Sproxton Hall (in 1963) and Garrowby Hall (in 1981-82), and the new bridge carrying the M62 over the River Ouse.

1.16 PARKS AND GARDENS

The owners of the large country estates had a great influence on the landscape, and evidence for this can still be seen today. There are a dozen or so important 18th century landscape parks surviving in the county as well as the remains of earlier formal gardens. The latter include Risby, where prominent terraces and other earthworks now mark the site of a late 17th century house and its gardens. Earlier late medieval gardens are also becoming recognised, for example at Argham and Caythorpe on the Yorkshire Wolds. The major medieval houses of the time would also have been surrounded by a designed landscape incorporating gardens, deer parks and water bodies, for example the Bishop’s manor house at Howden, Wressle Castle, South Park at Burstwick and Leconfield.

Londesborough is perhaps the largest and most important of the parks in the East Riding. Here, a late 17th century formal scheme by Hooke was superseded by a more naturalistic landscape created by the 3rd earl of Burlington and Thomas Knowlton which incorporated long avenues, planting, lakes and pleasure gardens. Other important Knowlton gardens remain at Birdsall and South Dalton, while examples of Thomas White’s work can be seen at Houghton. Knowlton is buried in Londesborough churchyard.

Lancelot “Capability” Brown also had a number of patrons in the East Riding, and he proposed or advised on works at Burton Constable, Howsham, Rise, Scampston and Sledmere. At Rise, Londesborough and Howsham existing villages were wholly or partly removed to facilitate the new park while there are many examples of roads being diverted. The most often quoted example of emparking existing villages is that of Sledmere, where Sir Christopher Sykes replaced the medieval village with a handful of new structures near the new Hall and two groups of cottages further away. Other notable garden designers known to have worked in the East Riding include Brown’s foreman Thomas White (at Houghton Hall, Burton Constable, Welton, Sledmere, Holme on Spalding Moor Holme Hall, and Grimston Garth), William Emes (Cave Castle), Adam Mickle (Walkington Lodge) and J N Sleed (Everingham and South Dalton).

Other important landscaped grounds survive, in varying states of completeness, at Melton/Welton, South Cave, Everingham, Hotham, Boynton and Thorpe Hall, Rudston. Five examples are registered by Historic England as being Historic Parks and Gardens (Source – Historic England’s National Heritage List for England, 2018).

1.17 ECOLOGY

1.17.1 Overview of Biodiversity of the East Riding

Five National Character Areas (NCA) feature in East Riding of Yorkshire, however, as NCA have boundaries independent of county boundaries, they are represented to varying degrees. The Holderness NCA forms the largest ecological unit in the county, and is wholly contained in East Yorkshire. The
second largest is the Yorkshire Wolds NCA, which extends north into North Yorkshire. In the south is the Humber Estuary NCA which is shared with North Lincolnshire, North East Lincolnshire and Hull. In the south west of East Yorkshire is the Humberhead Levels NCA, shared with North Lincolnshire and South Yorkshire, and a small portion of the Vale of York NCA extends into East Yorkshire in the north east of the county.

There are two marine areas represented in East Yorkshire, a small portion of the North North Sea marine area to the north, with the rest of the county’s coastline forming part of the South North Sea marine area.

In order to understand the nature and complexity of biodiversity and the natural resource in East Yorkshire, it is necessary to consider each of these areas as ecological units, and give some consideration to the interplay of species and habitats within the NCA, as well as the relationship between the NCA themselves, and their significance within the county. There follows a brief account of each NCA found within the East Riding of Yorkshire and an analysis of the importance of the natural features found here as well as highlighting species of particular interest or nature conservation concern as defined by the Biodiversity Action Plan. This text is taken largely from the document Local Sites in the East Riding of Yorkshire (2012).

1.17.2 Holderness National Character Area 40

Holderness is a low-lying plain comprised of glacial deposits, predominantly tills, boulder clays and lake clays. Locally these are interspersed with sand and gravel for example at Brandesburton and peat filled depressions ("meres") which are the sites of former lakebeds. The area has an open, rural agricultural character of mixed, mainly arable farming, large fields and sparse woodland cover. There is an extensive network of drainage ditches.

The western landscape of Holderness is dominated by the River Hull, which has nationally important chalk stream headwaters, grading to tidal river between Beverley and Driffield. There are many valuable wildlife habitats associated with the upper reaches of the Hull, including floodplain grassland and marsh, alder and willow carr, water crowfoot beds and remnant fen and swamp. These habitats are of particular value to breeding birds such as lapwing, redshank, yellow wagtail, sedge warbler, reed warbler and reed bunting. Native brown trout and otter populations are significant as are the water voles, which are still present in reasonable numbers, as well as populations of water shrew.

In the lower more tidal reaches there is less semi-natural habitat. The river is contained within flood banks and several stretches are also perched above the surrounding farmland.

A number of small watercourses flow across Holderness into the Humber Estuary east of Hull, including the Lambwath stream, Holderness Drain, Hedon Haven and Patrington Haven. Water vole has several strongholds on the network of drainage channels.

Fens and swamp are also found along the fringes of the Leven Canal SSSI and Hornsea Mere SSSI/SPA. Hornsea Mere, at 120ha, is the largest natural lake in Yorkshire. It is internationally important for wintering wildfowl, especially gadwall and goldeneye and it supports large numbers of little gulls in the autumn.

More recently sand and gravel extraction in Holderness, particularly near Keyingham and Brandesburton, has left new open water and marginal habitats some of which are developing into valuable wildlife habitat.

Unimproved neutral grassland is a scarce resource in Holderness, with a concentration in the Lambwath stream valley. Other significant areas of
semi-natural neutral grassland are found on the Beverley commons and to the south of Cottingham in the Priory Road and Anlaby Common areas.

Woodland and scrub are scarce in Holderness. There is less than 100ha of ancient woodland, an even smaller area of which is semi-natural. Woodland at Burton Constable is noted for its populations of both white-lettered and purple hairstreak butterflies. Coastal scrub, woodlands and hedgerows are also important resting sites for migrant birds.

The farmland of Holderness is mainly intensively managed arable and grassland, with wheat and oil-seed rape the principal crops. Holderness supports good populations of farmland birds including tree sparrow, barn owl and corn bunting.

1.17.3 The Yorkshire Wolds National Character Area 27

The Yorkshire Wolds is the northern-most chalk outcrop in the England and is an area rich in geological features with some highly significant remnant ecological features. It is characterised by rounded, undulating hills, up to 250m and incised dry valleys. There are steep escarpments to the north and west. The gradual dip slope to the east merges into the Holderness Plain. On the south-western edge of the Wolds there is a small area of limestone.

Land-use across the Wolds is predominantly arable and woodland cover is sparse. On the plateau the fields are generally large and originate from the enclosure acts of the early nineteenth century. Chalk grassland, although the most important and characteristic semi-natural habitat of the NCA, now comprises only 1.3% of the land area. The majority of the best examples are covered by the 20 SSSIs, designated for this habitat. The chalk streams, springs and flushes are some of the other rich habitats of the NCA.

The grassland varies from tall/tussocky grassland to well grazed sheep walk. In many of the dry valleys the grassland is becoming dominated by tor grass which supports a less species-rich sward than the finer grasses. There are also significant variations in floral composition depending on the aspect and depth of the soil profile, which tends to be thicker at the bottom of the slope. Characteristic chalk grassland species of the NCA include common rock-rose, clustered bellflower and common milkwort. More localised are species like perennial flax which tend to be restricted to south-facing slopes, or south-westerly-facing shoulders. In addition to the plants, the chalk grasslands are very important for invertebrates, especially butterflies and moths, such as the marbled white, brown argus and cistus forester.

Wide road verges are a characteristic feature of the Wolds and are an important reservoir of calcareous grassland species.

Some man-made habitats such as quarries and railway cuttings support a range of chalk grassland flora and fauna. Disused quarries can be an important biodiversity resource with the Kiplingcotes Quarry being a SSSI and a Yorkshire Wildlife Trust (YWT) reserve.

Springs and flushes occur in the valleys, along the western escarpment of the Wolds and along the coastline. At the richer sites plants such as marsh valerian, marsh marigold, bogbean, butterwort and marsh orchids are found. In a few places, such as Millington Wood and Pastures SSSI, more extensive spring-fed fens have developed.

There are both constant and winterbourne chalk streams on the Wolds, which are of great ecological significance, notably the headwaters of the Hull which are designated as a SSSI and the Gypsy Race. The constant chalk streams support water crowfoot beds. Close to their source these streams often
harbour a specialised cold water fauna which depends upon the stable temperature regime.

There were once widespread dewponds in the Wolds dating from the time when it was a more pastoral landscape, but now only a small number remain. These may be important for populations of amphibians, fresh water invertebrates and species of aquatic and marginal plants which are scarce elsewhere within the natural area.

Woodland cover is limited and mainly comprises scattered shelterbelts and small areas of disturbed secondary woodland. There is a cluster of woodland on the foothills of the western scarp and along the Gypsey Race near Boynton. Millington Wood SSSI is the best of the few examples of ancient woodland in the area and baneberry occurs there. Baneberry is restricted to three regions of Britain. A small population of Red Kite breeds in the NCA.

In localised areas gorse and hawthorn scrub is an important feature, supporting breeding populations of linnets and grey partridge. Long eared owl is another species associated with the Wolds scrub habitats.

Parklands on the large estates, such as Dalton, Londesborough, Thorpe Park, and Hotham Hall support a mosaic of permanent pasture with large mature trees and woodlands.

1.17.4 The Humber Estuary National Character Area 41

The Humber Estuary is a low-lying area of glacial till overlain by alluvial deposits. It is a mixed landscape of intensive agriculture, modern industrial development and coastal influences. Kingston-upon-Hull and several significant port developments give a strong urban and industrial feel to parts of the NCA. The most visually distinctive natural features of the area are the extensive mudflats and the Spurn Peninsula at the mouth of the estuary.

The main ecological features of the estuary are water, mudflats, saltmarsh, sand dunes and shingle. There are also reedbeds, wet grassland and swamp. The estuary is important for lamprey, eels, whiting, sole, flounder and as a nursery area for plaice.

There is an estimated area of around 8,060 ha of intertidal mudflats in the East Riding, the largest being Spurn Bight (about 3,000 ha). There is also a narrower but still extensive area between Hawkins Point and Thorngumbald. The nutrient-rich mudflats of the intertidal zone support a considerable diversity and biomass of invertebrates. In turn this attracts large numbers of birds.

The Humber Estuary is one of the top five important bird sites in the UK and it is one of the top ten in Europe. The Estuary supports internationally important populations of dark-bellied brent geese, shelduck, golden plover, grey plover, and knot. The intertidal parts of the estuary are designated as a SSSI and also an SPA and Ramsar. The whole estuary, including the sub-tidal parts is designated as a SAC.

The sandy beaches are the less fertile areas of the intertidal zone although there are still a number of specialist invertebrates and birds found in this habitat. The strandline is often the richest area.

Saltmarsh is found in the transition zone between intertidal and land-based habitats. There are approximately 468 ha in the East Riding. The northern shore 7 of the Humber is fringed with saltmarsh at a number of places from Spurn to Broomfleet, the largest area being at Welwick Saltmarsh.

The area of inter-tidal habitats in the estuary has been extended at Welwick and Paul Holme Strays through managed realignment of the flood bank. This process can be driven by the need for the estuary to adapt to rising sea levels due to climate change. It may also be driven by the need to provide
compensatory habitats under the Habitats Regulations for port related developments.

Reedbeds fringe some areas of the Humber Estuary, notably at Blacktoft Sands at the confluence of the Trent and the Ouse. The larger Humber reedbeds can support marsh harrier, bittern and bearded tit. There is also a considerable amount of reedbed in the drainage ditch networks behind the sea wall. These smaller reedbeds are important for birds such as water rail, reed warbler and sedge warbler.

Sand dunes and sandy shingle habitats occur at Spurn, where there are both mobile and semi-fixed dunes. A combination of grassland and scrub is found on the semi-fixed dunes.

Further out from the estuary coast arable farming and market gardening are the main rural land-uses on land which is reclaimed grazing marsh, saltmarsh and mudflat. It is an open landscape with large rectangular fields and ditches as the boundaries. There are remnant areas of freshwater reedbeds, wet grassland and swamp which are valuable for their invertebrate communities, and they also provide complementary habitat for some of the overwintering estuary birds.

1.17.5 Humberhead Levels National Character Area 39

The Humberhead Levels is an open flat plain, parts of which are below sea level, where agriculture is artificially maintained by pumping regimes. Soils are a mixture of alluvium, clay, sand/gravel and peat. It is a rural agricultural area with few major settlements.

The East Riding portion of the Humberhead Levels is a mixture of arable agriculture and grassland, bisected by the tidal River Ouse. The patchwork of fields, of a range of sizes, is divided variously by dykes and hedges.

The northern third (634 ha) of Thorne, Crowle and Goole Moors SSSI, SAC and SPA falls within the East Riding. Thorne Moors is the largest expanse of lowland raised peat bog remaining in the UK. Characteristic plant species include sphagnum mosses, heather, cranberry, cross-leaved heath and cotton grass. Round-leaved sundew, bog rosemary and bog myrtle also occur.

Heathland habitats occur in the NcA, notably South Cliffe Common SSSI. This heathland on glacial sands is similar to that found at Allerthorpe in the Vale of York and is characterised by its mosaic of ericaceous communities, bracken, gorse, birch and oak woodland, cotton grass and rush pasture.

Concentrations of other ecologically rich habitat are found in the west on the lower reaches of the River Derwent, around Derwent Ings and Brighton Meadows SSSIs. The seasonally inundated meadows of the valley make the area of exceptional importance for wintering and wildfowl and waders particularly teal, wigeon, pochard, golden plover and ruff. Notable breeding birds include garganey, corncrake and black-necked grebe. The Ramsar citation also lists the invertebrate fauna as being of importance, 16 species of dragonflies and damselflies and 11 other red data book invertebrate species.

Some of the dyke banks support quite a rich fen flora including species such as creeping jenny, yellow loosestrife and meadow rue.

Further away from the floodplains where the grassland is drier there are still wildflower-rich hay meadows to be found, characterised by cowslips, great burnet, saw-wort, knapweed and meadow vetchling. Barn owl and quail are notable bird species associated with this habitat.

Small areas of estuarine reedbeds and saltmarsh are localised features of this NCA. The reedbeds support breeding marsh harrier and bearded tit. Heathland habitat occurs at Thorne Moors SSSI where a significant population of nightjar thrives, a rich invertebrate fauna and a population of adders.
Ponds and lakes are scattered through the area. Most of the lakes are areas of old gravel working, which can be valuable for waders and wildfowl and a small number of them are mesotrophic in nature.

1.17.6 Vale of York National Character Area 28

The Vale of York is a low-lying flat floodplain area with scattered glacial ridges and moraines. The solid Sherwood Sandstone and Mercia Mudstone geology is overlain by a variety of drift deposits and soils are a variety of river alluvium, boulder clay and sand. The River Derwent and its associated grassland and wetland habitats is a key feature of the Vale of York and it forms the boundary between the City of York and the East Riding in this NCA.

Outside of the Derwent Valley arable agriculture is the dominant land use although in places the many streams and drainage channels are key features of the landscape. There are extensive areas covered by wind-blown sands from the end of the last ice-age. These areas support a few remnants of lowland heathland and other sandy habitats, which were formerly more extensive. There are also scattered woodlands and a few parklands within the area.

In the Vale of York NCA the River Derwent has a more typical lowland character. The full length of the River in the East Riding is designated as SSSI and SAC. It has a rich aquatic flora and is also valuable for its invertebrate and fish communities. A number of nationally scarce invertebrates have been recorded on the Derwent. It is also a stronghold for the otter.

There are a number of valuable wetland habitats in the East Riding section of this NCA, many of which are associated with the River Derwent and some of which are designated as SSSI, SAC and SPA. There is a concentration of fen meadow in the Lower Derwent around Melbourne and Thornton Ings SSSI, parts of which are in the East Riding. Tall herb fen is more widespread although there are few stands of significant size. The fen flora on drainage banks and many of the swamp communities are also often of considerable value for wildlife.

The “Ings” or flood meadows of the Vale of York are grasslands managed for hay and livestock grazing. The meadows, wet grassland and dykes of the valley make the area of exceptional importance for breeding and wintering wildfowl and waders.

Lowland grass heath and other sandy habitats are found in the area around Allerthorpe, notably Allerthorpe Common, part of which is a SSSI. These heaths are characterised by mosaics of heather, humid and dry acid grassland, bracken, gorse, birch and oak woodland, cotton grass and rush pasture. Allerthorpe supports characteristic bird species, such as tree pipit and woodlark, as well as reptiles including adder and common lizard.

Woodland cover in the Vale of York is low. Woodland is mainly plantation and secondary in small to medium stands. Hedgerows are mainly Enclosure period but ancient hedgerows do occur. The NCA also supports a number of old parkland areas with veteran trees such as Everingham Park.

Small field ponds were once widely distributed in the NCA but many have been lost to agricultural intensification. Great crested newts are widely but thinly distributed across the ponds of the NCA and there are also populations of palmate newt.

1.17.7 South North Sea maritime area (Bridlington to Skegness)

This includes the coastal fringe, the sea and the seabed out to a 12 mile limit from the coast.

The cliffs, which are all soft cliff, vary from 0-35 metres and are mainly mud (glacial till) but in places are a mixture of mud, sand and gravel. Due to
the rapid erosion rate (1.6m/year) the cliff face vegetation is sparse and largely ruderal. There are sand martin *Riparia riparia* colonies in places. The soft, rapidly eroding cliffs of Holderness are crucial to the maintenance of many of the region’s internationally important sedimentary habitats and the geological SSSIs at Withlow Gap, Skipsea and Dimlington Cliff are nationally important for their glacial and post glacial stratigraphy.

Sandy beaches fringe most of the Holderness coast, although in places the sand is very thin and the underlying clay is often exposed following storms. Little vegetation survives in these conditions. The invertebrate communities of the beaches are typically poor. Although where organic detritus gathers on the strandline a mixed pioneer vegetation and fauna develops.

Other coastal features include saltmarsh, saline lagoons, dunes, sandy beaches, mudflats and shingle bars. Many of these features are concentrated around Spurn Head at the mouth of the Humber which is also an area of special geomorphological importance as there is no other comparable spit, in terms of length and form in the British Isles.

The Spurn peninsula has some very sandy vegetated shingle and some characteristic shingle species on concrete debris, including sea sandwort *Honkenya peploides*, red fescue *Festuca rubra*, marram *Ammophila arenaria*, sea holly *Eryngium maritimum* and sea campion *Silene uniflora*. The sandy shingle habitats of Spurn and Easington form important nesting sites for ringed plover *Charadrius hiaticula* and little tern *Sternula albifrons*.

Sand dunes are a particular feature in the southern coastal area of East Yorkshire, at Spurn, where there are both mobile and semi-fixed dunes. There are also small dune systems further north between Wilsthorpe and Barmston and at Easington.

Easington North Lagoon is the only natural lagoon in the East Yorkshire part of this maritime area. There is also a number of saline borrow pits at Spurn. A number of specialist invertebrate species are associated with these saline lagoons. Spiral tasselweed *Ruppia cirrhosa* is a rare native plant of saline/brackish ponds and dykes which has been recorded at only a few locations in East Yorkshire. Struggling populations can still be found in a number of saline water bodies near Easington and there are historical records at Salt End, Kilnsea, and Kilnsea Beacon Lane Pond. Beaked tasselweed *Ruppia maratima* is another uncommon native plant found in tidal pools and brackish dykes. It has been recorded in tidal pools at Easington and Patrington Haven and in Kilnsea Beacon Lane Pond.

The intertidal habitats at the interface of the Humber Estuary Natural Area and the Bridlington-Skegness Maritime Area support rich invertebrate communities, and are of major significance for their bivalve and fish populations. There is a number of local eel grass *Zostera marina* beds, which are important for feeding and wintering waders and wildfowl.

Most of the seabed within the 12 mile limit of the coast is shallower than 20 metres in depth. The seabed is covered with a relatively thin layer of sandy gravel, gravel or gravelly sand. Muds and silts are limited to the intertidal zones of the estuary. There is a substantial gravel bank off the mouth of the Humber.

These unconsolidated subtidal sediments move and change and as do their associated wildlife communities.

**1.17.8 North North Sea maritime area (Saltburn to Bridlington)**

The southern tip of this maritime area falls on the northern coast of East Yorkshire around Flamborough Head. This area includes the maritime and paramaritime habitats of the coastal fringe and the sea and sea bed
out to a 12 mile limit. The coastal section of this maritime area within East Riding is entirely designated as SSSI.

The high chalk cliffs of Flamborough Head have excellent examples of caves, arches, blowholes and stacks. The sea cliffs themselves represent a series of important geological exposures in which many significant fossils have been found.

On the cliffs and the cliff tops there are valuable grasslands. The vegetated sea cliffs at Flamborough are of international importance and are one of the features for which Flamborough Head Special Area of Conservation is designated. Species present here include: rock sea spurrey *Spargularia rupicola*, thrift *Armeria maritima*, west rock samphire *Crithmum maritimum* and Scots lovage *Lingusticum scoticum*. The cliffs also support a good range of invertebrates, including beetles, flies, bees, wasps and butterflies.

Internationally important breeding populations of kittiwakes *Rissa tridactyla* and nationally important numbers of razorbills *Alca torda*, puffins *Fratercula arctica* and guillemots *Uria aalge* found at Flamborough are some of the species for which the area is designated SPA.

Large, partly submerged caves near Flamborough Head support unique biological communities, including rare, microscopic chalk-boring algae and lichens. The chalk reefs by Flamborough Head, extending up to 6km out to sea, support rich communities of seaweeds and invertebrates. A kelp (*Laminaria*) forest is present down to a depth of 4m on the southern side of the Headland. There is an interesting mix of species at their southern limit such as the small red feathery seaweed (*Ptilota plumosa*) and species at their northern limit such as the yellow sponge (*Polymastia boletiformis*). Beds of eel grass can occur in sub-tidal (sub-littoral) sediments.

Herring *Clupea harengus* spawning and nursery areas occur inshore in the Flamborough area. Sprats and cod both spawn offshore, with the cod spawning area extending inshore in the vicinity of Flamborough.

**1.17.9 DESIGNATIONS**

There are a number of SSSIs in the East Riding and the location of these in relation to LCT and LCA is summarised in Appendix 4 of this document.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPES AND AREAS

This section identifies and describes the units of landscape character that have been identified for the East Riding of Yorkshire and listed in Section 2.2 of this document.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 1: FLAT OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: VALE OF YORK

DESCRIPTION OF LOCATION
This Landscape Character Type (LCT) is located in the south east corner of the Vale of York, west of Market Weighton and west and south of Pocklington. The area extends to the Pocklington Beck and Canal corridor in the south and the River Derwent corridor in the west.

Relevant National Character Areas
- 27: Yorkshire Wolds
- 28: Vale of York
- 39: Humberhead Levels

SUMMARY OF KEY CHARACTERISTICS, FEATURES AND LAND USE
Key characteristics of Flat Open Farmland in the Vale of York
- Generally flat, open landscape between 10m and 30m AOD gradually falling southwards
- Drained intensively farmed arable land with occasional grass fields
- Overall tree and woodland cover is sparse. One large woodland block at Allerthorpe
- Parkland at Everingham is distinctive
- Field boundaries consist of a combination of fragmented and intact hedgerows with few hedgerow trees
- Field pattern is dominated by medium sized regular shaped fields that are occasionally incised by small natural watercourses
- Drainage pattern overall is regular and man made with few small improved natural watercourses of less regular shape. Land generally drains southwards
- Combination of dispersed linear and nucleated villages with potential Iron Age settlement origins

- Large farmsteads are scattered throughout the area
- Influence of past human activity includes the route of A1079 that follows the route of a Roman road

STATEMENT OF OPPORTUNITIES
- Managing and restoring hedgerows and replacing/adding hedgerow trees where necessary
- Restoring former field ponds and other floodland features along with areas of woodland and shelterbelt. Maintaining each to ensure a positive contribution to landscape and biodiversity
- Retain existing copses of woodland and reinstating previous examples into active management
- Reduce and prevent the loss of species rich grassland through management and improvement where necessary
- Protect and enhance the dynamic fluvial landscapes and waterbodies which make an important contribution to the character

LANDSCAPE INFLUENCES
Physical Influences
The underlying solid geology of the area is from the Triassic period and consists of Mercia Mudstone and Sherwood Sandstone. This is overlain by lacustrine and glaciofluvial deposits from the Devensian period when the area was covered by Lake Humber which gradually silted up.

Soils are a mix of brown earths, podsol and surface water gleys. Agricultural Land Classification for most of this LCT is Grade 3 with small pockets of Grade 2.

Topography of the area is generally flat, distinguishing it from the adjacent LCT 2 to the north. Hummocky, glacial deposits on the western edge of this
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 1: FLAT OPEN FARMLAND  
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LCT contribute to a slightly more varied landform in places. The area is a mix of flat to very gently undulating land between 5 and 35m AOD.

Water drains to the south feeding into the River Derwent via the Pocklington Canal and Beck and the River Humber via the River Foulness and the Market Weighton Canal.

Human Influences

Visible evidence of early human activity in the area has largely been lost due to modern agricultural practices. Mesolithic and Neolithic sites have been found in Pocklington and the Vale of York and are evidence that human activity in the area has continued over many hundreds of years. However, the influence of early settlers on landscape character in this LCT is not apparent today.

In the Roman and early medieval periods marine regression allowed the occupation of the lowlands of the Vale of York. Evidence of Roman occupation comes from the presence of forts, one of which was located at Hayton, south east of Pocklington. There is extensive evidence of rural Romano-British settlement throughout the area and the rectilinear field pattern at Barmby Moor dates from the Romano-British Period and is a Scheduled Monument. The A1079 follows the line of a Roman road from Brough to York, and a second Roman road runs to the south of Market Weighton.

Settlement in the area continued through the medieval period, most of the villages date to this period. Some of the parish boundaries may follow the line of early enclosure from this period and hedgerows along these boundaries are important historic features in the landscape.

Settlement is scattered through the area with the largest concentration along the A1079 York to Hull Road. A dismantled railway line runs to the north of the A1079 between Market Weighton and Pocklington. The route of the Market Weighton Canal, built in 1772-82 crosses the LCT to the south. The canal was important for transportation and drainage.

Market Weighton is a medieval market town that had a corn market. It also became an important centre for the railways in East Yorkshire and had a foundry and a brewery. The oldest buildings are Georgian.

The World War II airfield located south of Pocklington is a prominent feature in this LCT. It was opened for military operation in 1941 and closed in 1946. The airfield is used today by the Wolds Gliding Club. There was a landing field at Barmby on the Moor during the World War I approximately one mile to the west of the RAF field. Industrial and commercial development has formed between the southwest side of the runways and the A1079 to Hull. The development is isolated from the town of Pocklington and has impacted on the landscape setting of the town.

Agriculture is the dominant land use in the area. Arable cropping is predominant. Fields tend to be medium in size and rectilinear, and several phases of enclosure are evident.

The A1079 and A614 form the primary transport corridors within this LCT. Other roads are limited to country lanes and private access tracks.

There is a network of public footpaths in the area that provide a number of circular routes around and between the villages.

Ecological Influences

Under natural conditions, the fine sandy soils overlying clay would support heathland vegetation; however ploughing has largely destroyed the original
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 1: FLAT OPEN FARMLAND
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morphology. Some isolated patches still remain. Due to the sandy texture and low moisture retention capacity, these soils are susceptible to seasonal drought and removal of hedgerows increases the potential for wind erosion.

There are relatively few trees and areas of woodland giving the LCT its openness. Drains and ditches are utilised for land drainage and currently offer little potential for wildlife. However, the estate farmland and parkland at Everingham is well wooded within this character type, another example of woodland is located at Houghton Hall Registered Park and Garden (RPG).

There is a large scale heathland restoration project at Allerthorpe Wood.

Statutory Designations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RAMSAR</td>
<td>Lower Derwent Valley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Nature Reserve (NNR)</td>
<td>Lower Derwent Valley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Protection Area (SPA)</td>
<td>Lower Derwent Valley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Lower Derwent Valley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Pocklington Canal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Allerthorpe Common</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>White Carr Meadow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Melbourne and Thornton Ings</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LINKS TO ADJACENT CHARACTER AREAS

Adjacent ERYC LCTs
- 2: Open Farmland
- 3: River/ Canal Corridors
- 6: Wooded Open Farmland
- 10: Complex Sloping Farmland
- 11: Jurassic Hills Farmland
- 13: Open High Rolling Farmland
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 1: FLAT OPEN FARMLAND
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LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS
Four Landscape Character Areas (LCA’s) have been identified in this LCT. They are:

• 1A: Shiptonthorpe and Market Weighton Farmland
• 1B: Everingham Estate Farmland and Parkland
• 1C: Newton upon Derwent, Wilberfoss, Allerthorpe and Hayton Farmland
• 1D: Barmby Moor Farmland

DETAILED CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTIONS
Character Area 1A: Shiptonthorpe and Market Weighton Farmland
This LCA occupies the southern corner of the Vale of York National Character Area. It is located to the west of Market Weighton and extends around the village of Shiptonthorpe. Land use is predominantly agricultural. Market Weighton is located at the eastern edge of the LCA at the bottom of the west facing scarp slope of the Yorkshire Wolds. Shiptonthorpe village is the largest settlement within the LCA.

Scheduled Ancient Monuments in the area include Roman rectilinear enclosures near Barmby Moor.

Fields are generally medium to large in size bounded by intermittent hedgerows with few trees. There is limited woodland present except for at Londesborough Hall RPG, Houghton Wood (RPG) and a small number of plantations located around farmsteads.

There is an extensive drainage ditch system throughout the farmland, which is reflected by the associated wetland fauna. Single wind turbines are spread throughout the north of the LCA, the majority of which are small to medium scale turbines but there are some examples of larger turbines at 87m to tip.

There is a generally open and rural character that is often quiet but influenced by development and activity at Market Weighton.

Character Area 1B: Everingham Estate Farmland and Parkland
This LCA is distinctive from its neighbours due the amount of tree and woodland cover in comparison to the surrounding farmland and the layout of the tree cover.

Everingham is a small former estate village located approximately 4 miles south of Pocklington and 4 miles west of Market Weighton.

Everingham Park dominates land use with some farmland to the fringes of the LCA. These areas are intensively farmed arable land with medium to large rectilinear fields enclosed by hedgerow and trees in a regular pattern.

The parkland is distinctive by the extent of tree and woodland cover in comparison to the surrounding flat farmland. Field patterns are occasionally cut through, or bounded, by small natural or man-made watercourses.

On the northern edge of the LCA, Everingham is the only settlement with few isolated houses and farmsteads elsewhere.

Everingham was the site of a 7th Century convent set up by St Everilda to whom the two churches in the village are dedicated. The Estate came into the ownership of the Constable family in the early 16th Century and in 1756 William Haggerstone Constable commissioned John Carr to build Everingham Hall. The surrounding park was laid out in the 1730s on the site of an earlier medieval deer park, with future additions in the 1760s and early 19th Century. This work also resulted in the diversion of a road around the park. Much of the 18th and 19th century landscape survives intact giving the area a distinctive character. The village and park are a designated Conservation Area.
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There is a partially enclosed and rural character that is quiet and influenced Everingham Park.

Character Area 1C: Newton upon Derwent, Wilberfoss, Allerthorpe and Hayton Farmland

The flat to gently undulating arable landscape of this LCA is centred on the villages of Newton upon Derwent, Wilberfoss, Allerthorpe and Hayton. Predominantly agricultural land with an area of common land located at Tank Plantation.

The LCA has a patchwork of generally rectilinear fields in a sub regular pattern. Black Foss Beck and Sails Beck run from north to south through the area and drain into Pocklington Beck. These two small water courses meander through the intensive arable landscape and provide some variation in field pattern.

Allerthorpe was enclosed by agreement in 1640 and pockets of the original enclosure pattern remain. Long narrow closes on the edge of the village have the reverse 's' shape often seen with early enclosure and resulting from enclosing open field furlongs and strips. Farmsteads are scattered throughout the LCA.

Blocks of woodland are scattered throughout the LCA. Allerthorpe Common is an extensive area of coniferous plantation on former heathland and is the main woodland in the LCA. A small area of heathland still survives, composed of heather, cross-leaved heath, cotton grass and purple moor grass which also supports a number of reptiles and invertebrates.

A large area of plantation woodland is being restored to lowland heath in the area.

The A1079 which follows the route of the former Roman road from Brough to York passes across the northern boundary of the LCA. A Roman fort was located at Hayton. Evidence of Iron Age and Anglo Saxon activity has also been found at the site.

Pocklington Canal is an important SSSI feature in this area that is undergoing restoration and now has increased recreational use. Canal Head is an attractive area that is well used by the public.

Generally open and rural the LCA has at relatively remote and tranquil character.

Character Area 1D: Barmby Moor Farmland

This LCA is largely arable but includes areas of commercial development to the south of the A1079 and at the airfield south of Pocklington.

The village of Barmby Moor to the west of Pocklington is the main settlement in the LCA and probably originated as a Scandinavian settlement.

Enclosure of open fields and common land largely took place in the late 18th century and that field pattern remains today. Overall, fields are medium in size and reflect the scale of the landscape. There are few small rectilinear blocks of woodland scattered across the LCA.

Several minor roads run through the LCA and there is a relatively high density of scattered development including farmsteads.

There is a medieval moated site in the centre of the village and the church was largely rebuilt in the early 1850s retaining the 15th century tower and stone spire.

An area of rectilinear Roman fields, now visible only as a crop mark west of Barmby Moor, is designated as a scheduled monument.
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The LCA has an open and rural character that is tranquil becoming more active and busy nearer development and infrastructure around Pocklington.

EVALUATION

Quality

The quality of the landscape is affected by its condition. The LCT retains its strong rural character in places, in particular LCA 1C between the A1079 and the Pocklington Canal retains a relatively remote character due to the lack of roads and villages.

Field size, settlement pattern and tree cover contribute to the medium scale of this landscape where long distance views are intermittent and there is an element of enclosure where tree cover is greater and hedgerows have been allowed to grow tall.

Some areas in the LCT could be considered high quality e.g. Everingham Parkland. However, even here elements of the parkland character have been lost. Overall the quality of the landscape in this area is assessed to be ordinary.

Positive Landscape Features

- Everingham Parkland is a distinctive designed landscape character.
- Small water courses provide some variation in the rectilinear field pattern.
- Hedgerow field boundaries highlighting the regular field pattern with occasional deviations where natural watercourses introduce more organic lines.
- Areas of early enclosure field pattern around villages.
- Allerthorpe Common is an important feature of considerable size providing an element of diversity to the area.
- Trees and woodland, where present, are important landscape features contributing to ecological value as well as visual amenity.

Forces for Change

Intensive agricultural production has shaped the landscape we see today. Large scale agricultural buildings that can be seen throughout the area detract from rural character.

Continued pressures on the agricultural industry are likely to result in changing land management practices that will impact on landscape
character in time. Diversification may be the key force for change away from the edge of the larger towns.

The development of facilities, like the existing water park near Allerthorpe, introduce formal recreation activities to the rural landscape. An increase in recreational development within this area would likely increase traffic levels on minor roads in rural areas. There are other recreation/tourism developments in the area such as log cabins and caravan sites.

The development of employment sites and mixed use sites on the south side of Pocklington, adjacent to the airfield and on the opposite side of the A1079, has altered the rural character of the area and cumulative impact is an issue to consider.

As a result of the extension of the quarry near Burnby has impacted on the tranquil nature of the region, large vehicular traffic along smaller road networks around the villages of Burnby and Hayton are often regular.

There will continue to be pressure for renewable energy developments in the East Riding. Currently, however, only single turbines and two wind farms are present and range from small to medium and large in scale and are located mainly within LCA 1A.

**Condition and Strength of Character**

This is a fragmented landscape that includes areas where key characteristics such as hedgerow boundaries, field pattern and tree cover remain intact. This includes the parkland and estate farmland around Everingham. In contrast there are areas where key characteristics are in poor condition (e.g. gappy hedgerows and lack of hedgerows) weakening landscape pattern, and where significant detractors have been introduced. For example the industrial development on the south edge of Pocklington has encroached into the countryside and large scale agricultural buildings are scattered across the open landscape.

The Market Weighton Bypass and general improvements to the A1079 have impacted on the rural character of the landscape with residential development encroaching from Pocklington, reducing the number of hedgerows and increasing the size of fields.

In addition to large scale buildings, detractors in the landscape include electricity pylons and communications masts which introduce vertical elements that affect openness.
**LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 1: FLAT OPEN FARMLAND**  
**NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: VALE OF YORK**

**Sensitivity and Capacity**

The following table sets out the sensitivity of the LCT to different types of development. Refer to Appendix 4 for full details of the assessment criteria.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landscape quality (condition)</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT has a medium level of landscape quality. Generally flat, intensive arable farmland with sparse woodland cover and a mix of linear and nucleated villages.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenic quality</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fragmented by development encroaching on rural landscape with pylons, communications and transport infrastructure detracting from the scenic quality.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarity (of elements, features or LCT's)</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common, with Everingham Parkland moderately rare and rectilinear enclosures rare and Canals at Pocklington uncommon.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representativeness (in relation to prevailing landscape character)</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Vale of York is flat, low-lying land with arable cultivation the predominant land use and rivers that drain surrounding higher land and run southwards through the Vale on towards the Humber basin.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation interests (wildlife, earth science, archaeological, historic, cultural)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation areas include: Shiptonthorpe, Market Weighton, Everingham and Barmby Moor. Local Wildlife Sites include: Calley Heath, Old Flat Wood, Field house Wood, Newton Common Wood, Sutton Wood, Allerthorpe Commons, White Carr, Holmes Field Reserve and Evergreen Wood and . Registered Parks and Gardens include Houghton Wood. SSSI include Lower Derwent Valley (also a National Nature Reserve/Special Protection Area and a Ramsar site), Pocklington. Scheduled Ancient Monuments include Roman rectilinear enclosures near Barmby Moor.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational value</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT contains walking/cycling routes and recreational opportunities around Allerthorpe Commons nature reserve. National trail/long distance route - along Pocklington Canal.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 1: FLAT OPEN FARMLAND**
**NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: VALE OF YORK**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Perceptual aspects (openness, wildness, tranquillity, remoteness)</th>
<th>There is a rural character that is generally open. The LCT is not remote and influenced by urban development and infrastructure which contribute to a medium level of tranquillity.</th>
<th>Medium</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Associations (with people or events)</td>
<td>The LCT has associations with people including St Everilda and the Constable family. A World War II airfield, located south of Pocklington, is a prominent feature and there was a landing field at Barmby on the Moor during the World War I.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Value attached to LCT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Flat rural landscape with wide, long views and low levels of tree cover. This LCT has a few dispersed settlements with designated conservation interest. Recreational use is notable at Pocklington Airfield and Houghton Wood Registered Park and Garden. A number of ecological designations associated with the Lower Derwent Valley. This LCT is assessed as being a medium value landscape resource, due to its ecological, cultural and recreational importance.</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Resilience to Development</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential</td>
<td>Settlements include small villages and scattered farmsteads, the largest settlement being Market Weighton. With relatively good connectivity and existing residential development within settlements. Limited extended development would have minimal effect on the integrity of the landscape.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>Commercial development is limited, increasing near Pocklington and Market Weighton. Large scale development into the surrounding rural area risks affecting the integrity of the rural landscape, however some capacity within more urban areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>Limited small scale industrial development, increasing near Pocklington and Market Weighton. Large scale development into the surrounding rural area risks affecting the integrity of the rural landscape.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 1: FLAT OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: VALE OF YORK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Predominantly rural landscape with existing agricultural development associated with farmsteads. Suitably located, additional large scale agricultural development is unlikely to affect the integrity of the landscape character.</th>
<th>Low</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recreational</td>
<td>A low level of recreational use is present, increasing towards Pocklington. Due to the largely rural nature of the area, further recreational development of a similar character is unlikely to affect integrity of the landscape character.</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sensitivity to Development at LCA level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Residential</th>
<th>Commercial</th>
<th>Industrial</th>
<th>Agricultural</th>
<th>Recreational</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 A</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>Low-Medium</td>
<td>Low-Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 B</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 C</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>Low-Medium</td>
<td>Low-Medium</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 D</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>Low-Medium</td>
<td>Low-Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This is a predominantly rural landscape where settlement is limited to small villages and scattered farmsteads. The largest settlement is Pocklington, although the LCT is influenced by the adjacent settlement of Market Weighton. Residential development to the southwest and southeast edges of Pocklington, and in areas around Market Weighton have encroached on the wider rural landscape. This LCT has some capacity to accommodate residential development, sensitively located within more urban areas.

The landscape character of the area is already influenced by the development of commercial activity south of Pocklington and Barmby Moor and increasing road infrastructure within the area, which ensures that settlements are well connected. The introduction of large scale commercial development into the surrounding agricultural landscape would affect the character, however, there is some capacity to accommodate small scale commercial development adjacent to existing development.

There is limited industrial development within this LCT, with the majority being located around Pocklington. Any further industrial development would risk affecting the integrity of the rural landscape.

This is a predominantly rural landscape where a considerable amount of existing agricultural development is present in the landscape. The cumulative impact of agricultural development in the rural areas away from the settlements of Market Weighton, Pocklington and Wilberfoss has impacted upon the condition and rural character of the landscape. Further agricultural development, in association with existing, would have a limited effect on the landscape character of the area. There is limited recreational development within this LCT. The predominantly rural and sparsely settled LCT may have capacity to accommodate recreational development without affecting its overall integrity, depending on the scale and nature of the development.

**Strategy**

The strategy for this LCT is to enhance landscape character. This would involve strengthening the presence of key positive features and reintroducing distinctive characteristics where they have been lost.

Promote the planting of hedgerows on field boundaries where they have been lost to reinforce local landscape pattern.

Encourage new woodland planting and woodland management to increase diversity in structure, habitat and help integrate new development within the existing landscape. Encourage opportunities to restore areas of heathland.

New agricultural development should respect local vernacular, context and mitigate visual prominence within the open landscape. Measures to integrate development with the surrounding landscape should include woodland, tree and hedgerow planting. The characteristic rural openness of the area and key views, such as village churches and the Wolds, should be protected.

Ensure that any facilities installed for tourism and recreation purposes are low key and appropriate to the tranquil and remote nature of the landscape. Local character should be reflected through appropriate use of materials, and sensitivity to landscape pattern. New building must respect local vernacular.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 2: OPEN FARMLAND  
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: VALE OF YORK

DESCRIPTION OF LOCATION
This Landscape Character Type (LCT) is located east of the Derwent corridor and north and east of Pocklington. The LCT encompasses farmland that rises up to the edge of the Yorkshire Wolds in the east and farmland around the villages of Full Sutton, Fangfoss, High Catton and Bugthorpe. The LCT has a varied landform reflecting the transition from the Derwent Valley to the Wolds edge.

Relevant National Character Areas
- 27: Yorkshire Wolds
- 28: Vale Of York

SUMMARY OF KEY CHARACTERISTICS, FEATURES AND LAND USE
Key characteristics of Open Farmland in the Vale of York
- Low lying gently undulating landform
- Topography varies between 80m AOD and 10m AOD.
- Numerous villages and hamlets scattered throughout
- Medium to large rectilinear fields bound by hedges. Smaller fields with hedgerow trees concentrated around settlements creating a sense of enclosure
- Small becks, fed by rectilinear drainage system, meandering through the rectilinear fields draining the intensively farmed land
- Ponds are scattered throughout the area
- Arable land use dominates with some areas of grassland
- Medieval sites scattered throughout, most notably the registered battleground at Stamford Bridge
- Romano-British settlement, roads and agriculture
- Airfield and industrial estate at Full Sutton are prominent in the landscape

STATEMENT OF OPPORTUNITIES
- Managing existing and introducing new grassland buffers along watercourses, converting existing arable land to pastoral grassland flood plain landscapes to reduce flooding elsewhere.
- Managing and enhancing hedgerows along with replacing and introducing new hedgerow trees.
- Restoring former field ponds and other features such as ditches, dykes, small woodlands and shelterbelts to ensure that they are being adequately managed for their contribution to the landscape and biodiversity.
- Encouraging new riparian and flood plain woodland.

LANDSCAPE INFLUENCES
Physical Influences
The underlying geology of the area was laid down during the Triassic period. To the east is the Mercia mudstone group and to the west is the Sherwood sandstone group. The solid geology has been overlain by glacial drift geology of the Devensian period when much of the area was covered by Lake Humber, a large water body that developed as a result of the ice sheet blocking the Humber gap. The northern extent of the Escrick Moraine provides a distinctive geological feature to the west of this LCT.

Soils are a combination of Pelosols and ground water gleys. Agricultural Land Classification is mainly Grade 3 with some areas of Grade 2.

Topography of the area is between 80m and 10m AOD falling gently to the south and west. The landform is gently undulating across the LCT with
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 2: OPEN FARMLAND
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undulations becoming more pronounced close to the edge of the Wolds. Hummocky glacial deposits contribute to the more varied landform.

The land drains south and west into Pocklington Beck and the River Derwent via a series of improved natural ditches and man-made drains. There are a number of ponds scattered throughout the area. The southern extent of the LCT drains south towards the River Foulness and Market Weighton Canal.

Human Influences

There is evidence of human activity in the area over many centuries. However, much of the visible physical evidence has been lost due to changing land management practices, in particular modern agricultural methods. As a result, the landscape character of the area does not reflect the influence of man’s early activities. Many of the settlements in the area originated during Anglo Saxon times. Some of these, such as Bishop Wilton, became planned villages during medieval times. There are earthworks present at the Archbishop of Yorks Manor House at the north end of the village. There is evidence around some of the villages of early medieval enclosures and the best example is at Bishop Wilton on the western edge of the Yorkshire Wolds. The A166 follows the line of a Roman road.

There are four scheduled monuments in the area two of which are medieval moated sites and there is evidence of unscheduled moated sites in the area. There is also a registered Battlefield at Stamford Bridge. Unfortunately much of the area has been developed and evidence of the battle has been lost.

Land use in the area is mainly arable farmland with areas of grassland for livestock production scattered throughout. Field size is a combination of large fields around Full Sutton and medium sized fields elsewhere. Enclosure of open fields and commons was complete in the 18th century either by agreement or by an act of parliament. Over the years fields have amalgamated resulting in the loss of hedgerow boundaries.

Stamford Bridge is a large settlement on the western edge of this LCT and is the site of a Historic Battlefield (Battle of Stamford Bridge, 1066). Unfortunately, much of the site of the battlefield has been built upon and there is little evidence of the event today. A Roman settlement (Derwentio) occupies land to the south of the village. The built edge of the village impacts on the character of the open farmland which provides the setting for the east side of the village and its approach. Building materials are mainly brick with tile and slate roofs. There are some stone buildings. Modern 20th and 21st century development has taken place extending the urban edge into the open farmland landscape.

20th century development has taken place around Full Sutton. The airfield was used during the World War II by the RAF and areas of the airfield have since developed as an industrial estate.

The Market Weighton to York railway line crosses this LCT between Pocklington and Stamford Bridge, but is now disused, after its closure in 1965. The A166 follows the route of a former Roman road across the Wolds and crosses this LCT from Stamford Bridge to Garrowby Hill. Minor roads criss cross the area linking villages.

Ecological Influences

The area is intensively farmed and there are few woodland blocks. Tree cover tends to be concentrated around settlement. As a result the influence of ecology on the character of the area is limited.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 2: OPEN FARMLAND
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Water courses coupled with hedgerows are an important ecological resource in the intensively farmed area. Ponds are scattered throughout the area and provide habitat for a variety of flora and fauna.

Woodland cover is limited in this LCT. Hedgerows and hedgerow trees provide corridors linking habitats. There is only one SSSI in this LCT west of Bishop Wilton.

Statutory Designations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Bishop Wilton Poorland</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LINKS TO ADJACENT CHARACTER AREAS

Adjacent ERYC LCTs
- 1: Flat Open Farmland
- 3: River/Canal Corridors
- 10: Complex, Sloping Farmland

Adjacent Regional Landscape Character Area
- North Yorkshire Landscape Character Assessment (2011) – LCA 28 Vale Farmland with Plantation Woodland and Heathland

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS

Three Landscape Character Areas (LCA’s) have been identified in this LCT. They are:
- 2A: High Catton Ridge Farmland
- 2B: Full Sutton and Fangfoss Farmland
- 2C: Bugthorpe/Bishop Wilton Wooded Rising Farmland
- 2D: South east Pocklington Rising Farmland

DETAILED CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTIONS

Character Area 2A: High Catton Ridge Farmland

This LCA is located on the Escrick Moraine east of the River Derwent. The area is elevated above the surrounding landscape reaching a height of 35m AOD. The village of High Catton is located on the lower slopes of the Escrick Moraine approximately a mile south of Stamford Bridge. It is a linear village that runs almost parallel to Low Catton approximately 1 mile to the west on the edge of the Derwent corridor. It is the landform of the ridge that
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 2: OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: VALE OF YORK

distinguishes this area from its surroundings. Fields are generally large to medium in size.

There is little woodland in this area. Hedgerows are well treed close to High Catton which, linked with the small scale of the fields there, results in a more enclosed character. Beyond the village edge, fields are larger and boundary hedges contain fewer trees and are less intact.

Small grass fields with intact hedgerow boundaries and hedgerow trees are associated with the village. There is evidence that the parish boundary in this LCA formed the boundary of a medieval deer park. The built edge of Stamford Bridge to the north influences character introducing urban influences to views in the landscape. The rural character of the area is important to the setting of the settlement.

Character Area 2B: Full Sutton and Fangfoss Farmland

This area is located around the villages of Fangfoss and Full Sutton, and is generally below 30m AOD. The area is generally flat with rising undulating ground to the north, east and west.

Full Sutton Airfield and Industrial Estate and Full Sutton Prison are prominent non agricultural land uses in this area. The dismantled railway line is also a prominent linear feature.

Medium sized rectilinear field pattern with hedgerow boundaries and hedgerow trees are present. Land use is mixed but there is more arable land than grassland. There is a scheduled medieval moated site at Bolton.
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This is a large scale LCA with open views occasionally enclosed by scattered woodland, clumps of trees and hedgerows. Pylons and small scale turbine developments can be seen in places and the industrial development brings an element of discord to the otherwise pleasant landscape. Overall there are no outstanding features and the landscape is quite bland.

Character Area 2C: Bugthorpe/Bishop Wilton Wooded Rising Farmland

This area is located immediately west of the edge of the Yorkshire Wolds, north of the town of Pocklington. The landform in this area is gently undulating and rising towards the foot of the Wolds scarp slope.

Landscape pattern is dominated by medium sized rectilinear fields with smaller fields associated with settlement as can be found at Bishop Wilton and Bugthorpe. The enclosures at Bishop Wilton date from the medieval period and are a scheduled monument. The fields around these settlements also show signs of medieval cultivation in the form of ridge and furrow earthworks. Bishop Wilton is a distinctive linear village and is known to be a planned medieval village on the edge of the Wolds. The Archbishop of York’s Manor House was located here.

Much of the land is dominated by farmland. Most of the existing grassland has been re-seeded, however some species/ rich hay meadows survive, for example at Bishop Wilton Poorland SSSI. This site consists of low-lying unimproved damp neutral grassland.

Bugthorpe is a linear estate village containing a variety of ‘old’ buildings including farmsteads, residential properties and barns. Woodland cover is intermittent. Hedgerows contain trees and many have fences for livestock. Low Hall, formerly the manor house, is surrounded by a moat.

This is a moderate scale semi enclosed to open landscape that is relatively simple and harmonious. Narrow roads away from the A166 give it a remote feel and the landscape is attractive.

Character Area 2D: South east Pocklington Rising Farmland.

This area is located on the west edge of the Yorkshire Wolds south east of Pocklington and encompasses the gradually rising farmland in the Vale of York between Market Weighton and Pocklington.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 2: OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: VALE OF YORK

The area is relatively well wooded in comparison to other parts of this LCT and it forms a transitional zone between the less well wooded Vale of York and the wooded western scarp slope of the Yorkshire Wolds.

The area includes the remnant of parkland between Pocklington and Kilnwick Percy which is now a golf course and part of the avenue of trees that leads to Londesborough. The main settlement in the area is Burnby through which Burnby Beck runs in a southwest direction. The south west boundary of the LCA approximately follows the line of the dismantled railway between Market Weighton and Pocklington.

This is an attractive transitional landscape at the bottom of the Yorkshire Wolds scarp slope. There are a number of woodlands in the area that link with the wooded slopes of the nearby dales at Londesborough and Warter.

EVALUATION

Quality

Landscape quality varies between the LCA’s across this LCT. In particular the landscape character of the area around Full Sutton is affected by development. However, the area is relatively low lying in comparison to its surroundings. There are views of the development from surrounding roads and nearby settlement in this open landscape. The quality of the landscape character around Full Sutton is assessed to be ordinary.

The quality of the LCA’s that border the Wolds are assessed to be good because of their relative intactness and the lack of detractors in the area.

Positive Landscape Features

- Water Courses provide habitat corridors and are often associated with trees and hedgerows.
- Rectilinear field pattern is broken occasionally by meandering watercourse.
- Villages and settlements scattered throughout with distinctive vernacular resulting designation of conservation areas.
- Undulating landform provides variation.
- Mixed land use adds to diversity.
- Earlier enclosure patterns in isolated places provide insight to historic character of the landscape.
- Well spaced woodland clumps.

Forces for Change

Changes in land management practices as a result of pressures on the farming industry may result in change to landscape character in the long term. Farmers are likely to be given incentives to allow hedgerows to grow taller and be trimmed less regularly and to allow wider field margins.

Pressure for industrial development at and around Full Sutton Airfield is likely to continue. The cumulative impact of continued development in this area will result in a change to the rural landscape character of the area as a whole.

Single small scale turbine developments are present within parts of the LCT. There will continue to be pressure for renewable energy developments in the East Riding. However this is currently not evident within the LCT. The location of potential wind turbines will largely be dependent upon wind speeds.

Growth in residential development particularly around Pocklington and Wilberforce will affect the landscape character of the rural setting of these settlements.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 2: OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: VALE OF YORK

An outline Planning Application for an extension/new prison at Full Sutton was approved in June 2017.

Condition and Strength of Character

Industrial development inconsistent with the rural character of the LCA at Full Sutton affects the landscape character of the immediate area. However, the majority of the landscape character type is not affected by that development and its transitional nature due to its location along the western edge of the Wolds, serves to strengthen its character.

Elements that contribute to landscape character across the LCT vary in their condition. Hedgerows are intact in some places and provide a strong outline to landscape pattern. In other places fields have been amalgamated and hedgerows are fragmented resulting in a weakened character.

The presence of historic features is an important characteristic of the LCT. However, as these features are generally not visible within the landscape, they do not contribute significantly to the character of the area.

Overall this LCT is assessed to be in a reasonable condition with detractors such as Full Sutton Industrial Estate, Airfield and Prison impacting on rural character.
Sensitivity and Capacity

The following table sets out the sensitivity of the LCT to different types of development. Refer to Appendix 4 for full details of the assessment criteria.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landscape quality (condition)</td>
<td>This landscape is low lying and gently undulating. There are numerous villages &amp; hamlets throughout the LCT. Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenic quality</td>
<td>The scenic quality is good overall but varies between each LCA. The landscape pattern is relatively intact and in good condition in proximity to the Wolds. The remaining areas are in reasonable condition with some notable detractors including Full Sutton Industrial Estate, Full Sutton Prison and views of Drax power station. Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarity (of elements, features or LCT's)</td>
<td>This landscape is common within the East Riding, although Stamford Bridge Registered Battlefield is a unique element. Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representativeness (in relation to prevailing landscape character)</td>
<td>The Vale of York is flat, low-lying land with arable cultivation predominating. Rivers drain surrounding higher land and run southwards through the Vale towards the Humber basin. These features make the area typical of the wider landscape. Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation interests (wildlife, earth science, archaeological, historic, cultural)</td>
<td>Conservation Interests include Stamford Bridge Registered Battlefield and Scheduled Monuments at Derventio and a moated site at Boldon Old Hall &amp; Manor House. Local Wildlife Sites include High Catton Brick Ponds, High Catton Railway Cutting, Kilnwick Percy Lake and Nunburnholme Meadow. Ancient woodlands include Pocklington Wood and Kilnwick Percy Wood. Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational value</td>
<td>The LCT contains recreational routes but limited forms of other recreational value. National trail/long distance routes include the Chalkland Way, Minster Way and Yorkshire Wolds Way. Battle of Stamford Bridge (East Riding Registered Battlefield). NCR - 66 Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perceptual aspects (openness, wildness, tranquillity)</td>
<td>The landscape varies throughout the LCT from open to enclosed. The dispersed nature</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 2: OPEN FARMLAND
### NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: VALE OF YORK

<p>| Remoteness | of small settlements results in large areas of tranquillity. | Medium |
| Associations (with people or events) | Significant events include the Battle of Stamford Bridge and a Roman settlement (Derventio) occupies land to the south. Earthworks of the Archbishop of York’s Manor House at the north end of Bishop Wilton. Full Sutton airfield was used during the World War II by the RAF. | High |
| Value attached to LCT | Low lying flat to gently undulating landscape close to the Wolds. Small section of LCA 2D falls within the Wolds Important Landscape Area and is considered to have a higher value. Good landscape condition with limited detractors, namely industrial and built elements including views of Drax Power Station. A number of elements of historic importance namely Stamford Bridge Registered Battlefield, a number of moated sites and manor houses. A number of ancient woodland sites dispersed throughout LCT. | Medium |
| Susceptibility to Development | Level |
| Residential | A number of scattered nucleated settlements throughout this LCT, most notably Stamford Bridge and Pocklington. Some recent residential development is evident surrounding settlements. Additional small scale development of this nature would have limited effect on the integrity of the landscape. | Medium |
| Commercial | Commercial development within this LCT is limited to settlement edge locations and is often of smaller scale. Large scale development of this nature would have an effect on the landscape character of the LCT, limited potential to accommodate small scale development adjacent to existing commercial areas. | High |
| Industrial | Some evidence of industrial development in relation to settlements, most notably Full Sutton Industrial Estate. LCT may have some capacity to accommodate development of this nature adjacent to existing industrial areas. | High |
| Agricultural | LCT is predominantly agricultural land. There are a number of scattered farmsteads with associated agricultural development. Additional development of this nature would potentially affect the integrity of the landscape. | Medium |
| Recreational | A number of PRoW's within the LCT including Yorkshire Wolds Way, Chalk Land Way and Minster Way. Large scale agricultural landscape which may have some capacity for development of this nature. | Medium |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<td>High-Medium</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 2: OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: VALE OF YORK

There are extensive views over this area from the edge of the Yorkshire Wolds particularly above Bishop Wilton and Garrowby. Currently there are few detractors at the forefront of those views although on a clear day the power stations of Drax, Eggborough and Ferrybridge can be clearly seen. The addition of structures close to the edge of the Wolds in the Vale of York would result in a noticeable change to landscape character. The sensitivity of LCA 2D is greater as a result of its designation within the Wolds Important Landscape Area.

This LCT has a number of scattered settlements, most notably Stamford Bridge and Pocklington. There is evidence of recent residential development within the area, along settlement edges. The LCT has some capacity to accommodate small scale residential development within urban areas without affecting the overall integrity of the landscape.

There is limited commercial development within this LCT and is exclusively located on the edge of settlements. There is limited capacity for additional commercial development, adjacent to existing.

There is evidence of industrial development in relation to settlements, most notably Full Sutton. At Full Sutton Industrial Estate there may be capacity for development of a similar character and nature to existing within the existing development limits providing that appropriate landscape mitigation measures are implemented i.e. tree and woodland planting, layout and design to integrate with existing. Development that would extend beyond the existing development limits would extend the influence of the industrial area into the open countryside. Therefore the landscape has medium-high sensitivity to development outside the development limits. In addition there is the risk of cumulative impact and each development proposal would need to be assessed individually.

This LCT is predominantly agricultural land. There are some scattered farmsteads with associated small scale agricultural development. The LCT is assessed as having low-medium sensitivity to additional agricultural development, in association with existing.

Limited recreational development is present within this LCT. The Yorkshire Wolds Way, Chalk Land Way, Minster Way and a number of PRoW cross the landscape and offer popular routes for ramblers. There may be some capacity to accommodate sensitive recreational development in this area despite the lack of existing.

Strategy

The overall strategy is to conserve and enhance the landscape of the LCT.

Where the condition of landscape is good the key characteristics of the landscape should be protected from development. Hedgerows and trees are particularly important as is the undulating landform that rises gradually to meet the Wolds western scarp slope.

Encourage new woodland planting and woodland management to increase diversity in structure, habitat and help integrate new development within the existing landscape.

Promote the planting of hedgerows on field boundaries where they have been lost to reinforce local landscape pattern and historic alignments.

New development should respect local vernacular, landscape pattern and landform. The use of traditional materials, the colour of new structures and the incorporation of natural screening will help reduce their prominence in the landscape.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 2: OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: VALE OF YORK

Development that adds vertical structures would be visible in this area and would detract from the landscape character. However, the topography is slightly undulating and small scale structures could be naturally screened by landform, particularly to the west.

Ensure that any facilities installed for tourism and recreation purposes are appropriate to the character and scenic quality of the landscape.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 3: RIVER/CANAL CORRIDORS
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: VALE OF YORK

DESCRIPTION OF LOCATION

The River Derwent forms the western boundary of the East Riding in the Vale of York National Character Area and the Pocklington canal extends eastwards from the River Derwent towards Pocklington. The Landscape Character Type (LCT) extends beyond the District boundary to the west to incorporate both banks of the Derwent and the adjacent meadows and farmland. The River extends south into the Humberhead Levels National Character Area and north into the Howardian Hills and the Vale of Pickering National Character Areas which are outside the East Riding.

Relevant National Character Areas

- 28: Vale Of York
- 39: Humberhead Levels

SUMMARY OF KEY CHARACTERISTICS, FEATURES AND LAND USE

Key characteristics of the River Corridors in the Vale of York:

- Low lying flat floodplain of the Lower Derwent River valley and Pocklington Beck and canal corridor
- Combination of grassland pasture and meadow subject to seasonal flooding
- Man-made embankments formed as a result of dredging in the 20th century
- Riparian woodland and trees in the corridor
- Areas of species rich alluvial flood meadow habitat designated
- Organic arrangement of medium sized fields combined with more regular boundaries of enclosed fields
- Edges of the floodplain defined by lanes and linear settlements
- Cultural and historic associations include churches and crossing points. There are some moated sites in the corridor and a Roman settlement (Scheduled Monument) to the south of Stamford Bridge.
- Intimate isolated corridor landscape that is a marked contrast from surrounding intensively farmed land
- Villages, hamlets and farmsteads line the corridor just above the floodplain
- Part of the Lower Derwent Valley and Pocklington Canal Important Landscape Area
- Part of the River Derwent Important Landscape Area

STATEMENT OF OPPORTUNITIES

- Restoring former field ponds and other features such as ditches, dykes, small woodlands and shelterbelts, to ensure that they are being adequately managed for their contribution to the landscape and biodiversity
- Restoring, extending and re-linking the floodplain landscapes of the River Derwent
- Encouraging new riparian and floodplain woodland
- Encouraging development that reduces the risk of flooding
- Opportunities to revert arable farmland to permanent pasture in flood plains to reduce soil erosion and diffuse water pollution
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 3: RIVER/CANAL CORRIDORS
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: VALE OF YORK

View of Derwent corridor (2005)

LANDSCAPE INFLUENCES

Physical Influences

The underlying geology of the river and canal corridor is Sherwood Sandstone from the Triassic period which has been overlain by lacustrine deposits of the last ice age and more recently alluvium. The soils are neutral and tend to be groundwater gleys. Their Agricultural Land Classification is generally Grade 3.

The River Derwent, from the celtic dwr gwin, the bright clear water (source: Bulmers Gazetteer 1892), rises in the North York Moors about twelve miles northwest of Scarborough and three miles southwest of Robin Hood’s Bay. The river heads south to the Vale of Pickering before turning west near to Ganton and pursuing a westerly course along the Vale of Pickering then turning southwest passing through Norton and Malton on the edge of the Howardian Hills and continuing in a southerly direction to the Vale of York where it enters the East Riding just south of Buttercrambe, a village just outside the District on the west bank of the Derwent. Along the way it is fed by a number of tributaries that have their origins in the North York Moors. Hence, during times of heavy rainfall and in winter the Derwent Valley is prone to flooding. The flooded meadows of the lower Derwent Valley are one of the key characteristics of the area. The man made drainage of the surrounding agricultural land also contributes to the character of the river corridors in the Vale of York.

The topography of the area is flat generally between 15m and 30m AOD falling gradually to the south as the river follows its course. Man-made river banks are present intermittently south of Stamford Bridge.

Human Influences

There is limited physical evidence of human activity in the Derwent corridor from Mesolithic and early Neolithic times. There is evidence of human presence and activity from the late Neolithic and Bronze Age but this is not generally visible in the landscape today.

Evidence of Roman settlement has been found at Sutton upon Derwent and Roman roads are known to have crossed the River Derwent in this character area. Place names indicate that many of the settlements in the area have Saxon origins. A Roman settlement south of Stamford Bridge lies partly within this LCT.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 3: RIVER/CANAL CORRIDORS
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: VALE OF YORK

Medieval moated sites are present along the Derwent Valley which presumably chosen for their strategic location close to the river. Several of these sites are designated scheduled monuments.

Land use in the area is largely agricultural. Grassland dominates the fields immediately adjacent to the River but drained arable farmland soon becomes the predominant land use beyond the river corridor.

The Derwent was made navigable from Barmby on the Marsh as far as Malton in the mid 18th century. Pocklington Canal was opened in 1815. These two navigable waterways contributed to the trade of agricultural and other products. The Pocklington Canal is no longer navigable and the Derwent is navigable only as far as Sutton upon Derwent and is of recreational use rather than commercial.

Angling is a popular past time on both watercourses and fishing platforms or shelves can be seen along the river banks.

Villages tend to be linear located on the higher ground adjacent to the immediate floodplain. Roads and lanes run generally parallel to the water courses on the edge of the floodplain. There are large areas that do not contain settlement or roads within the narrow corridor giving rise to the remote character.

Stamford Bridge is the largest settlement in this corridor landscape and impacts on the character of the River Derwent Corridor. The village is the site of an historic battlefield (Battle of Stamford Bridge, 1066) and a Roman Settlement lies to the south. Unfortunately evidence of the battlefield, which is on the boundary of this LCT within the Open Farmland LCT, has been lost and much of the area is developed.

The A1079 and A166 form the primary transport corridors in this LCT with the B1228 forming secondary routes. Other roads are limited to smaller country lanes and private access tracks.

There are several bridges crossing the River in this area. Some are listed structures usually built of stone. At Kexby the old bridge has been replaced by a modern structure carrying the A1079 York to Hull road over the River. The stone bridge remains in situ to the south. The bridges that cross Pocklington Canal are original structures linked to the construction of the canal. Three are scheduled monuments in recognition of their historic significance. Church Bridge and Swing Bridge No. 7 have been restored recently.

Restoration of the Pocklington Canal has re-introduced the watercourse as a navigable resource. The Derwent is also navigable, mainly for recreational use rather than commercial.

Flood defences constructed to protect Stamford Bridge impact on the character of the river corridor. Further downstream embankments on the River Derwent and on Pocklington Canal protect neighbouring farmland and villages from flooding.

Ecological Influences

This stretch of the River Derwent forms the boundary between the East Riding of Yorkshire and North Yorkshire. It has been designated a SSSI, SPA and SAC, as it is one of the best examples in Britain of a river of this type. The river supports a diverse range of fauna and flora, many of which are nationally significant species. There is also a number of aquatic plant species not usually found in the rivers of northern Britain.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 3: RIVER/CANAL CORRIDORS
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: VALE OF YORK

Newton Mask, Derwent Ings, Melbourne and Thornton Ings and Pocklington Canal make up the other ecological interests within the area and are designated as SSSI.

There are few woodland areas but generally the banks of the water courses and the boundaries of the fields adjacent to them are well vegetated.

Statutory Designations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Site of Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>River Derwent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Area of Conservation (SAC)</td>
<td>River Derwent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Protection Area (SPA)</td>
<td>Lower Derwent Valley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Newton Mask</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Melbourne and Thornton Ings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Derwent Ings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Pocklington Canal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAMSAR</td>
<td>Lower Derwent Valley</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LINKS TO ADJACENT CHARACTER AREAS

Adjacent ERYC LCTs
• 1: Flat Open Farmland
• 2: Open Farmland
• 4: River/Canal Corridors

• 6: Wooded, Open Farmland

Adjacent Regional Landscape Character Area
North Yorkshire Landscape Character Assessment (2011) – LCA 24 River Floodplain and LCA 28 Vale Farmland with Plantation Woodland and Heathland

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS

Three Landscape Character Areas (LCA's) have been identified in this LCT. They are:
• 3A: River Derwent Corridor, Buttercrambe to Stamford Bridge Reach
• 3B: River Derwent Corridor, Stamford Bridge to Pocklington Canal Reach
• 3C: Pocklington Canal and Beck Corridor

DETAILED CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTIONS

Character Area 3A: River Derwent, Buttercrambe to Stamford Bridge Reach

This LCA is located on the north western edge of the County. The River Derwent and Lower Derwent Valley and Pocklington Canal are recognised as Important Landscape Areas. The influence of the River Derwent on landscape character in this LCA does not extend much beyond the immediate river corridor as the river meanders through the intensively farmed landscape. Fields immediately adjacent to the river are grass and are prone to flooding. Opposite Buttercrambe, on the meander of the River, the outer east bank cuts into the drift geology that is approximately 30m A.O.D. at this point and forms a low steep ‘cliff’ that is well wooded down to the riverside.

This narrow corridor LCA is an important feature amongst the arable landscape of the surrounding area. The banks of the River and the Beck are...
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 3: RIVER/CANAL CORRIDORS
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: VALE OF YORK

well treed along this reach. Away from the River there are fewer trees, mainly
associated with field boundaries that tend to be clipped hedgerows, of which
many are fragmented.

Barlam Beck east of the River Derwent drains into the river south of
Buttercrambe and its corridor shares characteristics with the River Derwent
corridor and is included in the LCA.

At its southern extent, development on the edge of Stamford Bridge is
encroaching, reducing the amount of agricultural land adjacent to Stamford
Bridge and affecting the rural setting of the village. Buttercrambe is a small
village outside the East Riding located in the meander of the Derwent on its
west bank. The village is located on the edge of this LCA as is Aldby Park,
which extends from Buttercrambe north on the west bank of the River.

The River Derwent is no longer navigable on this stretch but until the 1935
there were statutory rights of navigation up the Derwent as far as Malton
approximately 12 miles upstream of Buttercrambe.

A medieval motte is sited on the cliff reflecting its important strategic
location for defence and indicating that the river landscape has been
influenced by man for many centuries.

Character Area 3B: River Derwent Corridor, Stamford Bridge to
Pocklington Canal Reach

This narrow river corridor is located on the western border of the County.
South of Stamford Bridge the influence of the River is marginally more
apparent and the adjacent landscape more varied. The River meanders
through the arable landscape on its course southwards with Stamford
forming the northern boundary of the LCA. The River Derwent, and the
Lower Derwent Valley and Pocklington Canal are recognised as Important
Landscape Areas.

There is a water extraction plant on west bank north of Elvington, outside the
District, which is a detractor in this tranquil and attractive river corridor
landscape abutted by arable landscape. Intermittent banking begins to
appear just north of Kexby Bridge.

Low Catton and Sutton upon Derwent are linear villages within the LCA.
Sutton upon Derwent is located on the slopes of the Moraine above the
flood plain where the River cuts through the Escrick Moraine, on the edge of
the LCA.

The old stone bridge has been replaced by a modern road bridge but
remains in situ.

Where the River meets the old course of the River Derwent that meanders
east to meet the Pocklington Canal, the National Character Area changes
from The Vale of York to the Humberhead Levels although the change
should be considered a transition as the Derwent Corridor to the south in
the Humberhead Levels will share many characteristics with the corridor in
the Vale of York.

Historic features in the LCA are a Roman minor town identified as Derventio,
a moated site at St Lois Farm and Giant's Hill motte.

Character Area 3C: Pocklington Canal and Beck Corridor.

Pocklington Canal and Beck Corridor shares many characteristics with the
two other LCAs in this LCT, but the man-made nature of the Canal and the
meandering beck that runs alongside it to the north distinguishes this LCA.
The River Derwent, and the Lower Derwent Valley and Pocklington Canal are
recognised as Important Landscape Areas.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 3: RIVER/CANAL CORRIDORS
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: VALE OF YORK

Pocklington Canal cuts through fields indicating that the field pattern developed prior to the construction of the canal. Fields tend to be medium in size and linear in nature bounded by fragmented hedgerows and occasional individual trees. Tree cover is very sporadic along the length of the canal and in adjacent fields and the corridor narrows as it extends eastwards.

Predominantly agricultural, Banking is present at the junction of the Canal with the River Derwent.

Melbourne village is located on the southern boundary of this LCA and is a linear settlement that runs parallel to the canal. Vernacular style includes brick two storey houses with tiled roofs and some slate roofs. To the north of Melbourne a distinctive linear field pattern has developed between the residential properties and the Canal. Development to the west of Melbourne has a local influence on landscape character.

The canal was opened in 1815 but is no longer navigable. Several of the locks remain. The canal is also recognised as an area of nature conservation interest. Alongside the canal there is neutral grassland, which contains a complex mix of ditches, hedgerows, streams and areas of scrub. The meadows between the canal and Pocklington Beck are species rich due to flooding and traditional hay cropping management. At Melbourne and Thornton Ings the nationally scarce marsh pea is present. The Canal itself is disused and supports a diverse range of aquatic plants.
EVALUATION

Quality

Landscape quality of this corridor is assessed to be high due to the distinctiveness of the water course and its intactness in addition to the tranquillity of sections that are away from built development. The ecological diversity and value of this area also contributes to quality. The influence of the River on character is restricted to a very narrow corridor in the flat arable landscape of the Vale of York.

Positive Landscape Features

- River and canal are distinctive corridors surrounding arable landscape.
- Trees along river banks and field boundaries.
- Grass fields.
- Traditionally managed flood meadow.
- Ecological value and biodiversity among intensive arable land use.
- Historic river crossings and settlement.
- Lanes and public rights of way running parallel to the water courses.

Forces for Change

Change in this character area is likely to be the result of changing land management practices rather than built development. However, development pressure does exist at Stamford Bridge which has influenced the character of the river corridor. Road and bridge improvements would also potentially impact on character if not sympathetic to the tranquil distinctive narrow corridor. Small scale development pressure also exists at Sutton upon Derwent and Melbourne.

Recreation and leisure uses also impact on the character of the area. Angling is a popular past time and there are public footpaths in places along the banks. Demand for facilities linked to recreation is a potential force for change.

Currently there are no statutory rights of navigation on this section of the Derwent and the Pocklington Canal is not navigable. If navigation were to be reintroduced the changes would potentially affect the ecology of the corridors. The statutory ecological designations attached to Melbourne and Thorne Ings and the Lower Derwent Valley are vital in retaining the site as a rare haven of flora and fauna.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 3: RIVER/CANAL CORRIDORS
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: VALE OF YORK

Condition and Strength of Character

The watercourses unify and strengthen the character of the narrow corridor landscape. Intact characteristics such as the meanders, bank side trees and flood meadow and grass land contribute to strengthening the character of this narrow corridor. The small to medium scale landscape of the corridor contrasts with the large scale open arable landscape giving it a unique sense of place.
### LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 3: RIVER/CANAL CORRIDORS
### NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: VALE OF YORK

#### Sensitivity and Capacity

The following table sets out the sensitivity of the LCT to different types of development. Refer to Appendix 4 for full details of the assessment criteria.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landscape quality (condition)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT is an important landscape area and includes the River Derwent and Pocklington Canal. The area contains a low lying flat floodplain and a canal corridor lined with villages, hamlets and farmsteads.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenic quality</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The landscape pattern remains relatively intact and is of reasonable condition. Water courses are a distinct and attractive feature and the area is relatively free from development.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarity (of elements, features or LCT's)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canals and rivers in this LCT are less common and consequently these elements are a valuable landscape asset. High number of conservation interests including moated sites and roman minor town.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representativeness (in relation to prevailing landscape character)</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Vale of York is flat, low-lying land with arable cultivation the predominant land use. The rivers that drain surrounding higher land and run southwards through the Vale on towards the Humber basin. The LCT is representative of this landscape.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation interests (wildlife, earth science, archaeological, historic, cultural)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT contains a high number of conservation interests. Scheduled Monuments include a moated site at St Lois Farm, Giant's Hill Motte, a roman minor town identified as Derventio. Local Wildlife Sites include High Catton and Grange Meadow. SSSIs include Newton Mask, Derwent Ings, Melbourne and Thornton Ings, and the Pocklington Canal. The River Derwent is a SAC and SSSI. The Lower Derwent Valley is a SPA and RAMSAR site.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational value</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT contains recreational routes but limited forms of other recreational value. National trail and long distance routes include Pocklington Canal and Wilberforce Way. There are Public Rights of Way along the River Derwent and throughout the LCT. Angling is available along the River Derwent and a section is navigable.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Perceptual aspects (openness, wildness, tranquillity, remoteness)

There is a strong, unspoilt rural character which is generally remote and tranquil.

### Associations (with people or events)

The area includes Saxon, Roman and Medieval sites, Moated sites and the designated battlefield of Stamford Bridge.

### Value attached to LCT

A distinctive landscape with intact water courses, most notably the River Derwent and Pocklington Canal which make up an Important Landscape Area. Some historic features including moated site at St Lois Farm, Giant's Hill Motte and a Roman minor town identified as Derventio. Very limited development within LCT.

### Susceptibility to Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residential</td>
<td>Settlements within this LCT follow watercourses, most notably Pocklington Canal. Some recent development noticeable but settlements are generally clustered and not overly large. Any large scale development of this nature would risk altering the landscape character of the LCT. Small scale in-fill development could be accommodated.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>Distinct lack of commercial development within this landscape. Any development of this nature would affect the integrity of the landscape.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>Distinct lack of industrial development within this landscape. Any development of this nature would affect the integrity of the landscape.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural</td>
<td>Some agricultural development associated with farmsteads. The LCT may have limited capacity to accommodate small scale development of this type, in keeping with existing.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational</td>
<td>Pocklington Canal is a main feature for recreation within the area. The LCT may have limited capacity to accommodate small scale development of this type.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Sensitivity to Development at LCA level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Residential</th>
<th>Commercial</th>
<th>Industrial</th>
<th>Agricultural</th>
<th>Recreational</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 A</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 B</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 C</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 3: RIVER/CANAL CORRIDORS
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: VALE OF YORK

The corridor landscape is narrow and could easily be severed as a result of inappropriate development. The sense of remoteness and tranquillity and the organic influence of the river on landscape pattern within the corridor break up the more regular pattern of the fields in the neighbouring arable landscapes. The introduction of a more regimented pattern and severance of the corridor as a result of built development would adversely impact on character. Therefore landscape sensitivity to development is assessed to be high.

Settlements within this landscape often follow water courses, most notably Pocklington Canal. Some recent development is noticeable but settlements are generally clustered and not overly large. This LCT is assessed as medium-high sensitivity to residential development as large scale development would risk altering the landscape character.

There is a distinct lack of commercial development within this intimate corridor landscape, therefore there is no capacity to accommodate development of this nature. Similarly this LCT is devoid of industrial development. Any proposed development of this nature would affect the integrity of the landscape. The landscape does contain some agricultural development in association with local farmsteads. It is assessed that there is limited capacity for agricultural development, in keeping with existing characteristics.

Pocklington Canal is an important ecological feature within the area and is also noted as being of recreational importance. There is some capacity to accommodate additional small scale recreational development within this landscape.

Changes in land use from grassland to arable would also impact on character. This ecologically important narrow corridor has low capacity for change without detriment to character as a result of most types of development.

Strategy

The landscape strategy for this corridor landscape is to conserve and where appropriate, enhance ecological importance which contributes to the distinctive character of the area.

In places the intensive arable landscape encroaches into the character and ecology of the river corridor. Consider opportunities to convert adjacent drained arable and improved grass fields back to traditional wetland meadow.

Tree and hedgerow planting should be encouraged around settlements and river corridors. New woodland planting and woodland management should be encouraged to increase diversity in structure, habitat and help integrate any new developments within the existing landscape.

The character of linear villages and connecting lanes should be protected. New development should respect the scale, setting and local vernacular of neighbouring villages.

Large scale built development within or immediately adjacent to this LCT would impact on its intimate and isolated character.

Recreation facilities should be associated with existing settlements and designed to fit with local vernacular. Where required in rural locations they should be located out of sight from the river and canal to help maintain the remote and tranquil character of this LCT.

Renewable energy development in this area is likely to be linked to the water courses. Small scale hydro-electric schemes may be appropriate. Proposals
should consider the impact of structures and locate and design them to minimise detrimental effects.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 4: RIVER CORRIDORS
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

DESCRIPTION OF LOCATION
The River Corridor Landscape Character Type (LCT) in the Humberhead Levels covers three rivers; the River Derwent, the River Ouse and the River Aire. These rivers contribute to the western boundary of the East Riding and it should be noted that the LCT extends outside the District into the neighbouring District of Selby.

Relevant National Character Area
• 39: Humberhead Levels

SUMMARY OF KEY CHARACTERISTICS, FEATURES AND LAND USE

Key characteristics of River Corridors in the Humberhead Levels
• Low lying flat floodplain of the river valleys on the western edge of the East Riding.
• Combination of grassland pasture and meadow that are subject to seasonal flooding.
• Man-made embankments formed as a result of dredging in the 20th century.
• Riparian woodland and trees in the corridor.
• Areas of species rich alluvial flood meadow habitat.
• Organic arrangement of medium and large sized fields combined with more regular boundaries of enclosed fields.
• Cultural and historic associations include churches and river crossing points.
• Several moated sites within the corridor.
• Wind farms are a particular feature on the Ouse south and east of Goole, north-west of little Airmyn and some examples of single turbine development scattered across the LCT.
• Intimate isolated corridor landscape that is a marked contrast from surrounding intensively farmed land.
• Villages, hamlets and farmsteads line the river corridor just above the floodplain.

STATEMENT OF OPPORTUNITIES
• Protecting and enhancing the network of watercourses so that they continue to function whilst also retaining and enhancing associated vegetation.
• Opportunities to create species rich grassland along the long stretches of floodplain landscape.
• Conserving the medieval pattern of fields, meadows and pastures of the Lower Derwent Valley for their historic importance as well as their contribution to landscape character and biodiversity.
• Proposing that new development is sensitively located to protect the long distance, open views.
• Avoiding development that will impact upon the remote and tranquil character of the area along with the integrity of the river corridor’s and floodplain landscapes.

LANDSCAPE INFLUENCES

Physical Influences
The under lying solid geology was formed during the Triassic period and is comprised of Sherwood Sandstone to the west of Goole and Mercia Mudstone to the east. This has been overlain by glacial deposits of the Devensian period, when the area was largely covered by Lake Humber, and more recent alluvial deposits.

Soils are a combination of ground water gleys and brown earths. They are derived from alluvium and are generally fertile with a Grade 1 and Grade 2
**LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 4: RIVER CORRIDORS**  
**NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS**

ALC. In the areas where the land has not been drained ALC is Grade 3 and Grade 4. Ground level varies little between 0 and 10m AOD.

The natural landform of the river corridors is flat extending across the floodplain of neighbouring LCT’s. Man-made river banks have been introduced along much of the corridor to prevent flooding of neighbouring farmland and villages.

The rivers of the Humberhead Levels were created in the early post glacial (Holocene) period. Their catchments extend from the North York Moors in the north (River Derwent), to the Yorkshire Dales in the North West and west (River Ouse and River Aire).

**Human Influences**

River corridors have been a focus for human activity over the centuries. However, there is little physical evidence left of historic activity prior to the medieval period.

The course of the River Derwent south of Loftsome Bridge has been diverted to the south west to follow a canalised route, entering the River Ouse at Barmby on the Marsh. Originally the River Derwent followed a route south east from Loftsome Bridge to the north of Asselby and Knedlington and south of Howden to enter the River Ouse at Kilpin Pike.

Each of the three Rivers is navigable and would have been used for transport until the 19th century. Many of the villages and towns on the river would have had wharfs. The Derwent is well used by recreation craft. The Ouse which leads into the Humber and the North Sea still takes commercial traffic, however little traffic now goes beyond Goole.

In the mid-1970’s a tidal barrage was built at Barmby and has influenced the River and its corridor as a result of its role in maintaining depth in the River for extraction and navigation, excluding water from the Ouse, and maintaining river levels low enough to allow for drainage of the surrounding land. The Rivers have been used to drain the surrounding agricultural land much of which is below sea level. Hence river banks protect the surrounding agricultural land and there are a number of pumping stations in the river corridor that pump water from the field drainage system into the rivers which often have a higher water level. Pump houses are a characteristic of the river corridor landscape in this area.

Settlement within this LCT is limited to small nucleated villages and scattered farmsteads.
Land use along the Rivers is dominated by grassland of varying habitat, diversity, value and irregular field patterns. The majority of the grassland is grazed seasonally and management follows a traditional system that includes hay making and limited chemical inputs. This is in part due to the management agreements that have been reached with landowners as a result of various statutory ecological designations along the Rivers for their wildlife value, particularly along the River Derwent. Tree cover within this LCT mainly comprises clusters of riparian woodland along watercourses, scattered woodland blocks and hedgerow trees.

River crossings have an impact on character. The A63 crosses the Derwent at Loftsome Bridge and is a relatively modern structure. At Bubwith a stone bridge dating to 1793 is in place and can only take single file traffic. A railway bridge also crosses the River Derwent at Wressle. On the River Ouse there is the M62 motorway bridge that towers above the surrounding low lying flat landscape. The structures crossing the Rivers vary in construction date and tell us something about human activity along the river corridor. Road bridges replaced ferries in the 18th and 19th centuries and several have since been improved with 20th century structures. Railway bridges also cross the rivers and impact on character.

Ecological Influences

Rivers are valuable ecological resources. The River Derwent, the Humber Estuary and the River Ouse up to Boothferry Bridge are designated SSSIs. On the River Derwent the designation extends to include meadows from Brighton to Wheldrake Ings and beyond into the Derwent Corridor in the Vale of York. International designations are also in place on the River Derwent which has Ramsar, Special Area of Conservation and Special Protection Area designations.

Bank side and marginal vegetation along the river banks makes an important contribution to landscape character particularly in this area where there are few trees and limited woodland in the surrounding landscape. Management for flood defence has resulted in few trees being present in the lower reaches of the river corridors.

The Rivers are also important wildlife corridors linking habitats as well as providing a visual link through the landscape.

Other areas follow a management pattern of river inundation, hay cropping and aftermath grazing.
**Statutory Designations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RAMSAR</td>
<td>River Derwent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAMSAR</td>
<td>Lower Derwent Valley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Area of Conservation (SAC)</td>
<td>River Derwent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Area of Conservation (SAC)</td>
<td>Humber Estuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Protection Area (SPA)</td>
<td>Humber Estuary</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Special Protection Area (SPA)</td>
<td>Lower Derwent Valley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Protection Area (SPA)</td>
<td>Derwent Ings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Derwent Ings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>River Derwent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Humber Estuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Breighton Meadows</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LINKS TO ADJACENT CHARACTER AREAS**

**Adjacent ERYC LCTs**

- 3: River/ Canal Corridors
- 5: Open Farmland
- 6: Wooded, Open Farmland
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 4: RIVER CORRIDORS
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

- 8: M62 Corridor Farmland

Adjacent Regional Landscape Character Area

- North Yorkshire Landscape Character Assessment (2011) – LCA 23 Levels Farmland, LCA 24 River Floodplain and LCA 28 Vale Farmland with Plantation Woodland and Heathland

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS

Four Landscape Character Areas (LCA) have been identified in this LCT. They are:

- 4A: Derwent Valley, Barmby on the Marsh to Pocklington Canal Reach
- 4B: River Ouse Corridor, Barmby on the Marsh to M62 Bridge
- 4C: River Ouse Corridor Howden Dyke to Trent Reach
- 4D: River Aire Corridor, Gowdall and Snaith to the Ouse Reach

DETAILED CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTIONS

Character Area 4A: Derwent Valley, Barmby on the Marsh to Pocklington Canal Reach

This narrow corridor LCA, located on the western edge of East Riding, is distinctive from the surrounding arable farmland and provides a diverse haven amongst the intensively farmed land through which it flows. The LCA includes grass fields and meadows either side of the River Derwent until it reaches south of Breighton where the corridor narrows as the arable fields extend up to the river bank in most places.

There are several medieval moated sites on the edge of this corridor. A late 14th century castle ruin at Wressle is located on the boundary of this LCA and indicates the historic importance of the river corridor. Three important historic sites in the LCA are Wressle Castle, Ellerton Priory, and a motte and bailey castle near Aughton Church, all of which are designated scheduled monuments. Other important historic sites include Gilbertine Priory, founded in c.1203, where Ellerton Church stands.

The Derwent Valley lies several feet below the general level of the land and therefore is prone to regular flooding from the large volume of water carried by the River Derwent. The Lower Derwent Valley SPA including the Derwent Ings SPA contains a network of important alluvial flood meadows and mires. The water meadows owe their fertility to the regular winter flooding, which carries and deposits silt over the land. This area has been traditionally cut for hay.

At Breighton Meadows SSSI, River Derwent SSSI and around Derwent Ings SPA, the floodplain grassland is managed for hay and then grazed by livestock. These meadows and the dykes are very important for breeding and over wintering waders. The corncrake breeds at Derwent Ings, the only site in England where this occurs.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 4: RIVER CORRIDORS
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

This is a relatively small scale intimate LCA surrounded by a larger scale arable landscape. The corridor is semi enclosed with views channelled along the river corridor. The grassland associated with the riverbanks is grazed. Hedges have not been managed in places giving a neglected appearance to the landscape. Overall this is a remote pleasant and attractive LCA.

Character Area 4B: River Ouse Corridor, Barmby on the Marsh to M62 Bridge

The narrow corridor is located on the south western edge of East Riding. The corridor extends past Boothferry Bridge, a swing bridge built in 1929 to the M62 bridge. The area also includes the island formed in the river at this point which is similar in character to Asselby Island.

Barmby on the Marsh, at the confluence of the River Derwent with the River Ouse, is a classic medieval planned settlement with two back lanes running parallel to the main street.

The River Ouse between Barmby on the Marsh and Howdendyke is a broadening river that passes through intensively farmed low lying land, much of which is drained by pumps. River banks are present on both sides of the river. Arable production extends up to these banks and the river itself cannot be seen from the surrounding landscape as the river banks that are characteristic of the landscape screen its course. Bank side vegetation is sporadic. The largest area of vegetation is at Asselby Island close to the confluence of the River Ouse with the River Aire.

Villages on the eastern edge of this corridor include; Sutton upon Derwent, Bubwith, Breighton, Wressle and Barmby on the Marsh. Settlement in these locations has been established for many centuries and their development has been influenced by the river and the drainage of surrounding land. Vernacular residential properties are two storey red brick with pantile or grey slate roofs dating from the Georgian and Victorian period. 20th century development has resulted in the growth of the villages and impacted upon their traditional character. They are generally linear having developed on higher ground adjacent to the floodplain of the river corridor.

Fleet Dyke between Wressle and Breighton (2005)
Boothferry Bridge (2005)

The River Derwent joins the Ouse at Barmby Barrage. As with many other parts of the Humberhead Levels, there are numerous drainage ditches with a number of ecological benefits.

The combination of the broad river, the intermittent vegetation, extensive river banks and medium scale structures such as Boothferry swing bridge and large scale structures such as the M62 Bridge results in a medium to large scale river corridor landscape. Views in the river corridor landscape are semi-enclosed as a result of the river banks and intermittent vegetation. Structures are visible in open views from the river bank tops. Views from the river bank are extensive over the river and adjacent farmland. Views of Drax Power Station (in Selby District), a number of wind developments and pylons across the adjacent arable fields are detractors in this generally horizontal and tranquil landscape.

Character Area 4C: River Ouse Corridor Howden Dyke to Trent Reach.

The LCA between Howden Dyke just north of Hook and the confluence with the River Trent excludes the west bank of the river as it passes by Hook and Goole. The LCA broadens to include the arable areas located in the broad meanders of the river on its journey east.

The LCA also includes several linear villages that have developed along the banks of the river, particularly Skelton, Saltmarsh and Blacktoft on the north bank and Swinefleet, Reedness and Ousefleet on the south bank. These villages have developed in a linear pattern and are protected from flooding by the river banks.

Wind turbines are a dominant feature on the skyline within this LCA.

As with other areas of the Humberhead Levels, there are numerous drainage ditches and ponds with a number of ecological benefits, including the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust Reserve at Saltmarshe Delph.
In the meander of the River Ouse, south of Goole on the west and north banks of the river are two areas of parkland; Sandhall and Saltmarsh Hall and Park. These areas are particularly distinctive being well treed overall, including parkland trees scattered in fields. Further remnant parkland can be seen at Yokefleet. Yokefleet has several estate cottages and there are the remains of a 14th century church at Laxton.

There are several moated sites in this area reflecting early colonisation of land, mainly by religious organisations.

As with many other parts of the Humberhead Levels, there are numerous drainage ditches and ponds with a number of ecological benefits including the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust reserve atSaltmarshe Delph.

The width of the river, the openess of views and the general lack of vegetation make this a medium to large scale landscape that is generally pleasant but with some views of distant urban detractors, particularly on the southern edge of Goole. The River is a unifying factor in this relatively simple expansive landscape.

**Character Area 4D: River Aire Corridor, Gowdall and Snaith to the Ouse Reach**

The River Aire corridor is a narrow LCA which includes the grass banks and fields either side of the River. Airmyn, Rawcliffe and Snaith are riverside villages on the south bank of the river in the East Riding protected by the riverbanks from flooding. There are a number of watercourses and waterbodies within this LCA with ecological benefits, including Southfield reservoir.

Within the settlement areas there is a strong vernacular of red brick properties. Snaith is a large village on the southern boundary of this River corridor landscape and the development of this village, and to a lesser extent the smaller villages of Rawcliffe and Airmyn, has impacted upon the character of the river corridor. Airmyn is a planned medieval town that was in existence by 1253 and founded by the Archbishops of York to take advantage of river trade and the ferry point.

Some examples of small scale wind development are present within the LCA with glimpsed views of distant turbines, pylons and major highway infrastructure present through gaps in vegetation.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 4: RIVER CORRIDORS
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

The River Aire is relatively narrow and has a semi-enclosed character as a result of intermittent vegetation and river banks. This contributes to the medium scale of this attractive, relatively calm and important wildlife corridor.

EVALUATION

Quality
The quality of the landscape character varies along the different river corridors. The River Derwent Corridor is assessed to be a high quality landscape due to the relative intactness of the meadows and grassland adjacent to it and the distinctive character of the structures that cross it. The villages on the corridor boundary also make an important contribution to landscape character and have historic origins, traces of which can be seen in the landscape today. There is a strong vernacular of red brick within settlements in this LCT. The remaining river corridors are assessed to be good to ordinary quality due to the number of detractors and their condition.

Positive Landscape Features
- The rivers unify this LCT and provide variety from the surrounding arable landscape.
- The meandering course of the rivers is distinctive amongst the surrounding flat rectilinear landscape pattern of arable fields and drainage systems.
- There is limited development along the corridor except at Goole. Villages on the edge of the corridor have maintained their traditional character. Most have developed in a linear fashion along the line of the river bank.
- Strong lines formed by man-made river banks defend surrounding farmland from floods.

Forces for Change
Built development in the form of new roads and bridges and other infrastructure may cause change to the existing landscape character and quality. There is also development pressure linked to corridor settlements, in particular Goole and Snaith. Residential, industrial and commercial pressures are likely to continue.

Recreation is popular in the river corridor. Pleasure boats are seen regularly, particularly on the Derwent. Increased traffic and demand for facilities could become an issue.

Flood defences are a key feature of the LCT including banks and pump houses. New flood defence work may result in change.

Rising sea level is a risk in the future and would potentially cause change. Pollution incidents do not appear to be a common problem but can impact upon the environment and ultimately landscape character.

There will continue to be pressure for renewable energy developments in the East Riding. Currently, however, only single and two turbine schemes are present within the LCT, but turbines are large in scale.

Condition and Strength of Character
The Derwent Corridor, although narrow, maintains a strong sense of place that distinguishes it from the surrounding arable farmland.

The River Ouse is broad and takes occasional boats. Neighbouring development has impacted upon the character of the river corridor at Goole. However, the River maintains a strong sense of identity.

Detractors in the corridors include the M62 motorway bridge, a structure that is elevated well above the height of the surrounding landform to allow
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 4: RIVER CORRIDORS
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

large boats to pass beneath. The concrete structure of the reservoir near Barmby on the Marsh is also a detractor within the landscape despite its relatively low profile. The visual presence of infrastructure on the southern edge of Goole, and Drax Power Station (Selby District) detract due to the relatively flat low lying landscape and expansive views present.

Wildlife designation in the river corridors indicates ecological value and the diversity of habitat contributes to character.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 4: RIVER CORRIDORS
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HAMBURG LEVELS

Sensitivity and Capacity

The following table sets out the sensitivity of the LCT to different types of development. Refer to Appendix 4 for full details of the assessment criteria.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landscape quality (condition)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The River Derwent Corridor has a high level of landscape quality as a result of the relative intactness of the meadows and grassland and the distinctive character of the structures that cross it. The villages on the corridor boundary also make an important contribution to landscape character. The rest of the LCT is considered to be good to ordinary.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenic quality</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High overall: River Derwent Corridor is attractive with few detractors. Other river corridors are good - ordinary due to adjacent detractors.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarity (of elements, features or LCT's)</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCT is less common within East Riding with rare elements being windmills and planned medieval town.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representativeness (in relation to prevailing landscape character)</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Humberhead Levels is a flat, low-lying and large scale agricultural landscape that is relatively common place across the East Riding.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation interests (wildlife, earth science, archaeological, historic, cultural)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT contains a high number of conservation interests. Local Wildlife Sites include: Asselby Island, Barmby on the Marsh, Snaith Pit. SSSI include; Humber Estuary (SAC), River Derwent (SPA and SAC), Derwent Ings (SPA) and Lower Derwent Valley (SPA/NNR/LNR). Conservation Areas at East Cottingwith, Snaith, Rawcliffe, Airmyn. Scheduled Monuments include; site at Ellerton Priory, Motte &amp; Bailey Castle East of Aughton Church, moated site south of White House.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational value</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT contains recreational routes but limited forms of other recreational value. National trail/long distance route - Trans Pennine Trail (4B, 4C). PRoW along River Derwent. Recreation is popular in the river corridor, including pleasure boats on the River Derwent.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perceptual aspects (openness, wildness, tranquillity, remoteness)</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is a strong rural character away from large scale infrastructure. The LCT is open, relatively tranquil and isolated.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associations (with people or events)</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCT has no specific associations with people or events.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 4: RIVER CORRIDORS**  
**NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value attached to LCT</th>
<th>Medium</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Relatively high scenic quality in particular the distinctive River Derwent. The LCT falls within the River Derwent Important Landscape Area which is considered to have a higher value attached to it. Evidence of historic interest with a number of medieval moated sites, windmills and a planned medieval town. Several ecological designations particularly in relation to the River Derwent and the Humber Estuary. Some detractors adjacent and evident within the landscape. Drax Power Station is visible. Swinefleet flood defence improvements may affect character.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Susceptibility to Development</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Residential</strong></td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A flat river corridor landscape of mainly agricultural land use. A number of scattered, nucleated settlements throughout. Additional development of this nature could be accommodated within LCA 4D, which borders areas of residential development adjacent the M62 corridor, without any detrimental effects on the integrity of the landscape. There is no or limited capacity within the other LCA’s.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Commercial</strong></td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall, there is a lack of commercial development within the LCT, there is some recent development present in LCA 4D. LCA 4D may have some capacity for development of this nature, without affecting the overall landscape character. There is no or limited capacity within the other LCA’s.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Industrial</strong></td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial development is visible within the wider landscape, namely Drax Power Station. There is no capacity for development of this nature within the intimate, small scale landscape without changing its overall integrity.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Agricultural</strong></td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscape is predominantly agricultural with limited existing agricultural developments in association with local farmsteads. LCT has some capacity to accommodate additional development of this nature, sensitively located, without affecting the overall landscape character.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recreational</strong></td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The River Derwent and associated PRoW acts as a major recreational route, along with the Transpenine Trail. Sensitive development of this nature, appropriate to the small scale of the LCT, would have limited effect on the integrity of the landscape character.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Sensitivity to Development at LCA level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Residential</th>
<th>Commercial</th>
<th>Industrial</th>
<th>Agricultural</th>
<th>Recreational</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 A</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 B</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 C</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 D</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 4: RIVER CORRIDORS
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

The narrow river corridors are at risk of losing their distinctiveness if land use practices change significantly. For example, if grassland and meadow in the river corridor becomes arable.

The landscape in these areas is also sensitive to development that would result in a loss of the remoteness that can be experienced in parts of the corridor. This is due to the lack of roads immediately adjacent to the river. Settlement is often nucleated and scattered throughout this LCT. There is limited capacity for additional residential development within this LCT, increasing within LCA 4D due to the built up nature of the area and proximity to the M62 highway corridor.

There is an overall lack of commercial development within this LCT, with some recent examples within LCA 4D. There is some capacity for additional commercial development, sensitively located adjacent to existing development

Industrial development is evident within the wider landscape and adjoining LCT’s, namely Drax Power Station. There is no capacity within this river corridor landscape for industrial development due to the predominantly open agricultural landscape and the possibility for cumulative visual impact.

The landscape is sensitive to change but is predominantly agricultural land with existing agricultural development in association with scattered farmsteads. There is limited capacity to accommodate additional development of this nature, adjoining existing agricultural development.

The River Derwent and associated public rights of way offer major recreational routes through this landscape. This landscape is sensitive to change but has some capacity for small scale development sensitively located.

Built development of any kind will impact upon the rural character and tranquility of the river corridors which is assessed to have a medium to high sensitivity to change.

Strategy

The strategy for this LCT is to protect and enhance distinctiveness of river corridors in the Humberhead Levels. This should be achieved through appropriate management and development and the promotion of traditional management practices within arable fields and floodplain grasslands.

The reversion of selected arable fields to meadow could potentially widen the river corridor and strengthen its contribution to the overall character of the area.

Maintain and plant riparian vegetation to promote diversity and help manage bank erosion. Woodland and hedgerow planting will help to reinforce the corridor character type and should reflect species distribution found in the river corridor.

New flood defence development should seek to respect the character of the riparian landscape and avoid hard engineered structures. Flood storage areas along the river corridors offer the opportunity to widen the influence of the river on landscape character and further enhance landscape diversity in the area.

Ensure that any facilities installed for tourism and recreation purposes are low key and appropriate to the tranquil and remote nature of the landscape. Local character should be reflected through appropriate use of materials, and sensitivity to landscape pattern. New building must respect local vernacular.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 4: RIVER CORRIDORS
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

Avoid built structures that would impact upon remoteness. Vertical structures would potentially detract from the flat character and small scale intimate nature of the river corridors and detract from their distinctive characteristic features.

Liaison with neighbouring authorities will be key to protecting and enhancing the character of the river corridors. Liaison with the Environment Agency and Natural England will also be important when implementing the landscape strategy for the river corridors.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 5: OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

DESCRIPTION OF LOCATION
This Landscape Character Type (LCT) is located east of the Derwent corridor and covers a low lying area of open farmland that contains small areas of woodland and occasional mature hedgerow trees. The LCT encompasses farmland north and west of Howden and east of the villages of Wressle, Brighton, Bubwith, Aughton and Ellerton and around the villages of Foggathorpe and Spaldington. The LCT encompasses some sections of the Lower Derwent Valley and Pocklington Canal Important Landscape Area.

Relevant National Character Area
- 39: Humberhead Levels

SUMMARY OF KEY CHARACTERISTICS, FEATURES AND LAND USE
Key characteristics of Open Farmland in the Humberhead levels
- Low lying flat landscape below 10m AOD.
- Relatively featureless intensively farmed arable landscape.
- Large areas are in the riparian flood plain of the River Derwent.
- Medium scale fields with fragmented hedgerow boundaries. Boundaries lost in places though mature oak trees remain in areas.
- Open character with extensive views across the flat landscape.
- Occasional woodland blocks and fragmented tree cover contributing to extensive views that include Drax Power Station to the southwest and distant wind development mainly to the south.
- Howden is the largest settlement.
- Howden Minster is an important landmark.
- Small villages and Farmsteads are scattered throughout but overall settlement density is low. Many of these villages have Saxon origins.

STATEMENT OF OPPORTUNITIES
- Protect and enhance the valued floodplain landscape by improving wet pastures and reducing flood risk elsewhere.
- Management of drainage ditches and dykes to ensure appropriate functionality and retaining associated vegetation.
- Conserving and enhancing the historic features, meadows and pasture landscape of the Lower Derwent Valley for their historic interest as well as their contribution to landscape character and biodiversity.
- Maintaining the long and often unbroken views to distant horizons by siting new development sensitively.

LANDSCAPE INFLUENCES
Physical Influences

The under lying solid geology of the area is made up of Sherwood Sandstone and Mercia Mudstone from the Triassic period. This has been overlain by glacial deposits of the Devensian period when the area was largely covered by Lake Humber and more recent alluvial deposits.

Soils are a combination of ground water gleys and brown earths. Agricultural Land Classification varies, predominantly Grade 3 with pockets of Grade 2, a large area of Grade 4 and evidence of Grade 1 at Barmby on the Marsh. The subsoil is clay.

The topography of the area is very flat and low lying. Much of the area is in floodplain. Clay riverbanks protect the farmland from flooding.

The low lying land (below 10m AOD) was originally waterlogged in places and improvements as a result of drainage have enabled the former heath land to be cultivated. The area is drained by a series of improved ditches many of which meander through the area, some of which have been straightened. Land drains southeast into the River Foulness and south and west into the
River Derwent and River Ouse. The rivers in the Humberhead Levels were created in the early post glacial (Holocene) period. Drainage is generally by gravity for areas to the north. Further south in this LCT land drainage relies on a pumped drainage system.

Human Influences

The area has been settled and farmed for many centuries. However, there is little physical evidence of prehistoric or Roman activity in the area. It is likely that many of the settlements developed have Saxon origins. There is evidence of medieval activity in the area in the form of ruins and moated sites. However, intensive agriculture has led to the loss of many historic features related to land use. Areas of less regular field patterns amongst the more rectilinear and regular fields that resulted from parliamentary enclosure are a relic of past farming activity.

This low lying area is drained by a network of ditches and streams that improved the land to allow for intensive crop production. The main crops are cereals and root crops including potatoes. The church at Bubwith has a Norman chancel. Wressle Church built in 1799 on site of a former church that was demolished by Cromwell’s men. The Church at Bubwith dates back to the Norman period. Howden Minster is a prominent landmark in the area and dates from the 13th to 15th century, however it is now partly ruined. Howden is a medieval market town that by the end of the 14th century was the fifth largest town in the East Riding. The Howden Bishop’s manor house and moated gardens are important historic sites in Howden.

The medieval castle at Wressle was built in 1380s by Thomas Percey. It is the only castle fragment to remain in the East Riding. Only the south range remains today. Evidence of the deer park and designed landscape that surrounded the castle has been lost. There are several medieval moated sites in the area. The area appears to have been intensively farmed during medieval times. There is some evidence of ridge and furrow in places where grassland remains. However, most of this has been lost as have the patterns of land use that would have been characteristic then.

Of the three railway lines that cross the area only one is still in use (Hull to Selby) but the lines of the others are apparent in the landscape today as they cut through the fields between Howden and Barmby and between Holme upon Spalding Moor and Bubwith.

There are a number of large and very large wind turbines in the area,

The A163 and A63 form the primary transport corridors in this LCT with the B1228 forming a secondary route. Other roads are limited to smaller country lanes and private access tracks. There are numerous Public Rights of Way and bridleways.
The soil of land adjacent to the River Ouse and lower Derwent is known as warp. The soil in these areas has been improved by flooding areas of land using the natural tidal flow of the river and allowing the sediment to settle out before letting the water back into the river. This is done over several years before the land is put back into agricultural production and was used in the 19th and early 20th century. Warping was a common practice to improve soil fertility of fields adjacent to tidal rivers in the 19th century.

During the Second World War there was an airfield at Breighton. This is now a private airfield with a museum and industrial estate.

Ecological Influences

This is an intensively farmed arable landscape with small pockets of grassland, some of which are species rich. Barn Hill Meadows near Howden is a designated SSSI that is a traditionally managed hay meadow. There are a number of Local Wildlife Sites within the area.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 5: OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

Statutory Designations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Barn Hill Meadows</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Breighton Meadows</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special protection Area (SPA)</td>
<td>Lower Derwent Valley</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LINKS TO ADJACENT CHARACTER AREAS

ADJACENT ERYC LCTS

4: River Corridors
6: Wooded Open Farmland
7: Foulness Open Farmland
8: M62 Corridor

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS

Two Landscape Character Areas (LCA) have been identified in this LCT. They are:

- 5A: Howden to Bubwith Farmland
- 5B: West of Holme on Spalding Moor Farmland

DETAILED CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTIONS

Character Area 5A: Howden to Bubwith Farmland

This LCA encompasses semi-structured open farmland north of the River Ouse corridor and south of the village of Bubwith. The area is characterised by large scale open fields that are intensively farmed for arable crop production, with occasional examples of equestrian land use. Field boundaries are traditionally hedgerows. However, many of these have been lost and this contributes to the open character of the landscape. A number of large scale agricultural buildings are scattered across the LCA and are evident due to open and expansive views across the landscape. Pylons and occasional single turbine/ small scale wind developments (Spaldington Airfield Windfarm) offer vertical elements to the landscape.

There are small areas where hedgerows are less fragmented and have been left to grow tall giving a more wooded appearance, for example west of Howden, but between these more wooded areas are large open areas of intensively farmed arable land. Howden has a conservation area designation.

There was once a 180 acre medieval deer park at Wressle associated with the castle but no evidence of this is visible in the landscape today. The castle ruin at Wressle is a scheduled monument dating from c1380s and is one of the most important structures in the East Riding, but lies within adjacent LCT 4.

Breighton Airfield was established during World War II and is now a private airfield museum. Commercial industrial development has also taken place on land associated with the Airfield.

There are still some areas of species rich hay meadow, although much has been lost, supporting characteristic species including cowslip, meadow vetchling, great burnet, black knapweed and saw-wort. A good example of this is at Barn Hill Meadows, a small SSSI just to the west of Howden, consisting of species-rich unimproved neutral grassland. The site has been managed in a traditional way for hay and has remnant ridge and furrow characteristics. Other important ecological designations within the LCA area
include Breighton Meadows SSSI, Lower Derwent Water Special Protection Area (SPA) and Howden Marsh Local Nature Reserve (LNR).

Character Area 5B: West of Holme on Spalding Moor Farmland

This LCA covers the farmed landscape between Holme on Spalding Moor and Bubwith, including the villages of Foggathorpe, Harlthorpe, Aughton and Ellerton.

Fields are generally medium in size and rectilinear in shape. There are areas of more irregular fields indicating early enclosure by agreement. Hedgerows form field boundaries. Many are fragmented and some contain hedgerow trees but overall tree cover is limited.

The eastern part of this area drains into the River Foulness and the western part drains into the River Derwent.

The area around Foggathorpe contains a recreation and tourism development including man-made lakes and log cabin accommodation. There are other similar small scale developments in this landscape.

Commercial development is generally linked to the agricultural industry including a poultry shed at Aughton. Pylons cross the area and are a detractor in the rural landscape.

There are several historic sites in the area that are of interest. Ellerton Priory was established in the 13th century. Aughton has a motte and bailey castle, both of which are designated as scheduled monuments, and a moated manorial centre associated with the Aske family. The church at Aughton is Norman. A moated site at Chapelgarth, which represents a typical medieval settlement in low lying flood plain, is also designated as a scheduled monument.

Within this area, interspersed within the intensively farmed land, there are areas of species/rich hay meadow, supporting species characteristic of the area.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 5: OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

This is a large scale pleasant agricultural landscape with few features of note. Development and infrastructure are detractors where they are highly visible due to lack of trees and flat landform. There are currently no wind developments within this LCA.

EVALUATION

Quality

This is a fragmented landscape that contains a number of detractors. There is little to distinguish the landscape character from similar areas nationwide. Nevertheless it is a pleasant landscape that has pockets of interest including the medieval market town of Howden, historic sites at Ellerton, Wressle, and Aughton and small villages which break up the large scale arable landscape. The quality of this area is assessed to be ordinary.

Positive Landscape Features

- Openness, long distance views over flat arable land.
- The sky dominates open views.
- Rural and relatively remote.
- Views of key landmarks such as Howden Minster, Wressle Castle and country houses are important.
- Landscape pattern contributes to historic character.
- Hedgerows reinforce landscape pattern where they are intact.
- Hedgerows are not characteristic of all areas, e.g. Barmby on the Marsh.

Forces for Change

Changing land management practices and farm diversification as a result of pressures on the agricultural industry will lead to change in the landscape. Tourism and recreation in the countryside is one form of diversification that has led to the development of log cabins and fishing ponds in the area. The design and layout of these schemes can have a detrimental effect on rural character by introducing urban features to the rural landscape e.g. lighting, roads and buildings and features that are not characteristic e.g. rectilinear fishing ponds and mounding.

Other recreational activities in the countryside include golf courses and there are two in the open countryside of this LCA.

There will continue to be pressure for renewable energy developments in the East Riding and may lead to additional wind turbines. The presence of Spaldington Wind Farm has altered the character of the landscape by adding large scale vertical structures into the flat expansive landscape. There are also currently fields of willow coppice for biomass production and other biomass crops may be considered in the future. Coppice fields introduce a new characteristic that may change character over time. Planting coppice fields may also impact upon below ground archaeological evidence.

The cumulative effect on remoteness and character of scattered housing can be detrimental to landscape character over time. Proposed residential development along the B1228 Station Road would alter the remote character of the area.

Breighton Airfield is home to a museum and the Airfield is used by light aircraft. Adjacent to it is some commercial development. Parts of the Airfield have been used for timber storage in the past. There may be pressure for continued development in this area.

Condition and Strength of Character

The rural landscape is fragmented by a variety of development such as tourism, recreation and commercial development that has impacted on
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 5: OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

character. However the main cause of fragmentation has been intensive farming practices that resulted in the loss of hedgerows and the creation of larger fields. Grassland has been converted to arable farmland and there has been relatively little woodland planting in the area.

There are a number of detractors in this landscape that affect its character. Firstly, pylons and wind turbines are very visible and impact on views across the rural landscape. Secondly, large scale agriculture development is sometimes very visible and does not integrate with landscape pattern. In addition the railway lines, existing and dismantled, have severed the landscape pattern.
Sensitivity and Capacity

The following table sets out the sensitivity of the LCT to different types of development. Refer to Appendix 4 for full details of the assessment criteria.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landscape quality (condition)</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenic quality</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarity (of elements, features or LCT's)</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representativeness (in relation to prevailing landscape character)</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation interests (wildlife, earth science, archaeological, historic, cultural)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational value</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perceptual aspects (openness, wildness, tranquillity, remoteness)</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The LCT contains good quality, low lying, flat arable farmland which includes floodplain associated with the River Derwent. There are scattered villages and farmsteads.

The LCT has a fragmented landscape pattern with visual detractors that include pylons and large farm buildings. The scenic quality is ordinary.

The areas common arable field pattern is encroached upon by infrastructure and other development. Less common elements include the historic country houses, Howden Minster and Wressle Castle.

LCT 5 contains a flat, low-lying and large scale agricultural landscape representative of the Humberhead Levels.

The LCT contains a high number of conservation interests. Local Wildlife Sites include; Old Clay Pits, Bubwith to Holme on Spalding Moor Disused Railway Line, Tottering Lane, Aughton Common, Brindley's Wood, Rushwood, Feather Bed Lane Common and Drain, North Howden Fish Ponds, Barnhill, Yarmshaw Plantations and Asselby Island. Other significant conservation interests include Howden Marsh Local Nature Reserve, Barnhill Meadows SSSI and the Scheduled Monuments of Ellerton Priory, a Motte and Bailey Castle east of Aughton Church and a moated site at Chapel Garth.

The area contains recreational routes in the form of numerous Public Rights of Way and two golf courses, but limited forms of other recreational value.

There is a strong rural character which is open, remote and rural.
**LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 5: OPEN FARMLAND**  
**NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERT HEAD LEVELS**

| Associations (with people or events) | The LCT has a number of associations with people including Thomas Percey at Wressle, and the Aske family at Aughton. The area also includes Saxon, Norman and medieval sites though intensive agriculture has led to the loss of many historic features related to land use. The Howden Bishop’s manor house and moated gardens are important historic sites in Howden. | High |
| Value attached to LCT | Low lying, flat, floodplain landscape with a fragmented landscape pattern and a number of detractors. Some ecological interest within the LCT but an overall ordinary landscape with relatively low scenic interest. Wind development is evident within the landscape. Some elements of historic importance including a motte and bailey castle east of Aughton Church, a moated site at Chapel Garth and Ellerton Priory Scheduled Monument. | Medium |
| Susceptibility to Development |  | Level |

| Residential | Settlement is limited to small scattered villages and farmsteads within this LCT. Limited capacity to accommodate additional development of this nature adjacent to Howden without affecting the landscape character. | Medium |
| Commercial | Low levels of commercial development within this LCT. LCT is expansive and generally lacking in landscape interest. Limited capacity to accommodate additional development of this nature adjacent to existing areas without affecting the landscape character. | Medium |
| Industrial | Industrial development can be seen along the skyline, with long distance views available from LCT. A number of detractors surrounding agriculture and energy infrastructure present. Limited capacity to accommodate additional development of this nature adjacent to existing developments without affecting the landscape character. | Medium |
| Agricultural | Largely agricultural landscape with a number of existing agricultural developments. Additional development of this nature, adjacent to existing and sensitively located, would have minimal effect on the overall integrity of the landscape. | Low |
| Recreational | A good network of PRoW with a distinct lack of other recreational landscape elements. Due to the low landscape value of the LCT, development of this nature may be accommodated. | Medium |
### Sensitivity to Development at LCA level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Residential</th>
<th>Commercial</th>
<th>Industrial</th>
<th>Agricultural</th>
<th>Recreational</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 A</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Low-Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 B</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>Low-Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
There are relatively few wind developments across this landscape character type, particularly to the north. Due to the predominantly flat, open, rural character it is assessed as having a medium-high sensitivity to large scale wind development.

This is an ordinary landscape that contains several detractors including turbines, pylons and large scale agricultural buildings. However, in the main, agricultural buildings are integrated into the landscape and there is the capacity for the landscape to accept new agricultural development that is associated with existing nucleated farmsteads and appropriately mitigate. Measures should include screen planting and choice of building materials that respect local vernacular.

The landscape is sparsely populated in places as settlement is limited to small scattered villages and farmsteads. The landscape has some capacity to accommodate additional residential development, in particular adjacent to Howden without affecting the landscape character.

There are low levels of commercial development within this landscape; large scale commercial development would have a detrimental impact on rural landscape character through the introduction of uncharacteristic features. However, the landscape lacks any real elements of interest and may have some capacity to accommodate some small scale development of this nature adjacent to existing development, primarily at Breighton Airfield without affecting the landscape character.

Industrial development, including agricultural sheds and wind turbines, can be seen along the skyline, with long distance views available from within this LCT. The landscape is assessed as medium sensitivity with limited capacity to accommodate additional industrial development adjacent to existing without affecting the landscape character.

Sensitivity of the landscape to tourism and recreation development in the open countryside would depend on the type of recreation proposed. Continued introduction of structures such as log cabins will have a cumulative impact and urbanise the countryside. As a result of recreational activity the rural character of the area has changed. The landscape has medium sensitivity to this type of development generally providing key characteristics are retained and enhanced.

**Strategy**

The strategy for this LCT is to conserve views of landmarks, such as Howden Minster and Wressle Castle, and enhance landscape character by restoring key characteristics such as hedgerows and woodland blocks.

The reintroduction grassland in wetter areas would help to increase diversity and would benefit the River Corridor landscape where sites are adjacent to the river bank.

Promote the planting of native woodland, particularly in areas where existing development is detracting from landscape character, for example at Breighton Airfield. This would help to integrate the development with the surrounding landscape and enhance landscape pattern and biodiversity.

Vertical structures would potentially detract from the flat, rural and remote character and of the area. The scale of new structures should to be considered in conjunction with mitigation measures and layout should respect landscape pattern and scale.

Residential development should incorporate woodland planting, domestic hedge boundaries and materials and design that reflect local vernacular to aid integration with the surrounding landscape.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 5: OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

Large scale commercial development, outside existing development limits, should be avoided to retain the areas the open and rural character.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 6: WOODED OPEN FARM LAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

DESCRIPTION OF LOCATION
This Landscape Character Type (LCT) extends along the north east edge of the Humberhead Levels in the District and includes farmland south of the Pocklington Canal around Melbourne, Seaton Ross and Holme on Spalding Moor. The LCT extends across the area south of Pocklington Canal encompassing Seaton Ross and Holme on Spalding Moor and South Cliffe Common along the south west edge of the Yorkshire Wolds scarp slope.

This LCT is in the transitional zone between the Vale of York and Humberhead levels.

Relevant National Character Areas
• 27: Yorkshire Wolds
• 28: Vale Of York
• 39: Humberhead Levels

SUMMARY OF KEY CHARACTERISTICS, FEATURES AND LAND USE
Key characteristics of Wooded Open Farmland in the Humberhead Levels
• Low lying flat arable farmland in good condition with occasional grass fields and small woodland blocks
• The land rises gradually west
• One area of ancient semi natural woodland at Seaton Olde Wood west of Holme on Spalding Moor
• Historic links to the Roman pottery industry
• Church Hill at Holme on Spalding Moor is a prominent landmark
• Random irregular field size and pattern
• Hedgerow field boundaries in varying condition many with hedgerow trees
• Scattered villages and farmsteads

• Relatively remote and tranquil place away from villages
• Agricultural development is a common feature across the landscape
• Single development turbines and pylons are a visual detractor within the flat landscape

STATEMENT OF OPPORTUNITIES
• Protect and enhance species rich floodplain meadows, wet pastures, grazing marsh along the river floodplain, increasing management.
• Ensure that any urban development is accompanied by appropriate green infrastructure and necessary mitigation methods.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 6: WOODED OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

- New developments are located and designed with particular consideration for keeping long views open.

LANDSCAPE INFLUENCES

Physical Influences

The underlying solid geology of the area is made up of Sherwood Sandstone from the Triassic period and Mercia Mudstone. This has been overlain by glaciolacustrine deposits of the Devensian period when the area was largely covered by Lake Humber. Church Hill at Holme on Spalding Moor rises above the glacial deposits and is a prominent feature east of Holme on Spalding Moor.

Soils are a combination of ground water gleys and brown earths. Agricultural Land Classification is mainly Grade 3, with a large area of Grade 4 east of Seaton Ross and some scattered areas of Grade 5.

The landform is generally flat apart from Church Hill, which lies at 40m AOD and rises very gently towards the Wolds in the east.

The course of the manmade Market Weighton canal passes through this area in a north south direction. Land generally drains west into the Canal and the River Foulness via a series of improved and manmade ditches.

The rivers in the Humberhead Levels were created in the early post glacial (Holocene) period.

Human Influences

There is evidence of prehistoric activity in the area but it is not visible in the landscape today. Evidence of Neolithic and Bronze Age activity has been found around Holme on Spalding Moor and Seaton Ross. Iron Age settlement has also been identified in the area. The area around Holme on Spalding Moor was the centre of a major Roman pottery industry.

Spalding Moor was a marsh dominated by a single hill, or holme. In the 13th century a church was built on the hill. The hill is thought to be the site of the original village.

The dismantled Market Weighton to Selby railway line crosses the area and is a Permissive Right of Way as far as Bubwith.

There are two Second World War airfields in this LCT. One airfield is located between Melbourne and Seaton Ross. Part of Melbourne Airfield has been reverted to agricultural use but other development has also taken place on its periphery mainly linked to the agricultural industry. The pattern of the runways can also still be clearly seen. The other airfield is located approximately a mile southeast of Holme on Spalding Moor. The Holme on Spalding Moor Airfield has largely reverted back to agriculture with large scale arable fields dominating the vicinity of the old airfield. A group of buildings remain and the area is used as an industrial estate. Several small woodland blocks are located around the field. There are very few hedgerows on the Airfield itself.

Villages in the area appear to have developed in a linear fashion possibly as a result of settlement developing on higher ground above the surrounding marshes that have now been drained and are intensively farmed. In medieval times the area still had some woodland cover, however, the last of this was probably cleared by the early post medieval period. Holme-on-Spalding Moor is the largest parish, by area, in East Yorkshire.

Field size is mixed throughout the area. Around Seaton Ross small fields are arranged in an intricate pattern and contrast with the larger fields outside the village environs. Melbourne too has small fields immediately around it particularly the north between the village and the Pocklington Canal. The
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 6: WOODED OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

Field pattern suggests a combination of parliamentary and pre parliamentary enclosures. The fields are generally medium in size.

South of Melbourne is a small area of parkland around Grade II listed Melbourne Hall where mature trees are found in grassland. Some wooded heathland can be found further west at Ross Moor.

The Market Weighton Canal passes through this area and is a strong linear feature that interrupts field pattern in some places and contributes in others. The Canal was constructed in 1772 and contributed to the drainage of large areas of arable land. The Canal is no longer navigable as far as Market Weighton. Fishing ponds have been developed in its corridor for recreation.

There are few roads in this isolated LCT. The A614 Howden to Market Weighton road passes in a north easterly direction through Spalding Moor, to which the A163 joins from the west. On the western edge of the LCT B1228 follows the River Derwent.

Ecological Influences

Woodland blocks are scattered throughout this LCT but are relatively well spaced giving the landscape an open appearance. Hedgerows, some with trees, provide wildlife corridors. Drainage ditches form field boundaries with the hedges in the wetter areas.

In lower lying wetter areas some heathland remains and provides an indication of what the land cover of the area would be if not drained and improved for agriculture.

Woodland containing pine trees is characteristic of the southern extent of this LCT.

Statutory Designations

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Designation</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest</td>
<td>South Cliffe Common</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LINKS ADJACENT CHARACTER AREAS

Adjacent ERYC LCTs

- 1: Flat Open Farmland
- 3: River/ Canal Corridors
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 6: WOODED OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

- 4: River Corridors
- 5: Open Farmland
- 7: Foulness Open Farmland
- 8: M62 Corridor
- 11: Jurassic Hills Farmland

Adjacent Regional Landscape Character Areas
North Yorkshire Landscape Character Assessment (2011)

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS
Two Landscape Character Areas (LCA) have been identified in this LCT. They are:

- 6A: South of Pocklington Canal Wooded Farmland.
- 6B: South Cliffe and Hotham Common

DETAILED CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTIONS

Character Area 6A: South of Pocklington Canal Wooded Farmland
This LCA extends south of Pocklington Canal and includes the Seaton Old Wood ancient semi natural woodland west of Holme on Spalding Moor and Park Wood ancient woodland.

The main settlement in the area is Seaton Ross, a sprawling linear village west of Everingham Estate. The brick church was rebuilt in 1788. Melbourne is a linear village on the boundary of this LCA with the Pocklington Canal corridor. Melbourne Church is built of corrugated iron and was constructed in 1882 by the Windsor Iron Works of Liverpool. Melbourne village grew out of the enclosure of the open fields in 1782 and the opening of the Pocklington Canal in 1818. Melbourne Airfield (York Raceway) is a prominent feature in the landscape. Agricultural development including scattered farmsteads has taken place in this area and is a potential detractor. Plantation woodland blocks are dispersed across the area and tend to be planted with a mix of conifer and deciduous species.

The former Selby to Market Weighton Railway Line passed through the area and its line is still apparent in the landscape today severing the field pattern. Minor roads criss-cross the landscape and fit in with field pattern.

This is a medium to large scale landscape with a mix of grassland and arable land use. Hedgerows are generally in good condition with few gaps.

There are a number of Local Wildlife Sites within the character area, including the two areas of ancient woodland, with some important ecological and habitat benefits.

Character Area 6B: South Cliffe and Hotham Common
This area covers farmland north of Holme on Spalding Moor and extends south around the east side of Holme on Spalding Moor and down to South Cliffe Common.

Evidence of prehistoric human activity has been found in the area and aerial photographs show extensive Romano-British field systems and settlements around South Cliffe and Hotham. However, the influence of these historic activities is not apparent in the landscape today.

Field sizes are generally medium to large and land use is a mix of arable and grassland. Turf is also produced in the area. Hedgerows are in varied condition, some good and others fragmented. Plantation woodland is present and includes pine as well as deciduous species. Individual trees are present along field boundaries. Field pattern suggests a greater proportion of this area was subject to parliamentary enclosure.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 6: WOODED OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

The main settlement in the area is Holme on Spalding Moor which is centred on a former triangular village green on which the old school was built. Hall Farm is an important building started in 1720. Workhouse Farm to the south of the village was originally built as a work house in c1790. The hamlets of North Cliffe and South Cliffe are located along the eastern boundary of the area with the Jurassic Hills Farmland. Elsewhere there are few scattered farmsteads.

The settlements of North Cave and Everingham are designated Conservation Areas. Everingham is made up of primarily 19th Century buildings and includes the Grade I listed Everingham Hall and St Mary and St Everilda Roman Catholic Church also listed Grade I.

The North Cliffe Estate was bought in 1861 by Samuel Fox, a Sheffield Ironmaster, and he rebuilt the small village as well as several large outlying farmsteads such as Townsend Farm, Avenue Farm, and Manor House. North Cliffe Lodge was Fox’s house, built as a shooting box.

Several heathland and grassland sites, which represent remnants of habitats which were formerly much more widespread, are present.

South Cliffe Common was enclosed before 1775 and in 1796 over 900 acres was given over to a rabbit warren (e.g. Bunny Hill Farm). The Common consists of a mosaic of heathland and acidic grassland, which is now much smaller in extent due to agriculture and forestation. The site is dominated by typical heathland and acid grassland species. The Common is now designated as SSSI in two separate locations.

Further north from South Cliffe Common, is North Cliffe Wood, an example of former grass heath which has developed into woodland, due to cessation of grazing. North Cliffe Wood, a Local Wildlife Site has a number of ecological and habitat benefits and is also a Yorkshire Wildlife Trust nature reserve.

The eastern edge of this area is on the fringes of the Yorkshire Wolds, and as such has calcareous soils in localised patches with typical associated plant species.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 6: WOODED OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

View from Hotham Common east towards the Wolds (2005)

Evaluation

Quality

The condition of the landscape has been assessed to be good and the LCT has a strong sense of place as a result of the plantations, the settlement pattern and field pattern. Overall the character of the area is assessed to the good to ordinary in quality.

Positive Landscape Features

- Scattered woodland blocks.
- Irregular field size and pattern with areas of more regular rectilinear pattern in between.
- Remnants of heath at South Cliffe Common.
- Hedgerow field boundaries highlighting landscape pattern that is a mix of regular and irregular fields indicating the different phases of enclosure.
- Church Hill is an important landmark viewed from long distances.
- Long distance views of rural landscape in certain locations.
- Newly formed North Cave Wetlands.
- Extensions to mineral workings/restoration schemes.

Forces for Change

Land management has influenced the landscape we see today and continued changes in the forces that govern how land is managed will result in a change in landscape character. Countryside Stewardship schemes offer the opportunity to enhance landscape character.

There are few main roads in this LCT and they radiate out from Holme on Spalding Moor.

Increase pressure for tourism and recreation development in the landscape may result in change. Neighbouring LCT already contain developments such as log cabins and fishing lakes. Recreation facilities can bring an element of urbanisation to the countryside and as a result have a detrimental impact on rural character.

There are currently a number of small to medium scale single and double turbine developments within this LCT. There will continue to be pressure for renewable energy developments in the East Riding. The area is sparsely settled may result in additional pressure for wind turbine development. They may also be subject to pressures from other types of renewable energy.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 6: WOODED OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

development for example willow and hazel coppicing for biomass production.

Condition and Strength of Character
This LCT is attractive in parts with some agricultural detractors. The condition of the hedgerows overall is good but despite the relatively good woodland cover in comparison to most of the East Riding the woodland pattern is fragmented and dominated by plantation woodland.
**LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 6: WOODED OPEN FARMLAND**  
**NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS**

### Sensitivity and Capacity

The following table sets out the sensitivity of the LCT to different types of development. Refer to Appendix 4 for full details of the assessment criteria.

<table>
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<th>Criteria</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landscape quality (condition)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The area contains low lying, flat farmland in good condition with scattered villages and farmsteads.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenic quality</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This LCT is attractive in parts with some detractors in the form of large scale agricultural sheds. The quality is generally good to ordinary. There are extensive views from the east over a pleasant and attractive landscape.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarity (of elements, features or LCT's)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The rural pattern of the landscape is largely maintained and of reasonably good condition, but distinctive or rare elements are not present. The features present are moderately common.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representativeness (in relation to prevailing landscape character)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCT6 provides a distinct character representative of the Humberhead Levels. The landscape is a flat, low-lying and of a large agricultural scale.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation interests (wildlife, earth science, archaeological, historic, cultural)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT contains a high number of conservation interests. Local wildlife sites include; Quaker's Wood, Farm Wood, Melbourne Grange, Kidd Lane, Bracepits Wood, Brickyard Farm and Ponds, Dial Hall Wood, Breckstreet Farm Disused Airfield, Petersfield Plantation, Ruddings Wood, Walloway Fields, Seaton Old Wood, Everingham Carrs, North Cliffe Wood, North Cave Wetlands, South Cliffe Carr and South Cliffe Common which contains 2 disjunct areas of SSSI. There is an area of an area of Ancient Woodland and a moated site south of the White Horse. There are also 2 conservation areas within the villages of Cottingwith and Everingham.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational value</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT contains recreational routes but offers limited forms of other recreation. Public Rights of Way can be found to east in the vicinity of Seaton Ross, along the Market Weighton Canal and within LCA (6B).</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perceptual aspects (openness, wildness, tranquility, remoteness)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is a strong rural character which is generally remote and tranquil.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associations (with people or events)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT is associated with Samuel Fox, a British industrialist and businessman who was buried at his estate in North Cliffe. The area around Holme on Spalding Moor was the centre of a major</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Roman pottery industry. There are also two Second World War airfields in this LCT.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value attached to LCT</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The LCT offers a low lying, flat farmland landscape in a relatively well managed landscape condition. There are a number of areas of ecological importance throughout LCT, including two areas of SSSI at South Cliffe Common and a disused railway track at Holme on Spalding Moor. Villages and settlements often have conservation interest.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Susceptibility to Development</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Residential</strong></td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There are a number of small settlements throughout this LCT, the largest of which is Holme on Spalding Moor. Other settlements include linear and scattered farmsteads. Additional development of this nature, in keeping with existing, would have minimal effect on the overall landscape character.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Commercial</strong></td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some evidence of small scale commercial development within LCT. The predominantly rural landscape may have some capacity for additional small scale development of this kind without eroding the integrity of the landscape.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Industrial</strong></td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A number of industrial developments are visible from the LCT, with some examples within. The predominantly agricultural landscape may have some capacity for small scale development of this kind without eroding the integrity of the landscape.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Agricultural</strong></td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural development is evident within the landscape, in association with local farmsteads. There is capacity to accommodate additional development of this nature though this would be dependent on scale.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recreational</strong></td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is a number of Public Rights of Way throughout the LCT along with Yellow Top Country Park. Additional recreational development of this type, within this primarily rural landscape, would have minimal effect on the integrity of the landscape. There is limited capacity for other types of recreational development.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sensitivity to Development at LCA level</td>
<td>Residential</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 A</td>
<td>Low-Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 B</td>
<td>Low-Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 6: WOODED OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

LCT 6 is a rural and relatively remote landscape that has a reasonably strong sense of place set in the shadow of the Yorkshire Wolds. There are extensive views over the area from the higher ground to the east. As a result built development that does not fit in with the existing patterns of scattered farmsteads and villages will have a detrimental impact on landscape character and views. However, the area is relatively low lying and only the tallest development would be viewed on the skyline.

There are a number of small settlements scattered throughout this LCT, the largest of which is Holme on Spalding Moor. Other settlement is generally limited to scattered farmsteads. This area is assessed as being of low-medium sensitivity to residential development.

There is some evidence of small scale commercial development in this LCT. Employment development at the existing airfields has impacted on landscape character and large scale expansion of this type of development would increase its impact on the rural landscape, however, small scale development in keeping with existing development may be accommodated. Therefore, the landscape character of the area has medium sensitivity to expansion of commercial development at airfields. With appropriate mitigation, e.g. screen planting and hedgerow planting, there is capacity to develop within existing development limits.

Industrial development is visible from within this LCT, predominantly in neighbouring areas but some small scale examples located within it. This predominantly agricultural landscape is assessed as medium sensitivity to industrial development. However, with appropriate mitigation, e.g. screen planting and hedgerow planting, there is some capacity for small scale developments within existing development limits.

Agricultural development is characteristic of the area and with careful siting and design to avoid cumulative impacts the landscape does have capacity to accommodate this type of development, dependant on scale and setting.

There are a number of Public Rights of Way through this LCT and Yellow Top Country Park acts as an important recreational facility. Similar development within this primarily rural landscape would have minimal effect on the integrity of the landscape. There is limited capacity for other types of recreational development, particularly related to tourism.

Strategy

The strategy for this LCT is to maintain the existing good quality landscape and enhance character in the vicinity of airfields and the major villages of Holme on Spalding Moor and Seaton Ross.

Promote native woodland, tree and hedgerow planting to reinforce and enhance landscape pattern and to help screen agricultural buildings.

Promote the maintenance and management of existing hedgerows to reinforce local landscape pattern.

Where wind farm development is being considered, a variety of mitigation strategies may be needed to reduce impact including off site planting closer to visual receptors than the actual structure. Size, arrangement and location of turbines and associated infrastructure should take account of landscape pattern and potential cumulative impacts.

Recreation and tourism proposals for this area should not result in the loss of any key characteristics or the addition of uncharacteristic features that cannot be accommodated in the landscape without adversely affecting character. Proposals should include mitigation measures that maintain and
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 6: WOODED OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

enhance the valued characteristics of the land. For example, reinstating
hedgerows and reinforcing characteristic field pattern.

The introduction of log cabins, caravan sites, and water features may change
the character of this open agricultural landscape and the cumulative impact
of such developments should be considered.

All new development should respect local vernacular, context and mitigate
visual prominence within the open landscape.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 7: FOULNESS OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

DESCRIPTION OF LOCATION
This Landscape Character Type (LCT) is located in the low lying area around the River Foulness between Holme on Spalding Moor and the M62 Motorway. Eastrington is the only village in the area situated near its southern boundary. The A614 between Howden and Holme on Spalding Moor crosses the area.

Relevant National Character Area
• 39: Humberhead Levels

SUMMARY OF KEY CHARACTERISTICS, FEATURES AND LAND USE
Key characteristics of Foulness Open Farmland in the Humberhead Levels
• Low lying flat landscape with open views stretching as far as the Wolds in the east.
• Very few trees and woodland.
• Sparse settlement consisting mainly of scattered farmsteads
• Large and very large rectilinear fields surrounded by fragmented hedgerows.
• Regular rectilinear drainage ditches feeding into the more sinuous River Foulness.
• Important location of Iron Age settlement and iron working.
• Roman and medieval archaeology is also present
• Long distant views to the south with wind development evident along the skyline.

STATEMENT OF OPPORTUNITIES
• Protecting the long distance views southward by ensuring any new development is sensitively located.
• Ensuring that new development does not reduce the tranquillity or rural character of the area.
• Maintain and enhance hedged and ditched boundaries.
• Maintain and enhance elements of historic importance such as the moated sites at Manor Farm and Wholsea Farm.
• Protect and enhance the River Foulness and the adjacent floodplain landscapes.

LANDSCAPE INFLUENCES
Physical Influences
The under lying solid geology of the area is made up of Sherwood Sandstone from the Triassic period and Mercia Mudstone. This has been overlain by glacial deposits of the Devensian period when the area was largely covered by Lake Humber. More recent alluvium deposits are found along the River Foulness.

Soils are a combination of ground water gleys, surface water gleys and podsols. Agricultural Land Classification is mainly Grade 3.

The landform is low lying and flat generally below 10m AOD. Much of the area is in the tidal floodplain.

The River Foulness is the main water body in the area running in a northwest to southeast direction feeding into the Market Weighton Canal north of Newport. Drainage pattern is a mix of rectilinear man made ditches marking field boundaries and improved natural streams and rivers such as the River Foulness.

The rivers in the Humberhead Levels were created in the early post glacial (Holocene) period.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 7: FOULNESS OPEN FARM LAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

Human Influences

There has been extensive archaeological investigation in this area that has identified the River Foulness valley as an area of extensive prehistoric activity. A 7th century boat and trackway were recently discovered at Welham Bridge. In particular this LCT was an important area of iron working during the Iron Age. There is also considerable evidence of Roman activity in the area.

It is apparent that over the centuries the Foulness has been an important focus for human activity. However, this has changed considerably in recent years and human activity in the area is now largely limited to agriculture.

There are two scheduled monuments in the area one is a medieval moated site at Manor Farm Portington northwest of Eastrington, another moated site lies north of Wholsea Farm. Adjacent to Manor Farm is Portington Hall, a small manor house built c.1670. This site indicates medieval activity in the area that by and large was probably farming in open fields. A moated manor has also been uncovered at Welham Bridge. Field pattern indicates the likelihood that the majority of fields in this area are the result of parliamentary enclosure.

The area is drained by the River Foulness in to the River Humber via the Market Weighton Canal that was constructed in 1772.

The rectilinear regular fields are intensively farmed and a network of dikes and hedgerows marks the boundaries of large and medium sized fields. The larger fields tend to be located in the northern part of this LCT. The River Foulness meanders through the landscape and the fields adjacent to it are less rectilinear and regular in shape.

Large farmsteads are scattered throughout the area. Some are surrounded by clumps of trees but many are exposed and visible across the generally treeless landscape. Most are thought to date from the late 18th and early 19th century enclosures and were traditionally brick built with pantile or slate roofs. Modern farm buildings tend to dwarf the original structures.

There are few roads in this isolated LCT which is in the floodplain of the River Foulness. The A614 Howden to Holme on Spalding Moor crosses the River Foulness at Welham Bridge. On the northern edge of the LCT to the north the A163 Holme on Spalding Moor to Bubwith Road crosses the River Foulness west of Holme on Spalding Moor.

Ecological Influences

This low lying area would once have been marshland. Drainage over many centuries has led to the land being used for intensive agricultural. The ecological diversity of the area is restricted as a result. Hedgerows tend to be severely clipped and there are very few trees or woodlands in this LCT. Water courses potentially provide the greatest opportunities for biodiversity but water quality has been described as poor in the past. There are no internationally or nationally recognised ecological designations within this LCT.

LINKS TO ADJACENT CHARACTER AREAS

Adjacent ERYC LCTs
- 5: Open Farmland
- 6: Wooded Open Farmland
- 8: M62 Corridor Farmland
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 7: FOULNESS OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS
Two Landscape Character Areas (LCA) have been identified in this LCT. They are:

- 7A: South of Holme on Spalding Moor Farmland
- 7B: Eastrington Farmland

DETAILED CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTIONS

Character Area 7A: South of Holme on Spalding Moor Farmland
This area is located north of the River Foulness and is distinctive as a result of field pattern and sparse settlement. The narrow River acts as a physical barrier. There are two road crossings over the River Foulness, one at Welham Bridge on the southern boundary of this LCA and one on the A163 Major Bridge, just outside the LCA to the north between Foggathorpe and Holme on Spalding Moor. There are a few rectilinear plantations scattered across the landscape.

The main detractor in this area is electricity pylons, which are prominent features in the relatively open farmland. There are some long distance views of turbines, mainly to the south, due to the expansive views across the landscape.

The ecological designation of Eastrington Ponds Local Nature Reserve and Local Wildlife Site is located within this LCA. Hasholme Farm and Copse also have some important habitat features.

Development within the area is mainly agricultural with some large scale poultry sheds and mushroom houses. There are two small scale turbine developments within the LCA.

Character Area 7B: Eastrington Farmland
This area is located southwest of the River Foulness and is intensively farmed arable land around the villages of Portrington, Eastrington and Spaldington Common. Large irregular fields mixed with smaller rectilinear fields have fragmented hedgerow boundaries.

The landscape is open with expansive long distance views, especially towards the south. Pylons and occasional wind development can be seen on the skyline.
Several of the drains and ponds in this area are noted as having ecological benefits.

Large scale scattered farmsteads and individual residential properties are characteristic. The village of Eastrington is located on the southern boundary of this area but otherwise there are no major settlements in the area.

**EVALUATION**

**Quality**

This is assessed to be an ordinary landscape because of its relatively featureless character and lack of trees. Intensive farming practices have contributed to a lack of distinctiveness in the area. The area was once a hub of human activity but there is no visible evidence of this now.

**Positive Landscape Features**

- Openness and remote character
- Lack of features
- Sparse settlement and scattered farmsteads
- River Foulness and its associated historic importance

**Forces for Change**

Changing pressures on the farming industry are likely to lead to changing landscape character. Countryside Stewardship schemes may provide opportunities to enhance character by strengthening characteristics such as hedgerows and introducing diversity by encouraging landowners to revert some of their land to natural habitat. The pressure for farmers to diversify has led to change in other LCT’s. For example the creation of formal recreation and tourism sites to attract visitors and holiday makers.

Built development in this area would result in change in this landscape that contains very little development that is not related to the agricultural industry.

There are currently three medium scale single turbine developments within this LCT. There will continue to be pressure for renewable energy developments in the East Riding, this coupled with the remote landscape...
character and limited residential properties may lead to pressure for additional turbine development in the area.

**Condition and Strength of Character**

The characteristics i.e. the River Foulness, drainage channels and hedgerow field boundaries that contribute to landscape character in this area are in varying condition. The River Foulness meanders through the intensively farmed landscape but is not very visible because farmed fields extend up to its banks and as a result it has little influence on visual character.

Several moated sites within the area add to the historical character. It is knowledge of the history of human activity that makes this landscape interesting but that knowledge is not widespread.

As a result of the fragmentation of landscape characteristics and the lack of visible historic evidence in the landscape the LCT has lost sense of place. This in turn has weakened the strength of character for the area that lacks distinctiveness.
Sensitivity and Capacity

The following table sets out the sensitivity of the LCT to different types of development. Refer to Appendix 4 for full details of the assessment criteria.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landscape quality (condition)</td>
<td>Low lying flat landscape with intensive farming and few settlements. Varied in condition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenic quality</td>
<td>Ordinary: Fragmented landscape pattern with featureless character, pylons act as detractor within landscape.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarity (of elements, features or LCT's)</td>
<td>Common: Largely featureless agricultural landscape with sparse development and little evidence of heritage assets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representativeness (in relation to prevailing landscape character)</td>
<td>Representative: The Humberhead Levels is a flat, low-lying and large scale agricultural landscape</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation interests (wildlife, earth science, archaeological, historic, cultural)</td>
<td>Few features of conservation are present. Scheduled Monument - moated sites at Manor Farm and Wholesale Farm. Local Nature Reserve and Local Wildlife Site – Eastrington Ponds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational value</td>
<td>A limited number of recreational routes are present notably along the River Foulness and within the vicinity of Manor Farm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perceptual aspects (openness, wildness, tranquility, remoteness)</td>
<td>A very open tamed landscape that is tranquil and remote.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associations (with people or events)</td>
<td>This LCT was an important area of iron working during the Iron Age. A 7th century boat and trackway were recently discovered at Welham Bridge. There is also considerable evidence of Roman activity in the area and two medieval moated sites.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value attached to LCT</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low lying, intensively farmed, well managed rural landscape with few settlements. Fragmented landscape pattern, largely featureless landscape with sparse development and little evidence of heritage interest.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Susceptibility to Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Residential</strong></td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Commercial</strong></td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Industrial</strong></td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Agricultural</strong></td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recreational</strong></td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Residential**: Existing settlement limited to small villages and scattered farmsteads. Rural landscape in which large scale residential development is likely to alter the landscape character, however some capacity to accommodate small scale residential development adjacent to existing.
- **Commercial**: A distinct lack of development within an overly featureless rural landscape. Any large scale development of this nature would alter the landscape character of the LCT.
- **Industrial**: An overly featureless agricultural landscape. Some evidence of large scale industrial development at industrial estate on Skiff Lane. LCT is largely ordinary and featureless with some capacity to accommodate development of this nature adjacent to existing.
- **Agricultural**: A distinct lack of development within a generally featureless agricultural landscape. LCT able to accommodate development of this nature within existing farmsteads.
- **Recreational**: Lack of large scale recreational development within LCT, some PRoW in connection with River Foulness. LCT is largely ordinary and featureless with some capacity to accommodate development of this nature.

### Sensitivity to Development at LCA level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Residential</th>
<th>Commercial</th>
<th>Industrial</th>
<th>Agricultural</th>
<th>Recreational</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>7A</strong></td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low-Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7B</strong></td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low-Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 7: FOULNESS OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

This remote rural landscape is intensively farmed with few settlements and scattered farmsteads. The area is very open and new built structures would impact on landscape character by introducing new features that are not characteristic to this landscape. However, the landscape is assessed to be of ordinary quality and therefore is less likely to be sensitive to detrimental change as a result of certain types of development.

Due to the scale and scattered nature of existing settlements this LCT is assessed to be of medium-high sensitivity to residential development, but may have some capacity for small scale development adjoining or in keeping with existing.

Overall it is assessed that the landscape has high capacity to accept agricultural development that respects the scale, location and layout of existing agricultural development. The landscape has low capacity to accept other types of commercial development that would introduce urban characteristics to the rural landscape.

There is some evidence of industrial development at the industrial estate along Skiff Lane. The landscape is overly featureless with some capacity to accommodate industrial development within existing development limits.

There is a distinct lack of recreational development within this LCT, limited to some Public Rights of Way in connection with the River Foulness. There is some capacity to accommodate certain types of recreational development, sensitive to the landscape character.

Strategy

The strategy for this LCT is to enhance landscape character by enhancing and reinstating characteristics and key features.

Promote the re-planting of hedgerow field boundaries with hedgerow trees where they have been lost and the gapping up of existing fragmented hedgerows.

Promote woodland planting particularly around new farm buildings and also to link in with the existing sparse woodland network. Planting and management should aim to increase diversity in structure, habitat and help integrate new development within the existing landscape.

Encourage the management of fields, adjacent to the River Foulness, to revert their margins to semi natural wetland habitats. This should broaden the influence of the river character and increase diversity while maintaining openness.

Ensure that development proposals for the area consider landscape character and respect the existing openness and remoteness of the area. New agricultural development should only be permitted where its location and design are such that the development is not prominent in the open landscape. Mitigation measures should include woodland, tree and hedgerow planting. The characteristic openness of the LCT and views of the Wolds and key features such as village churches should be protected.

New industrial development in this LCT would further impact on landscape character. Where new development is permitted mitigation measures should include woodland structure planting that respects the scale of the development in its landscape context i.e. larger buildings would require larger scale planting schemes to successfully integrate the development with the surrounding landscape.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 8: M62 CORRIDOR FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

DESCRIPTION OF LOCATION
This Landscape Character Type (LCT) extends along the M62 corridor west to east from the boundary of the East Riding with Selby District to the edge of the Yorkshire Wolds where the M62 ceases to be motorway. The LCT includes the farmland in this transportation network corridor and settlements including Goole.

Relevant National Character Area
- 27: Yorkshire Wolds
- 39: Humberhead Levels

SUMMARY OF KEY CHARACTERISTICS, FEATURES AND LAND USE
Key characteristics of M62 Corridor Farmland in the Humberhead Levels
- Low lying flat agricultural landscape.
- Open views particularly from the motorway which is slightly raised above the surrounding area.
- Communication infrastructure is a prominent feature i.e. motorway, roads and canal.
- Settlement pattern is linear along communications corridors.
- Linear tree and woodland cover associated with roads and railway lines.
- Hedgerows field boundaries in varying condition.
- Varied field size and field pattern along the corridor.
- Varying scales of commercial development is present along the corridor.
- The port of Goole is a major settlement in the East Riding located in this corridor.
- Horticultural development is a feature of the corridor north east of Goole.
- Railway lines and pylons are present.
- Views of landmark structures e.g. Howden Minster and Boothferry Bridge and Goole Docks.

STATEMENT OF OPPORTUNITIES
- Opportunities to restore and expand floodplain landscapes and restore arable land to pastoral flood plain.
- Opportunities to create species rich grassland along the stretches of floodplain enhancing their biodiversity value and their contribution to landscape character.
- Ensure that transport corridor development or associated industry/commerce and other urban expansion includes mitigation and elements of green infrastructure.

LANDSCAPE INFLUENCES
Physical Influences
The under lying solid geology of the area is Sherwood Sandstone from the Triassic period to the west of Goole and Mercia Mudstone to the east. This has been overlain by glacial deposits of the Devensian period when the area was largely covered by Lake Humber. More recent alluvium deposits are found along the River Foulness.

Soils are mainly ground water gleys. Agricultural Land Classification is a mix of Grade 1 and Grade 2 with some areas of Grade 3.

The majority of the flat, low lying landform is within the tidal floodplain. Ground levels range from approximately 0m to 10m AOD.

The rivers in the Humberhead Levels were created in the early post glacial (Holocene) period. The man made Aire and Calder Navigation was constructed in 1862 and enters the River Ouse south of Goole.
Human Influences

The main human influences on this LCT are the transport routes that pass through it. The M62 is a motorway connecting the east and west coast of England. The Aire and Calder Canal and the Dutch River are two man made water features in this corridor that are also important traffic routes. Signs of early human activity are not apparent in the landscape character of the area except possibly in the location of settlement and the remnant early enclosure field patterns that may be found in isolated locations. There are three scheduled monuments all of which are medieval moated sites indicating there was human presence on the fertile land in the Middle Ages.

Goole is a main town in the centre of this LCT located in the meander of the River Ouse on the east bank between the M62 motorway and the Aire and Calder Navigation and Dutch River. Goole is a relatively new town that was built between 1824–1830 to serve as a transhipment port for the canal company. The town is a fine example of a deliberately planned and constructed industrial centre. Goole was a small village until the construction of the Dutch River in the 1600s. Goole Bridge was built across the Dutch River and a settlement developed on the east side (now known as old Goole). A port was constructed by the ‘Aire and Calder Navigation Company’ in the 1820s and was the start of rapid development on the west side of Goole Bridge.

This corridor contains a number of other settlements including the large villages of Gilberdyke and Newport located on the B1230 which runs parallel to the M62. There are also a number of commercial and industrial sites that have taken advantage of the good communications network in this corridor landscape.

Howden is on the edge of the LCT north of Goole. Gilberdyke and Newport are large villages on the B1230 that runs almost parallel to the south of the M62. Both villages grew considerably in the 20th century.

Recent industrial development on the western edge of Goole and at Howden Dyke has impacted on the views of this rural landscape. Large shed structures have been introduced and effective landscape mitigation is hard to achieve. Large earth bunds can have the effect of highlighting the scale of the structure and introduce inappropriate landform to the flat landscape.
Drainage in this LCT started in the medieval period. The Dutch River was constructed in the early 17th century as part of a wider scheme to drain Hatfield Moors. It was completed in 1633–36. The drainage of the land surrounding Goole has resulted in the intensively farmed landscape that is characteristic today.

**Ecological Influences**

This is a relatively built up part of the East Riding with few trees and woodland blocks. Recent tree planting in the area appears to be concentrated along road corridors particularly at motorway junctions and where bridges cross the motorway.

The low lying landscape is drained by a series of ditches and drains that provide potential habitat for several species including water voles. These ditches and drains link into the River Ouse and are an important characteristic.

Within this LCT, the River Ouse, which is crossed by the motorway, is part of the Humber Estuary SSSI. In some areas, the ecological value of the LCT has been affected, where intensive farming practices and development have impacted upon the characteristics of the rural landscape.

**Statutory Designations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RAMSAR</td>
<td>Humber Estuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Protection Area (SPA)</td>
<td>Humber Estuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Area of Conservation (SAC)</td>
<td>Humber Estuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Humber Estuary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LINKS TO ADJACENT CHARACTER AREAS**

**Adjacent ERYC LCTs**

- 4: River Corridors
- 5: Open Farmland
- 6: Wooded Open Farmland
- 7: Foulness Open Farmland
- 9: Drained Open Farmland
- 11: Jurassic Hills Farmland

**Adjacent Regional Landscape Character Area**

- North Yorkshire Landscape Character Assessment (2011) – LCA 23 Levels Farmland
- Doncaster Landscape Character Assessment (2006) – LCA F2 Owston to Skyhouse Settled Clay Farmlands
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 8: M62 CORRIDOR FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS
Three Landscape Character Areas (LCA) have been identified in this LCT. They are:
- 8A: M62 Corridor Howden to Gilberdyke
- 8B: M62 Corridor Gilberdyke to North Cave
- 8C: M62 Corridor Hook to Pollington

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTIONS

Character Area 8A:    M62 Corridor Howden to Gilberdyke
This area extends from the M62 river crossing over the Ouse north of Goole and encompasses the farmland of the M62 corridor as far as Gilberdyke.

While predominantly agricultural land, commercial development is expanding at Howden Dyke and south east of Howden and is affecting the rural character of the LCA. However, this development is isolated from built up areas and is an anomaly in the landscape. Wind turbines on the skyline at Sixpenny Wood and Eastrington also impact on the character of the LCA.

This part of the corridor is sparsely populated. The Conservation Area of Howden is located on the northern boundary and there are good views of Howden Minster from this area.

Fields are very large in the area close to the River Ouse and the town of Howden. Agricultural Land Classification is predominantly Grade 3 with areas of Grade 2 and Grade 1 along river corridors. There are some areas of vegetable crop and cereal production in this LCA. Towards Gilberdyke field size begins to get smaller and there are more substantial hedgerow boundaries some with trees.

Numerous farmsteads are dispersed throughout the countryside.

Gilberdyke was named after a 12th century drainage ditch dug as part of a system to drain salt marshes. The village expanded east after the enclosure of Bishopsoil Common in 1767-77.

The predominantly arable landscape is relatively tranquil away from the A614 and the M62 corridor.

Character Area 8B:   M62 Corridor Gilberdyke to South Cave
This area extends from Gilberdyke and encompasses the farmland of the M62 corridor as far as South Cave. Sand and gravel extraction is ongoing west of North Cave and there may be future expansion. Several water bodies in this corridor, including fishing ponds at Newport, are the result of mineral extraction.

The character of this area is influenced by the built development of Gilberdyke and Newport, two settlements located on the B1230 (former A63) and adjacent development for agriculture, horticulture and other commercial businesses including industrial development at M62 Junction 38 at Newport.

Field pattern is rectilinear and the expansion of Gilberdyke appears to have followed that pattern.

Some of the former quarried areas have been returned to Local Wildlife Sites and are of local ecological importance. The eastern edge of the LCA is on the fringes of the Yorkshire Wolds, and as such has calcareous soils in localised patches with typical associated plant species.

Newport developed on Market Weighton Canal after 1780, later expanding to the junction of the canal with the B1230. The adjacent Walling Fen was enclosed in 1781 and the discovery of good quality clay led to many brickworks becoming established.
The settlement of North Cave on the eastern boundary of this LCA has a designated Conservation Area for its historic and architectural importance, and an extensive Yorkshire Wildlife Trust nature reserve at North Cave Wetlands.

The predominantly arable landscape is relatively tranquil away from the B1230 and the M62 corridor.

The predominantly arable landscape is relatively tranquil away from built development at Gilberdyke and the M62 corridor.

**Character Area 8C: M62 Corridor Hook to Pollington**

This area extends from the boundary with North Yorkshire to the boundary with South Yorkshire near Pollington. It encompasses the farmland of the M62 corridor as far as the M62 river crossing over the Ouse north of Goole.

The LCA is intensively farmed and lies adjacent to large areas of industrial development on the western edge of Goole in the M62 corridor. A glass factory, large scale distribution depot and associated infrastructure such as roads and services have been constructed. The Aire and Calder Navigation and Dutch River are prominent linear features in the area pronounced by the embankments that enclose them. Their banks are grazed in contrast to the cereal crops grown in adjacent fields. The glass factory and depot are substantial landmarks on the edge of Goole. These large buildings have changed the character of the setting of Goole on its southwest side and the adjoining agricultural land. On a smaller scale new residential development on the south side of Snaith is prominent as there is little vegetation to screen development.

Goole and Snaith are the largest towns in the LCA with several nucleated villages within the B1230 corridor. The villages of Rawcliffe and Airmyn are located on the southern bank of the River Aire. Rawcliffe and Snaith are Conservation Areas.

Farmland comprises large to medium sized irregular shaped field in the west becoming rectilinear to the east. There are very few trees and woods in this area with the majority of tree cover comprising planting associated with the motorway and its junctions.
**LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 8: M62 CORRIDOR FARMLAND**  
**NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS**

### Sensitivity and Capacity

The following table sets out the sensitivity of the LCT to different types of development. Refer to Appendix 4 for full details of the assessment criteria.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landscape quality (condition)</td>
<td>The LCT has a low level of landscape quality resulting from the influence of transport infrastructure, commerce and industry and associated low levels of management.</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenic quality</td>
<td>The LCT has a fragmented landscape with a number of large scale detractors including the M62 corridor. Infrastructure and communications are a dominant feature across the LCT.</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarity (of elements, features or LCT's)</td>
<td>Landscape elements are typical, although distinctiveness is found within the riverside villages.</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representativeness (in relation to prevailing landscape character)</td>
<td>The Humberhead Levels is a flat, low-lying and large scale agricultural landscape similar to much of the East Riding. It is distinguished by the M62 and associated activity and development.</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation interests (wildlife, earth science, archaeological, historic, cultural)</td>
<td>Local Wildlife Sites include Ings wood, Slipperbridge Pit, Newport Pond, Newport Brick Ponds, Southfield Reservoir, Went Ings and Oak Hill. Scheduled Monuments include moated sites at Newland Farm and Kings Manor.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational value</td>
<td>The LCT offers few recreational routes. However, national trail and long distance routes include the Transpennine Trail and the Aire and Calder tow path.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perceptual aspects (openness, wildness, tranquillity, remoteness)</td>
<td>The LCT contains an active and connected landscape resulting from the influence of infrastructure and associated development. It has an open nature with more tranquil areas found away from major infrastructure.</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associations (with people or events)</td>
<td>There are three medieval moated sites indicating there was human presence on the fertile land in the Middle Ages. Signs of early human activity are not apparent in the area.</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 8: M62 CORRIDOR FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

prominent landmarks, as is the spire of the parish church. Turbines, Pylons, cranes and grain silos also contribute to the skyline.

The farmland landscape is fragmented by industrial development and large scale transport infrastructure including the A614 and A1041.

EVALUATION

Quality

The number of detractors and the fragmentation of the landscape have affected the quality of this LCT which is assessed to be ordinary overall with areas of poor quality where the landscape is affected by commercial and industrial development.

Positive Landscape Features

- Open, long distance views to features such as Howden Minster, Boothferry Bridge and the M62 Bridge
- Rural agricultural setting of settlement in the area
- Scattered farmsteads away from villages
- Linear features of the navigation and roads

Forces for Change

Pressure for new residential development in the District may result in demand for housing and mixed use sites on the edge of settlement in the area, particularly as the LCT has good communication links.

There may be pressure for agricultural and horticultural development in the future particularly linked to the industrial development on the western fringe of Goole.

Goole is an important employment centre in the district and has good communications. There may be continued pressure for large scale commercial and industrial development on the edge of Goole as well as in other areas such as Howden Dyke, Newport and along the M62 corridor. The potential cumulative impact of development in the corridor around Howden, Newport and Goole is considerable.

Pressures on the farming industry and Countryside Stewardship Schemes will result in change to the appearance of the landscape over time. This may be a positive change that reintroduces key characteristics where they have been lost and strengthens sense of place.

The proliferation of traffic measures including signs and lighting has impacted on character and future change may result in adverse cumulative impact in this rural landscape.

There are a number of turbine developments within this LCT ranging from small scale to very large. There will continue to be pressure for renewable energy developments in the East Riding. This pressure, coupled with the robust landscape and areas of urban and rural degradation, may lead to additional wind development proposals in future.

Condition and Strength of Character

This is an essentially rural landscape that is fragmented by the corridors of communications route most notably the M62 but also other major roads, railway lines and the Aire and Calder Navigation. This LCT also contains a range of development types, the largest of which are the glass factory and distribution depot located west of Goole with smaller industrial development south of Howden. Large scale horticultural buildings are present in the corridor landscape near Gilberdyke and Newport. These large scale developments are detractors in the landscape and have weakened the rural character in the area. However, despite the detractors there are important
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 8: M62 CORRIDOR FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

landmark features that contribute to sense of place e.g. the Salt and Pepper pots and parish church at Goole.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value attached to LCT</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low lying flat landscape with relatively low level of scenic quality. Mixture of rural and developed landscape with industry and infrastructure evident. A number of ecological designations associated with the Humber Estuary. Landscape is fragmented by transport infrastructure.</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Susceptibility to Development</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residential</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Settlement is generally limited to Gilberdyke and other small villages either side of the M62. Due to the busy nature of the landscape and the dominating presence of industry and infrastructure, residential development adjacent to existing could be accommodated.</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some commercial development present, particularly to the south of the M62. The robust, busy landscape has some capacity for development of this nature without affecting the integrity of the landscape.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industry and infrastructure are evident within this LCT. The robust, busy landscape could accommodate development of this type without affecting its integrity.</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limited agricultural development present. The dominating presence of industry and infrastructure mean that the area has some capacity for development of this nature without affecting the integrity of the landscape, depending on the scale of development.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Transpenine Trail is one of few PRoW's in the area. There is a distinct lack of large scale recreational development within the LCT. The robust and busy landscape could potentially accommodate sensitively located development of this nature.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Sensitivity to Development at LCA level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Residential</th>
<th>Commercial</th>
<th>Industrial</th>
<th>Agricultural</th>
<th>Recreational</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8A</td>
<td>Low-Medium</td>
<td>Low-Medium</td>
<td>Low-Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8B</td>
<td>Low-Medium</td>
<td>Low-Medium</td>
<td>Low-Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8C</td>
<td>Low-Medium</td>
<td>Low-Medium</td>
<td>Low-Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 8: M62 CORRIDOR FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

This is a low lying, flat and fragmented landscape with relatively low scenic quality that retains elements of its rural character in some places.

This LCT has been assessed to be ordinary in quality with areas of poor quality where development does not fit with character. The potential cumulative impact of development within this corridor around Goole and Howden is great. The rural character of the area between the two settlements is at risk of being changed as a result of development. Therefore, the LCT is assessed to have high sensitivity to development that would result in increased coalescence of the appearance of industrial development in the landscape.

This landscape is heavily influenced by the M62 highway and the levels of development that has occurred along its corridor. The LCT is assessed as low quality and despite the potential for cumulative affects the area has some capacity for certain development types.

Settlement is generally limited to Gilberdyke and other small villages either side of the M62. Due to the busy nature of landscape and the dominating presence of industry and infrastructure sensitivity is assessed as low-medium to this type of development and development adjacent to existing could be accommodated.

There are some pockets of commercial development within this landscape, particularly to the south of the M62. The robust and busy landscape has some capacity to accommodate further commercial development adjacent to existing.

Industry and infrastructure are evident within this landscape, depending on the nature of development. The landscape is robust enough to accommodate additional development of this nature without altering the character.

There is limited agricultural development present, although there are some examples associated with scattered farmsteads. The dominating presence of industry and infrastructure mean that the area has some capacity for development of this nature without affecting the integrity of the landscape, depending on the scale.

The Transpenine Trail is one of few Public Rights of Way in this LCT. There is a distinct lack of large scale recreational development present with the LCT assessed as medium sensitivity to development of this kind. However, due to the busy nature of the landscape there may be some capacity for sensitively located development of this type.

Quarrying has traditionally been active in the eastern end of this LCT, with some examples still remaining. There may be future pressure to expand activities. At present the impact of these activities is localised.

Strategy

The strategy for this LCT is to enhance landscape character by encouraging the reinstatement of lost features such as hedgerows and trees.

Tree, woodland and hedgerow planting could be used to integrate new and old development with the landscape as well as screen it. Large scale development cannot be screened effectively from close quarters. Opportunities for planting at greater distance from development and close to receptors should be considered as this could help to mitigate poor views.

Field pattern is an important characteristic that has been affected by linear constructions through the landscape and field amalgamation to accommodate modern farming practices. Ensure that fields are not enlarged further and, where appropriate, encourage the reintroduction of hedgerow boundaries to reinforce field pattern.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 8: M62 CORRIDOR FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

New development should respect local vernacular, context and mitigate visual prominence within the open landscape. Measures to integrate development with the surrounding landscape should include woodland, tree and hedgerow planting. The positive characteristics of the area and attractive or significant key views should be protected.

Wind turbine proposals should respect the scale and pattern of development in the landscape. Turbines seen in context with existing tall structures may be easier to incorporate without detrimental impact to character. As with other LCT’s, a detailed assessment will be required for individual proposals to determine the sensitivity and capacity of the landscape to specific proposals.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 9: DRAINED OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

DESCRIPTION OF LOCATION
This Landscape Character Type (LCT) is located to the south and east of Goole and encompasses the floodplain farmland of the River Ouse. The Thorne, Crowle and Goole Moors Important Landscape Area is located within this LCT.

Relevant National Character Area

- 27: Yorkshire Wolds
- 39: Humberhead Levels

SUMMARY OF KEY CHARACTERISTICS, FEATURES AND LAND USE
Key Characteristics of Drained Open Farmland in the Humberhead Levels

- Low lying flat intensively farmed arable landscape.
- Sparse settlement concentrated along the river corridor.
- Scattered farmsteads and villages.
- Windmill towers are visible in several villages on the south bank of the River Ouse.
- Open large scale landscape with very few trees and woodland.
- Generally large fields south of the river.
- Combination of fragmented hedgerow and ditch field boundaries.
- Long linear field pattern unique to Goole Fields reflects past farming method.
- Extensive views across the flat open landscape.
- Large scale wind development present and visible within the landscape.

STATEMENT OF OPPORTUNITIES

- Protect and enhance the dynamic fluvial landscapes and restore arable land to pastoral floodplain landscapes along watercourses.
- Maintain the open and remote character of this landscape. Landscape pattern has historical significance regarding the drainage of land for agricultural use. The maintenance of this pattern would contribute to the retention of historic landscape character in the area.
- Opportunity to reintroduce wetland habitat to the LCT to improve biodiversity and visual diversity in this large scale arable landscape.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 9: DRAINED OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

LANDSCAPE INFLUENCES

Physical Influences

The underlying solid geology of the area is Sherwood Sandstone from the
Triassic period to the west of Goole and Mercia Mudstone to the east. This
has been overlain by glacial deposits of the Devensian period when the area
was largely covered by Lake Humber and more recent alluvium deposits.
Peat is also present in the southern part of the East Riding and this LCT.
Soils are mainly brown earths derived from alluvium. They have an
Agricultural Land Classification of predominantly Grade 1 and Grade 2, with
some areas of Grade 3 and 4 near the M62 motorway.

The landform is low lying and flat with ground level ranging from 0m -10m
AOD. Much of the area is in the tidal floodplain. As a result the drainage
system is pumped and the agricultural land is drained by a series of linear
ditches and warping drains.

The rivers in the Humberhead Levels were created in the early post glacial
(Holocene) period.

Human Influences

Land use over the centuries has shaped the landscape of this LCT. The
majority of archaeological and historic interest is expressed through peat
remains, buried sites, drainage structure and field systems. It is the drainage
structure and field systems which contribute to the character of this type
today. Much of the area would have been marsh and carr in early medieval
times with areas of saltmarsh where there was tidal inundation.

Open field landscapes, where strip farming was once the order of the day,
are an important part of the Humberhead Levels and there are good
examples of this at Goole Fields and to some extent Twin Rivers where fields
have become more amalgamated.

The soil on land adjacent to the River Ouse is known as warp. The soil in
these areas has been improved by flooding areas of land using the natural
tidal flow of the River and allowing the sediment to settle out before letting
the water back into the River. This is done over several years before the land
is put back into agricultural production and was used in the 19th and early
20th century.

To the east of Goole Fields the field pattern is large scale less linear and less
regular indicating that the fields are pre parliamentary enclosure fields for
the most part that have been amalgamated to make larger units for farming.

Tree cover is sparse and where present, located along field boundaries as
feature trees or small woodland blocks associated with farmsteads and
villages. Mineral extraction takes place in this LCT. At Blacktoft, north of the
River Ouse clay is extracted for brick making. Bricks have been an important
building block for the East Riding since the 14th Century and at one time
there were a number of small clay quarries across the District. At Goole
Moor peat extraction has recently been stopped.

South of Goole wind turbines are a strong feature of the landscape,
occupying larger areas and visible within medium and long views.

Major road and transport routes include the A161 primary transport corridor
and the Hull to Doncaster Railway. Other roads are limited to smaller
country lanes and private access tracks.

Ecological Influences

Low lying land associated with fluvial drift deposits and supporting wetland
is seasonally wet. Drainage of the land and intensive farming practices along
with the lack of vegetation cover has reduced the biodiversity of the area over the centuries. However, Thorne and Hatfield Moors are an important ecological resource in the south of this LCT and extend over a large area into Doncaster's administrative area.

Statutory Influences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RAMSAR</td>
<td>Humber Estuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Protection Area (SPA)</td>
<td>Humber Estuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Protection Area (SPA)</td>
<td>Thorne and Hatfield Moors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Area of Conservation</td>
<td>Humber Estuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Humber Estuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Thorne, Crowle &amp; Goole Moors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Area of Conservation (SAC)</td>
<td>Thorne Moors</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Adjacent regional Landscape Character Area

- North Lincolnshire Landscape Character Assessment (1999) – LCA Humber Estuary
- Doncaster Landscape Character Assessment and Capacity Study (2006) – G2 - Thorne and Hatfield Peat Moorlands

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS

Five Landscape Character Areas (LCA) have been identified within this LCT. They are:

- 9A: Thorn Moors
- 9B: Goole Fields
- 9C: Twin Rivers Farmland
- 9D: Blacktoft and Laxton Farmland
- 9E: Walling Fen and Ellerker Sands Farmland

DETAILED CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTIONS

Character Area 9A:  Thorn Moors

Thorne Moors lies across the border between the East Riding of Yorkshire and South Yorkshire. It forms part of the largest expanse of lowland raised mire in England, the Thorne, Crowle and Goole Moors SSSI and Important Landscape Area, the Thorne and Hatfield Moors SPA and the area is designated as the Humberhead Peatlands National Nature Reserve.

The LCA is an unsettled area of nature conservation interest. Much of the surface was modified by commercial peat extraction, however recently re-colonisation of the flora and fauna has established following the cessation of peat extraction. Largely devoid of trees there are areas of scrub, blocks of woodland and birch regeneration to the fringes of this area.
There is an extensive series of canals throughout, linking the peat cuttings, which are of particular ecological importance and support several species which would have formed the original raised mire flora.

There are extensive views across the flat open landscape that are intermittently interrupted by scrub and birch regeneration on the moors. A number of large wind turbines are located to the north, within LCA 9B and further afield, providing prominent vertical elements within views. Drax Power Station is a prominent distant skyline feature.

A remote and isolated landscape owing to the lack of settlement and roads, the LCA is relatively featureless and empty with a flat, expansive, landscape dominated by the skyline.

Character Area 9B: Goole Fields

This is a large area of intensively farmed arable land located south of Goole extending to Rawcliffe Bridge in the west and Swinefleet in the east.

The majority of the area is Grade 1 arable farmland and a variety of cereal and root crops are grown. The Goole Fields wind farm which comprises of 33 large turbines occupies a large central area of the LCA.

The largely linear villages of Old Goole and Swinefleet are located on the south bank of the River Ouse on the northern boundary of the LCA.

Long linear fields radiate southwards from the rear of these villages extending across the flat landscape of Goole Fields. The fields in the main are bound by ditches that drain this low lying area into the River Ouse. The drainage system is pumped because of the low lying nature of the land.

Settlement comprises of isolated farmsteads and residential which are often accessed by long private tracks or roads.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 9: DRAINED OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

Character Area 9C: Twin Rivers Farmland

This LCA extends to the corridors of the River Ouse and River Trent to the north and east respectively. The southern boundary adjoins North Lincolnshire.

The LCA comprises of agricultural land with arable fields, distinguished from Goole Fields due to the different field pattern in the area. The Twin Rivers windfarm is located to the south of Ousefleet and west of Adlingfleet.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 9: DRAINED OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

The linear villages of Reedness, Whitgift, Ousefleet and Adlingfleet are located on the sole connecting road within the LCA which loosely follows the River Trent and River Ouse.

Fields tend to be linear extending south from the rear of the villages, however they are wider and more sinuous in shape than those in Goole Fields becoming more irregular further east. The pattern indicates early enclosure rather than parliamentary enclosure. Many field boundaries are marked by ditches and hedgerows tend to be concentrated around villages and smaller fields.

The village of Adlingfleet to the east has a Conservation Area and a medieval rectory designated as a scheduled monument.

Water voles have been recorded in several of the water courses in this area, as have the non-native American mink, which preys on the water vole.

Views across the flat open landscape are extensive. Vertical elements such as telegraph poles, pylons and wind turbines are detractors in the area, which are visible from large areas of the LCA and neighbouring LCAs.

The LCA is remote as a result of the few settlements and roads resulting in a simple and large scale landscape.

Character Area 9D: Blacktoft and Laxton Farmland

This LCA is located north of the River Ouse, south of Gilberdyke and east of Howden. It comprises agricultural land south of the M62 corridor and north of the River Ouse corridor. The Sixpenny Wood windfarm is located to the south of Balkolme.

Small villages are located in the south of this area almost parallel to the River Ouse, the largest being Blacktoft, Broomfleet and Laxton. Villages in the LCA tend to be linear, extending along the few connecting roads present.

Tree cover tends to be associated with farmsteads and villages while hedgerows are a characteristic but an intermittent feature. Few isolated farmsteads are scattered throughout the countryside. Field size ranges from small to large.

There are two scheduled monuments in this LCA associated with moated sites at Metham Hall Farm and Faxfleet Hall. Their presence suggests that
the area has been settled and farmed for several centuries. The River Ouse has contributed to the fertility of the land through warping and drainage. This is important to the agricultural industry in this low lying area with much of the area relying on a pumped drainage system.

Extensive views across the open arable landscape are occasionally interrupted by small areas of woodland. Large scale wind development is highly visible on the skyline and detracts from views, particularly to the southwest.

Sixpenny Windfarm from Laxton (2017)

The expansive landscape is remote and tranquil owing to sparse settlements and roads.

Character Area 9E:  Walling Fen and Ellerker Sands Farmland

Located south of the M62 corridor this LCA borders the Yorkshire Wolds to the east and the Humber Estuary to the south. This is a productive, intensively farmed area north of the Hull to Selby Railway line distinguished by the urban influence of adjoining LCA.

The LCA has a rectilinear pattern of large fields in the west that becomes smaller and loses its structure in the east. A key characteristic is that the field pattern is uninterrupted by settlements and few minor roads cross the area with scattered farmsteads.

The early medieval landscape of this low lying area would have been marsh and carr. There were possibly areas of saltmarsh here too due to tidal inundation.

The enclosure of 5000 acres of land at Walling Fen took place in 1781. Drainage of the area was affected by the Market Weighton canal and it was not until the demise of navigation that drainage could be improved. Ellerker sands were reclaimed from the River Ouse at the beginning of the 18th century when New Bank was constructed.

The eastern edge of this area is on the fringes of the Yorkshire Wolds, has calcareous soils in localised patches with typical associated plant species. Conservation interest derives from proximity to the Humber Estuary which is designated as an SSSI, SPA, SAC, and a RAMSAR site.

The remote, large scale landscape contains few, settlements and infrastructure.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 9: DRAINED OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

Just extending into the East Riding, Thorne and Hatfield Moors Important Landscape Area and SSSI is located to the south of the LCT, along with Humberhead Peatlands NNR and Thorne and Hatfield Moors SPA. The Thorne Crowle and Goole Important Landscape Area extends into the neighbouring authority of Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council and is assessed to be of high landscape quality, not only because of its ecological value but also because of its rarity i.e. there are few similar landscapes remaining today.

Positive Landscape Features

- Few trees and woods resulting in an open landscape with long distance views over large areas of flat arable land
- Distinctive linear field pattern south of Goole at Goole Fields
- Linear settlements along the river.
- Buildings traditionally brick with pantile roofs
- One or two windmill towers have survived as local landmarks in the villages on the south bank of the river.

Forces for Change

Pressures on the farming industry are likely to lead to changing land management practices and farm diversification. Countryside Stewardship schemes continue to present an opportunity to ensure this change is positive. At present recreation activities in this LCT are few and it is not anticipated this will become a problem in the future.

Previous renewable energy targets and the remote, featureless nature of this area have meant that this LCT was under great pressure to accommodate wind farm development. Several large scale wind farm developments now exist within the LCT, introducing highly visible vertical elements that contrast with the flat, extensive landscape. Due to extensive views, low settlement

Farmland at Walling Fen (2005)

EVALUATION

Quality

The landscape quality of this area is assessed as good due to the strong sense of place it has, the value placed on its openness and the historic development of land use in the area. Although the development of several windfarms within the LCT has lowered the remote quality of the area, its distinctiveness remains largely unchanged.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 9: DRAINED OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

density, open-ness and scale of the landscape, much of the existing character remains, but continuing pressure to extend wind turbine development here would need in depth assessment of the cumulative impact of wind farm development prior to further development.

This area is low lying and rising sea level will result in a change to the landscape. It is possible some areas could become flooded in time.

There is limited pressure for commercial development and residential development in the area. Where development has taken place in recent years it has been small scale and has been accommodated into the existing landscape character.

**Condition and Strength of Character**

This area is remote and unique. Goole Fields has a distinctive linear field pattern that contrasts with the other field patterns in the area. All are large scale. The area has a strong sense of character despite being relatively featureless.

Philip Larkin regularly visited the villages in this area, most notably Laxton, Kiplin and Broomfleet in Character Area 9D, and took inspiration from the associated landscape in his poetry.

Strung out linear villages are a distinctive characteristic, particularly on the south bank of the River Ouse. The limited number of roads through the area also contributes to the relatively isolated character of the area.
## LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 9: DRAINED OPEN FARMLAND
### NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

### Sensitivity and Capacity

The following table sets out the sensitivity of the LCT to different types of development. Refer to Appendix 4 for full details of the assessment criteria.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landscape quality (condition)</td>
<td>This LCT contains landscape of high quality resulting from areas of well managed farmland. Areas influenced by urban development and/or infrastructure are generally lower in quality. Goole Moors Important Landscape Area is located mainly within the LCA 9A and partially within LCA 9B. High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenic quality</td>
<td>Scenic quality varies from average to good across the LCT depending upon whether distinctive and rare features are present. The presence of transport infrastructure and wind energy detracts from the overall character of the area. Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarity (of elements, features or LCT's)</td>
<td>The LCT contains evidence of strip farming and peat/clay extraction which is uncommon within the East Riding area. The area includes remnant windmills which are more common. The remaining elements in the landscape are more typical. Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representativeness (in relation to prevailing landscape character)</td>
<td>The Humberhead Levels is a flat, low-lying and large scale agricultural landscape that is remote and unique. High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation interests (wildlife, earth science, archaeological, historic, cultural)</td>
<td>The LCT is offers a medium level of conservation interest. SPA/SSSI sites include Thorn Crowle &amp; Goole Moors and Humberhead Peatlands National Nature Reserve. Local Wildlife Sites include Broomfleet Washlands, Broomfleet Pits, Oxmdyke Washlands, Trandy Lane/Kilpin Lane and Saltmarshes Delph. Scheduled Monuments include moated sites at Metham Hall Farm and Faxfleet Hall. Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational value</td>
<td>Recreational routes are limited with no national trails or long distance walking routes present. National Cycle Route 65 passes through the LCT. Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perceptual aspects (openness, wildness, tranquillity, remoteness)</td>
<td>There is a strong rural character that ranges from active, in areas close to development and/or transport infrastructure, to tranquil in the surrounding arable landscape. The LCT is generally remote although contains a number of detractors. High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associations (with people or events)</td>
<td>Philip Larkin regularly visited Laxton, Kiplin and Broomfleet that inspired subsequent poetry Low</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 9: DRAINED OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value attached to LCT</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low lying flat agricultural landscape. Ecological interest in the form of Thorn Crowle and Goole SPA/SSSI. Conservational interest in scheduled monuments at Metham Hall Farm and Faxfleet Hall. Large scale wind development is evident at Laxton and south of Goole.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Susceptibility to Development</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Residential</strong> Residential development is often limited to small scale settlements and scattered farmsteads. LCT has a low capacity to accommodate any development of this type without effects upon its overall integrity.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Commercial</strong> There is a distinct lack of commercial development within the predominantly rural landscape. LCT has a low capacity to accommodate development of this type without effects upon its overall integrity.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Industrial</strong> There is a distinct lack of industrial development within the predominantly rural landscape. LCT has a low capacity to accommodate any development of this type without effects upon its overall integrity.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Agricultural</strong> Some existing agricultural development within LCT, which is predominantly agricultural. Long distance views present within LCT with existing development visible on the skyline. LCT can accommodate limited development of this type, in association with existing, without effects upon its overall integrity.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recreational</strong> Distinct lack of recreational development within this area. NCR 65 passes through LCT. Given the pattern and expansive nature of the landscape the LCT has some capacity for development of this nature, similar to existing.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Landscape Character Type 9: Drained Open Farmland

### National Character Area: Humberhead Levels

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Residential</th>
<th>Commercial</th>
<th>Industrial</th>
<th>Agricultural</th>
<th>Recreational</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9A</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9B</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9C</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9D</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9E</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 9: DRAINED OPEN FARMLAND COUNTRYSIDE CHARACTER AREA: HUMBERHEAD LEVELS

This is an open, low lying, flat, farmland landscape with few trees and hedgerows, and sparse settlement. Views across the area are extensive and open from all sides. As a result the character and the lack of existing elements, this relatively good quality landscape has high sensitivity to commercial and industrial development that would not respect landscape pattern and the openness of the LCT.

Residential development is often limited to small scale settlements and scattered farmsteads. This LCT is assessed as medium-high sensitivity to residential development and low capacity to accommodate development of this nature without effects on its overall integrity.

There is some existing agricultural development within a predominantly agricultural landscape. Long distance views present with existing development visible in places. LCT is assessed as medium sensitivity and can accommodate limited development of this type, in association with existing development, without effects upon its overall integrity.

There is a distinct lack of existing recreational development within the area. National Cycle Route 65 passes through the LCT in places. Given the pattern and expansive character of the landscape and medium sensitivity to change the landscape has some capacity for recreational development depending on nature and scale.

**Strategy**

The strategy for this LCT is to enhance landscape character. Field patterns make an important contribution but have been amalgamated in places. Encourage existing field boundaries to be maintained and avoid the amalgamation of fields.

New residential development should be located to respect the linear layout of villages and the scattered arrangement of farmsteads. It is important to consider location and materials particularly in an open landscape where screen planting is not characteristic.

All development should respect local vernacular, context and mitigate visual prominence within the open landscape. Where appropriate to local character, measures to integrate development with the surrounding landscape should include woodland, tree and hedgerow planting.

New agricultural buildings should be located within existing farm complexes to limit potential impact of increasing scattered development in the countryside.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 10

COMPLEX INCISED SLOPING WOODED FARMLAND

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East Riding of Yorkshire Council 10023383
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 10: COMPLEX SLOPING FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

DESCRIPTION OF LOCATION
This Landscape Character Type (LCT) is located on the west facing edge of the Yorkshire Wolds north of Market Weighton. Several villages located on the edge of the Wolds including Goodmanham, Londesborough, Nunburnholme, Warter, Millington, Bishop Wilton, Kirby Underdale and Bugthorpe are located in this LCT. Each of these villages is associated with a particular dale which incises the chalk uplands of the Yorkshire Wolds.

This area is currently in the Yorkshire Wolds Important Landscape Area designated in the East Riding Local Plan (2012 - 2029).

Relevant National Character Areas
27: Yorkshire Wolds
28: Vale Of York

SUMMARY OF KEY CHARACTERISTICS, FEATURES AND LAND USE
Key Characteristics of the Complex Sloping Farmland of the Yorkshire Wolds
- Sloping Landform of the west facing Yorkshire Wolds scarp slope.
- Steep sided dales incising the scarp slope with small water courses fed by numerous springs.
- Grassland, woodland and forestry associated with the steep sided dales.
- Diverse landform from the steep sided dales to the rolling elevated farmland.
- Estate villages at Londesborough and Warter.
- Vernacular materials vary between dales but are a mix of red brick and local stone with pantile and Welsh slate roofs.
- Historic field systems and enclosures.

- Narrow roads winding up the dales to the elevated Wolds tops. Straight roads across the Wold tops.
- Extensive views from the elevated farmland between the dales.
- Extensive woodland and tree cover.
- Remote, attractive, diverse and rare landscape that has a tranquil nature.

Millington Pasture (2005)

STATEMENT OF OPPORTUNITIES
- Protect and enhance the diversity of this complex landscape on the edge of the Yorkshire Wolds. Maintain the tranquil and remote characteristics that make this landscape unique.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 10: COMPLEX SLOPING FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

- Protect, enhance and maintain areas of woodland and parkland within the LCT to ensure the continuation of the important landscape character, including restoration of vistas and care of mature trees.
- Protect and expand the extent of species-rich chalk grasslands, strengthening landscape character and promote low intensity management.

LANDSCAPE INFLUENCES

Physical Influences

The underlying solid geology is chalk from the Cretaceous period. The Cretaceous strata have been folded into a syncline whose axis runs north-west to south-east and has resulted in the crescent shape of the Wolds with west and north facing scarp slopes.

The chalk is overlain by wind-blown sand which has contributed to the soil profile. Head has been deposited in the valley bottoms from the upper slopes. On the steeper slopes the soils are thin rendzinas that arise from the chalk parent rock. The ALC for these soils is either Grade 3 or Grade 4. On the higher rolling plateau of the Wolds the wind-blown sand has contributed to thicker soils that are brown earths. These soils have an ALC of Grade 2.

Topography is varied in this area as a result of the dry steep sided dales that incise to scarp slope of the western edge of the Wolds, with ground level ranging from approximately 50m to 220m AOD. Each of the dales has its own distinctive character as a result of steepness, orientation and location.

There are very few streams in this area. The small water courses tend to be confined to the lower elevations of the dales which have numerous springs along their lower slopes.

Human Influences

There is evidence of human activity in this part of the Yorkshire Wolds dating back to prehistoric times. This is reflected by the large number of scheduled monuments, mostly prehistoric burial sites, which are found in this LCT. The highest concentration of scheduled monuments appears to be on the higher ground between the dales. However, this does not necessarily reflect the distribution of human activity over the centuries but more the areas that have been explored.

Roman activity appears to have been concentrated along the top of the scarp slope where a Roman road was once located.

There are several medieval sites in the area including a former Augustinian Priory at Warter established 1132, a Benedictine Priory at Numbnholme and a moated site and enclosures at Bishop Wilton.

There are several nucleated villages located in the dale bottoms that incise the west facing slope of the Wolds. Several of these villages have been planned at various times while others have developed organically. Most originated during the Saxon period but a large amount of rebuilding occurred during the 19th Century. Farmsteads tend to be scattered on the elevated farmland of the Wolds and their buildings are usually clustered around a 19th Century farmhouse. Minor roads in the area tend to be narrow with wide grass verges on the Wolds tops, many of which are floristically rich.

The variety in topography and soils, within the Wold tops and dry valleys, means land use in this LCT is more varied than elsewhere in the East Riding.

This LCT shares many of its landscape attributes with the other Wolds Character Areas, but here they are at their most pronounced. It is predominantly characterised by a combination of two distinct, but
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 10: COMPLEX SLOPING FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

interconnecting, landscape types; the intensely farmed arable fields of the Wold tops and the dry valleys that cut across them. The higher Wolds are an open, rolling landscape, with unrestricted views and ‘big skies’. The arable fields largely date from the Parliamentary planned enclosure of the later 18th or early 19th century and are large and rectangular, bounded by discontinuous hedgerows. In some areas the hedgerows are sparse and over-cut.

Woodland in the Yorkshire Wolds as a whole is rather scarce but this LCT contains a higher proportion. The steep sided dales are predominantly grassland with large areas of woodland. Most is plantation woodland making profitable use of the steep valley slopes, which otherwise could not be cultivated. The elevated farmland is in intensive arable production. Diversity is added as the quality of the grassland varies in the dales and areas of rough semi improved grassland that are lightly grazed have nature conservation designations.

Quarrying for chalk has been carried out on the Wolds for building purposes at varying scales over the years. Disused quarry faces can be seen throughout and there are two quarries in this LCT with a current planning permission.

The A166 and A614 form the primary transport corridors in this LCT with the B1246 and B1247 forming secondary routes. Other roads are limited to smaller country lanes and private access tracks.

There is a network of public footpaths in the area that provide a number of circular routes including around Warter, Pocklington, Londesbrough and Millington. The Wolds Way is a national footpath that passes through this LCT. The Hockney Trail also passes through this LCT linking areas throughout East Riding and art works by David Hockney, including the painting entitled Bigger Trees Near Warter (Hockney, 2007). Recreational activities within the LCT have increased as a result of the quiet roads which are used by runners and cyclists including the Tour De Yorkshire. The LCT contains nationally significant cycle routes including the Way of the Roses and the Yorkshire Wolds Cycle Route.

Ecological Influences

This LCT contains a diversity of habitats due to the complex nature of the landform and resulting land use coupled with the geology, soils and hydrology of the area. The steep sided slopes of the dales that incise the scarp slope are generally grassland or woodland. Intensive arable crop productions does not begin until the land becomes less steep and more rolling at higher elevations.

There are three large SSSIs in this LCT, Millington Wood and Pastures, Thixen Dale and Long Dale, and Bishop Wilton Deep Dale. Two smaller SSSI’s are also found at Beckhead Plantation and Keasey Dale.

The LCT also includes several ancient semi natural woodlands on the Natural England register, notably Millington Wood which is considered to be botanically the richest in the East Rising of Yorkshire. This is probably the most densely wooded LCT in the East Riding.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 10: COMPLEX SLOPING FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

Statutory Designations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Millington Wood and Pastures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Thixen Dale and Long Dale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Bishop Wilton Deep Dale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Beckhead Plantation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Keasey Dale</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LINKS TO ADJACENT CHARACTER AREAS

Adjacent ERYC LCTs

- 1: Flat Open Farmland
- 2: Open Farmland
- 13: Open High Rolling Farmland
- 14: Central Dissected Plateau

Adjacent Regional Landscape Character Area

- North Yorkshire Landscape Character Assessment (2011)
- LCA 19 Chalk Foothills, LCA 21 Narrow Chalk Valley and LCA 28 Vale Farmland with Plantation Woodland and Heathland

View west above Londesborough (2017)
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA 10: COMPLEX SLOPING FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS
Eight Landscape Character Areas (LCA) have been identified in this LCT. They are:

- 10A: Warter Parkland and Estate Farmland
- 10B: Londesborough Parkland and Estate Farmland
- 10C: Garrowby Parkland and Estate Farmland
- 10D: Millington Pasture
- 10E: Deep Dale
- 10F: Kirby Underdale
- 10G: West Wolds Edge Elevated Farmland
- 10H: West Facing Scarp Slope

DETAILED CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTIONS
Character Area 10A: Warter Parkland and Estate Farmland

This LCA encompasses the dales centred on the villages of Warter and Nunburnholme. At its southwest extent the LCA is broad and includes the sloping arable land at the lower end of the dale.

Land use is a combination of forestry, improved and semi improved grassland and scrub concentrated on the steeper slopes with arable fields at the higher elevations where the slope becomes less steep.

The villages of Warter and Nunburnholme are located in the dale bottom giving them an enclosed character in an intimate setting. Both villages are sites of former medieval priories which are now designated scheduled monuments. A Roman Road crossed the dale north of Warter.

Field pattern and woodland planting follow the contours of the steep sided slopes and fields are generally a mix of small, medium and large. The overall scale of the landscape is assessed to be large becoming smaller scale and intimate in the dale bottom close to settlement.

Farmsteads are concentrated in the dale bottom in and between the two villages. Warter has a Conservation Area designation. The oldest houses in the village and the church date from the 19th century when the village was largely rebuilt by the landowner the Pennington family, Lords of Muncaster. Buildings are red brick with Welsh slate roofs. Warter Priory House was demolished in the early 1970s along with the formal gardens. However, the parkland of the estate remains and is a distinctive feature in the dale. Warter was originally a medieval village.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 10: COMPLEX SLOPING FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

Warter Estate Parkland (2005)
This area contains the remains of an Augustinian priory that survive as earthworks and now have scheduled monument designation.

The 19th century church with its prominent steeple contributes to the distinctiveness of the landscape and is home to the Yorkshire Wolds Heritage Centre.

Parkland areas such as this contain large, mature trees (oak, lime and beech), which provide a habitat for dead wood invertebrates and noctule bats. Birds characteristic of these areas include nuthatch and hawfinch.

Keasey Dale SSSI is a site consisting of unimproved calcareous grassland on a dry valley slope (situated north-west of Huggate). Grassland of this type has become restricted in distribution due to agricultural intensification, afforestation and scrub encroachment. Grasses are those typical of chalk grassland.

An area of ancient replanted woodland is situated north of the village of Nunburnholme.

Character Area 10B: Londesborough Parkland and Estate Farmland
This LCA is located on the western edge of the Wolds Scarp Slope north of Market Weighton. It includes the parkland and woodland associated with the village of Londesborough.

Land use consists of grazed pasture in the dale bottom and on the dale sides with arable farmland on higher, flatter land around the dale top. The Londesborough village is an attractive estate village and buildings are a mix of stone and red brick with pantile roofs. The buildings of the village are located on the dale side and surrounded by woodland and trees that block views. Higher up the dale there are extensive views across the well wooded agricultural landscape. Field pattern within this LCA predominantly comprises more modern enclosures.

Londesborough is a Grade II* Registered Historic Park and Garden (RPG) and the designed landscape makes an important contribution to the character of this Wolds Valley. The garden was laid out c1676-80 by Robert Hooke for the 1st Earl of Burlington, alterations and extensions of the garden and park were carried out between 1721 and 1753 for the third Earl. The park was restored in the 19th century.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 10: COMPLEX SLOPING FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

Londesborough village (2005)

Clusters of mature plantation woodland are found within large estates such as Londesborough Park.

Character Area 10C: Garrowby Parkland and Estate Farmland

This LCA is located on the west facing slope of the Yorkshire Wolds where the A166 ascends the slope. The parkland and woodland of the Estate is a distinctive characteristic, covering a large part of the LCA. Other land use is agricultural with Parliamentary planned field pattern.

Settlement within this small LCA is limited to isolated farmsteads and properties including Garrowby Hall, which originated in the early 19th century as a shooting box. It was enlarged by Viscount Halifax at the end of the 19th century in a 17th century style. There is evidence of medieval field systems on the Estate with areas of ridge and furrow evident in the parkland and grass fields.

Garrowby Hill is the summit of Bishop Wilton Wold which is the highest point of the Yorkshire Wolds and the subject of the painting Garrowby Hill (1998) by David Hockney.

Character Area 10D: Millington Pasture

Millington Pastures is located in a dale north of Pocklington. The village is nestled on the southeast facing dale side near the bottom end of the dale. The bottom of the dale and the steep sided slopes are grassland. Higher on the slope arable crop production predominates. There are extensive areas of woodland on the higher dale sides. There is evidence of prehistoric occupation of the dale including several burial mounds. A Roman road crossed the dale northeast of Millington.

Millington Pastures, and the associated woodland, have been designated a SSSI for their geological and biological interest. The area consists of a complex valley system, with different shapes, sizes, aspects and degrees of slope. This diverse topography supports a range of calcareous grassland communities.

A number of historic dykes and field boundaries have been designated as scheduled monuments particularly along the dales valley sides. Field pattern within this LCA is varied with areas ranging from Parliamentary planned and modern enclosure to unenclosed areas of rough pasture along valley sides.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 10: COMPLEX SLOPING FARMLAND
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There are a number of springs in the valley bottom, which give rise to marshy areas. The adjacent Millington Wood is registered ancient semi-natural woodland and part of a SSSI. It is one of the most species-rich woodlands in the East Riding of Yorkshire, supporting a number of rare plants.

[Image of a path and woods]

**Character Area 10E: Deep Dale**

This Landscape Character Area is located north of Millington Pasture and is not associated with a village. There is no road or Public Right of Way down the dale. There is a distinct lack of settlement and transport corridors within this LCA. Several farmsteads overlook the dale from the tops to the east. As with other dales in this LCT, land use in the dale bottom and on the steep valley sides is mainly arable farming, increasing as the slope decreases higher up the dale side.

Hedgerows with fences mark the field boundary between the grassland and arable land. There are few hedgerow trees.

In character with the Yorkshire Wolds this area has calcareous soils in a dry valley complex with a variety of aspects. At Bishop Wilton Deep Dale SSSI the grassland is intermittently used for grazing cattle.

There is some woodland in this LCA which is characteristic at Beckhead Plantation SSSI. Although plantation in origin this site has many features of semi-natural broad-leaved woodland.

This LCA comprises mainly of Parliamentary planned field enclosures and plantation woodland.

There is also some evidence of medieval village earthworks at Little Givendale Farm.

**Character Area 10F: Kirby Underdale**

This LCA is located on the north border of the East Riding and extends into Ryedale to include Thixendale. The village of Kirby Underdale is part of Garrowby Estate and is a designated conservation area. It is located on sloping land near the bottom of the scary slope. There are several woodland blocks in the area. Fields around the village are small in size and have a rectilinear pattern. There are numerous springs and becks draining westwards. The church dates from c1100.

Roads networks are limited to small country lanes within this LCA, most notably Roman Road running roughly south to north on the eastern
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 10: COMPLEX SLOPING FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

Prepared for: East Riding of Yorkshire Council
Landcape Character Assessment Update

There are a number of PRoW within this small LCA including Roman Road which forms part of Route 167 on the Yorkshire Wolds cycle route.

The area includes scattered farmsteads and shelterbelt plantations which date from the enclosure period. There are no substantial woodlands in this LCA. Arable fields are large and bound by closely clipped hedges. Views are extensive stretching across to the Vale of York in the west. Pattern is regular with rectilinear fields. Roads across the tops tend to be straight in comparison to those that wind up the dales. The primary transport routes through this LCA are the A166 road to the north and the A614 to the south. The B1236 forms a secondary route whilst other routes are limited to small rural lanes. There are a number of PRoW that cross through this LCA including Minster Way, Chalklands Way and the Yorkshire Wolds Way. Route 167 of the Yorkshire Wolds Cycle Route also intersects LCA 10G.

There are numerous prehistoric and Roman sites in this LCA but modern farming methods have reduced their influence on landscape character in the main. There is a high density of designated scheduled monuments within this LCA, mainly on higher ground and associated with field boundaries and farmsteads.

A small part of Thixendale lies along the northern edge of this area. This contains species/ rich calcareous grassland.

This is a large scale LCA that contrasts greatly with the neighbouring dales and scarp slope landscapes. The landscape is simple and the sky dominates the views over the rolling landform. Panoramic views to the west of the Vale of York, Humberhead Levels and neighbouring dales and estates are available from this LCA.

The chalk pit at Partridge Hill, near Burnby Hall was recently extended within the archeologically rich area, where a number of ditch features have been found.

Character Area 10G: West Wolds Edge elevated Farmland

This LCA extends along the west facing Wolds tops north of Market Weighton and is the high rolling plateau farmland between the steep sided dales of the west facing scarp slope of the Wolds. Part of Londesborough Hall Grade II* RPG is situated within this LCA.

Fields near Kirby Underdale (2017)
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 10: COMPLEX SLOPING FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

Character Area 10H: West Facing Scarp Slope

This is the steep transitional LCA between the Vale of York rising farmland and the elevated farmland of the Wolds. The area extends from Market Weighton to Bugthorpe. Part of Londesborough Hall Grade II* RPG is situated within this LCA. The largest number of listed buildings within LCT 10 are situated within this LCA.

The main villages in the area are Goodmanham, Bishop Wilton and Bugthorpe. Bishop Wilton is a planned medieval village on the LCA boundary with the Vale of York. Goodmanham has a Norman church. The village was the site of a 5th century pagan temple.

The steeper land on this slope is grassland. Fields are generally small to medium in size surrounded by fragmented hedges with fences for livestock. On less steep ground cereal crops are grown in larger fields.

Here, along the western escarpment of the Wolds there are a number of springs and flushes in the valleys.

There are three examples of ancient woodland within this LCA, two of which have been replanted.

Western edge of the Wolds near Garrowby (2005)

EVALUATION

Quality

Overall, this is a complex attractive and beautiful landscape that is assessed to be of high landscape quality. Almost entirely encompassed within The Wolds Important Landscape Area, this is a rare, diverse and attractive LCT that has many important features of interest. Attractive views from higher elevations in the dales contribute to the quality of this landscape. The relatively untouched dales, manicured estates and quite Wold tops all contribute to the high scenic quality and high tranquillity of the landscape.
Building style and layout respects landform and landscape pattern. Vernacular materials blend with the local landscape. The dales provide interest with buildings and parkland contributing to character and providing features in the landscape in contrast to the simple character of the elevated Wold landscape. There are very few detractors. Roads, telegraph poles, single small wind turbines and communications masts are present but not prominent. The area has a high recreational value and is popular with walkers.

Positive Landscape Features

- Openness, long distance views from the elevated farmland.
- Intimate small scale nature of the steep sided vales and their associated villages.
- Pre historic sites indicating many centuries of human activity in the area.
- Complex diverse nature of the landform provides added interest.
- Well wooded area of the East Riding. Woodland blocks follow the contours of the dales.
- Parkland landscapes are distinctive and add diversity and complexity to the landscape.
- Built form respects landform and landscape pattern.

Forces for Change

Agricultural land management practices have influenced character. For example fields have become larger and hedgerows lost to accommodate modern farm machinery. The pressures faced by the farming industry are likely to result in continued change in management practices that will impact on landscape character. This may present opportunities to promote change that would further strengthen the character of the area. Farm diversification will potentially present such opportunities.

Turbine developments in this LCT are limited to single or double turbine development that are below 30m in height, with the exception of one which is 34m in height.

The demands of recreation in the area may increase. Millington Pasture is currently a popular place. Parking on the grass verge is common although low key at present. Potential demand for facilities in this dale and neighbouring dales may increase.

Shooting is a popular sport associated with the estate farmland and woodland in the area. Woodland management in particular is often influenced by the sport. If there are changes and popularity increases or decreases there may be an impact on woodland cover and the character of woodlands in the area.

There is a history of mineral extraction within the area with a recent extension of the chalk pit at Partridge Hill near Burnby Hall. The Minerals Local Plan has identified an area of search for crushed rock working at the northern end of Millington Pasture at Greenwich Quarry. This quarry has a current planning permission.

Condition and Strength of Character

This LCT has a strong sense of identity that is unique to its location in the Yorkshire Wolds. The condition of hedgerows varies throughout but generally there is a unity as a result of tree cover and land use. The wooded nature of the dales, the diverse vegetation cover and low key development combined to contribute to this identity. The high ecological value of the dales reflects the condition of the landscape.
Sensitivity and Capacity

The following table sets out the sensitivity of the LCT to different types of development. Refer to Appendix 4 for full details of the assessment criteria.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landscape quality (condition)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenic quality</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarity (of elements, features or LCT's)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representativeness (in relation to prevailing landscape character)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation interests (wildlife, earth science, archaeological, historic, cultural)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational value</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The LCT has a high level of landscape quality which is reflected in its designation as an Important Landscape Area. The Wolds contains a diverse landscape with steep sided dales. Estate villages at located at Londesborough and Warter.

Attractive landscape with few detractors. Limited infrastructure and communications are present but not prominent. There is long distance, scenic views from higher areas.

Rare: Complexity, scale and distinctiveness of wooded dales is unusual in the East Riding. High density of heritage assets which are specifically located within and unique to this LCT, particularly linear boundary dykes, round and bowl barrows.

LCT 10 provides a distinct character within the Yorkshire Wolds area with steep sided valleys and deep dales. The vast majority of the land is agricultural with areas of pasture on higher ground. Woodland planting is restricted to small, scattered woodland blocks on higher ground and steeper slopes.

The LCT contains a high number of conservation interests. Local Wildlife Sites include; Cleaving Coombe, Well Dale, Brig and Lavender Dale, Thorn and Blakes Dale, Great Dug Dale, Bailey Dale, Warter Priory, Derison's Wood and Bratt Wood. SSSI sites include; Bishop Wilton Deepdale, and Millington Wood and Pastures. National Nature Reserves include: Millington Wood ancient semi-natural woodland. Conservation Areas include; Bugthorpe, Kirby under Dale, Bishop Wilton, Warter, Londesborough, Goodmanham and Market Weighton. Registered Park and Gardens include Londesborough Grade II. Scheduled monuments include sections of linear dykes throughout 1D and 1G. Non designated assets include Warter Priory.

The LCT contains recreational routes but limited forms of other recreational value.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 10: COMPLEX SLOPING FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National trail/long distance routes</th>
<th>National trail/long distance routes include the Yorkshire Wolds Way, Chalkland Way, Minster Way and Hockney Trail. Registered Park and Gardens include Londesborough. National Cycle Route 66 also passes through the LCT.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Perceptual aspects (openness, wildness, tranquillity, remoteness)</td>
<td>The LCT has a strong rural character which ranges from open to intimate. The area is generally remote and unspoilt which contribute to providing a high level of tranquillity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associations (with people or events)</td>
<td>The LCT has a number of associations with people including Robert Hooke at Londesborough, Viscount Halifax at Garrowby Hall and a trail celebrating the work of David Hockney.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Value attached to LCT

The Wolds Important Landscape Area is a diverse and rare landscape with steep sided dales and high scenic quality. Some important views from higher areas with frequent woodland blocks, parklands and limited development. High prevalence of heritage assets, particularly linear boundary dykes, round and bowl barrows unique to this LCT. Some turbine development and communications masts present but not prominent.

Susceptibility to Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Residential</th>
<th>Largely unsettled with residential development limited to dispersed, enclosed settlements and scattered farmsteads. An area of important rural scenic landscape whereby any residential development would have a detrimental effect on the integrity of the landscape</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>Limited commercial development within the Wolds Important Landscape Area. Any further development of this nature would risk affecting the integrity of the landscape character and scenic interest.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>Limited industrial development within the Wolds Important Landscape Area. Drax power station is visible on the skyline but not prominent. Any development of this nature would risk affecting the integrity of the landscape character and scenic interest.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural</td>
<td>A predominantly agricultural landscape, some agricultural development present in connection with scattered farmsteads. This LCT has limited capacity to accommodate sympathetic development of this nature without affecting the overall landscape character.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational</td>
<td>Londesborough RPG offers some recreational value to the area along with a number of recreational routes though the Wolds Important Landscape Area. The LCT has some capacity to accommodate development of this nature, sympathetic to existing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sensitivity to Development at LCA level</td>
<td>Residential</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 A</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 B</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 C</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 D</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 E</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 F</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 G</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 E</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 10: COMPLEX SLOPING FARMLAND COUNTRYSIDE CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

LCT 10 is situated within the Wolds Important Landscape Area and is assessed as high scenic and landscape quality. This landscape is highly sensitive to development that would result in the loss of key characteristics such as woodland cover or a change in landform i.e. where earthworks would be required either cutting or embankment. In addition the character of the landscape is also sensitive to development that would detract from key characteristics. For example, the landscape is highly sensitive to new residential development of inappropriate style, setting and materials that would detract from vernacular character and has limited capacity for this type of development.

There is currently limited commercial development within this LCT. The LCT has been assessed to be is highly sensitive with a low capacity for development of this nature due the unique landscape characteristics and scenic interest. Similarly there is limited small scale industrial development within the Wolds Important Landscape Area. Drax Power Station is visible on the skyline but not prominent. This LCT is highly sensitive with low capacity to accommodate industrial development.

Large farm buildings would add uncharacteristic structure to the landscape, despite the agricultural nature of the area. Assessed as medium-high sensitivity to agricultural development, this LCT has limited capacity to accommodate sympathetic development of this nature with minimal effect to the overall landscape character.

Londesborough (RPG) offers some recreational value to the area along with a number of recreational routes though the Wolds Important Landscape Area. The LCT has some capacity to accommodate sensitively designed development of this nature.

Generally this rural and relatively remote, tranquil and unspoilt countryside is sensitive to change that would result in a loss of these key characteristics.

Small scale quarrying for chalk is characteristic of the Wolds. However, large scale developments would affect the rural and tranquil character of the area. This LCT has the capacity to accommodate small scale quarrying activities without substantial detrimental impact on landscape character.

Strategy

The strategy for this LCT is to encourage woodland management and increase the diversity of woodland structure and woodland habitat.

Promote the maintenance of parkland characteristics on estates in the area. Parkland trees are of similar age and a replacement strategy will ensure the continuation of this characteristic feature.

Promote the low intensity management of grasslands in the LCT to encourage diversity of species and enhance ecological value as well as visual interest.

Ensure that any facilities installed for tourism and recreation purposes are low key and appropriate to the tranquil and remote nature of the landscape.

New building must respect local vernacular. Vernacular varies between the villages that nestle in the bottom of the dales in this character type and village character is unique to each dale.

Protect archaeological sites and explore opportunities to raise awareness of this valued resource.

Wind turbine development should be avoided where possible in this area as they would impact on views of this high quality landscape and potentially
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 10: COMPLEX SLOPING FARMLAND
COUNTRYSIDE CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

detract from the key characteristics that contribute such as landform, field pattern, land use and woodland cover.
DESCRIPTION OF LOCATION
This Landscape Character Type (LCT) is located along the southern most west facing and south facing scarp slope of the Yorkshire Wolds and includes the villages of Sancton, Hotham, North Cave, South Cave, Elloughton cum Brough, Welton, Ellerker and Swanland. It extends from Market Weighton in the north to the River Humber in the south. The eastern boundary follows the foot of the chalk scarp slope of the Yorkshire Wolds and the area is included in the Yorkshire Wolds National Character Area because of its many similarities with the chalk landscape.

The majority of this area is in the Yorkshire Wolds Important Landscape Area identified in the East Riding Local Plan.

Relevant National Character Area
- 27: Yorkshire Wolds

SUMMARY OF KEY CHARACTERISTICS, FEATURES AND LAND USE
Key characteristics of the Jurassic Hills Farmland in the Yorkshire Wolds
- Sloping landform leading up to the chalk scarp slope of the Wolds
- Undulating topography between 15m and 60m AOD
- Pockets of acidic grass and heathland provide diverse habitats and contrasting appearance among the arable landscape
- Parkland and estate farmland associated with Hotham and Houghton Hall.
- Trees scattered in hedgerows and parkland throughout
- Strong hedgerow boundaries reinforce the field pattern as well as contribute to wildlife corridors
- Stone and brick built nucleated villages dispersed across the sloping land are smaller scale than the surrounding open farmland
- Views from elevated land west over the Humberhead Levels and south over the River Humber and east to the Humber Bridge

STATEMENT OF OPPORTUNITIES
- Protect the rural and parkland character of the LCT, particularly to the north and reinforce the strategic green spaces between settlements to the south
- Protect and enhance hedgerows which are an important characteristic of the area
- Protect and enhance the character of villages with sensitive development

LANDSCAPE INFLUENCES
Physical Influences
The under lying solid geology of the area was laid down during the Jurassic period and consists of clays, shales, sandstone and limestone.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 11: JURASSIC HILLS FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

The drift geology overlying the solid geology was laid down during the Devensian period when the area was located at the edge of Lake Humber and consists of undifferentiated glaciolacustrine deposits with some areas of sand.

Soils are brown earths derived from the bedrock and drift geology and in some areas wind blown material. They are fertile free draining soils having an Agricultural Land Classification of Grade 2 in the south of this LCT and largely Grade 3 north of North Cave.

Topography of the area is between 15m and 60m AOD and rises from west to east. The landform is gently undulating across the slope. The western edge of the slope is steep and more pronounced north of North Cave.

The Jurassic Hills are drained by a series of natural and man-made water courses that drain west and south. There are several man made water bodies in the area including lakes at Hotham Hall Park and South Park at Houghton Hall near Sancton. Ponds are present in some fields and were presumably more numerous at one time when livestock production dominated agricultural production.

**Human Influences**

There has been human presence in this LCT for many centuries. Evidence of prehistoric activity has been found along the western slopes of the Yorkshire Wolds and the neighbouring lower lying ground of the Humberhead Levels to the west. Sadly the influence of prehistoric activity on landscape character is not apparent and it is not until Saxon times when many settlements appear to have been established, that historic human influence is apparent in the landscape character of today. Sancton is one centre of a large Saxon estate and a large Anglo Saxon cemetery was excavated between 1954 and 1958.

There is evidence of Roman activity in this LCT reinforced by the presence of the Roman road Ermine Street the line of which runs through this LCT from Elloughton cum Brough to Market Weighton and beyond.

The site of a Roman Villa is located north of Elloughton and is a designated scheduled monument. Brough was a regional capital with large fort and harbour.

Many of the churches in the villages of the area were established in Norman times and rebuilt by the Victorians. The church at North Newbald escaped
the Victorian rebuilding programme and retains most of its medieval features.

Villages in the Jurassic Hills Farmland tend to be constructed using local stone with red brick detailing and red pantile roofs. Buildings are often arranged around village greens and mature trees are often concentrated around villages. Settlements tend to be nucleated in layout whereas farmsteads tend to be strewn along the lanes running through the area. Sancton Hill Farm was a model farm but little now remains.

Arable farming is the dominant land use with grass fields for livestock concentrated around the villages and farmsteads.

The A63 and A1034 form the primary transport corridors in this LCT with the B1231 forming secondary routes. Lanes and roads run in a north south direction across the slope or an east west direction up and down the sloping land. They tend to be narrow with hedges either side. There are numerous Public Rights of Way in the area.

**Ecological Influences**

There are several woodlands on the Jurassic Hills as well as individual trees in parkland and along hedgerows. Hedgerows are generally intact and contain hedgerow trees giving a wooded feel to the area. Hawthorn is the predominant hedgerow species but holly, field maple and hazel are also found.

Woodlands in the area tend to be plantations where trees are all of similar maturity. There is a large area of woodland at Houghton Moor much of which is coniferous planting.

There are three SSSI’s in this LCT two of which are former quarried sites.

Water bodies are scattered throughout the area. They appear to be man-made. The large water bodies are associated with the designed parklands of Houghton Hall and Hotham Hall. Ponds in fields provide some diversity but are often isolated and seasonally wet.

Heathlands appear to be concentrated on the steeper slopes in the area where cultivation has not occurred. The heathlands do not have national designations but may be protected locally.

*View on Wolds edge south of Market Weighton (2005)*
### Statutory Designations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Hotham Meadow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Everthorpe Quarry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Melton Bottom Chalk Pit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Links to Adjacent Character Areas

Adjacent ERYC LCTs

- 1: Flat Open Farmland
- 6: Wooded Open Farmland
- 8: M62 Corridor Farmland
- 9: Drained Open Farmland
- 12: Sloping Wooded Farmland
- 13: Open High Rolling Farmland
- 17: Farmed Urban Fringe
- 22: Farmed Urban Fringe

### Landscape Character Areas

Three Landscape Character Areas (LCA's) have been identified in this LCT. They are:

- 11A: West Facing Open Farmland
- 11B: Intermediate Sloping Farmland
- 11C: Elloughton cum Brough to Hessle Urban Edge Farmland

### Detailed Character Area Descriptions

#### Character Area 11A: West Facing Open Farmland

This LCA extends from south of Market Weighton southwards to North Cave encompassing Sancton, on the east edge of the LCA, nestled at the bottom of dales that extend eastwards into the Wolds. North Cliffe, South Cliffe and North Cave are located in the Humberhead Levels at the bottom of the lower slopes of the LCA to the west. North Cave and Hotham have Conservation Area designations.

Land use within the LCA is largely agricultural throughout and interspersed by generally small, fragmented areas of woodland. Farmland is predominantly arable with lesser amounts of pasture and grazing. Remnant pockets of acid grassland and heathland are dispersed amongst the farmland.

Hotham is a small linear settlement with a Conservation Area designation that recognises the special architectural or historic interest of the villages, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance.

Field pattern varies with medium sized fields in a regular pattern becoming piecemeal in the north and around Hotham. Fields are enclosed by hedgerows many of which contain trees. Occasionally trees located in the middle of fields reveal the former presence of a hedgerow.

Tree cover comprises infrequent small woodlands with large areas of open land in between. A larger woodland lies south of Houghton Hall at Houghton Moor with higher levels of field trees at Houghton Farm and around Hotham.

Isolated farmsteads are loosely dispersed across the LCA.

Hotham Hall, a Yorkshire Gardens Trust property, was built c1720. It has an impressive stable block and is surrounded by a large park accommodated by...
the diversion of Beverley Road after 1763. The c100ha landscape park and pleasure grounds were laid out to a 1768 plan by Thomas White and is a Grade II Registered Park and Garden.

Everthorpe Quarry has been designated a SSSI for its geological interest. It is the only site where fossilised ammonites of a particular type are found. Hotham Meadows is another example of SSSI designated landscape with ecological benefits.

Character Area 11B: Intermediate Sloping Farmland

This LCA forms the south western edge of the Yorkshire Wolds and extends from North Cave and south of Everthorpe to the edge of Elloughton cum Brough.

Land use within the LCA is predominantly agricultural with areas of recreational use near settlements and development associated with the horticultural industry dispersed across the LCA. The A63 corridor passes through the LCA.

This area is influenced by the larger villages of North Cave, South Cave and Elloughton cum Brough and their associated expansion. They are nucleated in nature. North Cave, South Cave, Brantingham and Ellerker have Conservation Area designations in recognition of their architectural or historic merit. The landscape setting of these settlements is in part located in the Yorkshire Wolds Important Landscape Area.

Field pattern varies with medium sized regular shaped fields becoming larger towards the east and south of the LCA with boundary hedgerows occasionally containing trees. Tree cover comprises small, fragmented woodland and linear groups along roads and boundaries, increasing towards larger settlements.

Few isolated farmsteads are present within the LCA.

Character Area 11C: Elloughton cum Brough to Hessle Urban Edge Farmland

This LCA is located along the corridor of the A63 as the Jurassic Hills approach the Humber Estuary. The area extends eastwards to include the southern edge of the chalk slope west of Hull. Although the Jurassic bedrock does not extend as far east as this LCA the sloping nature of the
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 11: JURASSIC HILLS FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

landform and the characteristics that it shares with the Jurassic Hills Farmland have led to it being included in this LCT.

The pressure for development in this LCA has led to a loss of the rural character. Areas of agricultural land lie between Elloughton cum Brough, Welton, Melton and North Ferriby with recreational land uses, for example golf courses and playing fields, a common feature at the urban edge.

A pattern of large, rectilinear fields lies within agricultural areas with a low number of trees to field boundaries and small, infrequent tree groups dispersed throughout the LCA. Terrace Plantation, Bow Plantation and Dale Plantation represent the surviving elements of an ambitious landscape scheme undertaken by the Williamson family around their various houses in Melton and Welton.

Settlement tends to merge along the A63 with Swanland a distinct separate settlement in the east. Brantingham, Brough, Elloughton, Hessle South Field, Welton, Swanland and West Ella have Conservation Area designations. Few isolated farmsteads are present. There are extensive views of the Humber Bridge to the southeast that are important to the character of this area.

Where the landscape is influenced by settlement, transport activity and energy infrastructure, it is busy and connected while away from these areas, the LCA is otherwise rural and calm.

Melton Bottom Chalk Pit is designated a SSSI for its geological interest.

A Roman fort was located at Brough and there is evidence of earlier occupation in the locality.

Farmland south of Swanland (2005).

EVALUATION

Quality

This is a diverse attractive landscape on the south west edge of the Yorkshire Wolds. Detractors do exist particularly in the southern part of this LCT. The A63 dual carriageway is a detractor and development along its corridor has resulted in the loss of key landscape features and fragmentation of landscape pattern.

Landscape quality of the West Facing Open Farmland, LCA 11A, is assessed to be high. For the remainder of this LCT quality is assessed as good due to
the presence of detractors and the influence of the urban edge of Elloughton cum Brough in an otherwise high quality landscape.

Positive Landscape Features

• Varied rising landform that is gently undulating
• Parkland and estate farmland is well wooded
• Pockets of heathland and acidic grassland
• Villages have a strong sense of place as a result of their vernacular and their setting in the rural landscape
• Views west over the Humberhead levels and south over the River Humber
• Medium scale landscape provides the approach to the city of Hull
• Views of the Humber Bridge in the southern part of this type

Forces for Change

There is development pressure for housing and employment on the edge of the larger settlements particularly in the southern part of this LCT where communication links by road and rail are good. This has led to a weakening of the rural character in the area. Buildings can detract from natural landform and vegetation cover where layout does not respect the lay of the land and its character.

There will continue to be pressure for renewable energy developments in the East Riding. However, as there are a number of settlements in the area particularly to the south, it is felt that pressure will not be great. Small scale domestic renewable energy sources may be more appropriate.

Condition and Strength of Character

The Jurassic Hills Farmland is an attractive agricultural farmland landscape with elements and characteristics that provide diversity such as the parkland of estates and the small scale field pattern concentrated around the smaller villages.

The condition of the characteristics that contribute to the attractiveness of the area has been affected in the south by the expansion of existing large villages e.g. Elloughton cum Brough, South Cave and Swanland and the development of new commercial enterprises particularly around Elloughton cum Brough.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 11: JURASSIC HILLS FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

Sensitivity and Capacity

The following table sets out the sensitivity of the LCT to different types of development. Appendix 4 for full details of the assessment criteria.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landscape Quality (condition)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT has an undulating landscape, sloping to meet the Wolds. There are well dispersed nucleated villages. The area contains part of the Wolds Important Landscape Area.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenic Quality</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attractive and varied landscape of parkland, well wooded areas, heathland pockets with elevated views to the west, east and south. Detractors to south include transport infrastructure and the resultant fragmentation of landscape pattern.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarity (of elements, features or LCT's)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT contains diverse elements of parkland, farmland, development and infrastructure. Some elements are relatively uncommon but are present in other LCTs/LCAs.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representativeness (in relation to prevailing landscape character)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The vast majority of the land is agricultural with woodland planting restricted to small, scattered woodland blocks on higher land and steeper slopes. This is typical of areas rising to the Yorkshire Wolds.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation interests (wildlife, earth science, archaeological, historic, cultural)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT contains a number of conservation interests. Local Wildlife Sites include Houghton Moor and South Cliffe. SSSI include Everthorpe Quarry and Melton Bottom Chalk Pit. Conservation Areas include North Cave, South Cave, Ellerker, Elloughton and Welton North Ferriby. Registered Park and Gardens include Hotham Hall.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational value</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT contains recreational routes including National Cycle Route 65 but limited forms of other recreation. There is a Registered Park and Garden at Houghton Hall (11a).</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perceptual aspects (openness, wildness, tranquility)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT contains a tamed open landscape that is remote and tranquil in the north becoming busy and artificial in the south reflecting the influence of the M62 and</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 11: JURASSIC HILLS FARMLAND**  
**NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>remoteness)</th>
<th>associated infrastructure and development.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Associations (with people or events)</strong></td>
<td>The LCT displays Roman and Norman influences while associations with the Williamson family are evident in the plantations of Terrace, and Bow and Dale. The influence of Thomas White is evident at Houghton Hall.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Value attached to LCT</strong></td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An undulating rural landscape that slopes eastwards, the majority of which lies within the Wolds Important Landscape Area. Relatively high scenic value with views across the Wolds Important Landscape Area. Houghton Hall RPG along with a number of ecological designations predominantly in association with former quarried chalk pit landscapes. A number of small nucleated settlements with conservational interest.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Susceptibility to Development</strong></td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Residential</strong></td>
<td>Residential development is limited to small nucleated villages and scattered farmsteads. Additional small scale development of this nature may be accommodated if it is in keeping with existing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Commercial</strong></td>
<td>Limited commercial development within this LCT. The predominantly rural landscape has no capacity for development of this nature without eroding the integrity of the landscape character.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Industrial</strong></td>
<td>Limited industrial development within this LCT. The predominantly rural landscape has no capacity for development of this nature without eroding the integrity of the landscape character.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Agricultural</strong></td>
<td>Predominantly agricultural landscape with some existing agricultural development attached to local farmsteads. Some capacity to accommodate some development of this nature, in keeping with existing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recreational</strong></td>
<td>Houghton Hall offers some recreational value, along with a number of PRoW's and NCR 65. LCT has some capacity to accommodate some development of this nature, in keeping with existing.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Sensitivity to Development at LCA level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Residential</th>
<th>Commercial</th>
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<th>Agricultural</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11 A</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 B</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 C</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 11: JURASSIC HILLS FARMLAND NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

This LCT lies within the Wolds Important Landscape Area and is assessed as high scenic and landscape quality. An undulating landscape, elevated in areas with views over it from the higher chalk slopes of the Yorkshire Wolds to the east and views up to it from the lower Humberhead levels to the west. It is a transitional landscape between the Wolds and the Humberhead levels and has historic importance. Development along the southern slopes has already impacted on the rural character of the area. The capacity of the landscape to accept new development that would not result in the further amalgamation of settlements is low. The southern part of this LCT is also an important approach to the city of Hull and further urbanisation along this corridor would impact on the setting of the city.

The northern Jurassic Hills Farmland around Sancton, North Newbald, Hotham and North Cave so far retains its rural character. Views of features such as churches e.g. North Ferriby Parish Church and parkland are important to the strength of character and local distinctiveness.

Residential development is limited to large nucleated villages and scattered farmsteads. North Cave, South Cave, Elloughton cum Brough, North Ferriby and Swanland are under pressure to accept additional residential development. The area is assessed as medium-high sensitivity to development of this nature but has some capacity to accommodate small scale development adjoining existing settlements.

The LCT is highly sensitive to commercial or industrial development due to the predominantly rural character and elevated position, and has no capacity to accommodate developments of this nature.

The landscape is predominantly rural agricultural land, however, the LCT has high sensitivity to any development that would be viewed against the skyline as this would detract from the characteristic landform. There is medium-high sensitivity to agricultural development is assessed with some capacity to accommodate sensitively located development.

Houghton Hall (RPG) offers some recreational value, along with a number of scattered Public Rights of Way and National Cycle Route 65. There may be some capacity for this landscape to accommodate specific developments of this nature in keeping with existing.

New types of development for example wind turbines, telecom masts or large scale buildings, would add to the complexity of the landscape and detract from existing character resulting in potential fragmentation.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 11: JURASSIC HILLS FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

Strategy

The strategy for this LCT is to conserve the rural and parkland character to the north and reinforce the strategic green spaces between settlements to the south. In particular the rural landscape between the settlements of Elloughton cum Brough, Welton, Melton, North Ferriby and Swanland is important in separating these villages.

Development on the southern slopes of this area should seek to minimise cumulative impact that would result in the amalgamation of settlements.

Proposals associated with the small villages to the north should seek to protect their setting and approaches which contribute to local distinctiveness and strength of character. The characteristic rural openness of the area and key views should be protected. New building must respect and reflect local vernacular.

Hedgerows are an important characteristic of the area. Promote the planting of hedgerows on field boundaries where they have been lost or broken to reinforce local landscape pattern.

Promote woodland management to introduce diversity to woodland structure. New woodland planting will help to integrate new development with the landscape. New planting should follow natural contours of the land avoiding rectilinear shapes that are juxtaposed to landform. Woodland and hedgerow species should be typical of the area.

Ensure that any facilities installed for tourism and recreation purposes are low key and appropriate to the tranquil and remote nature of the landscape.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 12

SLOPING WOODED FARMLAND

YORKSHIRE WOLDS

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East Riding of Yorkshire Council 10023383
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 12: SLOPING WOODED FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

DESCRIPTION OF LOCATION
This Landscape Character Type (LCT) is located along the most southerly west facing slope of the Yorkshire Wolds above the Jurassic Hills Farmland. The slope is incised by wooded dales including Deep Dale east of North Newbald, Austin’s Dale, Weedley Dale, and Welton Dale.

This LCT lies entirely within the Yorkshire Wolds Important Landscape Area identified by the East Riding Local Plan.

Relevant National Character Area
• 27: Yorkshire Wolds

SUMMARY OF KEY CHARACTERISTICS, FEATURES AND LAND USE
Key Characteristics of the Sloping Wooded Farmland in the Yorkshire Wolds
• Sloping Landform of the west facing Yorkshire Wolds chalk scarp slope
• Sparsely populated area with villages of North Newbold and Sancton at the bottom of the slope on the boundary with the Jurassic Hills Farmland
• Few scattered large farmsteads
• Minor roads ascending the scarp slope of the Wolds are narrow with hedgerows either side
• Steep sided wooded dales incise the scarp slop of the Wolds
• 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

STATEMENT OF OPPORTUNITIES
• Maintain diversity of landscape characteristics that contribute to the complexity of this interesting and attractive high quality landscape
• Protect the rural and parkland character of the LCT, particularly to the north and reinforce the strategic green spaces between settlements to the south
• Protect and enhance hedgerows which are an important characteristic of the area, including the replanting of any gaps in hedgerows
• Protect and enhance the character of villages with sensitive development

LANDSCAPE INFLUENCES
Physical Influences
The underlying solid geology of the area was laid down during the Cretaceous period. The chalk slope is covered by wind-blown sand. Soils are brown earths with some areas of rendzinas derived from the chalk bedrock where there is little windblown sand and soils are thin.

The Agricultural Land Classification for the less steep land is Grade 2, elsewhere it is mostly Grade 3 with some pockets of Grade 4 in wooded regions.

Small water courses emerge near the bottom of the dales fed by springs. The land is free draining.

Topography is varied with steep sided dales incising the south western scarp slope of the Yorkshire Wolds, with ground level ranging from approximately 30m to 140m. There are extensive views westwards from the raised sloping land above the dales.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 12: SLOPING WOODED FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

Human Influences

Human activity has been going on in this area for many centuries. However, there is little visible evidence of early human activity.

The land use in the area is agricultural. Arable farming occupies the less steep land above the steep sided dales. The dales themselves tend to be grazed grasslands with woodland blocks that follow the contours of the land. Field boundaries are hedgerows in varying condition. Generally around the larger arable fields they are fragmented and severely clipped or missing altogether. Hedgerow trees are rare particularly at higher elevations.

A Roman Villa was discovered in 1941 to the southwest of Brantingham Thorpe Village and there is another on Welton Wold.

Farmsteads tend to be located on higher ground and are scattered throughout the LCT. Farm buildings are generally nucleated around the farm house.

Brantingham Thorpe is a small village estate on the western edge of this LCT. All Saints Church was rebuilt by the Victorians and is located north of the village. The church is situated at the bottom of a steep sided valley north of the village and is a distinctive local feature built of stone with a pantile roof. Brantingham Thorpe Hall is said to be 16th century, but now it is mostly 17th and 18th century. It was purchased in the 1860s by a branch of the Sykes family at Sledmere.

The A63 and A1034 form the primary transport corridors along the south and west perimeter of this LCT with the B1230 and Swanland Dale Road providing a secondary route. Other roads are limited to smaller country lanes and private access tracks.

There are numerous Public Rights of Way across the area. The main one is the Wolds Way which is a national footpath. It runs in a north south direction through the landscape of this area.

There are three chalk quarries in this LCT that have existing planning permission. Quarrying for chalk has been going on in the Wolds for many centuries and the white cliffs of quarry faces are a characteristic of the area. Several quarries have also been recognised for their geological and ecological interest with SSSI designation.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 12: SLOPING WOODED FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

Ecological Influences

This LCT has a diverse range of habitats ranging from the grassland on the steep sided dales to the woodlands and hedgerows. Quarrying in the area has also resulted in exposure of bed rock that has led to ecological and geological designations.

Woodlands on the steep sided dale slopes provide valuable habitat and are often managed for shooting. Hedgerows form field boundaries are a feature marking the change from the grassland of steep sided dales to intensively farmed arable land. They provide wildlife corridors between habitats. Hedgerow trees are not very common and tend to be concentrated at lower elevations.

The steep side dales have escaped intensive cultivation and as a result provide alternative habitats.

There are five designated SSSI's within this LCT with important ecological, biological and geological interest.

Statutory Designations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Newbald Becksies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Wyedale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Drewton Lane Pits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Brantingham Dale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Melton Bottom Chalk Pit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LINKS TO ADJACENT CHARACTER AREAS

Adjacent ERYC LCTs

- 11: Jurassic Hills Farmland
- 13: Open High, Rolling Farmland

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS

Two Landscape Character Areas (LCA's) have been identified in this LCT. They are:

- 12A: South Western Sloping Wolds Farmland
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 12: SLOPING WOODED FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

- 12B: Brantingham Thorpe Estate Parkland

DETAILED CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTIONS

Character Area 12A: South Western Sloping Wolds Farmland

This LCA covers the majority of the LCT with the exclusion of the parkland of Brantingham Thorpe (LCA 12B) which is distinctive as a result of the parkland trees and estate woodland associated with the dale.

Agricultural land use dominates the LCA with forestry a prominent characteristic land use along the valleys and dales. The dales are less well wooded to the north resulting in a more open character to the area east of Sancton and North Newbald.

View east to the Wolds from Sancton (2017)

The LCA is partially defined by a lack of settlements, with towns and villages located to the east within LCT 11.

Fields vary in size from small to large, within a regular pattern accommodating the wooded dales and valleys. Fields are generally rectilinear tending to be small towards the west.

A few scattered farmsteads are present and often located on higher ground. Settlements include Brantingham, Elloughton, North and South Newbold and Welton which also have Conservation Area designations.

A number of designated sites are located within this LCA including Newbold Becksies SSSI, Wyedale, Drewton Lane Pits SSSI and Brantingham Dale SSSI which is one of the most floristically diverse areas in the Yorkshire Wolds. Features of cultural interest include the Norman church of St Nicholas’s at North Newbald, one of the best examples of a medieval church, which escaped the Victorian rebuilding programme and remains largely untouched; and North Newbald Hall which was built in 1649. Also of interest is the medieval village of North Newbald, which is centred on a large rectangular green.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 12: SLOPING WOODED FARMLAND  
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

Character Area 12B: Brantingham Thorpe Estate Parkland

This LCA comprises the small village of Brantingham, nestled at the bottom of the west facing chalk slope of the Yorkshire Wolds between Elloughton cum Brough and South Cave; and the mature parkland of Brantingham Thorpe Estate, located to the south of the village. The LCA is distinguished from surrounding landscape by parkland trees and estate woodland within the estate and overall enclosure by trees and landform. The parkland landscape is distinctive and attractive with limited built development that reinforces its remote and tranquil character.

Land use is predominantly agricultural and forestry. Fields are generally rectilinear with smaller fields around Brantingham becoming larger elsewhere. Tree cover is relatively high. The dale north of the village is almost completely wooded by deciduous and coniferous trees, the other dales are well wooded and elsewhere there are small woodlands and scattered trees within Brantingham Thorpe Estate.

The nucleated village of Brantingham has a Conservation Area designation and is the only settlement present in the LCA. There are a few scattered farmsteads connected by narrow minor roads that meander up the dales to the elevated farmland above.

Brantingham Hall is a Georgian house built on the site of a former Elizabethan manor set within parkland.

EVALUATION

Quality

The good condition of the landscape and its diverse arrangement of land cover and landform provide an important setting for villages on the approach to Hull. There are few detractors in the area which contributes to the landscape setting of several large villages including South Cave and Elloughton cum Brough.

This LCT also contains a range of nationally designated ecologically important sites and overall has high ecological value as a result of the mixed land use. The landscape quality is assessed to be high.

Positive Landscape Features

- Varied landform with enclosed intimate dales and open elevated farmland above
- Well wooded appearance
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 12: SLOPING WOODED FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

- Diversity of habitats including quarries and grasslands
- Views west and southwest over the Humberhead Levels
- Very few farmsteads scattered mainly on the tops between the dales
- Remote and tranquil landscape that provides a rural backdrop to settlements particularly Elloughton cum Brough, Welton, Melton and South Cave

Forces for Change

Changing pressures on the agricultural industry may lead to changing land management practices which in turn would lead to change in the appearance of the landscape.

The southeast corner of this LCT is close to the edge of Hull and within the commuter belt. Pressure for residential development may increase in villages on the edge of this LCT which is largely devoid of settlement. Increased residential development in this area would impact upon its remote rural character.

There will continue to be pressure for renewable energy developments in the East Riding. For example, wind turbine developments in the more elevated locations along the Wolds edge where wind speeds are likely to be greatest. The only example of existing turbines within this LCT is a 23m to tip single turbine development at South Cave. Further north, near Sancton, large scale wind development is visible within the adjoining LCT 13.

Loss of woodland and trees as a result in changing management practices would change character. Many parkland trees are of a similar age which may present problems in the future as the trees will reach the end of their life at a similar time.

Quarrying currently has a minor impact on character and it is not anticipated that pressures to extend quarrying activities in the area are likely to increase.

Condition and Strength of Character

This LCT is similar to the Complex Sloping Farmland of LCT 10 and shares many characteristics with it. The steep sloping dale sides and their woodland and grassland provide diversity from the intensively farmed arable land of the surrounding higher less steep ground. The dales are not as extensive and broad as those found in LCT 10 and the neighbouring Jurassic hills to the west which are at a lower elevation provide a transition between the Humberhead levels and this LCT.

Overall the LCT has a strong sense of place and key characteristics are intact.
**Sensitivity and Capacity**

The following table sets out the sensitivity of the LCT to different types of development. Refer to Appendix 4 for full details of the assessment criteria.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Landscape Quality (condition)</strong></td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This LCT contains a landscape of generally good to high quality due to well managed agricultural land. This is reflected in its inclusion within the Wolds Important Landscape Area.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Scenic Quality</strong></td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This is a diverse and attractive landscape ranging from steep sided dales to rolling elevated farmland with a relatively high level of landscape management.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rarity (of elements, features or LCT’s)</strong></td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT includes diverse elements of farmland, parkland and occasional areas of development infrastructure. There are a number of restored former Quarry sites, now designated as SSSI’s, which are relatively uncommon in the area.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Representativeness (in relation to prevailing landscape character)</strong></td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The vast majority of the land is agricultural and typical of the area.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Conservation interests (wildlife, earth science, archaeological, historic, cultural)</strong></td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT contains a number of conservation interests. SSSI’s including Newbald Becksies, Wyedale, Drewton Lane Pits, Brantingham Dale and Melton Bottom Chalk Pit. Local Wildlife Sites include Little Wold Plantation, Elloughton Lings Plantation, Elloughton Dale East and Melton Bottom. Brantingham Village and Brantingham Thorpe Park provide historic and cultural interest.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recreational value</strong></td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT contains a strong network of recreational routes, often along disused quarry sites. Other forms of recreational value include National Cycle Route 65 and Yorkshire Wolds Cycle Route (164).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Perceptual aspects (openness, wildness, tranquillity, remoteness)</strong></td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The area contains an open and managed landscape that has a tranquil and remote character.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Associations (with people or events)</strong></td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Links to the Sykes family at Sledmere. The legend of Dick Turpin is renowned in the area and best reflected at Welton.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 12: SLOPING WOODED FARMLAND**  
**NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value attached to LCT</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Steep topography in parts along the Wolds scarp slope. Part of the Wolds Important Landscape Area. A high number of ecological designations predominantly associated with former quarried sites. Brantingham Thorpe Park and Brantingham village offer some heritage interest.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Susceptibility to Development</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residential</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attractive rural location with settlements limited to nucleated villages. Any residential development would risk altering the character of the landscape.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No commercial development within LCT. Any development of this nature would risk altering the character of the landscape.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No industrial development within LCT. Development of this nature would risk altering the character of the landscape.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some agricultural development associated with scattered farmsteads. Limited capacity to accommodate development of this nature without affecting the integrity of the landscape.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Wolds have a strong network of PRoW's. Limited capacity to accommodate development of this nature without affecting the integrity of the landscape.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 12: SLOPING WOODED FARMLAND**

**NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS**

### Sensitivity to Development at LCA level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Residential</th>
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<td><strong>12 B</strong></td>
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<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 12: SLOPING WOODED FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

This LCT has steep topography in places and as part of the Wolds Important Landscape Area is assessed as high quality in terms of scenic and landscape value.

This is an attractive rural location with relatively little settlement, limited to nucleated villages. This LCT is highly sensitive and has limited capacity to accept residential development without detrimental impact on the landscape character.

There are no examples of commercial or industrial development within this LCT. This landscape is highly sensitive to these types of development and has no capacity to accommodate developments of this nature.

Agricultural buildings may be sensitively located in this working rural landscape and the area has medium sensitivity to agricultural development.

The Wolds have a strong network of Public Rights of Way throughout with some capacity for particular types of recreational development, sympathetic to the surrounding landscape.

Strategy

The strategy for this LCT is to maintain diversity of landscape characteristics that contribute to the complexity of this attractive high quality landscape.

Promote woodland and tree management to ensure continued tree cover and to enhance diversity of age structure and ecological value. New woodland planting should respect landform and landscape pattern to follow the contours of the land. Species mixes should complement existing native broad leaved woodland mixes.

Encourage the planting of gaps in hedgerows and the replanting of hedgerows along roadsides, bridleways, footpaths, parish boundaries and valley tops. Hawthorn is the dominant hedgerow species with blackthorn, field maple, dogwood and dog rose also present.

Promote low intensity grassland management on the steep sided dales to help encourage increased diversity of grassland in the area.

New development should respect vernacular style and landscape pattern. Increasing the number of residential properties in this area would have the cumulative impact of decreasing its remote and tranquil character.

Wind turbine development should be avoided where possible in this area as they would impact on views of this high quality landscape and potentially detract from the key characteristics that contribute such as landform, field pattern, land use and woodland cover.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 13: OPEN HIGH ROLLING FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

DESCRIPTION OF LOCATION

This Landscape Character Type (LCT) is on the east facing dip slope of the Yorkshire Wolds and covers a large area stretching from the cliffs at Flamborough in the north to the River Humber Corridor in the south. This LCT follows the crescent shape of the geology of the Wolds.

This LCT is within the Yorkshire Wolds Important Landscape Area identified in the East Riding Local Plan. The Flamborough Heritage Coast is also noted as being an Important Landscape Area.

Relevant National Character Area

• 27: Yorkshire Wolds

SUMMARY OF KEY CHARACTERISTICS, FEATURES AND LAND USE

Key characteristics of the Open, High Rolling Farmland in the Yorkshire Wolds

• 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 scattered villages and farmsteads.
• Large and very large rectilinear regular arable fields.
• Fragmented hedgerows that are severely clipped.
• Very few trees resulting in an 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 provide diversity.
• Enclosure roads that conform to the enclosure field pattern alongside older routes are well spaced.
• Numerous Public Rights of Way.
• South Dalton Church spire is a prominent landmark in the relatively featureless landscape.

STATEMENT OF OPPORTUNITIES

• Protect and enhance the characteristics open rolling agricultural landscape
• Protect and enhance the character of the Wolds Important Landscape Area and rarity of elements it contains
• Enhance landscape character and biodiversity by protecting and, where possible, expanding the species rich chalk grasslands
• Protecting and enhancing the landscape and ecological interest of Flamborough Head coastal landscape

LANDSCAPE INFLUENCES

Physical Influences

The solid geology of the area is chalk that was formed during the Cretaceous period. The majority of the upland area escaped the ice of the Devensian period and, as a result, there are no glacial deposits on the Wolds except on the Flamborough headland. Wind-blown sand that was deposited during the Devensian period covers the Wolds and contributed to the make-up of the soil.

The soils are a mix of rendzinas and brown earths. They are free draining due to the permeable chalk bedrock and sloping relief. The thinner soils on steeper slopes are often no more than 20cm thick and are the rendzinas. These soils are derived chiefly from the chalk bedrock. Where the soils are thicker (between 30cm and 50cm) they are brown earths. The majority of this LCT has an Agricultural Land Classification of Grade 2. There are small areas of Grade 3.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 13: OPEN HIGH ROLLING FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

This area is located on the dip slope of the Wolds escarpment. Topography is between 30m and 160m AOD sloping down to the east. Landform is rolling.

There are no water courses in this area. The valleys are dry. This is due to the fact that the water table has lowered and the bedrock is permeable. Man-made dew ponds for watering livestock were a common site on the Wolds. However, many of these have disappeared.

Human Influences

There is considerable evidence of early human activity dating back to prehistoric times on the Wolds and in this LCT. However, there is limited evidence of this past activity within the intensively farmed landscape today. The greatest concentration of archaeological evidence comes in the form of burial sites dating back to the Bronze Age. There are numerous round barrows in the area, many of which are designated scheduled monuments. Cropmarks have indicated substantial settlement and field systems dating to the Iron Age/Romano-British periods. Many are concentrated in groups. Roman villa sites have been identified in the parishes of Harpham and Rudston. The few villages probably originated in Saxon and early medieval times. Several medieval villages in this LCT were abandoned by the end of the middle ages, however numerous scheduled monuments have been designated throughout this LCT to mark their historical significance.

Generally there are few settlements on the high open rolling hills of the Wolds. This is probably due, in part, to the lack of water courses in the area but also due to monastic ownership of the lands during the Middle Ages when the area was extensively farmed for sheep and settlement restricted.

There are several deserted villages in this area as well as monastic granges and farmsteads.

South Dalton is an estate village that was created by the Hotham family. St Mary’s church at South Dalton is a memorial to the 3rd Lord Hotham. It has a 63m high spire that is a prominent landmark seen from great distances across the Wolds. The original medieval manor house was demolished for the new Hall in the late 17th Century. The grounds of South Dalton Estate contain one of the most important gardens in the
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 13: OPEN HIGH ROLLING FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

East Riding, virtually intact early 18th century Roccoco pleasure grounds, laid out in 1730 by Thomas Knowlton. The grounds associated with Dalton Hall are Grade II on the Historic England Register of Parks and Gardens (RPG).

Risby Hall is Grade II listed on the Historic England Register of Parks and Gardens (RPG). The Hall and parklands are located 2km south-west of Beverley along the Wolds eastern slope. The Hall was originally owned by the Elleker family between 1401 and 1655, before a new Hall was built upon the site. The site is also known for its Jacobean gardens which are a designated scheduled monument.

The Kiplincotes Derby, the oldest horse race in England, ran across the Wolds from Etton to a location close to Middleton on the Wolds.

Existing field pattern is largely the result of parliamentary enclosure in the 18th and 19th centuries. During this time large areas of common land were enclosed and a new system of land management introduced. Farmers moved out of the villages onto farmsteads that were scattered across the area linked to units of land. Farm houses were built, usually brick with pantile or slate roofs and farm buildings were built adjacent resulting in a nucleated farmstead. Many of the farmsteads are located on high ground above the surrounding rolling farmland. These locations are very exposed and as a result shelterbelts were planted to protect the farmsteads. The rectilinear shelterbelts surrounding farmsteads on the Wolds are one of the key characteristics of this LCT. Shelterbelts generally consist of sycamore, beech, ash and larch.

The majority of roads follow the parliamentary enclosure field pattern and have wide verges. There is relatively little infrastructure in this landscape. Pylons cross the Wolds in several places and telecom masts are sometimes a prominent feature. Turbines are also a prominent feature of this LCT with some large scale development at Sancton and other examples dispersed throughout. The Market Weighton to Driffield and Market Weighton to Beverley railway lines are dismantled although their paths across the Wolds can still be picked out in places by the linear vegetation that has been allowed to grow along its course.

The A614 (Goole – Bridlington, A166 (Driffield to York) and A165 (to Scarborough) form the primary transport corridors in this LCT with the B1229, B1230, B1248, B1249, B1253 and B1246 forming secondary routes. There are numerous minor roads including smaller country lanes and private access tracks.

Public Rights of Way are numerous but more limited in areas where the monastic land ownership restricted settlement on the Wolds in medieval times and the subsequent control of large landowners exerting their control over the area.
Communications mast north west of Riplingham (2005)

Where villages have been developed they are often arranged around a village pond. Village ponds are characteristic of Wolds villages. The villages tend to be located along the eastern and southern edge of the Wolds dip slope and include Burton Agnes, South Dalton, Bishop Burton and Cherry Burton.

Turbine developments, communications masts and pylons are the main detractors in this LCT.

**Ecological Influences**

The LCT contains a number of diverse habitats. Flamborough Head is designated a SAC and SSSI and Flamborough Head and Bempton Cliffs are designated as a SPA. A further five SSIs are located within the LCT.

Much of the land is dominated by arable. Although not particularly species-rich, these areas can support uncommon species.

Hedgerows and species rich wide grass verges are characteristic of this LCT. These verges support a variety of calcareous grassland species and help to improve the biodiversity of the area.

**Statutory Designations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Special Protection Area (SPA)</td>
<td>Flamborough Head and Bempton Cliffs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Area of Conservation (SAC)</td>
<td>Flamborough Head</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Flamborough Head</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Melton Bottom Chalk Pit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Brantingham Dale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Kiplingcotes Chalk Pit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Enthorpe Railway Cutting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>River Hull Headwaters</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 13: OPEN HIGH ROLLING FARMLAND
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LINKS TO ADJACENT CHARACTER AREAS

Adjacent ERYC LCTs

- 1: Flat Open Farmland
- 10: Complex Sloping Farmland
- 11: Jurassic Hills Farmland
- 12: Sloping Wooded Farmland
- 14: Central Dissected Plateau
- 15: Wolds Valley Farmland
- 16: Sloping Farmland
- 17: Farmed Urban Fringe
- 18: Low Lying Drained Farmland
- 19: Open Farmland

Adjacent regional Landscape Character Area

- Seascape Character Assessment (2012) - Holderness Coastal Waters

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS

Six Landscape Character Areas (LCA) have been identified in this LCT. They are:

- 13A: South Dalton Estate Farmland
- 13B: Bishop Burton Estate Farmland
- 13C: South Wolds Rolling Farmland
- 13D: North Wolds Plateau Farmland
- 13E: Bempton, Grindale and Wold Newton Farmland
- 13F: Flamborough Headland Farmland

DETAILED CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTIONS

Character Area 13A: South Dalton Estate Farmland

This small area is located in the centre of the eastern edge of the Wolds north east of Beverley. The area is distinguished from the surrounding farmland by its well wooded nature and parkland trees, with the Dalton estate making up the majority of the LCA.

The LCA is a combination of arable farmland and parkland with large amounts of woodland.

The villages of Holme on the Wolds, South Dalton and Etton lie on the eastern edge of the LCA and on the boundary with the Holderness National Character Area.

Around the edge of the estate a strongly rectilinear pattern of medium to large enclosure fields is dominant. Within the parkland area, field patterns are relatively irregular and become smaller towards South Dalton.

Small groups and scattered individual trees are typical of parkland within the Dalton Hall estate and a relatively large number of woodland blocks lie within the LCA becoming increasingly rectilinear towards the estate. Overall the LCA is well wooded.

Few scattered farmsteads are present.

A high proportion of buildings within the LCA are listed for their conservation interest. These include Dalton Hall (Grade II*), the stables at Dalton Hall (Grade II), the summer Pavilion to west of Dalton Hall (Grade I) and several
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 13: OPEN HIGH ROLLING FARMLAND
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buildings within South Dalton. The Dalton Hall estate is a Registered Park &
Garden.

Character Area 13B: Bishop Burton Estate Farmland

This small LCA is located on the edge of the Yorkshire Wolds west of
Beverley. As with South Dalton Estate Farmland this area is distinguished
from surrounding farmland by woodland cover and parkland within the
Bishop Burton Agricultural College, founded in 1954.

The agricultural college occupies most the LCA with the remaining area
comprising farmland. The village of Bishop Burton, which has a
Conservation Area designation, lies south of the college.

Around the college a rectilinear pattern large enclosure fields is dominant.
Within the parkland area, field patterns are relatively irregular, becoming
smaller around Bishop Burton.

The blocks of broad-leaved woodland and scattered mature trees
contribute to the wooded character of the LCA.

Founded in 1954 Bishop Burton Agricultural College occupies the site of the
palace of the Archbishop in medieval times. A deer park was previously
associated with the area and evidence still exists of the park pale that once
enclosed it, now a designated scheduled monument.

The village has a Conservation Area in recognition of its architectural and
historic importance. Notable features include the village pond, an
important characteristic repeated in many Wolds villages, the church, which
dates from the 13th century. The enclosure of open fields in 1772 led to
the creation of farmsteads outside the village.

Character Area 13C: South Wolds Rolling Farmland

This LCA covers the southern dip slope of the Wolds from Market Weighton
and South Dalton to Swanland and the western edge of Hull in the south.

The LCA is dominated by agriculture with wind turbines to the north
west near Sancton.

Small nucleated villages are dispersed throughout the LCA are linked by
minor roads.

Fields are generally rectilinear in pattern becoming more piecemeal towards
the west. Field size becomes smaller towards the south east.

The rolling farmland contains little woodland and tree cover. Wooded
shelterbelts are present around farmsteads and three examples of replanted
and reinforced ancient woodland lie within the LCA. Farmsteads tend to be
located on higher ground, are isolated and evenly distributed throughout.

Two SSSI's overlap this LCA at Melton Bottom Chalk Pits and Brantingham
Dale, both of which are noted for their ecological benefits. Kiplingcotes
Chalk Pit is a SSSI to the west of Market Weighton.
Risby Hall RPG is located on the eastern edge of this LCA and is of high value for its important historic and landscape character with its Jacobean gardens a designated scheduled monument.

Arras Hill, on the edge of the Wolds is the highest point in Market Weighton and there is evidence suggesting historic human presence.

The settlements of Etton, Cherry Burton, Walkington, Skidby, Kirk Ella and West Ella have historical and architectural importance and have designated Conservation Areas.

Character Area 13D: North Wolds Plateau Farmland

This LCA encompasses the northern extent of the Wolds dip slope and extends round the north side of Driffield to Bridlington. There are several villages dispersed across this area including Lund, Kilham, Garton on the Wolds, North Dalton, Tibthorpe, Wetwang, Bainton, Burton Agnes and Middleton on the Wolds. All these villages have a Conservation Area designation. Combined with the intervening open rolling farmland they contribute to the distinctiveness of the area as a whole.

There is relatively little woodland. Shelter belts are common around farmsteads and villages. Scattered farmsteads are located in elevated positions with extensive views of the surrounding land. They tend to be
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 13: OPEN HIGH ROLLING FARMLAND
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large scale and often include silos that are tall and distinctive on the skyline. As a result farmsteads tend to be prominent feature in the enclosure landscape of the Wolds. Fields lie in a largely regular pattern across the LCA and tend to be large or very large and rectilinear.

Danes Graves, near Pockthorpe Hall, originally consisted of 500 small barrows and is the site of an Iron Age cemetery. Pockthorpe Hall itself stands in the centre of a deserted medieval village, both of which are designated scheduled monuments. There are a number of other scheduled monuments associated with former medieval settlements within this LCA, most notably Garton Slack settlement site, Octon and Swaythorpe.

Characteristic of the Wolds are the wide road verges present in this area, supporting a variety of calcareous grassland species. Cuttings through chalk, for example at Enthorpe, provide valuable habitat to chalk plant species which may be otherwise scarce.

There are two SSSI's within this LCA at Enthorpe railway cutting and River Hull Headwaters which provide important ecological habitats.

Character Area 13E: Bempton, Grindale and Wold Newton Farmland

Farmland west of Grindale (2005)

This LCA is located northwest of Bridlington and is separated from other LCA's in the LCT by the Great Wolds Valley which dissects the Wolds dip slope in the Northeast of the East Riding west of Bridlington.

Buckton contains village earthworks showing medieval depopulation and there are a number of scheduled monuments associated to medieval settlements at Newsham, Grindale and Argam. Flamborough Headland Heritage Coast noted for its impressive chalk cliffs overlaps this LCA, and is part of the Flamborough Heritage Coast Important Landscape Area.
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Agricultural land use dominates the LCA and a number of developments associated with the tourism and recreation industry are present nearer the coast line.

A patchwork of large to very large rectilinear fields covers the LCA, the fields becoming smaller nearer the coast.

Settlement comprises hamlets and nucleated villages with Bempton the largest village. Wold Newton has a Conservation Area designation.

Scattered farmsteads with wooded shelterbelts are prominent throughout the LCA. Tree cover is low with sporadic small woodlands scattered across the LCA.

The Flamborough railway cutting runs through the farmland of this area, with an associated shallow chalk quarry nearby. These areas have been designated a SSSI and support a species-rich chalk flora which includes a variety of grasses and typical chalk herbs.

The expansive and simple landscape has little industrial or commercial development and is rural with a remote and quiet character.

Character Area 13F: Flamborough Headland Farmland

This LCA comprises elevated farmland overlooking the coastline to the east around Flamborough. The influence of the coast and views of the North Sea make this area distinctive from the other farmland in this LCT. The area is also distinctive as a result of its geology. The headland is covered with glacial till from the Devensian period.

Although dominated by agriculture, like adjoining LCA, there are a number of developments associated with the tourism and recreation industries that distinguish this LCA. These area predominantly caravan parks and camping areas which are generally situated close to the coast line.

The only village within the LCA is Flamborough, approximately 2 miles northeast of Bridlington, which has a Conservation Area designation. Scattered farmsteads are also present within the LCA.

Inland from the cliff tops, the land consists of a considerable area of permanent grassland, with fields bound by hedgerows and fencing. Fields are large and rectilinear becoming smaller approaching the coast, in a structured pattern.

Tree cover is very low with very few small groups scattered over the LCA and a notable strip of woodland along Danes Dyke which extends across the headland west of Flamborough.

Flamborough was a significant port in the Middle Ages but fell into decay in the 16th Century. It contains the ruins of a fortified manor house surrounded by earthworks. Danes Dyke is an ancient linear earthwork which crosses the Flamborough Headland from north to south. A designated scheduled monument, it is thought to have been constructed in the Iron Age as a defence. World War II pill boxes are located in the LCA as modern defence features.

The headland is bound by tall chalk cliffs and the area is a Designated Heritage Coast, and is part of the Flamborough Heritage Coast Important Landscape Area.

Flamborough Head is also designated Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Area (SPA) and Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) due to its conservational and ecological importance.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 13: OPEN HIGH ROLLING FARMLAND
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The lighthouse at Flamborough is an important local landmark (2017)

EVALUATION

Quality

This LCT is part of the distinctive chalk lands of the Wolds and contributes to the diversity of the Yorkshire Wolds from the escarpment landform to the steep sided dry vales and the rolling arable farmland. The coastal landscape is also a highly valued recreation and landscape resource that is recognised in the Heritage Coast designation at Flamborough Head. The LCT is assessed to be high quality.
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Positive Landscape Features

- Varied rolling landform offering extensive views
- Views east over Holderness and to the North Sea at Flamborough
- Scattered farmsteads with shelterbelts
- Large rectilinear parliamentary enclosure fields
- Views of South Dalton Church Spire and Flamborough Lighthouse

Forces for Change

Pressures on the agricultural industry may result in a change to land management practices and farm diversification. Countryside Stewardship offers an opportunity to restore some of the characteristics of the Wolds such as the hedgerows.

Pressure for commercial development is not considered to be an issue for much of the area. However, there are specific sites that may come under pressure for commercial development especially adjacent to Willerby and Driffield. There may also be pressure for further development at the Ministry of Defence site and Kellythorpe Industrial Estate, southwest of Driffield. New agricultural buildings have impacted on the character of farmsteads on the Wolds over the years and may continue to do so.

Recreation and tourism facilities at Flamborough are popular and there may be continued pressure for these facilities to be developed.

There will continue to be pressure for renewable energy developments in the East Riding. These pressures may result in proposals for wind farms in the Wolds landscape particularly as the landscape is elevated and is generally sparsely populated.

Condition and Strength of Character

This large scale open landscape contains several distinct character areas that provide an element of diversity in this landscape that is attractive with few skyline features that draw the eye. The large scale openness of the LCT generally, the rolling landform and the pattern of land use contribute to a strong sense of identity for this working agricultural landscape.

Several power lines cross the area and are detractors in the landscape. However, they are not typical and do not weaken the strong sense of character of the area as a whole.

The Kiplincotes Derby, the oldest horse race in England, ran across the Wolds from Etton to a location close to Middleton on the Wolds.
**Sensitivity and Capacity**

The following table sets out the sensitivity of the LCT to different types of development. Appendix 4 for full details of the assessment criteria.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landscape quality (condition)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT has a high level of landscape quality that is reflected in its designation as an Important Landscape Area. The coast is recognised in the Heritage Coast designation at Flamborough Head.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenic quality</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The area contains a predominantly rural landscape with no industrial or commercial development. This creates a landscape of high to good scenic quality.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarity (of elements, features or LCT's)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT forms a large part of the distinctive chalk lands of the Wolds and although it is typical of its local landscape, its rarity is increased in the wider context of the East Riding.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representativeness (in relation to prevailing landscape character)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With steep sided valleys and deep dales, the LCT is typical of the character within the Yorkshire Wolds area.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation interests (wildlife, earth science, archaeological, historic, cultural)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT contains a high number of conservation interests. Registered Park and Gardens - Dalton Hall, Risby Hall. Scheduled Monuments include: The Reins medieval deer park within Park Ends and Oaktree Wood; Risby Jacobean gardens, hall and medieval settlement remains; 'Cellar Heads' moated site and related ridge and furrow earthworks at Risby Park; a high number of round barrows; monastic grange 180m south of Manor Farm; linear earthwork running from the head of Warren Dale towards Sledmere Field Farm; Garton Slack settlement site; Dane's Graves; Square</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 13: OPEN HIGH ROLLING FARMLAND**

**NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS**

| Recreational value | National trail/long distance routes include the England Coast Path, Minster Way, Chalkland Way Yorkshire Wolds Way, High Hunsley Circuit and Wilberforce Way. The area also includes National Cycle Routes 1, 66 and 164. There are Registered Park and Gardens at Dalton Hall and Risby Hall. A large | High |

barrow cemetery; medieval settlement at Pockthorpe Hall; Romano-British villa north west of Harpham Grange; earthwork on the Sheepwalk; Roman villa site; Swaythorpe medieval settlement; the deserted village of Octon; a site revealed by aerial photography NW of Argam Cottages; Argam ancient village site; Argam dykes; Grindale shrunken medieval village; Deserted medieval village of Newsham; Danes Dyke; Flamborough Castle fortified manor house and Operation Diver Heavy Anti-aircraft gun sites on Flamborough Head.


SSSI’s include Flamborough Railway Cutting, River Hull Headwaters, Enthorpe Railway Cutting, Kiplingcotes Chalk Pit, Brantingham Dale, Melton Bottom Chalk Pit, Hoddy Cows Spring and Flamborough Head. SAC sites include Flamborough Head. Flamborough Headland is part of the Heritage Coast.

Local nature reserves include Flamborough Outer Headland and South Landing, Danes Dyke. There is also a RSPB Reserve at Bempton Cliffs.
### LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 13: OPEN HIGH ROLLING FARMLAND

**NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Perceptual aspects (openness, wildness, tranquillity, remoteness)</strong></th>
<th>number of caravan and recreational sites are located along the Flamborough Coast. The Yorkshire Wolds Secret Arts Trail, a mobile web-based application, covers the landscape within this LCT.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Associations (with people or events)</strong></td>
<td>The LCT contains a vast, open landscape with views across neighbouring LCT’s. It is a tranquil landscape with large areas which can be considered as relatively remote.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Value attached to LCT</strong></th>
<th><strong>Level</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LCT is part of both Yorkshire Wolds Important Landscape Area and Flamborough Headland Heritage Coast. A number of other heritage assets such as Dalton Hall RPG and Risby Hall RPG along with a large number of ecological designations across this vast LCT. Some detractors in the form of caravan parks, turbine development and pylons.</td>
<td><strong>High</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Susceptibility to Development</strong></th>
<th><strong>Level</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Residential</strong></td>
<td>Settlement within this vast LCT is mainly limited to dispersed, nucleated villages and scattered farmsteads. Large scale development of this nature would risk affecting the integrity of the landscape, limited capacity for small scale residential development adjacent to existing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Commercial</strong></td>
<td>Limited small scale commercial development within the LCT. Development of this nature would risk affecting the integrity of the landscape.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Industrial</strong></td>
<td>Limited small scale industrial development within the Wolds. Development of this nature would risk affecting the integrity of the landscape.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Agricultural</strong></td>
<td>Some evidence of agricultural development associated with scattered farmsteads. Limited capacity to accommodate development of this nature without effects on the integrity of the landscape.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 13: OPEN HIGH ROLLING FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

Recreational
A good number of national recreational routes pass through the LCT. Dalton Hall RPG, Risby Hall RPG offer recreational value. A large number of caravan/recreational development particularly along the Flamborough coast. LCT has limited capacity to accommodate sensitive development of this nature without affecting the overall integrity of the landscape.

Sensitivity to Development at LCA level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Residential</th>
<th>Commercial</th>
<th>Industrial</th>
<th>Agricultural</th>
<th>Recreational</th>
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<td>13 A</td>
<td>Medium-High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Medium-High</td>
<td>Medium-High</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 B</td>
<td>Medium-High</td>
<td>High</td>
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<td>Medium-High</td>
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<td>13 C</td>
<td>Medium-High</td>
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<td>Medium-High</td>
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<td>Medium-High</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 13: OPEN HIGH ROLLING FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

This LCT is part of both the Wolds Important Landscape Area and Flamborough Headland Heritage Coast. This high quality landscape is sensitive to change as a result of built development. The open and sparsely populated characteristics of the LCT that contribute to quality would be adversely affected by development that does not respect these characteristics.

Settlement within this large LCT is mainly limited to dispersed, nucleated villages and scattered farmsteads. Large scale development of this type would risk affecting the integrity of the landscape. However, despite the high sensitivity, there may be some limited potential to accommodate small scale residential development adjacent to existing settlements.

There is limited small scale commercial development within this LCT. Sensitivity to commercial development is assessed to be high and there is no real capacity to accommodate development of this nature. Similarly this predominantly rural landscape has no capacity for industrial development.

There is some evidence of small scale agricultural development within the rural landscape, associated with farmsteads. Large scale development of this nature would risk affecting the integrity of the landscape.

There are a number of national recreational routes that pass through this LCT along with RPG’s at Dalton Hall and Risby Hall which offer recreational interest. There are also a large number of caravan sites and recreational developments, particularly along the Flamborough coast. The LCT has limited capacity to accommodate sensitive development of this nature without affecting the overall integrity of the landscape.

There are extensive views across the landscape which is relatively featureless. There are a number of turbine developments scattered across this LCT ranging from domestic small scale turbines to large scale.

Strategy

The strategy for this LCT is to conserve and enhance the characteristic open and rolling agricultural landscape.

Promote native woodland planting that considers and retains the open character of the area. Existing woodland blocks should follow the contours of the land. Woodland is concentrated in the dales in other LCT’s on the Wolds and it would be appropriate to encourage woodland planting on the lower slopes of the rolling farmland.

Shelterbelts are characteristic of the landscape and woodland planting on the Wold tops should reflect this. However, traditionally shelterbelts are associated with buildings and planting design that is not associated with buildings should endeavour to follow natural landform.

Although conifer plantations are characteristic, woodland planting should include local native species.

New agricultural buildings should be located adjacent to existing development and screened where appropriate by shelterbelt planting. New buildings in open countryside should be avoided as this would have the cumulative impact of increasing the density of built form and impacting on views and open characteristics.

Residential development should be avoided except where it is linked to existing settlement and respects the vernacular style and layout of that settlement.

Wind turbines and other infrastructure that adds vertical features that will be prominent should be avoided.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 14: CENTRAL DISSECTED PLATEAU
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

DESCRIPTION OF LOCATION
This Landscape Character Type (LCT) is located in the centre of the Yorkshire Wolds on the north boundary of the East Riding around Fridaythorpe, Sledmere and Langtoft. The LCT extends north into the neighbouring district of Ryedale.

This LCT is located in the Yorkshire Wolds Important Landscape Area identified in the East Yorkshire District Wide Local Plan.

Relevant National Character Area
• 27: Yorkshire Wolds

SUMMARY OF KEY CHARACTERISTICS, FEATURES AND LAND USE
Key Characteristics of the Sloping Wooded Farmland the Yorkshire Wolds
• Rolling elevated landform cut by occasional deep steep sided dales
• Intensive arable production on the elevated rolling land contrasts with the grassland of the steep sided valleys where sheep and cattle production is dominant
• Enclosed character of the dales contrasts with open elevated land in between
• Sparse woodland cover overall except around Sledmere Estate and Park, a Grade I listed Registered Park and Garden
• Large rectilinear enclosure field pattern dissected by sinuous fields of the steep sided grass dales
• Scattered villages with village ponds
• Scatter farmsteads on elevated land surrounded by rectilinear shelter belts

STATEMENT OF OPPORTUNITIES
• Protection of field patterns by resisting further combination of fields
• Protecting and enhancing hedgerows, in particular where there are gaps in hedges and where hedges form the boundary between dale and rectilinear fields

LANDSCAPE INFLUENCES
Physical Influences
The underlying solid geology of the area was laid down during the Cretaceous period. The area escaped the ice sheet of the Devesian period. Wind-blown sand (loess) covers the chalk and in the valley bottoms head has been deposited from the upper slopes.

The soils are a mix of rendzinas and brown earths. They are free draining due to the permeable chalk bedrock and sloping relief. The thinner soils on steeper slopes are often no more than 20cm thick and are the rendzinas. These soils are derived chiefly from the chalk bedrock. Where the soils are thicker (between 30cm and 50cm) they are free draining brown earths with greater water retention capacity than the rendzinas. The land has an ALC of Grade 2 and Grade 3 with some of the steepest valley sides being Grade 4.

Topography is varied within this LCT with landform falling generally between 70m and 180m AOD. Landform is elevated and rolling dissected by narrow steep sided dales.

Like the majority of the Wolds, there are no significant watercourses in the area due to the permeable bedrock and sloping land. Man-made Dew ponds were once a feature for watering livestock but have largely disappeared. Village ponds are present in most villages.
Human Influences

There is evidence of early human activity dating back to prehistoric times on the Wolds and in this LCT. However, the influence of that past activity does not make a significant mark on the landscape character of the intensively farmed landscape today. However, this LCT probably offers the most extensive visible evidence of past activity in the East Riding as there are a number of medieval village sites that have been deserted with small areas of medieval cultivation terraces (Lynchets) still visible and linear earthworks along some of the dales linked to past settlement and land use, many of these medieval villages have scheduled monument designations attached. There are a number of burial sites in the area dating back to the Iron Age. Several round barrows and square barrows are scheduled monuments as are the sites of former villages. There is also thought to have been Roman occupation in this area. The few villages probably originated in Saxon and early medieval times.

Generally there are few settlements on the high open rolling hills of the Wolds. This is probably due, in part, to the lack of water courses in the area but also due to monastic ownership of the lands during the Middle Ages when the area was extensively farmed for sheep and settlement restricted.

Existing field pattern is largely the result of parliamentary enclosure in the 18th and 19th centuries. During this time large areas of common land were enclosed and a new system of land management introduced. Farmers moved out of the villages onto farmsteads that were scattered across the area linked to units of land. Farm houses were built, usually brick with pantile or slate roofs and farm buildings were built adjacent resulting in a nucleated farmstead. Many of the farmsteads are located on high ground above the surrounding rolling farmland. These locations are very exposed and as a result shelterbelts were planted to protect the farmsteads. The rectilinear shelterbelts surrounding farmsteads on the Wolds are one of the key characteristics of this LCT. Shelterbelts generally consist of sycamore, beech, ash and larch.

The A166 forms the primary transport corridor in this LCT with the B1248, B1249, B1251, B1252 and B1253 forming secondary routes. Other roads are limited to smaller country lanes and private access tracks. The majority of roads follow the parliamentary enclosure field pattern and have wide verges.

There is relatively little infrastructure in this landscape. Pylons cross the Wolds in several places and telecom masts are sometimes a prominent feature. A number of small to medium sized turbine developments are scattered across the LCT. The Market Weighton to Driffield and Malton to Driffield Railway lines have been dismantled although their path across the Wolds can still be picked out in places. Public rights are numerous and include the Hockney Trail but more limited in areas where the monastic land ownership restricted settlement on the Wolds in medieval times and the subsequent control of large landowners exerting their control over the area.

Ecological Influences

Much of the land is dominated by arable. Although not particularly species rich, these areas can support uncommon species, for example rare arable weeds and birds such as curlew.

Also characteristic of this LCT are the wide grass verges of the roads that cross the landscape. These verges support a variety of calcareous grassland species and help to improve the biodiversity of the area.

The steep sided dry dales in this area are well wooded in the vicinity of Sledmere Estate but elsewhere the land cover is grassland. The grassland of Fordon Chalk Grassland and the Horse Dale and Holme Dale between...
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 14: CENTRAL DISSECTED PLATEAU
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

Huggate and Fridaythorpe are designated SSSI’s. To the east of Sledmere Estate areas of Cinquefoil Brow & Wood Dale and Cottam Well Dale are also designated SSSIs.

**Statutory Designations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Area</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Horse Dale &amp; Holme Dale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Fordon Chalk Grasslands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Cinquefoil Brow &amp; Wood Dale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Cottam Well Dale</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LINKS TO ADJACENT CHARACTER AREAS**

**Adjacent ERYC LCTs**
- 10: Complex Sloping Farmland
- 13: Open High Rolling Farmland

**Adjacent Regional Landscape Character Area**
- North Yorkshire landscape Character Assessment (2011) – LCA 18 Chalk Wolds, LCA 20 Broad Chalk Valley and LCA 21 Narrow Chalk Valley

**LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS**

Five Landscape Character Areas (LCA) have been identified in this LCT. They are:
- 14A: Fridaythorpe and Huggate Rolling Farmland
- 14B: Sledmere Estate Farmland and Parkland
- 14C: Cottam Dale and Wold Farmland
- 14D: Langtoft Dale and Wold Farmland
- 14E: Wold Newton Dale and Wold Farmland

**DETAILED CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTIONS**

**Character Area 14A: Fridaythorpe and Huggate Rolling Farmland**

This open rolling farmland is dissected by dales that are narrow dry valleys. Steep sided valleys here are usually grass covered, contrasting with the arable landscape of the surrounding flatter higher ground. The dales in this area have not been identified as separate LCA’s because their scale is smaller than those found on the western edge of the Wolds.

Within the farmland there remain some remnants of species rich lowland calcareous grassland, notably at Horse Dale and Holme Dale SSSI. Horse Dale has a north-west facing bank, heavily grazed by cattle, with a grass sward dominated by its pastoral land use. In contrast Holme Dale has a south-west facing slope grazed by cattle and rabbits.

Woodland cover is low and fragmented, while large rectilinear field boundaries generally consist of hedgerows of variable condition.

Settlements are generally nucleated and limited to the villages of Fridaythorpe, Huggate and Fimber. There are a small number of well scattered farmsteads.
Horse Wold, Huggate (2017)

**Character Area 14B: Sledmere Estate Farmland and Parkland**

The majority of this LCA is made up of the settlement of Sledmere and parkland associated with Sledmere Estate. Sledmere has a Conservation Area designation due to its historic and architectural character.

There has been a manor at Sledmere since medieval times. The current house was built in the 1750s and extended in the 1790s. The original village was located to the south of the house. It was removed and a new village built to the north of the house designed to complement the setting of the new building. As a result Sledmere Estate along with the village forms a distinctive area within the Wolds.

The Parkland of the estate was laid out based on a design by Capability Brown in 1771 and it is a Grade 1 Registered Park and Garden (RPG).

There are extensive areas of woodland around the Estate concentrated mainly in the dales e.g. York Dale, Towthorpe Dale and School House Dale. Woodland cover within this LCA is extensively deciduous.

Peripheral areas comprise of arable land use bordered by rectilinear field boundaries.

Sledmere Estate Parkland (2005)
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 14: CENTRAL DISSECTED PLATEAU
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

Character Area 14C: Cottam Dale and Wold Farmland
This LCA comprises both upland arable farmland and dales grassland. It is a large scale rolling farmland with little fragmented tree cover and medium to large arable fields with hedgerow boundaries in varying condition. Infrastructure is low, with few rural roads, electricity lines or wind turbines. The site of the deserted medieval village of Cottam is located at the top of Cottam Well Dale to the east. There are no settlements in this area but there are several scattered farmsteads.

More or less central to the Yorkshire Wolds, this area overlies chalk soils which have associated calcareous habitats.

Cottam Well Dale is a designated SSSI and a good example of chalk grassland under differing management regimes. To the south the grassland is ungrazed and this is reflected in its species composition, being much coarser. Other examples of chalk grassland with ecological benefits, that at one time would have been far more widespread, are at Cinquefoil Brow and Wood Dale SSSI, east of Sledmere.

Character Area 14D: Langtoft Dale and Wold Farmland
Langtoft village is the only settlement in the LCA and is located in the bottom of a dale. This linear village has a Conservation Area designation. There are a few scattered farmsteads surrounding the village.

There are some very small fields on the village edge but otherwise surrounding rectilinear fields are large or very large. Field pattern is the result of parliamentary enclosure. This is unusual as other villages in the area do not tend to be located in dale bottoms. As a result the village has been prone to flooding in the past.

The elevated land surrounding Langtoft Dale shares many of its characteristics with the neighbouring LCA’s.

There are very few trees in the area and hedgerows tend to be fragmented as a result of severe management.

Character Area 14E: Wold Newton Dale and Wold Farmland
This small LCA is located in the northern most corner of the East Riding and extends outside the district into Ryedale.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 14: CENTRAL DISSECTED PLATEAU
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

The hamlet of Fordon is situated in the middle of this LCA at a low point amongst a series of valleys radiating out from it. There are a few scattered farmsteads surrounding the village. Field pattern is varied according to local topography.

This character area is dominated by the chalk grassland at Fordon, which is designated a SSSI for its botanical diversity. This LCA is particularly noted for the presence of purple milk vetch.

EVALUATION

Quality

The landscape quality of this LCT is assessed to be high due to the diverse characteristics that contribute to character and the good condition of these characteristics. The presence of a Grade 1 RPG at Sledmere House also contributes to the quality of the area. The area is sparsely settled and relatively tranquil.

Positive Landscape Features

- Varied landform from steep side dry dales to rolling wold tops
- Varied land cover from grassed and wooded dales to arable tops
- Extensive woodland planting around Sledmere Estate
- Open views from elevated locations contrasting with channelled views in dales
- Historic earthworks still visible in the landscape
- Small scale sparse settlement scattered throughout

Forces for Change

Agricultural development has introduced the largest number of changes to built form in this landscape. Large scale agricultural buildings that are not linked to farmsteads have the greatest potential impact.

Little evidence exists of pressure for commercial development in the area, other than from tourism and recreation. Built development that would introduce urban characteristics to this landscape would result in change.

Tourism and recreation development may result in pressure on the landscape over time. Sledmere is one of the best known tourist destinations.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 14: CENTRAL DISSECTED PLATEAU
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

on the Wolds and is an important historic site. Demand for recreation facilities such as car parks and camp sites is a potential force for change.

Condition and Strength of Character

The landscape characteristics that contribute to the character of this LCT are generally in good condition. The varied landform and diverse land cover along with the vernacular of settlements contribute to creating a distinctive sense of place that contributes to the strong character of the LCT. There are few detractors in the area.
Sensitivity and Capacity

The following table sets out the sensitivity of the LCT to different types of development. Refer to Sensitivity and Capacity

The following table sets out the sensitivity of the LCT to different types of development. Refer to Appendix 4 for full details of the assessment criteria.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landscape quality (condition)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenic quality</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarity (of elements, features or LCT's)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representativeness (in relation to prevailing landscape character)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation interests (wildlife, earth science, archaeological, historic, cultural)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational value</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The LCT contains the Yorkshire Wolds Important Landscape Area. There is high landscape quality across LCT.

The varied landform and diverse land cover offers high scenic quality.

The LCT the northern area of the distinctive chalk lands of the Wolds. Although it is typical of its local landscape, its rarity is increased in the wider context of the East Riding. The area includes the Sledmere Estate (Grade I) Registered Park and Garden.

The area forms part of the Wolds Important Landscape Area. There are Medieval Scheduled Monuments which are characteristic of the area.

The LCT includes the Sledmere Estate (Grade I) RPG, SSSI's including Horse Dale and Holme Dale, Cinquefoil Brow & Wood Dale, Cottam Well Dale and Fordon Chalk Grasslands. Local Wildlife Sites include: West Dale Fordon, Fordon Vege, 24 Acre Dale, Crake Dale, Well Dale Cowlam, Meg Dale, Hog Walk, Hasley Dale, Big Dale, Fimber Disused Railway, Wan Dale and Brubber dale. There are several Scheduled Monuments across LCT The area also includes the Heritage Railway Line and visitor facilities (part of Malton-Driffield line).

The area includes a number of PRoW including the Chalkland Way and Yorkshire Wolds Way and National Cycle Routes 164, 166 and 167 intersect LCT. Attractions include the Heritage Railway Line and visitor facilities and the Sledmere Estate (Grade I) Registered Park and Garden.
**LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 14: CENTRAL DISSECTED PLATEAU**
**NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Perceptual aspects (openness, wildness, tranquillity, remoteness)</th>
<th>The LCT has a strong rural character which ranges from open to intimate. The area is generally remote and unspoilt which contribute to providing a high level of tranquillity.</th>
<th>High</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Associations (with people or events)</td>
<td>The LCT contains the Hockney Trail and Capability Brown designed landscape as part of the Sledemere Estate.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Value attached to LCT**

- Part of the Wolds Important landscape Area. Assessed as high scenic quality throughout this LCT with varied landform and diverse land cover of the Wolds and Sledmere Estate (Grade I) RPG. A number of heritage interests within LCT with a heritage railway line and numerous scheduled monuments, predominantly of medieval origin. Some ecological interest with a number of SSSI's and local wildlife sites within the area. | High |

**Susceptibility to Development**

- Residential: Residential development is limited to a number of small villages and sparsely located farmsteads. Due to the high condition and the lack of existing development within this LCT development of this nature has the potential to impact upon the character of the area. | High |
- Commercial: A distinct lack of commercial development within this LCT. Development of this nature would risk affecting the integrity of the landscape character and scenic interest as a result of the condition of the landscape. | High |
- Industrial: A distinct lack of industrial development within this LCT. Development of this nature would risk affecting the integrity of the landscape character and scenic interest as a result of the condition of the landscape. | High |
- Agricultural: Predominantly agricultural land with some scattered farmsteads and accompanying agricultural development. LCT has limited capacity to accommodate development of this nature. | High |
- Recreational: A number of recreational spaces within this LCT including Sledmere Estate (Grade I) RPG, a number of PRoW including Chalkland Way and Yorkshire Wolds Way and a Heritage Railway Line and visitor facilities. LCT has limited capacity to accommodate development of this nature. | High |
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 14: CENTRAL DISSECTED PLATEAU
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Residential</th>
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<td>High</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 B</td>
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<td>High</td>
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<td>High-Medium</td>
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<td>14 C</td>
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</table>
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 14: CENTRAL DISSECTED PLATEAU
COUNTRYSIDE CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

Part of the Wolds Important Landscape Area, this high quality landscape with extensive views and diverse characteristics is highly sensitive to development that would alter views or characteristics.

Residential development is limited to a number of small villages and sparsely located farmsteads. This LCT is highly sensitive to all types of development due to its rural and underdeveloped character. The high landscape and scenic quality of the LCT, along with extensive views in areas limits the capacity for development.

There is no capacity for commercial or industrial development within this LCT.

This LCT has a medium high sensitivity to agricultural development with limited capacity for sensitively located development in association with existing farmsteads.

There are a number of recreational spaces within this LCT including Sledmere Estate (Grade I) RPG, a number of Public Rights of Way including Chalkland Way, Yorkshire Wolds Way, the Hockney Trail and a Heritage Railway Line and visitor facilities. This LCT has limited capacity to accommodate development of this nature and has medium-high sensitivity to this development type.

Strategy

The strategy for this LCT is to promote woodland management to ensure continued woodland cover and create more diverse woodland habitat. Ash and beech are common woodland species in the area. Conifer plantations and shelter belts are characteristic.

Encourage the maintenance of the field pattern by resisting further amalgamation of fields and replanting and gapping up hedgerows where appropriate. In particular the hedgerows that mark the boundary between the dale and the rectilinear enclosure fields highlight the contrast between the grass dales and elevated arable fields.

Avoid built development that does not relate to existing types of development and respect vernacular of settlement or farmsteads.

New development should respect local vernacular, context and mitigate visual prominence within the landscape. Measures to integrate development with the surrounding landscape should include woodland, tree and hedgerow planting. The characteristic rolling, rural character of the area and key views should be protected.

Avoid the introduction of vertical structures to the landscape such as wind turbines and communications masts. Where small scale single domestic turbines are considered, avoid skyline locations. Effects on landscape and views should be assessed on a case by case basis and should consider cumulative effects.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 15: WOLDS VALLEY FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

DESCRIPTION OF LOCATION
This Landscape Character Type (LCT) is located in two areas. The larger area is the Great Wold Valley through which the Gypsey Race stream runs. This LCT is noted as being unique within the Wolds due to the presence of watercourses, most notably the Gypsey Race. This is one of the key features of the Yorkshire Wolds and extends from Duggleby Howe in the west (outside the East Riding) to Bridlington.

This LCT is located in the Yorkshire Wolds Important Landscape Area identified in the East Yorkshire Local Plan.

Relevant National Character Area
- 27: Yorkshire Wolds

SUMMARY OF KEY CHARACTERISTICS, FEATURES AND LAND USE

Key Characteristics of the Wolds Valley Farmland the Yorkshire Wolds
- Broad valley landscape with small intermittent water course
- The Gypsey Race is the sole water course within the Wolds.
- Sloping valley sides with large rectilinear arable fields bound by hedgerows
- Remote and tranquil location
- Few villages nestled in the valley bottom
- Buildings are generally brick with pantile roofs
- Woodland cover is good at lower elevations downstream
- Historically significant landscape with some physical evidence from Neolithic period
- Medieval Scheduled Monuments are locally characteristic.
- Minor roads along the valley bottom linking villages
- Few scattered farmsteads higher up on valley sides
- Urban Fringe of Driffield is less tranquil

STATEMENT OF OPPORTUNITIES
- Protect and enhance the landscape character of this valued, attractive historic landscape and promote understanding of the importance of the historic landscape in this area
- Protect and enhance the rare and valued characteristics of the watercourses running through this landscape

LANDSCAPE INFLUENCES

Physical Influences
The underlying solid geology of the area was laid down during the Cretaceous period and is chalk. On the valley sides, wind-blown sand or loess overlays the chalk. In the valley bottom alluvium covers the lower valley and undifferentiated head carried from upper valley sides to valley bottom and deposited in the Devensian period.

Soils are a combination of rendzinas and brown earths. The rendzinas are thinner soils located on the valley sides and suffer from drought. The brown earths tend to be thicker and tend to be located on less steep ground. They are also more fertile. The Agricultural Land Classification is a mix of Grade 2 and Grade 3 land.

Topography is varied and ranges from approximately 20m to 80m AOD. The High Wolds Plateau to the north forms a curving outcrop of chalk uplands that surrounds the Great Wolds Valley Character Area. Numerous villages have surviving examples of chalk-built structures, often with red brick detailing and pantile roofs: examples can be seen in Wold Newton and Burton Fleming.
Unlike the dry dales found in the Wolds the Great Wold Valley is characterised by the running water of the Gypsey Race which disappears and reappears intermittently along its course. The lower stretch of the valley looks green, with lush, seasonally waterlogged meadow, pasture, woodland and landscaped parkland, resembling a lowland, rather than a typical Wolds, habitat. Willow Garth SSSI, west of Boynton, is one of the best examples of fen-carr in the Project Area. This contrasts sharply with the treeless nature of the intensely cultivated arable farmland on the adjacent Wold tops. In summer much of the water course dries up. Elmswell Beck has its source in the deserted medieval village of Elmswell west of Driffield and joins Driffield Beck south of Driffield. These valleys are less steep sided than the dry dales of the Wolds and tend to be broader overall which is another distinguishing factor.

Human Influences

The historic valley landscape provides an important insight to the activities of prehistoric man in the Wolds. It is known that the Great Wold Valley was an important place of worship during prehistoric times. There are a number of scheduled monuments in the Valley several of them thought to date back to Neolithic times. Argham Dyke is a prehistoric earthwork that crosses the area near Rudston and thought to date from the Bronze Age. Aerial photographs have also yielded evidence of a widespread Iron Age to Romano British landscape with fields, trackways and native farms. A Roman Villa to the southwest of Rudstone was excavated in 1933. The mosaics from this excavation are now on display in Hull Museum.

Elmswell Beck Valley, west of Driffield also has historic significance. Traces of Huts and ditches of early farmsteads have been found. The site of a medieval village is located here. At Low Caythorpe a deserted village incorporates moated sites and a later house site within extensive formal gardens and watercourses. The village is one of the few in the East Riding where desertion can be attributed to conversion of arable land to pasture.

Rudston is the centre of a prehistoric landscape with widespread evidence for settlements and field systems. There are also Iron Age cemeteries and four Neolithic cursi converge on the village area.

Existing field pattern is largely the result of parliamentary enclosure in the 18th and 19th centuries. During this time large areas of common land were enclosed and a new system of land management introduced. Farmers moved out of the villages onto farmsteads that were scattered across the area linked to units of land. The planned enclosure of Rudston and Boynton parishes under Acts of 1774 and 1777 respectively (Purdy 1974). This produced a landscape of small rectangular fields subdivided by straight hedgerows, in which a small number of isolated farmsteads were established. It was probably at this time that the parkland surrounding Thorpe and Boynton Halls was developed and woodland was planted. This formed the landscape that still persists in the Great Wold Valley today. Farm houses were built, usually brick with pantile or slate roofs and farm buildings were built adjacent resulting in a nucleated farmstead. Many of the farmsteads are located on high ground above the surrounding rolling farmland. These locations are very exposed and as a result shelterbelts were planted to protect the farmsteads.

The B1253 forms the only secondary route in the LCT. Other roads are limited to smaller country lanes and private access tracks.

There are limited Public Rights of Way across the LCT other than the minor roads and tracks which link the villages.
ECOLOGICAL INFLUENCES

The valleys of the Wolds share many of their ecological characteristics with the rest of the Wolds. The main difference in this area is the presence of water bodies. The River Hull Headwaters Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) runs through part of the LCT and has important habitat features. Similarly the Gypsey Race is a locally designated for its habitat importance. Hedgerows provide habitat along field boundaries in the intensively farmed arable landscape. Woodland at Boynton also provides habitat as well adding diversity to the characteristics contributing to landscape character.

STATUTORY DESIGNATIONS

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>River Hull Headwaters</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LINKS TO ADJACENT CHARACTER AREAS

Adjacent ERYC LCTs
- 13: Open High Rolling Farmland
- 19: Open Farmland

Adjacent Regional Landscape Character Area
- North Yorkshire Landscape Character Assessment (2011) – LCA 18 Chalk Wolds and LCA 20 Broad Chalk Valley

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS

Three Landscape Character Areas (LCA) have been identified in this LCT. They are:
- 15A: Gypsey Race Corridor Rudston to Bridlington
- 15B: Gypsey Race Corridor, Wold Newton to Rudston
- 15C: Elmwell Beck Corridor

DETAILED CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTIONS

Character Area 15A: Gypsey Race Corridor Rudston to Bridlington

This LCA forms part of the Gypsey Race Local Biodiversity Priority Area and Green Infrastructure Corridor. The Gypsey Race is a chalk stream that runs across the northern part of the Yorkshire Wolds and the northern tip of Holderness to Bridlington.

The Gypsey Race corridor is particularly distinctive in the Wolds. ‘Gypsey’ springs and streams are found all over the Wolds and are watercourses that are intermittent and irregular. The Gypsey Race is the best known and its corridor is also known as the Great Wolds Valley. This lower stretch of the valley is wide and shallow, and contains a greater density of individual buildings, farmsteads, hamlets and villages than LCA 15B. The area also has more woodland which is linked to Thorpe Hall and Boynton.

Land use is predominantly arable and the field pattern is more varied than elsewhere in the Wolds, however, the rectilinear pattern of parliamentary enclosures is dominant. Infrastructure, apart from roads, is largely absent.

Farmsteads are well scattered and settlements are widely spread and nucleated. The site of a medieval village that has been abandoned can be seen at Caythorpe.

Boynton Willow Garth (SSSI) is situated adjacent to the Gypsey Race, West of Boynton. It provides an excellent example of fen carr with a mosaic of habitats consisting of fen, scrub, woodland and running water.
Boynton Hall was built in the mid-18th century and is a brick building with slate roof. This replaced a previous building built in 1549. Boynton Hall is now a designated scheduled monument. The church in Boynton is a mix of stone and brick and was largely rebuilt in 1768 to the design of John Carr. Grounds to the north of the Hall were landscaped in c.1768. Boynton village also contained a large woollen manufacturing industry.

The main B1253 was diverted to the north and the Gypsey Race dammed to form a serpentine lake. The Gypsey Race is crossed by an 18th Century bridge. Carnaby Temple on the hill to the south was built in 1770 by Sir George Strickland as part of the landscape works. The Temple was an octagonal tower.

At Rudston the church is located next to a 7.7m monolith believed to have been brought here from Cayton Bay and erected during the Neolithic period. The church has a Norman Tower. Extensive repairs to the church were carried out by the Victorians in 1861.

Winifred Holtby was an award-winning 20th Century author of ‘South Riding’ was born in Rudston.

Recreation and tourism enterprises are found in this stretch of the Great Wolds Valley close to Bridlington. Camping and caravan sites, hotels and fishing ponds are present and the Rudston Monolith and Church are attractions in the area.

Character Area 15B: Gypsey Race Corridor Wold Newton to Rudston

This LCA also contains the Gypsey Race chalk stream that runs across the northern part of the Yorkshire Wolds.

The Gypsey Race begins in the west at Duggleby Howe outside the East Riding and enters the Riding west of Wold Newton. This upper stretch of the valley is very broad with a generally flat valley bottom at approximately 50m AOD with valley sides rising to approximately 150m AOD. The stream itself has little visual presence within the valley and disappears in places.

Predominantly arable farmland of large rectilinear fields, landscape scale is medium due to the enclosing valley. Woodland cover is sparse but somewhat offset by being in larger blocks. Hedgerows form field boundaries and provide corridors for wildlife. However, many are fragmented due to lack of management.
Consistent with the surrounding LCA's, infrastructure, apart from roads, is largely absent.

There are several historic sites along the corridor including Willy Howe (Neolithic monument), a burial mound on the edge of Wold Newton and Neolithic sites at Rudston. Land use in the valley is generally arable with some areas of grassland. Field pattern is rectilinear as a result of the enclosure acts. Many of the roads around Wold Newton were re-aligned at enclosure in the late 18th century. Wold Newton is a planned medieval village.

Churchyards, of which there are several within the Gypsey Race corridor, often support a variety of plants and can be relatively species rich.

Hedgerows form field boundaries and provide corridors for wildlife. However, many are fragmented due to lack of management.

**Character Area 15C: Elmswell Beck Corridor**

Elmswell Beck is a small LCA on the west side of Driffield. It extends from the deserted medieval village of Elmswell northwest of Driffield, southwest of Little Driffield and becomes Driffield Beck where it is the boundary of urban development on the west side of Driffield. Just south of Driffield, and outside the LCA, Elmswell Beck joins the northern reach of the River Hull. This distinctive corridor on the edge of the Wolds is reasonably well treed and adds to the diversity of the setting of Driffield.

Characterised by woodland around Elmswell Beck, this LCA is mainly flat with expansive panoramic views across large, open arable fields. Tree cover is relatively good with dense blocks and scattered individual trees. Field pattern is large and rectilinear.

Built form and infrastructure has little visual presence within the LCA, promoting a remote and pleasant character to the landscape.

The Grade II listed Elmwell Old Hall, built c.1635, is noted as one of the earliest brick-built structures in the East Riding.

This LCA is bisected by the A166 from Driffield to York.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 15: WOLDS VALLEY FARMLAND  
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

Field patterns, historic sites and the varied scale landscape of the valley from upstream to downstream contribute to the high quality of this Wolds valley landscape. The area includes scattered farmsteads and small nucleated settlements including Rudston, Burton Flemming and Wold Newton. The valleys are also remote and generally tranquil landscapes that are attractive with elements of interest. Woodland areas become larger and more frequent east of Rudston.

Positive Landscape Features

- Unique broad valley landform
- Sloping valley sides less steep than dales in the Wolds
- Arable land use with occasional grass field
- Historic sites contribute to landscape pattern
- Sparse woodland cover except at Boynton
- Intermittent water course is a unique feature in the area
- Sparse valley floor settlement maintaining vernacular character
- LCA’s 15 A and B are relatively tranquil areas

Forces for Change

Agriculture has shaped the character of the Wolds valleys and change in farming practices could lead to change. Countryside Stewardship schemes offer an opportunity to ensure that change enhances landscape character.

Built development not related to agriculture is not generally considered to be a pressure in this LCT. However, there may be pressure for development on the Ministry of Defence site at Kellythorpe on the south boundary of this area which would impact on character. There is also the potential for further industrial development at Kellythorpe Industrial Estate. Agricultural development and small scale residential development may occur and will result in change over time.

The demand for recreation and tourism facilities in the area may increase particularly in the area around Boynton, close to Bridlington. Recreation activities are already going on in this area, e.g. caravan parks, fishing and horse riding.

There will continue to be pressure for renewable energy developments in the East Riding. The broadness, restricted views from within and perceived hidden nature of the valley make this LCT particularly vulnerable to pressure for wind turbine development, although wind speed may be a limiting factor in the valley. There are currently 2 isolated examples of small scale single turbine development.

Condition and Strength of Character

This is a distinctive LCT whose characteristics and features are largely intact. The open characteristics of the Wolds extend into the valley landscapes where the valley is broad and the sides are less steep. Downstream near Boynton views are more channelled. For the valley farmland at Elmswell Beck near Driffield the historic value of the landscape and its large scale agricultural character are important factors contributing to strength of character and sense of place. The area falls within the Yorkshire Wolds Important Landscape Area.
Sensitivity and Capacity
The following table sets out the sensitivity of the LCT to different types of development. Appendix 4 for full details of the assessment criteria.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landscape quality (condition)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenic quality</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarity (of elements, features or LCT’s)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representativeness (in relation to prevailing landscape character)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation interests (wildlife, earth science, archaeological, historic, cultural)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational value</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perceptual aspects (openness, wildness,</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 15: WOLDS VALLEY FARMLAND**  
**NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tranquillity, remoteness</th>
<th>Woodland cover. Local Character Area’s 15 A and 15B are relatively remote and tranquil valley areas that are attractive with elements of interest. The Gypsey Race acts as the sole water course for the Wolds.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Associations (with people or events)</td>
<td>Carnaby Temple was built in 1770 by Sir George Strickland as part of the landscape works to Boynton Hall. The award winning 20th Century author of ‘South Riding’, Winifred Holtby, was born in Rudston.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value attached to LCT</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Part of the Wolds Important Landscape Area. Noted as a unique LCT within the Wolds due to the presence of watercourses, primarily the Gypsey Race which is also of recreational value. Several scheduled monuments within LCT including Boynton Hall and Low Claythorpe deserted medieval village. Part of the Gypsey Race Local Biodiversity Priority Area and Green Infrastructure Corridor. Two SSSI's Boynton Willow Garth and River Hull Headwaters offer ecological interest.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Susceptibility to Development</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residential</td>
<td>A broad sloping valley with little woodland cover. Primarily agricultural land and sparsely settled but the settlements of Rudston and Boynton located within LCA 15A. Limited capacity to accommodate small scale residential development adjacent to existing without altering the character of the LCT.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>Very limited small scale commercial development within this LCT. Development of this nature would affect the integrity of the landscape.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>Limited small scale industrial development within this LCT. Development of this nature would risk affecting on the integrity of the landscape.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural</td>
<td>Predominantly agricultural land with some evidence of agricultural development. Limited capacity to accommodate development of this nature without affecting the landscape integrity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational</td>
<td>Limited recreational development within the LCT. Small scale development of this nature may be accommodated without altering the character, particularly to the south.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Sensitivity to Development at LCA level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Residential</th>
<th>Commercial</th>
<th>Industrial</th>
<th>Agricultural</th>
<th>Recreational</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15 A</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 B</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 C</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 15: WOLDS VALLEY FARMLAND
COUNTRYSIDE CHARACTER AREA: YORKSHIRE WOLDS

This is a remote valley landscape that is part of the Wolds Important Landscape Area and contains the important Gypsy Race water course. There are extensive views from the higher slopes across the valley and to the elevated farmland of the Wolds beyond. Woodland cover is generally sparse except near Boynton. This is a landscape that would be sensitive to built development that would affect the tranquil and remote rural character of the area.

Settlement is limited to a few small villages, primarily Rudston and Boynton within LCA 15A and scattered farmsteads. Sensitivity to residential development is medium-high due to the primarily rural nature of the LCT, however there may be limited capacity to accommodate small scale residential development adjacent to existing.

There is very limited commercial and industrial development within this LCT. This area is highly sensitive to development of this nature with no capacity for future development.

The predominantly rural landscape has some evidence of existing agricultural development and has some capacity for further development of this type, in keeping with existing character.

There is limited recreational development within this LCT, however there may be some capacity to accommodate development of this nature dependant on scale and location.

Strategy

The strategy for this LCT is to conserve the character of this attractive landscape and promote its local history

Protect heritage sites in the area (both scheduled and non-scheduled) from damage and support continued research to increase our understanding of the Wolds Valley landscape.

New recreation facilities should take account of distinctive local character through location, choice of materials and type of activity allowed. New facilities that would impact upon the vegetation cover and landscape pattern in the valley would be detrimental to character, as would a significant increase in visitor numbers. Therefore, small scale recreation and tourism facilities are most appropriate. The cumulative effect of such facilities may be detrimental and should be considered.

Built development should only be permitted where design and location take account of local landscape pattern and protects the valued characteristics of villages. Proposals should respect local vernacular, context and mitigate visual prominence within the landscape. Measures to integrate development with the surrounding landscape should include woodland, tree and hedgerow planting.

Maintain field pattern and avoid further amalgamation of fields. Reinforce field pattern through replanting of hedgerows. Hawthorn is the dominant hedgerow species in this area. Other species present include field maple and buckthorn.

Encourage tree and woodland planting but ensure that the open characteristics and extensive views are maintained by spacing woodlands appropriately. Ash and beech are typical species in the area with oak, field maple also present. Hedgerows are predominantly hawthorn with blackthorn, hazel, ash, field maple and wild privet.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 16: SLOPING FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS

DESCRIPTION OF LOCATION
This Landscape Character Type (LCT) is located along the eastern edge of the Yorkshire Wolds and extends from Driffield in the north to Beverley and Hull in the south. It includes the villages of Leconfield and Hutton Cranswick and the rural area between Hull and Beverley.

The Yorkshire Wolds Important Landscape Area extends into the western part of this LCT.

Relevant National Character Areas
- 27: Yorkshire Wolds
- 40: Holderness

SUMMARY OF KEY CHARACTERISTICS, FEATURES AND LAND USE
Key Characteristics of the Sloping Farmland of Holderness
- Gently rolling landform sloping gradually down to the east
- Intermittent scattered woodland blocks throughout
- Intensively farmed rectilinear arable fields of large to medium size interspersed with less regular early enclosure fields particularly around villages
- Free draining land with dispersed streams arising in the Wolds and flowing east to the River Hull
- Horticultural development between Beverley and Hull
- Views across the open landscape and views of Beverley Minster
- Hedgerow trees in places
- Scattered villages and farmsteads
- Parkland characteristics at Beverley Westwood, Risby Park and Kilnwick Percy

- A number of turbine developments within the landscape with others visible beyond

STATEMENT OF OPPORTUNITIES
- Protect and enhance the rural character of the LCT and the characteristics that contribute to that character including agricultural land use, both arable and pastoral
- Protect and enhance the small number of drains, ditches or dykes within the area that are monastic in origin in order to preserve their historic value
- Enhancing nature conservation management to protect the geological, ecological and landscape characteristics of ex-gravel and borrow pits alongside their other uses, including recreation
- Protect and enhance woodland, in particular those with ancient woodland status to improve their biodiversity and heritage interest
- Opportunities to enhance species rich grasslands and riparian planting along important water ways/ features

LANDSCAPE INFLUENCES
Physical Influences
The underlying solid geology is chalk from the Cretaceous period. This has been overlain with boulder clay from the Devensian Period.

The soils are mainly brown earths with small areas of surface water gleys. They are generally free draining and have an Agricultural Land Classification of Grade 2 for most of the LCT, with some isolated areas of Grade 3 and 4.

Landform is generally gently undulating below 80m AOD and sloping gently down to the east.

Land is free draining due to the slope and the chalk bedrock. There are several streams through the area running from the west to the east with their
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 16: SLOPING FARMLAND  
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDENNESS

head waters arising in the chalk wolds. Lower lying areas to the east have a network of ditches draining the agricultural land.

Human Influences

There is evidence of early human presence in the area but the physical influence on the landscape today is not apparent. Much of the woodland had been removed during the Bronze Age, leaving an expanse of rolling, grass uplands, with shallow valleys at the wold edges. There would have been some arable agriculture, but the grasslands were largely used for grazing. It is likely that many of the settlements in the area became established during Saxon times.

During the medieval period, numerous nucleated villages, many with associated moated manors, were established at the heads of, or within, the sheltered valleys, close to the spring line where there was an abundant supply of fresh water. The most obvious evidence of occupation throughout this period is the market town of Beverley with its medieval Minster. Beverley Minster is a landmark in the East Riding.

Beverley Racecourse began around 1765 and the course and its buildings has impacted on the character of the approach to Beverley and the Westwood pasture.

There are scheduled monuments scattered though the area mainly from the medieval period. Medieval moated sites and fish ponds are present. There was also a medieval priory at Watton, which is a very important site being a double house of cannons and nuns. The 15th Century gatehouse survives.

Field pattern is a combination of early enclosures and 18th and 19th Century parliamentary enclosure. Much of the area was enclosed by agreement resulting in a less regular and rectilinear field pattern than is found with parliamentary enclosure. As a result the field pattern in this area contrasts with the Wolds. After enclosure, an increasing amount of the Wolds upland pasture was converted to arable, leaving virtually no common pasture in the Character Area. Some of the very shallow dry valleys and headlands have been eroded by ploughing and agricultural changes.

In comparison to the Wolds the area is densely settled with a number of scattered villages.

The A164, A1035, A1079 & A614 form the primary transport corridors in this LCT. Other roads are mostly limited to smaller country lanes and private access tracks.

The A164 between Beverley and Driffield has several villages located off it including the larger villages of Leconfield and Hutton Cranswick.

At Leconfield the former WWII airfield (now Defence School of Transport) and the adjacent barracks, opened in 1936, have an impact on the landscape. The military complex covers approximately 1000 acres.

Industrial estates at Kelleythorpe (southwest of Driffield) and Hutton Cranswick impact on rural character. Other visual detractors include pylons, substations and a large number of wind power developments.

The former RAF aerodrome at Kelleythorpe covers a large area and has a similar impact to those at Leconfield. There may be redevelopment at Kelleythorpe Barracks in the future.

The Hull to Scarborough railway line is a prominent linear feature that dissects the landscape pattern.

Hutton Cranswick situated on the A164 is two villages, both have medieval origins and are centred on greens. The large green at Cranswick is an
important landscape feature. The village is also located on the Hull to Scarborough Railway line. Other villages are Watton, Kilnwick, Beswick, Lund, Lockington, Leconfield. Northwest of Kilnwick is the site of a deserted medieval village at Braken.

Leconfield is the site of a manor house or castle built by the Percy family in the 14th century. In the 16th century it was one of the main residences of the 5th Earl of Northumberland and it was surrounded by several deer parks. The house was demolished circa 1608-9. The site is marked by a large moat covering circa 4 acres. Nearby is the deserted medieval village of Ravensthorpe.

Ecological Influences

There are a number of small woodland blocks in the LCT and they are important ecological resources. Hedgerows form the field boundaries and also play an important role in connecting habitats. Streams and ponds provide habitat diversity. Several hedgerows in the area have been surveyed and are species rich. The dominant species is hawthorn with blackthorn, dog rose, field maple, elder, ash, hazel and oak. The area includes Beverley Parks Local Nature Reserve and numerous Local Wildlife Areas.

The landscape is intensively farmed, mainly for arable crop production but also livestock. There are three SSSI's designated within this LCT. There are also several blocks of Ancient Semi Natural woodland in this LCT near Beverley.

Statutory Designations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>River Hull Headwaters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Bryan Mills Field Ancient Woodland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Burton Bushes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LINKS TO ADJACENT CHARACTER AREAS

Adjacent ERYC LCTs

- 13: Open High Rolling Farmland
- 15: Wolds Valley Farmland
- 17: Farmed Urban Fringe
- 18: Low Lying Drained Farmland

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS

Six Landscape Character Areas (LCA) have been identified in this LCT. They are:

- 16A: Southwest Driffield Parkland and Golf Course
- 16B: Kilnwick Percy Wooded Farmland
- 16C: Beverley Westwood
- 16D: Nafferton Sloping Farmland
- 16E: Lund Sloping Farmland
- 16F: Beverley Parks Farmland
DETAILED CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTIONS

Character Area 16A: Southwest Driffield Parkland and Golf Course

This LCA is located on the southwest edge of Driffield and contrasts with the surrounding farmland due to greater tree cover, the presence of water courses and the formal character of the golf course. Field pattern within this LCA is varied and settlements are limited to isolated farmsteads.

Land is relatively low-lying, with expansive long distance views. Driffield Trout Stream, a tributary of the River Hull runs through this area on a north easterly course with Driffield Beck defining the eastern boundary of the LCA.

Large scale industrial buildings and Ministry of Defence properties adjacent to the airfield detract from the rural quality of the landscape. Infrastructure comprises’ A’ roads and pylons passing through the area, both affecting landscape character.

Mature roadside trees generally alleviate the visual effects of development in the area. There a number of woodland plantations, associated with the Driffield Parkland Golf Course and the stream.

Eastburn and Sunderlandwick are the sites of two medieval villages that were deserted by the end of the Middle Ages. They are both scheduled monuments and their earthworks are visible in the landscape today. Driffield South has a Conservation Area designation.

Character Area 16B: Kilnwick Wooded Farmland

This small LCA is well wooded and includes the isolated settlement of Kilnwick and its associated small scale irregular field pattern. The remaining arable area includes isolated farmsteads surrounded by a large scale rectilinear field pattern. There are signs there has been settlement here for many years with old (possibly medieval) fish ponds. Fields tend to be medium in size and the field pattern is that of rectilinear enclosures. Enclosure of the open fields took place in 1786.

The 17th Century Hall at Kilnwick was demolished in the in 1950s, but the service block and kitchen garden survive. But the remnants of its wooded setting remain. Woodland plantations fit in with the rectilinear field pattern suggesting they were planted after enclosure of the area. The village was rebuilt between 1820 and 1940.

At Watton on the eastern edge of this LCA is the site of a medieval priory that is important being a double house for both cannons and nuns.

Character Area 16C: Beverley Westwood

This small LCT contains a historic area of common grazing land to the west of Beverley. The land use is mostly recreational and includes Beverley Race Course and Beverley Westwood Park and Garden which is a popular destination with locals. Mature trees are dotted across the grazed landscape giving a parkland feel to the place. Field pattern to the west of the LCT is regular and large scale with few scattered farmsteads and no settlements.

In the 13th century the townsmen were granted pasture at Westwood by the Archbishop of York in return for giving up their common rights in Beverley Park, south of the town. At the same time it was agreed that the division between arable and pasture should be frozen to protect the pasture from encroachment.

Historic records show that the land surrounding Beverley was once considerably more wooded than it is today. The Westwood contains evidence of earlier landscape features including Iron Age burial mounds.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 16: SLOPING FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS

Agricultural intensification within the River Hull floodplain means that little woodland remains. The woodland which does remain usually consists of oak, hazel, ash, elm and hawthorn.

A possible remnant of ancient woodland survives at Burton Bushes SSSI, along with a Roman enclosure scheduled monument, located within Beverley Westwood. The Westwood area also has a Conservation Area designation. The woodland is known to be at least 200 years old and is composed of English oak, silver birch) and ash.

There are scattered trees, mostly lime but with the occasional English oak.

Character Area 16D: Nafferton Sloping Farmland

This area to the east of Driffield and extends to Nafferton Wold, Lowthorpe and Wansford. It comprises open farmland with predominantly regular, rectilinear field pattern with few trees. Landform is gently sloping and medium in scale.

Nafferton is a large village situated at the foot of the Wolds. It has a Conservation Area designation that reinforces its historic importance. There are a varied range of properties and historical features. The central pond was associated with a now demolished six storey maltings. The village also contains a moated site and fish pond designated as a scheduled monument.

Situated within Holderness but on the eastern edge of the Wolds, this area contains some of the chalk streams that make up the headwaters of the River Hull. These are important as being the most northerly chalk stream system in Britain. The surrounding grassland, woodland and fen habitats also add to the ecological interest. Driffield Trout stream is fast flowing and supports large amounts of stream water crowfoot.

Associated with the headwaters, species-rich wet grassland and fen are to be found at Kelleythorpe and Keld.

Character Area 16E: Lund Sloping Farmland

This larger LCA includes arable farmland between Beverley and Driffield. The area is slightly raised and gently undulating with well scattered farmsteads. The Hull to Scarborough Railway Line crosses the area in a north south direction. Leconfield Airfield is a prominent feature north of Beverley.

Fields are generally medium in size and rectilinear in shape arranged in an irregular pattern overall. There are two examples of ancient woodland within this LCA including Leman Wood near Etton.
A number of settlements across this LCA have designated conservation interest for their architectural quality. Villages with a Conservation Area designation include Beswick, Cherry Burton, Cranswick, Etton, Hutton, Lockington and Lund.

As with much of Holderness, this area is dominated by intensive agriculture. However, there are examples of the previously widespread wetland habitats. One such example is at the Bryan Mills Field Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). This site comprises an area of spring-fed tall fen surrounded by planted trees.

The hedgerows throughout this area, as in other parts of Holderness, are dominated by hawthorn, with hazel, ash, blackthorn, elder, field maple and dogwood.

A number of turbine developments of varying scales are present and visible within the landscape, offering vertical elements and detract from views of the Wolds to the west.

**Character Area 16F: Beverley Parks Farmland**

This most southerly LCT contains arable farmland and well scattered farmsteads, agricultural sheds and commercial buildings. It is more densely populated than other parts of the rural East Riding.

Development along the south edge of Beverley and the north edge of Hull is encroaching into the rural landscape that separates the two settlements. The area is well drained via a series of man-made and natural water courses. There are areas of development related to the horticultural industry. A series of developments along the A1174 appears to link the urban landscape between Beverley and Hull. The Beverley Bypass (A1079) passes through this area.

South of Beverley Minster is a key area of growth set out in the East Riding Local Plan. Land south of Beverley was formerly known as Beverley Parks; the area of the Archbishop of York's medieval Deer Park. In 1554-5 the park covered approximately 2300 acres. Beverley Parks is centred on Old Hall Farm, formerly the site of a large country house built for the Wharton family in the mid1670s. At this time Wharton was the largest landowner in the East Riding. Some elements of the house remain, including gate piers and a walled garden which is now decaying. The land passed to the Crown in the 16th century and ended up in private ownership. The area was largely agricultural and sparsely populated until the late 19th century. Industrial
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 16: SLOPING FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS

growth, provision of public services and housing has led to development along the A614 in the northwest corner of the Park.

Field pattern is quite irregular and blocks of woodland are present.

There are two examples of ancient woodland within this LCA including Birkhill Wood some of which has been replanted.

Landscape character in this area is affected by the urban edge of Hull to the south and Beverley to the north. There are extensive views of the Minster from this area particularly as the area is not built up. There is development however, scattered across the area. Large scale horticultural buildings are present throughout this area and there is linear development along the A1174 Beverley to Hull Road.

View of glasshouses and flats north of Hull (2005)

EVALUATION

Quality

Based on the number of detractors the landscape character of the area between Beverley and Hull is assessed to be ordinary to poor. However, the area does play a very important role in separating Beverley from Hull and Cottingham. It also provides the setting for views of the Minster and approaches to the town. The landscape quality of this LCT west and north of Beverley and around Driffield is assessed to be ordinary to good. There are fewer detractors in these areas. However, detractors are still present such
as the airfield at Leconfield and pylons and turbines crossing the area. The Westwood is an important area of historic pasture. Risby Park and Kilnwick are also important wooded landscapes that contribute to diversity in this area.

Positive Landscape Features

- Undulating landform sloping down eastwards
- Small woodland blocks provide diversity
- Intact hedgerows and presence of hedgerow trees in places
- Small water courses both man-made and natural draining the agricultural land
- Varied field pattern of early and parliamentary enclosures
- Hedgerows that are species rich defining field boundaries
- Parkland characteristics in several pockets throughout the area
- Open views across the landscape.
- Numerous areas of designated woodland.

Forces for Change

Infrastructure projects such as road improvements, drainage, electricity supply and telecommunications are likely to be pressures in this LCT.

There is also pressure for commercial and residential development particularly around Beverley and Driffield. The horticultural industry has expanded between Beverley and Hull and there are large greenhouses and horticultural buildings. Pressure for this type of development is set to continue as it is close to the port of Hull and a convenient location for importing plant material.

Much of this LCT is well related to Hull and there is likely to be increased pressure for housing and mixed use development in the area.

There is development pressure beyond the areas surrounding Hull and Beverley. At Driffield, Kelleythorpe may be redeveloped by the Ministry of Defence and there is an industrial and residential area adjacent to that site. Hutton Cranswick also has pressure for industrial development.

There will continue to be pressure for renewable energy developments in the East Riding, particularly wind powered energy.

Condition and Strength of Character

There are a number of detractors in the Beverley Parks Farmland LCA including the large horticultural industry buildings, pylons and electricity substations between Hull and Beverley. The remainder of this LCT has a lower concentration of detractors. The airfields and associated development at Leconfield and Kelleythorpe is a detractor as is industrial development on the A164 at Hutton Cranswick. However, generally this LCT on the edge of the Yorkshire Wolds has a strong sense of character resulting from landscape pattern, land use and settlement character.
## LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 16: SLOPING FARMLAND  
### NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS

### Sensitivity and Capacity

The following table sets out the sensitivity of the LCT to different types of development. Refer to Appendix 4 for full details of the assessment criteria.

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Landscape quality (condition)</strong></td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT has a strong landscape and settlement pattern. The landscape quality of this LCT west and north of Beverley and around Driffield is assessed to be ordinary to good. Based on the high number of visual detractors, the landscape character of the area between Beverley and Hull is assessed to be ordinary to poor.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Scenic quality</strong></td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT has a low scenic quality, particularly to the south. There are long distance views in this rural area, east over the River Hull corridor and west up to the Wolds. Beverley Minster is a significant feature within landscape but local development and industry detract.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rarity (of elements, features or LCT's)</strong></td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The area makes up a large part of the eastern edge of the Wolds and is typical of its local landscape. The high number of Conservation Areas (12 No.) in the LCT however, is a distinctive feature.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Representativeness (in relation to prevailing landscape character)</strong></td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Generally this LCT, on the edge of the Yorkshire Wolds, has a strong sense of character as a result of landscape pattern, land use and settlement.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Conservation interests (wildlife, earth science, archaeological, historic, cultural)</strong></td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSSI's within LCT include - River Hull and Headwaters, Burton Bushes and Byron Mills Field. Local Wildlife Sites include – Jilly Wood Lane, Watton Abbey Field, Marrbottom Plantation, Leman Wood and Birkhill Wood Ancient Woodland area. There is a Local Nature Reserve at Beverley Parks. There are also a large number of conservational interests in the form of listed buildings and scheduled monuments.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recreational value</strong></td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT contains recreational routes but limited forms of other recreational value. Public Rights of Way within this LCT, including Minster Way and Wilberforce Way. National Cycle Routes 1 and 164 also intersect the LCT.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Perceptual aspects (openness, wildness, tranquillity, remoteness)</strong></td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT offers open views across a landscape that is intensively farmed and includes numerous areas of important woodland. There are medium levels of tranquillity and high</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 16: SLOPING FARMLAND**  
**NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Associations (with people or events)</strong></th>
<th><strong>Value attached to LCT</strong></th>
<th><strong>Susceptibility to Development</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leconfield is the site of a manor house or castle built by the Percy family in the 14th century and land south of Beverley was formerly known as Beverley Parks, the area of the Archbishop of York’s medieval Deer Park.</td>
<td>Strong landscape and settlement pattern, with a number of detractors including industry, substations, pylons and a large number of wind developments. Local scenic quality is relatively low but views of the adjacent Wolds are present. Part of LCA 16C and 16F form part of the Important Landscape Area. A number of ancient woodland blocks across LCT, most notably Burton Bushes, Leman Wood and Birkhill Wood. Scheduled monuments are characteristic of the area as are a number of ecological interests.</td>
<td>Residential development is abundant within the LCT, particularly towards Driffield in the North and Beverley in the south. Low scenic quality. Some capacity to accommodate residential development adjacent to existing without affecting the integrity of the landscape.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Level</strong></th>
<th><strong>Medium</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Residential</strong></th>
<th><strong>Commercial</strong></th>
<th><strong>Industrial</strong></th>
<th><strong>Agricultural</strong></th>
<th><strong>Recreational</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residential development is abundant within the LCT, particularly towards Driffield in the North and Beverley in the south. Low scenic quality. Some capacity to accommodate residential development adjacent to existing without affecting the integrity of the landscape.</td>
<td>Some commercial development evident within this LCT, particularly surrounding settlement locations. Some capacity to accommodate development of this nature adjacent to existing, without affecting the integrity of the landscape.</td>
<td>Industrial development is very apparent within this LCT due to open views of the landscape. Some capacity to accommodate additional development adjacent to existing without affecting the integrity of the landscape.</td>
<td>A number of farmsteads with associated agricultural development present. Some capacity to accommodate development of this nature adjacent to existing without affecting the integrity of the landscape.</td>
<td>Strong network of PRoW's within LCT and the wide open views allows for limited capacity to accommodate additional development adjacent to existing without affecting the integrity of the landscape.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Level</strong></th>
<th><strong>Medium</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Sensitivity to Development at LCA level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Residential</th>
<th>Commercial</th>
<th>Industrial</th>
<th>Agricultural</th>
<th>Recreational</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16 A</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 B</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 C</td>
<td>Medium</td>
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<td>16 D</td>
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<td>16 E</td>
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<td>High-Medium</td>
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<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 16: SLOPING FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS

There are long distance views in this rural area, east over the River Hull corridor and west up to the Wolds. The area is also relatively open containing few trees. As a result it is potentially sensitive to certain types of development.

There is an abundance of residential development within this LCT, particularly towards Driffield in the north and Beverley in the south. This LCT is assessed as medium sensitivity to residential development and has some capacity to accommodate further residential development adjacent to existing settlements.

There are some commercial developments within this LCT, particularly surrounding settlement locations. The landscape has medium scenic value and may have some capacity to accommodate development of this nature in conjunction with existing.

Industrial development is very apparent within this LCT due to open views of the landscape. This LCT is assessed as medium-high sensitivity to industrial development and has some capacity to accommodate additional development adjacent to existing, without affecting the integrity of the landscape.

There are a number of farmsteads with associated agricultural development present within the rural landscape. The LCT has some capacity to accommodate sensitively located development of this nature.

There is a strong network of Public Rights of Way within this LCT, including Minster Way and Wilberforce Way. National Cycle Route 1 and 164 also intersect LCT. The open landscape allows for limited capacity to accommodate additional development. Proposed development should be located adjacent to existing and sensitively designed.

As a result of built development, the character of the area between Beverley and Hull has changed. The area is becoming less rural and more urban. It is valued for the role it plays in separating Hull from Beverley and also in providing a setting for views of Beverley Minster. Therefore, this area has high-medium sensitivity to development that would affect views of the Minster and the rural character of the area.

Overall, the landscape is assessed as medium to high sensitivity to development.

Strategy

The strategy for this LCT is to maintain rural character including agricultural land use for either livestock or crops.

Promote the planting of hedgerows and gaps in existing hedgerows. Also promote the planting of hedgerow trees and woodland blocks to help integrate existing development and highlight the separation between Hull and Beverley. Consider views of the Minster and other landmarks such as churches when preparing planting proposals. The church at South Dalton is visible from parts of this LCT (although it is located in the elevated farmland of the Wolds). Nafferton Church is also a local landmark although views of the church are less extensive.

Discourage development that will introduce uncharacteristic built elements and potentially result in the loss of hedges, trees and field pattern that contribute to local character. New development should respect local vernacular, context and mitigate visual prominence within the open landscape. Measures to integrate development with the surrounding landscape should include woodland, tree and hedgerow planting.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 16: SLOPING FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS

Wind turbine proposals should demonstrate a detailed understanding of the landscape and visual qualities. Detailed mitigation measures would need to be developed to deal with any impacts that may result from development. Cumulative impacts also need to be considered.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 17: FARmed URBAN FRINGE
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS

DESCRIPTION OF LOCATION
This Landscape Character Type (LCT) is located to both the east and west of Hull, encompassing the landscape around Hessle, Anlaby, Kirk Ella, Willerby and Cottingham to the west and Swine, Bilton and west of Preston to the east. This LCT plays an important role in maintaining separation between settlements on the edge of Hull.

Relevant National Character Areas
- 40: Holderness
- 41: Humber Estuary

SUMMARY OF KEY CHARACTERISTICS, FEATURES AND LAND USE
Key Characteristics of the Farmed Urban Fringe
- Gently undulating to flat landform generally below 20m AOD
- Strong urban influences encroaching into rural areas
- Community land use e.g. sports pitches, allotments, cemeteries
- Hedgerow boundaries around medium to large sized fields
- Mixed land use combining agriculture, horticulture and recreation
- Lighting along major roads and in settlements
- Neglected appearance of some fields and hedgerows
- Presence of recreation activities both formal and informal
- Enclosed character with many areas surrounded by urban development on three sides

STATEMENT OF OPPORTUNITIES
- Protect and enhance the green gap and separation between settlements as it is an important characteristic of the LCT

LANDSCAPE INFLUENCES
Physical Influences
The underlying solid geology of the area was laid down during the Cretaceous period. Glacial till drift geology covered the underlying chalk during the Devensian period. Tidal alluvium has overlain these glacial deposits in areas adjacent to the Humber Estuary.

Soils are ground water gleys that have been drained resulting in an Agricultural Land use Classification of Grade 3 and Grade 2, and isolated areas of Grade 4

Landform is flat to gently undulating between 0m AOD and 20m AOD. To the west the landform is transitional between the Wolds edge and Holderness, sloping up to 50m AOD.

Sparse streams, emerging from the higher ground of the Wolds to the west, drain the west side of Hull. Land to the east is drained by a mix of improved streams and man-made drains that drain into the River Humber to the south.

Human Influences
There is evidence that the landscape around the edge of Hull has been influenced by human activity over many centuries including its drainage and conversion to valuable agricultural land. The eastern segment of the LCT once included three peat-filled valleys, containing the Hedon, Keyingham and Winestead Fleets, which were seasonally flooded (Sheppard 1966). Field pattern is a combination of random and regular fields indicating both early and parliamentary enclosure. Evidence of medieval activity remains visible in places in the form of moated sites and small areas of ridge and furrow.

Several of the villages in this area have Conservation Areas indicating their historic importance. These include Kirk Ella, West Ella, Cottingham and
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 17: FARMED URBAN FRINGE
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS

Hessle. These Conservation Areas are considerably smaller than the settlements that surround them. The area was once characterised by scattered villages in a farmed landscape. Built development now dominates, particularly on the west side of Hull where settlements have expanded and now link with the urban edge of Hull. The buildings in the older village centres represent local vernacular. 20th century development has impacted upon this vernacular and recent development has resulted in less distinctive settlement character. Although urban green space is not assessed in this assessment it should be noted that Thwaite Hall and its parkland at Cottingham is a Registered Historic Park and Garden (Grade II) in the Cottingham Conservation Area and links between this and the landscape setting of the urban area are important.

The main land use in this LCT is arable. However, there are grazed fields particularly at the urban edge. Many of these fields have a neglected appearance as a result of reduced management. The grazing is, by and large, for horses although there are areas where cattle grazing is the main land use. Fields are a mix of sizes with smaller fields tending to be grassland close to the urban edge. Medium sized fields are predominant but there are also a number of large fields particularly associated with the area to the east where the character of the landscape is more open and less well wooded. Field pattern tends to be regular and rectilinear, the result of parliamentary enclosure in the 18th and 19th century. However, there are areas where field pattern is less regular indicating that some areas were enclosed earlier by agreement.

Field boundaries consist predominantly of hedgerows. The condition of hedgerows varies throughout the area with those close to the urban edge often left unmanaged and subsequently taller in nature. Arable fields are bordered by hedges that tend to be clipped low and are often discontinuous in nature. There are few hedgerow trees throughout the LCT. However, the west side of Hull does include good areas of mature trees associated with gardens and hedgerows. This has helped to integrate the urban edge with the surrounding landscape.

The A1105, A164, A1079 and A165 form the primary transport corridors in this LCT with the B1231, B1232, B1233, B1238, B1239 and B1240 forming secondary routes. Minor roads include Eppleworth Road, Ripplingham Road, Jenny Brough Lane, Longdales Lane and smaller lanes or private access roads.

There is a network of public footpaths in the area and long distance routes including the Trans Pennine Trail and National Cycle Routes 1, 65 and 66.

Recreation facilities are scattered throughout the area. Golf courses are located at Kirk Ella, Willerby, Cottingham, Risholme (partly in the City of Hull) and Ganstead. Cemeteries, hospitals, schools, school playing fields and sports pitches are common place along the urban edge.

The LCT is also characterised by a variety of infrastructure development including roads, pylons, electricity substations and communications masts. These features are detractors in the rural landscape that provides the setting to the urban area.

Flood alleviation schemes in the LCT include Willerby and Derringham Flood Alleviation Scheme and Anlaby and East Elia Flood Alleviation Scheme.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 17: FARmed URBAN FRINGE
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDerness

Ecological Influences

There are no statutory designations in this LCT but there are several Local Wildlife Sites and Local Nature Reserves. These sites include neglected grassland on the edge of the urban area.

Hedgerows and trees provide wildlife corridors that link into the urban areas. Watercourses are also wildlife corridors and are particularly characteristic of urban edge farmland to the east of Hull.

The large scale development of the area has affected the natural habitats and ecology of the landscape. Where woodland remains it is an important feature. The grassland at the urban edge that is not intensively managed may provide opportunities to reintroduce semi natural grassland habitat to the area through appropriate management.

LINKS TO ADJACENT CHARACTER AREAS

Adjacent ERYC LCTs

- 11: Jurassic Hills Farmland
- 13: Open High Rolling Farmland
- 16: Sloping Farmland
- 18: Low Lying Drained Farmland
- 19: Open Farmland
- 21: Low Lying Drained Farmland
- 22: Farmed Urban Fringe

Adjacent Regional Landscape Character Areas

Kingston Upon Hull

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS

Four Landscape Character Areas (LCA) have been identified in this LCT. They are:

- 17A: Hedon, Preston and Bilton Farmland
- 17B: North Cottingham Farmland
- 17C: South Cottingham Farmland
- 17D: North Hessle Farmland
DETAILED CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTIONS

Character Area 17A: Hedon, Preston and Bilton Farmland

The LCA is located on the eastern edge of Hull. The urban edge of Hull impacts on the character of this rural farmed area because of the stark interface between development and the countryside. The area is relatively low lying and well drained with few trees or woodland.

Land use is predominantly arable and grassland fields which are medium to large in size and are regular in pattern. Field boundaries are marked by hedgerows and drainage ditches. The openness of the areas affords views westwards over the skyline of Hull. There are also views of landmark buildings such as the churches at Hedon and Preston. The cooling towers and wind turbines at Salt End are clearly visible on the skyline to the south.

The separation of Bilton from the urban edge of Hull is tenuous and the two settlements almost meet. The separation of Hedon and Preston from the edge of Hull is greater. However, the skyline of Hull is visible from these settlements and visibility of the urban edge affects the character of the setting of these smaller settlements.

Swine is the site of a Cistercian nunnery founded in the mid-12th century. Extensive earthworks remain. The church represents part of the nun's church. The village and surrounding farms were rebuilt after 1865, all with near identical design.

Hedon, Preston and Swine have Conservation Area designations.

This LCA is distinctly lacking woodland cover and offers long distance views of the urban edge of Hull.

Character Area 17B: North Cottingham Farmland

The LCA is located on the north western edge of Hull. This LCT is mostly arable farmland and improved horse grazed grassland with very flat topography. This area plays an important role separating development and providing a setting for built up areas. The area includes some recreation provision as well as mixed farming. Thwaite Hall Registered Park and Gardens (Grade II) is situated at Cottingham and offers both historic and recreational interest.

Horticultural glasshouses, industrial buildings, residential properties, farmsteads and university accommodation are all found in this area along with associated infrastructure such as roads, railways and power lines. The A1079 is a major road to the north which is on embankment in places making it a prominent feature crossing this area.

There are few settlements or scattered farmsteads beyond the urban fringe of Hull to the south.

Fields are large scale rectilinear to the east and irregular to the west and generally bound by ditches and hedgerows.

Farmland character north of Cottingham is influenced by the horticultural industry and density of development which is scattered across the rural landscape. The diversity of development contributes to the complex appearance of this LCA. Due to these features, views are generally short and moderately wide, lending an intimate quality to the landscape.
Character Area 17C: South Cottingham Farmland

This small LCA is located on the western edge of Hull. The landform is flat with a regular field pattern of medium to large fields. Field boundaries are managed hedges with hedgerow trees.

Priory Meadows and Snuff Mill Fields are old permanent pastures that have been maintained traditionally for more than 100 years. The meadows are botanically rich with species characteristic of unimproved grassland.

Land use is predominantly arable with well scattered farmsteads and no notable settlements, other than the surrounding urban fringe. Willerby Business Park is surrounded by new and existing areas of woodland to the west.

Views are medium length with trees and farmland presenting a contrast to surrounding urban development.

Cottingham, on the LCA’s northern perimeter, has a Conservation Area designation. Residential development along Castle Road has encroached into this area.

Character Area 17D: North Hessle Farmland

This most southerly LCA contains a narrow strip of farmland located on sloping land at the edge of Hull. It contains Anlaby Common, some woodland in addition to informal recreation and farmed arable land. There are small areas of Parkland and open space, to the east of Hull Collegiate school, that influence local character and aid the integration of the urban edge with open countryside.

Although there are few settlements in this area, new residential development now occupies land south of Anlaby on the northern fringe.

Agricultural land use is predominantly arable except at the urban edge east of Sydney High School where the fields are grassland. Field pattern is regular with medium sized, rectilinear fields.

The East Riding Local Plan identifies the value of maintaining the character and identity of Anlaby, while supporting regeneration and development.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 17: FARMED URBAN FRINGE  
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS

Farmland south of Kirk Ella (2005)

EVALUATION

Quality

The quality of the landscape on the urban edge to the west of Hull is assessed to be good as a result of the slightly varied landform and the extent of tree cover and integration of the urban edge. The landscape to the east is assessed to be ordinary in quality as there are few distinctive characteristics in the area and the urban edge is not so well integrated with the adjacent landscape. However, the green gap between settlements is an important element within this landscape.

Positive Landscape Features

- The rural character of the area on the urban fringe provides an important setting for the settlement around the edge of Hull
- Reasonably well wooded appearance to the west of the LCT as a result of mature trees in gardens and hedgerows that have been allowed to grow
- Integration of the urban edge with the rural landscape is good in places
- Views across the area to Hull from both east and west and views out of the urban area to the open countryside
- Varied landscape pattern and landform provides interest

Forces for Change

The pressure for residential and commercial development at the urban edge is considerable. This is particularly true of the agricultural landscape to the west and northwest of Hull. Pressure for community use includes the need for recreation facilities and access to the open countryside for local people.

The challenge of farming on the urban fringe is reflected in the areas of land that appear neglected where agricultural production has almost ceased on the urban edge. There is pressure for land that is no longer intensively farmed to be developed for other uses.

Drainage is a key issue for the urban area on the Humber Estuary. The farmed land on the urban edge to the east is low lying and would be affected by rising sea levels.

Infrastructure projects are common place on the urban edge. Telecommunications masts, roads and lighting affect landscape character.
Renewable energy development may also become a pressure in this area. Although wind turbines are not currently located close to existing settlements in the East Riding, wind turbines may be considered appropriate where industrial development is characteristic. This may be a particular pressure on the east side of Hull where industrial scale development is dominant.

Recreational use and access to the countryside is an important characteristic of the urban edge. Other community uses include allotment gardens, cemeteries and schools. Population growth in the area may increase demand for these facilities which are characteristic of the urban fringe. Public Rights of Way in the LCT include the Trans Pennine Trail and National Cycle Routes 1, 65 and 66. Wildlife visitor attractions include the Humber Bridge Country Park Local Nature Reserve and local wildlife sites close to or within the Humber Estuary SSSI/SPA/SAC. Cultural attractions include Thwaite Hall RPG (Grade II), Baynard Castle, Haltemprice Augustinian Priory and Swine Castle.

**Condition and Strength of Character**

The characteristics that contribute to the character of the LCT such as field pattern, hedgerows and trees are fragmented as a result of the impact of urban development. There are low levels of tranquillity in the majority of the LCT.

There are pockets of the urban fringe that maintain their rural character particularly where hedgerow boundaries are intact and hedgerows have been allowed to grow tall. The integration of the west side of the urban edge with the landscape is particularly good due to areas of woodland cover. Woodland areas are scarcer to the east.
**Sensitivity and Capacity**

The following table sets out the sensitivity of the LCT to different types of development. Refer to Appendix 4 for full details of the assessment criteria.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landscape quality (condition)</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT has a good level of landscape quality as a result of the slightly varied landform, the extent of tree cover and its integration with the urban edge.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenic quality</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Despite the urban edge, the LCT has relatively good scenic quality with distant views across the Humber Estuary. The varied landscape pattern and landform provides additional interest</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarity (of elements, features or LCT's)</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The area includes Thwaite Hall RPG (Grade II) and large elements of urban development.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representativeness (in relation to prevailing landscape character)</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT has a diverse land cover with elements of urban and rural character. On the whole the LCT is not very typical of the rest of East Riding.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation interests (wildlife, earth science, archaeological, historic, cultural)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT contains a high number of conservation interests including Thwaite Hall RPG (Grade II) and several Scheduled Monuments including Baynard Castle, Haltemprice Augustinian Priory and Swine Castle. Local Wildlife sites include Priory Meadows, Snuff Mill Fields, Wood Lane Cottingham and the Humber Bridge Country Park Local Nature Reserve.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational value</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT contains several Public Rights of Way including the Trans Pennine Trail and National Cycle Routes 1, 65 and 66.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perceptual aspects (openness, wildness, tranquillity, remoteness)</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT includes an urban and rural fringe landscape with a diversity of land cover. There are low levels of tranquillity in majority of LCT. The green gap between settlements is an important element within this landscape.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associations (with people or events)</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No known associations with people and places</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value attached to LCT</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This flat to gently undulating LCT is diverse in terms of land cover, containing both urban and rural characteristics. It has relatively good scenic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
quality despite areas of urban edge. A good example of this is Thwaite Hall RPG (Grade II). The Transpennine Trail and National Cycle Routes 1, 65 and 66 run through the LCT and there are several areas of ecological and local wildlife importance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Susceptibility to Development</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residential</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A mixture of urban and rural character with a large number of residential areas, some examples of settlement expansion is evident. The role and importance of the green space in preventing coalescence needs to be considered. Some limited capacity to accommodate sensitively located residential development within urban areas without altering the character of this LCT.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some examples of recent commercial development can be seen along the urban fringe. Some capacity to accommodate additional or extensions to this development without affecting the character or quality of the landscape.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some industrial development is visible within parts of this LCT, associated with the urban fringe. Very limited capacity to accommodate additional or extensions to this development without affecting the character or quality of the landscape.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some agricultural development within the rural areas of this LCT, associated with mixed farming. Some capacity to accommodate sensitively located agricultural development within urban areas without altering the character of this LCT.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Few PROW's within the LCT, however the Transpennine Trail and NCR's 1, 65 and 66 run through the LCT. Due to the low levels of tranquillity within this LCT and the mixture of urban and rural character, some capacity to accommodate recreational development with little affect on the condition or scenic quality of the landscape.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Sensitivity to Development at LCA level

<table>
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<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 17: FARMED URBAN FRINGE
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS

A relatively flat to gently undulating landscape with both urban and rural characteristics. The area has relatively good scenic quality despite the urban edge location. A large number of residential areas and some evidence of recent settlement expansion exist. The LCT is assessed as medium sensitivity to small scale residential development or settlement expansion with some capacity to accept sensitively located developments. The capacity of the landscape on the western edge of Hull (LCA 17D) to accommodate residential development without detriment to character is limited because the role that remaining green space plays in separating settlements would be eroded by development in many cases. However, there are likely to be pockets of land in the urban edge where residential development could be accommodated without detriment to character.

Some examples of recent commercial development can be seen along the urban fringe. The LCT has medium sensitivity to small scale commercial development with some capacity to accommodate additional structures or extensions without affecting the character or quality of the landscape, providing that opportunities to mitigate the potential impacts of the ordinary quality landscape are taken. For example woodland and hedgerow planting to integrate the urban edge and reinforce characteristic landscape pattern.

Some industrial development is visible within parts of this LCT, associated with the urban fringe. There is very limited capacity to accommodate additional or extensions to this development without affecting the character or quality of the landscape due to the open expansive views and cumulative impact of Hulls urban edge.

There is some agricultural development within the rural areas of this LCT, associated with mixed farming. LCT has some capacity to accommodate sensitively located agricultural development within urban areas without altering the character of this LCT.

Recreation and community facilities are characteristic of the urban edge and can contribute to openness and aesthetic quality. Such developments that do not require large scale built form may be accommodated without detriment to character in locations adjacent to the urban edge providing that existing landscape characteristics that contribute to quality are maintained and enhanced i.e. hedgerows, mature trees, field pattern and views of the open countryside.

There may be locations on the urban edge that could accommodate development with limited detrimental landscape and visual impact. Therefore each proposal should be assessed on its individual merits in landscape terms to determine potential effects. In particular recreation development may be accommodated on the urban edge providing that adequate planting is carried out, built structures are minimal and that they don't block views across the open areas.

**Strategy**

The separation of settlements is important to the character of the landscape and the integration of development with the surrounding landscape. Therefore, seek to maintain the separation between settlements, promote improvement of landscape condition and quality and safeguard key views across the areas to help emphasise settlement separation. This would include replanting hedgerows and hedgerow gaps, maintaining existing mature trees and woodland and new native planting to help screen and integrate the urban edge, and continued agricultural use of the land. Hedgerows in the area are mainly Hawthorn with other native shrubs and trees present including crab apple, blackthorn, dog rose and field maple.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 17: FARmed URBAN FRINGe
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS

New development that would significantly reduce the green gap between settlements should be avoided. Where small scale development is demonstrated not to have detrimental impact i.e. does not affect green space, strategic gaps and views, then appropriate landscape measures should be used to integrate development with its landscape setting. Maintain gaps through application of landscape policy that reduces the risk of settlements coalescing.

Promote native woodland and tree planting. This would increase the strategic value of spaces between settlements. For example two settlements separated by a grass field can still be seen by one another. Tree planting at the urban edge would screen views and create an impression of greater distance between settlements. Tree species common in the area included ash, oak, lime and beech to the west and ash, oak, alder and willow to the east where the land is lower lying and generally wetter.

Where new development is permitted ensure that appropriate layout and hedge, tree and woodland planting is agreed to ensure the scheme integrates with the rural landscape. Built form should respect the character and style of vernacular to promote sense of place and distinctiveness between settlements and developments.

Promote access to and enjoyment of the countryside through the maintenance of public rights of way and the linking of community facilities and other public areas.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 18
LOW LYING DRAINED FARMLAND

HOLDENNESS

Hull
Hedon
Goole
Howden
Hessle
Snaith
Brough
Hornsea
Beverley
Withernsea
Pocklington
Bridlington
Market Weighton
Driffield
Stamford Bridge

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East Riding of Yorkshire Council 10023383
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 18: LOW LYING DRAINED FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS

DESCRIPTION OF LOCATION
This Landscape Character Type (LCT) is located in the floodplain of the River Hull and extends north to Driffield encompassing the low lying flat corridor landscape of Kelk Beck and Driffield Beck. The LCT also includes the corridor of water bodies that are the result of gravel extraction extending from North Froddingham in the north, south to Brandesburton then east to Hornsea.

Relevant National Character Areas
• 27: Yorkshire Wolds
• 40: Holderness

SUMMARY OF KEY CHARACTERISTICS, FEATURES AND LAND USE
Key Characteristics of the Low Lying Drained Floodplain Farmland of Holderness
• Flat, low lying flood plain generally below 10m AOD
• Sparse settlement in the floodplain. Farmsteads and villages concentrated on the edge of the flood plain
• Few crossing points on the River Hull contributing to low density of development between North Frodingham and Tickton
• Pockets of fens and reed swamps indicating a former landscape.
• Sparse tree and woodland cover
• Rectilinear field systems with hedgerow and drainage ditch boundaries.
• A history of sand and gravel extraction
• River Hull and Beverley Barmston Drain are major watercourses with embankments
• Numerous water bodies particularly associated with gravel extraction
• Recreation associated with water bodies and the River Hull.

• Several medieval scheduled monuments

STATEMENT OF OPPORTUNITIES
• Protect and enhance the important wetland landscapes and water bodies including Hornsea Mere, reinforcing its ecological and landscape importance
• Protecting the small number of drains, ditches or dykes in the area that are monastic in origin, by managing them in such a way as to preserve their historic and landscape value
• Conservation of geological features such as ex-sand and gravel pits and reintroducing them into the landscape for ecological and recreational benefits

LANDSCAPE INFLUENCES
Physical Influences
The under lying solid geology of the area was laid down during the Cretaceous period.

Glacial till and sand and gravel drift geology covered the underlying chalk during the Devensian period. More recently river alluvium has overlain the glacial deposits. The surface geology influences the character of the River Hull with sand, gravel and silt deposits on the riverbed. Land form is low lying and flat and below 10m AOD.

Soils are ground water gleys that have been drained resulting in an Agricultural Land Classification of Grade 3 and Grade 4.

The bricks of the older buildings were manufactured within the LCA, using alluvial clays from the river valley.

The River Hull influences the landscape of the west of Holderness and flows in a north to south direction through this LCT. It is fed by numerous...
tributaries and man-made drains. The headwaters from the north and west come from the chalk uplands of the Yorkshire Wolds. Streams and ditches from the Holderness open farmland feed into the river from the east. The man made Beverley Barmston Drain is a linear feature that runs almost parallel to the River Hull from the River Hull New Cut south to the River Humber.

Human Influences

The area has been influenced by man’s activities over the centuries. Several Palaeolithic and Mesolithic finds have been made in the corridor. In the Neolithic period through to the Iron Age there is evidence of occupation in the corridor.

The low lying area would have been marshland and carr during the medieval period when it is likely that drainage of the corridor began to take place. There were numerous settlements of Iron age and Roman date within the valley taking advantage of dryer areas of ground and also focusing on the River Hull corridor as an important line of communication.

Settlement in the area is sparse and concentrated around the edges of the LCT. The Market Town of Driffield is located on the northern edge of the character type adjacent to Driffield Beck which is a tributary of the River Hull. Villages in the edge of the LCT include Harpham, Great Kelk, North Frodingham, Skerne, Brandesburton and Leven. Small hamlets are found near crossing points in the flood plain, for example Wansford, Brigham, Hempholme and Burshill.

The town of Beverley on the eastern boundary of the LCT was developed around the monastic community. The settlement gradually grew in size, due to the success of its industries and trade networks, eventually becoming a large and important medieval town (the tenth largest in England), renowned for the wool traded from the town and its quality textile industry.

Three scheduled monuments are found within this LCT relating to medieval settlements.

Driffield Navigation is important to the character of the corridor. The navigation includes a canal to Leven that extends as a straight line from the main navigation route. In 1767 the Driffield Navigation Act began the construction of the canal which was opened in 1770. The canal became an important transport corridor but eventually closed to commercial traffic in 1951. Today the river portion of the Driffield Navigation and the Frodingham Beck branch remain navigable and are used by local sailing clubs and
pleasure boats. The Driffield Canal, the upper part of the Driffield Navigation is being restored. Driffield Navigation has influenced land use and built form in the area. A number of locks are present and former landings where goods were loaded and unloaded.

Drainage of the low lying farmland in this area has had a great influence on the character of the LCT. The Beverley Barmston Drainage Act (1798) improved the drainage system in Holderness and is a major feature in the corridor of the River Hull. The act resulted in the straightening of the meandering course of the Old Howe Drain north and northwest of North Frodingham. Water was diverted into the new drain which extends from North Frodingham in the north to the Humber Estuary in the south. The improved drainage of the area enabled the fertile alluvial soil to be cultivated and arable crops became the predominant land use. Much of the low lying land is drained by a pumped drainage system.

North Frodingham is a linear settlement east of the River Hull and Driffield Navigation. In 1767 and 1801 Acts of Parliament made Frodingham Beck a Branch of the Driffield navigation. Most of the village buildings date from the 19th and 20th centuries and are traditionally brick with pantile or slate roofs. There are several farmsteads in the village. The open land around North Frodingham was enclosed in 1808 but there is evidence of earlier enclosures in the small scale linear field pattern around the edge of the village. Early enclosure field systems are also evident in other places in the northern extent of this LCT, for example at Great Kelk.

Harpham is a village on the northern edge of this LCT at the foot of the Yorkshire Wolds. It is a historically significant village with earthworks that show the site of a medieval manor. The church spire is a landmark feature. The site of a deserted medieval village at Eske northeast of Beverley on the east bank of the River Hull indicates the area has been settled since the medieval period. Meaux Abbey is the site of a Cistercian monastery on the eastern edge of this LCT east of Beverley. The Abbey was founded in 1150 on flat marshy land in the floodplain of the River Hull. The Abbey owned the land upon which the city of Hull was established.

**Ecological Influences**

Water is the unifying element of this landscape and it provides important habitats. There are five Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) in this area that are linked to the water bodies. Although the corridor is intensively farmed there are pockets of wetland habitat that are important to the biodiversity of the East Riding.

The chalk stream headwaters of the River Hull rise from natural calcareous springs around Driffield. The river and adjacent habitats support a range of wetland habitats that contribute to the character of the area. Species rich wet grassland and marsh are quite extensive in the upper reaches of the River corridor.

The lower reaches of the River Hull are tidal and embanked to protect neighbouring farmland from flooding. There is little natural habitat remaining in these areas and the riverbanks tend to be over grazed. However, the River remains an important wildlife corridor through the agricultural landscape that is increasingly influenced by urban characteristics on its course south. Over wintering birds are common sights on the water bodies of this LCT. Otter and water vole are also present.

The river corridor landscape is very sparsely wooded overall. However, there are pockets of plantations particularly around the reservoirs at Top Hill. Alder and willow carr woodland is the native woodland characteristic of the wetland corridor.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 18: LOW LYING DRAINED FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS

Statutory Designations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Pullin Bog</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Tophill Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>River Hull Headwaters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Leven Canal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Hornsea Mere</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Protection Area (SPA)</td>
<td>Hornsea Mere</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LINKS TO ADJACENT CHARACTER AREAS

Adjacent ERYC LCTs

- 13: Open High Rolling Farmland
- 16: Sloping Farmland
- 17: Farmed Urban Fringe
- 19: Open Farmland
- 20: Coastal Farmland

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS

Six Landscape Character Areas (LCA) have been identified in this LCT. They are:

- 18A: River Hull Corridor
- 18B: Quarry Farmland
- 18C: Catfoss Dyke
- 18D: Hornsea Mere
- 18E: Kelk Beck Farmland
- 18F: Figham and Swine Moor Common

DETAILED CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTIONS

Character Area 18A: River Hull Corridor

This is a large LCA that is linked by the River Hull and Driffield Navigation. It comprises low lying arable land prone to flooding and poor drainage. As a result there are pockets of wet grassland and marsh that remain in the area. The majority of this corridor south of North Frodingham is in floodplain. Flood defences combined with drainage systems have enabled much of the land to be intensively managed for agriculture. The Beverley Barmston Drain passes through this area. South of Driffield, this area is less prone to flooding except for fields immediately adjacent to the River.

Field pattern is generally regular and field boundaries consist of field drains and in places hedgerows. There are few trees. Settlement and built form is limited north of Beverley but the river corridor south of Beverley is influenced by urban characteristics in places. There are views of high rise buildings at Hull on the skyline and horticultural industrial development encroaches onto the western edge of the corridor.

The recreational value of the area is the result of the navigation of the river, Public Rights of Way along the river banks, nature reserves with public access and the provision of facilities such as car parking and picnic sites. The River Hull corridor is a tranquil and attractive area that attracts visitors and this is influencing the character of this corridor that was once a commercial transport route to Driffield.
This area contains several semi-natural habitats, namely chalk stream headwaters, floodplain grassland and marsh, remnant swamp and alder/willow carr.

The headwaters of the River Hull are designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) in recognition of its importance as the most northerly chalk stream system in Britain. As the river travels south to Beverley and Hull, it becomes tidal. The headwaters have many important associated habitats – reedswamp, fen, carr, and floodplain grassland.

The Tophill Low SSSI and Leven Canal SSSI provide important habitat areas and wetland landscapes.

Further south, near Beverley, Pulfin Bog SSSI provides an example of seasonally flooded spring fed reedswamp. Here the River Hull is tidal. The nearby borrow pits support what may be the only native population of water soldier in Yorkshire.

**Character Area 18B: Quarry Farmland**

This LCA covers the quarried land in the vicinity of Brandesburton and is characterised by a series of man-made lakes that have developed as a result of mineral extraction that extends from North Frodingham south to Brandesburton then east to the south of Brandesburton. Much of the area west of Brandesburton is in floodplain.

The lakes have been utilised for recreation. Camping and caravan sites are present in this corridor landscape. The extent of quarrying in the area has led to changing landscape character over the years that is the result of the cumulative impact of creating water bodies. This has resulted in a distinctive LCA associated with quarrying activities and restoration works.

Extraction of sand and gravel at Brandesburton and other sites has left behind open water with marginal habitats. These are developing into areas that are potentially valuable for wildlife.

The Leven Canal was cut in 1802, through marshes and meres. Much of the surrounding land was then drained. Flora and fauna that were once far more widespread in the marshes, now survive in the canal. The canal is important for the red-eyed damselfly, a regionally important species.
Character Area 18C: Catfoss Dyke

The corridor east of Hornsea is distinctive for a short section due to the lack of water bodies other than the dyke itself. The area links Hornsea Mere with the gravel pits and lakes south of Brandesburton. The Mere would once have drained westwards but coastal erosion led to a change in the drainage system for the Mere which now drains eastwards into the North Sea.

The narrow corridor landscape is not in the floodplain. Land form is a gently sloping shallow valley through which the watercourse draining Hornsea Mere would once have run. Catfoss Dyke is a small water course that contributes to the drainage of the farmed fields but has little influence on landscape character.

The villages of Sigglesthorne and Seaton are in this area. Both have conservation area designations and there is an Open Area designation that maintains the separation between the two villages.

Character Area 18D: Hornsea Mere

Hornsea Mere has been identified as a distinct character area due to its uniqueness. Meres were once common place in Holderness, formed in depressions that filled with water after the last Ice Age. Hornsea Mere is the largest freshwater lake in Yorkshire and was formed at the end of the ice age. It has a high ecological value and is designated as SSSI and SPA.

The large expanse of the lake is enclosed by Hornsea to the east and woodland associated with Wassand Park to the west. To he landform which lies in a north south alignment, rises to restrict views further afield. Areas immediately adjacent to the Mere are reasonably well vegetated and appear well wooded. Woodland cover to the west and the town of Hornsea to the east, further restrict views out of the LCA. This LCA is less open than other LCA’s in LCT 18.

The Mere itself is a large, shallow, eutrophic lake surrounded by reed beds, fens and carr woodland. It is representative of the wetland habitats that were once far more extensive in Holderness. The fens communities are species rich, supporting various sedges, rushes and orchids.

The area is important for many bird species, of which the following overwinter in large numbers. The insect fauna is also diverse. In addition, East Yorkshire’s largest population of harvest mouse is said to exist at this site.

A nearby area of wet woodland, known as Low Wood, is one of the few remaining pieces of ancient carr woodland on wet peaty soils.

Character Area 18E: Kelk Beck Farmland

Kelk Beck is one of the tributaries of the River Hull and is located east of Driffield. This area is relatively well wooded and bound by the higher ground of the Wolds to the north. The area includes the villages of Great Kelk, Lowthorpe and Harpham. It is relatively flat and low lying. Linear drainage systems feed into the meandering beck as it heads south to join the River Hull. There are several lakes and ponds in the area.

Villages are small and located on higher ground. Farmsteads are few and tend to be large. Vernacular building materials are red brick with pantile or slate roofs. Brick houses are sometimes painted.

A Roman villa was excavated near Harpham in 1904 and St Johns Well in Harpham is associated with St John of Beverley who is reported to have been born in Harpham.

Situated just to the east of the Wolds, this area contains some of the chalk streams that make up the headwaters of the River Hull. This is the most northerly chalk stream system in Britain. The surrounding grassland,
woodland and fen habitats also add to the ecological interest. Kelk Beck, near Harpham, is slow flowing and supports a varied aquatic flora. Associated with the headwaters, species rich wet grassland and fen are to be found near Harpham. These areas are dominated by rushes and sedges and include typical wetland plants.

There is a sewage works and industrial estate adjacent to Figham and Swine Moor has an industrial estate on its southern boundary. These two areas of land along with the Westwood have important historical significance that relates to land management and ownership since the middle ages. The area is located in the floodplain of the River Hull.

Character Area 18F: Figham and Swine Moor Common
This LCA is located on the east side of Beverley and covers two areas of common land that are pastures. They are located between Beverley and the River Hull. Swine Moor is to the north and Figham to the south. This areas have been managed as pasture since the middle ages although ridge and furrow remnants at Figham suggest the land was once cultivated.
EVALUATION

Quality

Good overall with areas of high quality linked to Hornsea Mere (LCA18D) and the upper reaches of the River Hull Headwaters (LCA 18E and the northern end of LCA 18A). The upper reaches of the River Hull headwaters in the vicinity of Harpham are within the Yorkshire Wolds Important Landscape Area, identified in the East Riding Local Plan. The local designation is a reflection of the high quality on the edge of the Wolds.

Other designations in this LCT that are linked to landscape character are open areas identified in the local plan to maintain separation between settlements as at Foston on the Wolds and Seaton and Sigglesthorne.

The ecological importance of the area is recognised by national and local designations. High quality landscape includes Hornsea Mere SSSI/SPA (including Low Wood AW) and part of the River Hull Headwaters SSSI.

The scenic quality is good with numerous water bodies, Leven Canal and Local Wildlife Areas associated with floodplain.

Access for recreation is good and includes the Wilberforce Way, Minster Way and Trans Pennine Trail. The National Cycle Route 1 also intersects the LCT.

Positive Landscape Features

- Flat low lying landscape
- Pockets of woodland cover dispersed along the corridor
- Ditches form many field boundaries with hedges concentrated on the marginally higher drier ground
- Largely rectilinear field pattern indicating parliamentary enclosure with pockets of early enclosure linked to settlement
- Linear drainage ditches such as Beverley Barmston Drain.
- Numerous high quality water bodies including Hornsea Mere SSSI/SPA (including Low Wood AW) and part of the River Hull Headwaters SSSI.
- Wet grassland and marsh habitats including Pulfin Bog and Tophill Low SSSI's.
- Low density of development/ settlement with relatively tranquil character.
- Overall good scenic quality.

Forces for Change

The management of drainage by man has influenced the character of the agricultural landscape. Farming is the predominant land use. However, activities such as gravel quarrying have impacted on character in some areas of this corridor landscape.

The southern part of this LCT is in the tidal floodplain on the River Humber and much of the area is below 10m AOD. Therefore rising sea levels will potentially impact upon the character of the area over the years.

There is pressure for commercial development between Beverley and Hull to the south of the LCT but the fact that this area is in the floodplain will reduce the potential pressure for development not related to the agriculture or horticultural industry.

Water quality will potentially impact upon habitats, land use and recreation. Changes in water quality would potentially lead to changes in landscape character in the long run.

There are several mineral consultation zones in this LCT and mineral extraction will continue to impact upon landscape character as a result of extraction activities and subsequent restoration schemes.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 18: LOW LYING DRAINED FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS

Recreation and tourism development in the area has increased in recent years, particularly related to restoration schemes for sand and gravel extraction but also related to the Driffield Navigation, the River Hull and Hornsea Mere. The pressure for these types of developments in this LCT is set to continue.

There are several examples of wind development within the area, the largest example of which is 61m high to the blade tip. There will continue to be pressure for renewable energy developments in the East Riding.

**Condition and Strength of Character**

This intensively farmed landscape is fragmented in places. However, the water courses through the LCT provide a unifying element in this generally attractive landscape that is remote in places and relatively tranquil. The influence of water courses on character diminishes with increased distances in the flat landscape. Water bodies become a more frequent element in the landscape as the landform drops towards the sea.
### LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 18: LOW LYING DRAINED FARMLAND
### NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS

#### Sensitivity and Capacity

The following table sets out the sensitivity of the LCT to different types of development. Refer to Appendix 4 for full details of the assessment criteria.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landscape quality (condition)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scanic quality</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarity (of elements, features or LCT's)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representativeness (in relation to prevailing landscape character)</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation interests (wildlife, earth science, archaeological, historic, cultural)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational value</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The LCT has good landscape quality with some elements of high quality, most notably Hornsea Mere SSSI/SPA (including Low Wood Ancient Woodland) and part of the River Hull Headwaters SSSI. The upper reaches of the River Hull headwaters in the vicinity of Harpham are within the Yorkshire Wolds Important Landscape Area.

The area has good scenic quality overall with Local Wildlife Areas (associated with the floodplain) and numerous water bodies including the Leven Canal. The LCT is also noted for sparse settlements and low density development.

The LCT contains several important ecological sites including Hornsea Mere SSSI/SPA, which includes Low Wood Ancient Woodland. Harpham is a historically significant village in the area including the site of a medieval manor and church spire that is a local landmark feature. The LCT also includes a deserted medieval village at Eske and Meaux Abbey, east of Beverley, the site of a Cistercian monastery.

There are a number of water courses and water bodies associated with the LCT becoming more representative as the landform drops towards the sea. Several Medieval Scheduled Monuments - characteristic of the area.

The LCT contains 5 SSSI's including Pulfin Bog, Tophill Low, River Hull Headwaters, Leven Canal and Hornsea Mere SSSI/SPA/SAC. There are 2 Local Wildlife Sites at Figham Common and Swine Moor. There are 3 scheduled monuments within this LCT relating to medieval settlements.

Recreation within the LCT is generally associated with water bodies and the River Hull. There are a number of Public Rights of Way (mainly following water courses) including the Wilberforce Way, Minster Way and Trans Pennine Trail. National Cycle Route 1.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 18: LOW LYING DRAINED FARMLAND  
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Perceptual aspects (openness, wildness, tranquillity, remoteness)</th>
<th>The LCT contains a flat low lying floodplain landscape with numerous water bodies and water courses providing a unifying element. The landscape is generally attractive, remote in places and relatively tranquil due to the low density of development and settlement.</th>
<th>High</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Associations (with people or events)</td>
<td>There are no known associations with people or events.</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value attached to LCT</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>High</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The area contains flat low lying floodplain with a great many water courses and water bodies. Overall the LCT contains a good quality landscape with some elements of high quality, most notably Hornsea Mere SSSI/SPA (including Low Wood Ancient Woodland) and part of the River Hull Headwaters SSSI. There is some evidence of recent quarrying and disturbed landscape in parts of the area.</td>
<td>High</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Susceptibility to Development</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>High</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residential</td>
<td>A relatively small number of settlements within the area, other residential development is limited to scattered properties. A low density of development within this LCT, limited capacity for sensitive residential expansion may be accommodated.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>Limited small scale commercial development within this area. The integrity of the scenic quality and character of the landscape would likely be affected by any commercial development.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>Some industrial development associated with the edge of Beverley is visible in parts of this LCT, very little development elsewhere with the strong character of the landscape which is likely to be altered by any development.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural</td>
<td>A number of agricultural developments associated with farmsteads. Some small scale or sensitively positioned agricultural development would be unlikely to affect the character or quality of the LCT.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational</td>
<td>A number of developments relating to the tourism industry. Several PRoW's including Wilberforce Way, Minster Way and Trans Pennine Trail. NCR 1 also intersects the LCT. Some capacity to accommodate recreational development sympathetic to the LCT without altering the landscape character or condition.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Residential</td>
<td>Commercial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>18 B</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 F</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High</td>
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</table>
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 18: LOW LYING DRAINED FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS

This flat, low lying, generally open landscape has a tranquil character that is sensitive to change as a result of built development. The LCT has a relatively low number of settlements and other residential development is limited to scattered properties. A low density of development within this LCT, with very limited capacity for sensitive residential expansion may be accommodated. Similarly, there is limited small scale commercial development within this area. The integrity of the scenic quality and character of the landscape would likely be affected by any commercial development. In particular industrial development would detrimentally impact on the character of the corridor. The effect of large scale industry can already be seen on the eastern boundary of Beverley and to a lesser extent along the corridor south of Beverley.

The effect of gravel extraction can also be seen and has resulted in the development of uncharacteristic recreation sites such as caravan parks. However, these sites do tend to be less visible in the landscape and do not appear to have extensive visual envelops. The cumulative impact of developments such as caravan parks is already influencing the landscape character of the area. New development proposals for recreation facilities may impact detrimentally on the rural character of the area. The area is assessed to have medium-high sensitivity to this type of development overall.

A predominantly agricultural landscape with a number of agricultural developments associated with scattered farmsteads. Large scale agricultural development would likely affect the character of the LCT. Small scale and sensitively located examples may be accommodated. Overall medium-high sensitivity to this type of development

Mineral extraction is characteristic of the area south and east of Brandesburton. Restoration schemes have introduced water bodies to the area that have contributed to recreation and ecology. LCA 18B: Quarry Farmland has low sensitivity to continued mineral extraction.

**Strategy**

The strategy for this LCT is to restrict new development to low density recreation and tourism schemes that respect the scale and pattern of the rural landscape. Local character should be reflected through appropriate use of materials, and sensitivity to landscape pattern. New building must respect local vernacular.

Woodland planting should be used to screen development rather than bunding which would introduce uncharacteristic landform.

Carr woodland is the characteristic woodland of this LCT. The dominant species are alder and willow. Woodland in drier areas includes ash, oak, field maple, birch and hazel.

Promote the planting of hedgerows on field boundaries where they have been lost to reinforce local landscape pattern.

Promote the re-introduction of wetland habitats to increase landscape diversity and enhance landscape quality. The restoration of sand and gravel quarries provides the opportunity to increase habitat diversity.

The Driffield Navigation is an important historic feature in the area. The restoration of the Navigation is ongoing. Development related to the Navigation should respect historic character. The restoration of built features on the Navigation would reinforce the historic character of the area.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 19: OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS

DESCRIPTION OF LOCATION
This Landscape Character Type (LCT) is located on the east side of the East Riding and covers a large area of farmland that extends from Bridlington in the north to Spurn Point in the south and from the Coastal Farmland LCT in the East to the Drained Floodplain Farmland of the River Hull in the west. The area is dissected in an east west direction by the Drained Farmland character type between Brandesburton and Hornsea.

Relevant National Character Areas
• 27: Yorkshire Wolds
• 40: Holderness
• 41: Humber Estuary

SUMMARY OF KEY CHARACTERISTICS, FEATURES AND LAND USE
Key Characteristics of the Open Farmland of Holderness
• Gently undulating topography, hummocky in places.
• Very open landscape with few trees overall.
• Irregular field pattern of pre parliamentary enclosure.
• Dispersed villages linked by winding roads.
• Red brick buildings with pantile roofs sometimes painted white.
• Churches are often prominent features on the skyline.
• Irregular drainage pattern overall.
• Hedgerow field boundaries with few trees.
• Intensive farmed arable landscape.
• Large number of wide developments visible across the landscape both within LCT 19 and adjoining LCTs

STATEMENT OF OPPORTUNITIES
• Protect and enhance the characteristic field patterns within this LCT which make an important contribution to character and should be maintained and where possible reinforced.
• Protect and enhance historic landscapes such as Rise Park, Burton Agnes and Burton Constable.

LANDSCAPE INFLUENCES
Physical Influences
The under lying solid geology of the area was laid down during the Cretaceous period and is chalk. This has been overlain by glacial till (boulder clay) during the Devensian period. There are also sand and gravel deposits in parts of the area.

Soils are a combination of surface water gleys and brown earths that have been drained resulting in an Agricultural Land Classification of Grade 2 and Grade 3, with some isolated areas of Grade 4.

This LCT is in the River Hull catchment. The land drains west into the River Hull via a series of streams and drainage ditches. Overall the drainage pattern is widely spaced and a combination of improved natural water courses and man-made ditches.

Landform is low level, gently undulating and hummocky in places influenced by erosion and deposited during the last Ice Age. There is little ground variation, ranging from approximately 0m to 40m AOD.

Human Influences
There are several scheduled monuments in this area. Several of them date back to medieval times. It is apparent that human activity has been going on
in this area for many centuries but the above ground physical evidence for this cannot be seen in the landscape today. There is considerable evidence of prehistoric and Romano-British settlement mostly as crop marks.

The land is intensively farmed in irregular shaped fields that are medium to large. The majority of the area was enclosed by agreement as can be seen in the random pattern formed by the fields for most of the area. There are pockets of rectilinear enclosure fields in between.

Larger villages in the area tend to be nucleated and the smaller villages more linear in form. The dispersed villages are linked by winding roads that fits in with irregular field pattern. Vernacular buildings are generally red brick with pantile roofs. Some older buildings are built in limestone. Cobbles are sometimes used for construction particularly nearer the coast.

There are a large number of conservation areas in this part of Holderness which indicates the quality of the character of the built heritage. These include Bewholme, Atwick, Dunnington, Brandesburton, Great Hatfield, Aldborough, Sproatley, Wyton, Burton Pidsea, Halsham, Ottringham, Winsted, Patrington and Hedon.

Older buildings tend to be red brick with pantile roofs. There are also cobbled buildings in the area such as the church at Burton Pidsea.

Patrington Church and Hedon Church are important landscape features in the south of this LCT.

The A165, A614, A1033 & A1035 form the primary transport corridors in this LCT with the B1238, B1239, B1240, B1243, B1249 and B1362 forming secondary routes. Other roads are limited to smaller country lanes and private access tracks.

There is a network of public footpaths in the area that provide a number of circular and long distance routes including the Trans Pennine Trail.

**Ecological Influences**

There are six Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) designations in this LCT but given the expansive nature of the landscape this indicates a dwindling number of natural habitats, within an area that was once covered by marshes and meres.

Hedgerows and watercourses coupled with small areas of woodland provide habitats. Bail Wood, Old Wood and Cote Wood areas of ancient woodland offer important areas of habitat.

**Statutory Designations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Flamborough Head</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Skipsea Bail Mere</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Leven Canal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Lambwath Meadows</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Roos Bog</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Kelsey Hill Gravel Pits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 19: OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS

LINKS TO ADJACENT CHARACTER AREAS
Adjacent ERYC LCTs
- 13: Open High Rolling Farmland
- 15: Wolds Valley Farmland
- 17: Farmed Urban Fringe
- 18: Low Lying Drained Farmland
- 20: Coastal Farmland
- 21: Drained Farmland

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS
Five Landscape Character Areas have been identified in this LCT. They are:
- 19A: Rise Parkland
- 19B: Burton Constable Farmland and Parkland
- 19C: North Holderness Open Farmland
- 19D: Central Holderness Open Farmland
- 19E: Burstwick to Withersea Farmland

DETAILED CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTIONS

Character Area 19A: Rise Parkland
This LCA is an island located within LCA19B. Rise is located approximately four miles southwest of Hornsea and is an area of Parkland in the middle of open arable farmland. As a result it adds diversity to the repetitive nature of the landscape in this LCT.
Rise Park originated from a medieval deer park. The present park land may have been created by Capability Brown. The Hall was rebuilt in 1815-1820. The old village was removed and present houses were built in the mid to late 19th century. Rise Park contains manorial earthworks and fishponds that are now designated scheduled monuments. The lake in the parkland contributes to diversity in the LCA.
Woodland within this area supports several ancient woodland indicators, including yellow pimpernel, wood sorrel and hart’s-tongue.
The land use is predominantly attractive parkland with surrounding arable fields. Settlement within this small LCA is limited to Rise with peripheral scattered farmsteads. The field pattern beyond the central parkland landscape comprises large rectilinear fields.

Character Area 19B: Burton Constable Farmland and Parkland
Burton Constable is located approximately 7 miles south of Hornsea in the middle of open arable farmland and coupled with Rise Parkland adds diversity to the monotony of this LCT. The gardens at Burton Constable are Grade II* listed on the Historic England Register of Parks and Gardens (RPG), and contains a scheduled monument of the medieval settlement and field system. This is a very important historic landscape.
Burton Constable is a village and civil parish and the site of Burton Constable Hall. A manor house was present in the 12th century but the present Hall dates mainly to the 16th and 17th centuries. Burton Constable is perhaps the East Riding’s greatest country house. The park was designed by Capability Brown and replaced earlier formal gardens and the medieval deer park. Work began in 1772 and involved the creation of a lake and informal planting buildings (orangery, menagerie, bridges etc) were moved so they were in context with Brown’s landscape.

The land use is predominantly parkland with surrounding arable fields and a holiday park. Settlement within this small LCA is limited to a few peripheral scattered farmsteads. The field pattern beyond the central parkland landscape comprises regular sized rectilinear fields.

As with the other parts of Holderness, woodland is scarce and comprise of small blocks of semi-natural woodland.

Character Area 19C: North Holderness Open Farmland

This LCA includes numerous well scattered settlements that vary in size. The area extends from Burton Agnes in the north to Brandesburton and Seaton in the south. Industrial land uses include Carnaby Industrial Estate south west of Bridlington in the north and Catfoss Airfield and associated buildings in the south. The northern section of this LCA overlaps the Flamborough Headland Heritage Coast and Important Landscape Area along with the Flamborough Head Special Area of Conservation.

The area contains three disused airfields at Carnaby, Lisset and Brandesburton. The majority of the area is under intensive arable production. There are very few woodland blocks.

Burton Agnes Hall is an Elizabethan House located on the northern boundary of this LCA with the Yorkshire Wolds. The Hall is located on the north side of the A614. The village has a pond, noted for its ecological value. St Martins Church is a Norman building over 900 years old.

Carnaby Industrial Estate is a large development on the northern edge of this LCA that also impacts upon views from the edge of the Yorkshire Wolds to the north. The area is the location of a large Iron Age square barrow cemetery.

Typical of Holderness, the land use consists of open agricultural land, mainly intensively managed arable, with generally large fields and very little woodland. Settlements are well scattered, numerous and varied in size.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 19: OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS

Farmsteads are common and field pattern comprises large rectilinear fields bordered by hedgerows and tracks.

This is a large scale landscape where the sky dominates views over a gently undulating landform. Panoramic views to the east coast and the neighbouring Wolds are available from this LCA.

The small blocks of semi-natural woodland present are composed of tree species such as ash, field maple and rowan, and in wetter areas alder and various willows. This LCA contains a large number of turbine developments (approximately 15) ranging from small to very large in scale, most of which are visible within the landscape.

Character Area 19D: Central Holderness Open Farmland

This LCA surrounds the two parkland landscapes of Rise and Burton Constable. The LCA includes the villages of Leven, Routh, Long Ritson, Great Hatfield, Withernske, Skirlaugh, Ellerby, West Newton, Sproatly and Humberton plus numerous hamlets.

The land surrounding Lambwath Stream Valley has a concentration of unimproved neutral grassland, which is scarce in Holderness. These meadows are low-lying and seasonally flooded.

Agricultural intensification within the River Hull floodplain means that, as with the other parts of Holderness, woodland is scarce. The small blocks of semi-natural woodland present are composed of tree species such as ash, oak, hazel, hawthorn, elm, field maple and rowan. In wetter areas alder and various willows are found. Bail Wood, near Aldbrough, gives an example of the type of woodland that was once far more widespread.

The Hull to Hornsea disused railway runs through this area. Disused railway lines often provide valuable wildlife habitat and act as green corridors linking areas of semi-natural habitat which may otherwise be isolated. On the grass verges plant species can be found that have completely disappeared from the surrounding farmland.

As with neighbouring LCA’s the land use consists of open agricultural land, mainly arable, with generally large fields and little woodland. Settlements are well scattered, numerous and varied in size. Farmsteads are common and field pattern comprises large rectilinear fields bordered by hedgerows and tracks.

This is a large scale landscape with a gently undulating landform. Panoramic views to the east coast and the neighbouring Wolds, to the north west, are available from this LCA.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 19: OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDerness

Character Area 19E: Burstwick to Withernsea Farmland
This LCA is located to the east of Hull and includes Hedon, the area’s largest settlement.

Typical of this LCT, the land use consists of open agricultural land, mainly intensively managed arable, with large fields and limited woodland. Settlements are well scattered, numerous and larger in size. Farmsteads are common and field pattern comprises large rectilinear fields bordered by hedgerows and tracks.

Several wetland habitats are present in this area. Recent extraction of sand and gravel at Keyingham and other sites has left behind open water with marginal habitats. These are developing into areas that are potentially valuable for a variety of wildlife. At Roos Bog Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) small remnants of fen occur. Here and elsewhere in this area dykes and ponds also support a wide variety of fenland plants.

Medieval field systems of Preston, Hedon and Bilton are important and contrast with the larger field systems to the east. There are several moated sites and deserted or shrunken medieval villages in the area.

Patrington was a medieval market town, held by the Archbishops of York. St Patrick’s Church is one of the biggest and architecturally significant churches in the East Riding. The church spire is an important landmark on the skyline of Holderness.

Patrington and Hedon retain a few industrial structures linked to the time when the Haven was navigable.

Enholmes Farm is an important model farmstead built in the mid 19th century. The dismantled Hull to Withernsea railway line is a linear feature across the area. Vegetation along its course emphasised the presence of the line which dissect fields.

EVALUATION
Quality
Vertical features such as turbines and large scale farm buildings are dominant and detract from landscape character. Other detractors such as industrial development at Carnaby, pylons and communication masts, are spread throughout the area but overall do not seriously harm the quality of
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 19: OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS

the landscape which is assessed to be ordinary to good with pockets of high quality at Burton Constable RPG and Rise.

Positive Landscape Features

- Gently undulating and hummocky land form.
- Farmed landscape of irregular early enclosure fields.
- Dispersed villages linked by winding roads.
- Red brick buildings with pantile roofs.
- Occasional cobble and limestone vernacular older buildings.
- Church landmark features.
- Historic buildings and designed landscapes present (e.g. Rise Park, Burton Constable and Burton Agnes).

Forces for Change

Changing pressures on the farming industry may lead to change in character over time. Countryside stewardship provides an opportunity for positive change to landscape character.

Tourism and recreation development in the area has taken place in recent years. For example, the Leisure Complex at Patrington Haven. Burton Constable Hall and Burton Agnes Hall are popular tourist destinations. There may be pressure to improve facilities.

Development for employment use, particularly southwest of Bridlington at Carnaby Industrial Estate but also possible on the airfields may result in further change to the landscape.

There will continue to be pressure for renewable energy developments in the East Riding. There are already a great number of turbine developments within this LCT ranging from small scale to very large scale. These developments are often obvious in the relatively flat and otherwise featureless landscape.

Condition and Strength of Character

The loss of hedgerows and hedgerow trees has resulted in a loss of landscape structure. Large flat arable areas are predominant in the area. There are pockets of intact landscape character associated with Burton Constable and Rise Parkland and several villages e.g. Patrington.
### LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 19: OPEN FARMLAND
### NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS

#### Sensitivity and Capacity

The following table sets out the sensitivity of the LCT to different types of development. Refer to Appendix 4 for full details of the assessment criteria.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landscape quality (condition)</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parts of this LCT overlap the Flamborough Headland Heritage Coast. The landscape is relatively flat in which vertical elements detract from character. Some elements of high landscape quality such as Burton Constable RPG (Grade II*).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenic quality</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The flat landscape allows any large development to be viewed from long distances, detracting from scenic quality. Areas of high scenic quality include Burton Constable and Rise Park.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarity (of elements, features or LCT's)</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There are many wildlife and historic assets which are unique to this LCT most notably the Burton Constable estate and areas of ancient woodland.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representativeness (in relation to prevailing landscape character)</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A number of SSSI's relating to water courses and several medieval scheduled monuments are characteristic of the area. The LCT is an intensively farmed arable landscape representative of the area.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation interests (wildlife, earth science, archaeological, historic, cultural)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT includes Burton Constable RPG (Grade II*) and numerous Scheduled Monuments. There are 3 areas of Ancient Woodland, 6 SSSI's comprising Kelsey Hill Gravel Pits, Roos Bog, Lambawth Meadows, Leven Canal, Skipsea Bail Mere and Flamborough Head SSSI/ SAC. There are also numerous Local Wildlife Sites. Non designated assets include Rise Gardens, a cold war bunker at Holmpton and Holderness archaeological sites.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational value</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT contains Burton Constable, Rise Park Local Wildlife Site and associated Scheduled Monuments. National trail and long distance routes include the Trans Pennine Trail and National Cycle Routes 1 and 65.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perceptual aspects (openness, wildness, tranquillity, remoteness)</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is a strong rural character within a very open landscape with some areas of tranquillity. The LCT is intensively farmed arable land with a dispersed settlement pattern and little woodland or tree cover. There are a number of vertical detractors within an otherwise flat</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 19: OPEN FARMLAND**

**NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS**

- And gently undulating landscape.

### Associations (with people or events)
- The LCT includes the gardens of Burton Constable Hall designed by Capability Brown who also provided a plan for improvements to Rise Park.

### Value attached to LCT
- A relatively flat landscape in which vertical elements (turbines) detract from the character. Some elements of high landscape quality such as Burton Constable RPG (Grade II*) and a number of Ancient Woodland blocks. A number of SSSI's relating to water courses / areas prone to flooding. Several medieval scheduled monuments - characteristic of the area. Intensively farmed arable landscape.

### Susceptibility to Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Development Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residential</td>
<td>A large expansive LCT in which there are a number of small to medium sized settlements and scattered properties. There is evidence of recent residential expansion within many of these settlements. Some capacity to accommodate development of this nature adjacent to existing settlements without altering the landscape character.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>Limited existing commercial development, most of which is small in scale and within settlements. The flat expansive landscape would result in large development being viewed from long distances, detracting from scenic quality and risk altering the overall character of the area.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>Industrial development is limited within this LCT. The flat expansive landscape would result in large development being viewed from long distances, detracting from scenic quality and risk altering the overall character of the area.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural</td>
<td>There is a high number of existing agricultural developments associated with scattered farmsteads. A predominantly rural landscape in which agricultural development could be accommodated if sensitively located and is unlikely to affect the integrity of the landscape character.</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational</td>
<td>There are a number existing developments present, particularly recently built caravan parks. There are a number of recreational interests within the area such as Burton Constable RPG (Grade II*), Rise Park Local Wildlife Site and associated scheduled monuments. Trans Pennine Trail and National Cycle Routes 1 and 65 intersect the LCT. Due to the largely rural nature of the area, further recreational development could potentially be accommodated without affecting integrity of the landscape character.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Residential</td>
<td>Commercial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 A</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 B</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 C</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 D</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 E</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 19: OPEN FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS

A relatively flat landscape in which a number of vertical elements, such as wind turbines and pylons, detracting from the character. This expansive LCT has a number of scattered small to medium sized settlements and single properties. There is some evidence of recent settlement expansion within some areas. Due to the flat, open and expansive nature of the landscape and the rural setting there is a medium sensitivity to residential development. However, there may be some capacity to accommodate development of this nature adjacent to existing without altering the landscape character.

Commercial and industrial development outside current development limits would affect rural landscape character introducing urban infrastructure to the landscape. For example lighting, buildings, car parking and signs. Overall, high sensitivity to these types of development.

There are some large areas of open agricultural land and a high number of agricultural developments associated with farmsteads. A predominantly rural landscape in which agricultural development could be accommodated if sensitively located and is unlikely to affect the integrity of the landscape character.

Tourism and recreation development varies. There are a number of existing developments present, particularly recently built caravan parks. There are a number of recreational interests within the area such as Burton Constable RPG (Grade II*), Rise Park Local Wildlife Site and associated scheduled monuments. Trans Pennine Trail and National Cycle Routes 1 and 65 intersect the LCT. Due to the largely rural nature of the area, this landscape has capacity to accept some development of this type that respects scale, historic context, landscape pattern and vernacular.

Strategy

The strategy for this LCT is to maintain and enhance the characteristics that contribute to its distinctiveness. Field pattern makes an important contribution to character and should be maintained and where possible reinforced. Promote hedgerow replanting and gapping up and discourage the further amalgamation of fields.

Villages are an important feature of the landscape and their character contributes to sense of place. New building in rural villages can change their character if open spaces are infilled and materials and design do not respect local vernacular. Burton Pidsea has a Village Design Statement. These documents should be used to guide development proposals.

New residential development should also consider local context and mitigate the visual prominence of new structures within the open landscape. Measures to integrate development with the surrounding landscape should include woodland, tree and hedgerow planting.

Views of landmark features and sites should be protected. For example Patrington Church, Burton Constable Hall and Hedon Church are all important buildings in Holderness. Their setting and views of them reinforce a sense of place in the open farmland landscape.

Native and locally characteristic woodland and tree planting will help to reinforce landscape pattern and add diversity to the landscape.

Wind turbine proposals will need to consider landscape scale and pattern and will only be acceptable in some locations in this LCT. Mitigation to screen views of proposed turbines would need to be located close to the receptor to be effective.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 20: COASTAL FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS

DESCRIPTION OF LOCATION
This Landscape Character Type (LCT) is located on the east coast of the East Riding and south of Bridlington covers a narrow strip of farmland and coastal development that extends south to Spurn Point. The LCT includes the towns of Hornsea and Withernsea and several small villages and caravan sites including Barmston, Skipsea, Atwick, Mappleton, Hilston, Tunstall, Holmpton and Easington. The east boundary is the North Sea and the west boundary is the top of the low ridge that is set back less than a mile from the coast. As a result of this low ridge the views of the sea and coastline from the west are restricted.

Relevant National Character Areas
- 40: Holderness
- 41: Humber Estuary

SUMMARY OF KEY CHARACTERISTICS, FEATURES AND LAND USE
Key characteristics of the Coastal Farmland of Holderness
- Flat to gently undulating topography sloping gently eastwards
- Boulder clay cliffs eroding into the sea
- Seaside resorts of Bridlington, Hornsea and Withernsea
- Coastal static caravan parks are prominent
- Limited tree cover due to exposed windswept coastal landscape
- Smaller villages and farmsteads and minor roads threatened by erosion
- Fragments of historic field pattern around villages and hamlets
- Tourism development along the coast
- Large scale turbine development visible within the landscape, both within this LCT and within adjoining LCT’s

STATEMENT OF OPPORTUNITIES
- Protect and enhance the important coastal landscape including Spurn Heritage Coast and the Humber Estuary
- Protect the character of villages from the impact of large scale tourism development and other development types
- Avoid development in flood prone areas and promote coastal adaption measures

LANDSCAPE INFLUENCES
Physical Influences
The under lying solid geology of the area was laid down during the Cretaceous period.
Glacial till (boulder clay) drift geology covered the underlying chalk during the Devensian period.
Topography is between 0m and 28m AOD and is flat to gently rolling sloping eastwards to the boulder clay cliffs that drop off into the North Sea. The beach tends to be very narrow on this coast and offers little protection to the cliffs which are constantly changing as a result of coastal erosion.
Soils are a combination of surface water gleys and brown earths that have been drained resulting in an Agricultural Land Classification of Grade 3 with some areas of Grade 2, and isolated examples of Grade 4.

A network of small ditches and streams drain eastwards into the North Sea. There are no major water courses and west of the area land generally drains westwards into the River Hull. Meres were a feature of this coastline but the retreat of the coast has resulted in their loss. Other have silted up or been filled in. Only Hornsea Mere remains. This water body used to flow inland but now drains out to sea.

Human Influences

From Bridlington to Spurn Point the East Yorkshire Coast consists of low (not more than 35 metres high), soft cliffs composed of boulder clay, deposited as glacial till. Holderness has one of the most heavily eroding coasts in Europe, with an estimated average annual loss of two metres. The Domesday Book names sixteen places along the coast that have since been lost to the sea. On top of the cliffs most of the land is intensively farmed for arable crops, the land often being cultivated close to the cliff edge.

Evidence of Mesolithic and Neolithic activity has been found along the coast. However, the coast line was probably over a mile further east at that time and it is likely that much archaeological evidence has been lost to the sea.

Human activity in this area has continued through the centuries. However, physical evidence of human influence on the landscape does not become apparent until Saxon times when it is thought several of the settlement in this LCT established themselves.

Settlement is scattered throughout the LCT and has become coastal over time due to the rapid erosion of the cliffs. Many of the smaller settlements have developed in a linear fashion east to west along roads leading to the coast and as coastal erosion taken place will be shortened. Several deserted medieval villages are present along the coastline. Moated sites and the motte and bailey castle at Skipsea contribute to the historic character of the coastline. The castle at Skipsea was constructed in the 11th century and was the headquarters of the Lords of Holderness, and is now a designated scheduled monument. The main motte is 11m high, the tallest in the East Riding and the subsiding earthworks include a harbour. The village was a planned borough establishment in the 12th century.
Hornsea was an important town and port in medieval times but coastal erosion destroyed the port by the 16th century. In the 18th and 19th century the town was a fashionable bathing resort and some elements of the Edwardian bathing resort remain. The town remains a tourist resort today along with the smaller resort of Withernsea to the south in this LCT. Withernsea developed as a resort in the 19th century. Bridlington to the north on the edge of this LCT and the Yorkshire Wolds is a bigger resort.

Vernacular buildings tend to be brick with pantile roofs. However, there are occasional boulder and cobble buildings. Sea defences are a feature of the coast and there are military defences along the coast that date from the Second World War. The MOD site between Hornsea and Mapleton is a large area where land use contrasts with the adjacent farmland. The area is not accessible.

The A166 forms the primary transport corridors in this LCT with the B1242 and B1249 forming secondary routes. Other roads are limited to smaller country lanes and private access tracks.

There are limited Public Rights of Way in this coastal landscape.

**Ecological Influences**

Due to the rapid erosion, the vegetation of the cliffs is sparse or completely absent and where present often dominated by ruderal species or weeds such as colt’s-foot. Dimlington Cliff, a section of coast near to Spurn, has been designated a SSSI due to its unusual geology. Skipsea Bail Mere SSSI and Withow Gap SSSI, also at Skipsea, have been designated for its geological interest.

There are a number of Saline Lagoons which are a designated SSSI, and support the rare spiral tasselweed. Whilst Beaked tasselweed, also uncommon, is present in tidal pools and brackish dykes.

Tree cover is sparse and hedgerows tend to be fragmented affording few habitat opportunities. There is an area of semi natural vegetation associated with the weapon range north of Aldbrough but little is known about the diversity of this site.

The Humber Estuary RAMSAR, SSSI and Special Area of Conservation (SAC) overlap this LCT at its most southerly point, adjacent to Spurn.

**Statutory Designations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RAMSAR</td>
<td>Humber Estuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Area of Conservation (SAC)</td>
<td>Humber Estuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Humber Estuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>The Lagoons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Dimlington Cliff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Withow Gap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Skipsea Bail mere</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 20: COASTAL FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS

LINKS TO ADJACENT CHARACTER AREAS

Adjacent ERYC LCTs
- 18: Low Lying Drained Farmland
- 19: Open Farmland
- 21: Low Lying Drained Farmland

Adjacent Regional Landscape Character Area
Seascape Character Assessment (2012)
- LCA 5 Holderness Coastal Waters

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS

Three Landscape Character Areas (LCA) have been identified in this LCT. They are:

- 20A: Withernsea to Spurn Coast
- 20B: Hornsea to Withersea Coast
- 20C: Bridlington to Hornsea Coast

DETAILED CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTIONS

Character Area 20A Withernsea to Spurn Coast

This LCA covers the strip of coastline between Withernsea and Spurn Point and is part of the Spurn Heritage Coast, and the ecologically important Humber Estuary. This LCA includes the village of Easington which has natural gas terminals. The structures associated with the gas terminals are large and impact considerably on the remote character of the coastline. The wind farm at Out Newton north of Easington is also a highly visible development in the coastal landscape from this area.

Land use is predominantly arable farmland but includes infrastructure associated with the Natural Gas Terminal north of Easington. Settlements within this small LCA are limited to isolated farmsteads and the villages of Easington and Holmpton.

Easington and Holmpton both have conservation areas designated for their architectural and historic character. Field pattern around the two villages is irregular and small scale. Tree cover is also concentrated around the two villages in an area that is largely devoid of trees due to its exposed nature.

Beyond the villages fields tend to be large and rectilinear in shape. However, small water courses do break up the regular pattern of the fields at intervals. Hedgerows are intermittent around fields and tend to be severely clipped.

The Humber Estuary, Kilnsea Wetlands and Dimlington Cliffs offer ecological interest within this landscape.

There are very few caravan sites on this stretch of coast. Two small areas are located south of Easington and several sites are located on the southern edge of Withernsea.

There are a number of large scale turbines within this LCA with larger examples visible in adjoining areas and off shore.
Character Area 20B: Hornsea to Withernsea Coast

This LCA covers the coastal landscape between the southern edge of Hornsea and the northern edge of Withernsea. The area includes the villages of Mappleton and Aldbrough, Hilston and Tunstall which have Conservation Areas designated for their architectural and historic character.

Caravan sites are prominent on the southern edge of Hornsea and the northern edge of Withernsea. Several sites are scattered on the coast in between and they are a prominent feature in the landscape. In addition to the caravan sites there is a long linear golf course in the coastal corridor south
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 20: COASTAL FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS

of Hornsea. The area is generally devoid of trees except at Grimston where there is plantation woodland.

Fields are generally large and rectilinear. Smaller fields are located around the numerous scattered villages, hamlets and farmsteads in the area and their pattern may date back to medieval times.

Land use is predominantly arable farmland, camping/caravan sites, parkland (Grimston) and a firing range south of Mappleton. Settlements within this small LCA are limited to isolated farmsteads and well spaces villages.

There are two small scale turbine developments within this LCA, however, due to the open expansive nature of the landscape and the lack of tree cover, larger turbine developments in adjoining areas are visible on the skyline.

Character Area 20C: Bridlington to Hornsea Coast

This area extends along the coast from Bridlington in the north to Hornsea in the south and includes the villages of Barmston, Ulrome, Skipsea and Atwick. Roads, along which linear settlements have developed lead to the coast and end abruptly. There are a number of large caravan sites scattered along this stretch of coast at and between the villages.

The area is largely devoid of trees. There is a small area of woodland planting where a small lake has been created at Far Grange south of Skipsea and adjacent to a large caravan site. There is also a golf course here. The design of the area is not particularly characteristic of the coastal landscape.

Field pattern and landform at Skipsea, Ulrome and Barmston hint at a past landscape. The castle was located on an island in a mere that has since silted up. Coastal development in this area includes caravan parks concentrated at Ulrome. There are several well scattered large farmsteads around Skipsea. Fields at Barmston show remnants of the inverted shape of medieval enclosure fields. Small scale field systems with hedgerows and trees marking field boundaries provide a contrast to the surrounding large scale agriculture and tourism facilities landscape.

On the coast south of Bridlington caravan parks and a golf course dominates the landscape. The golf course is on the site of the site of the medieval village of Hilderthorpe. Barmston church to the south is Norman in origin and the remains of a 17th century manor house lie within a medieval moat.

Atwick and Bridlington Hilderthorpe both have conservation areas designated for their architectural and historic character.

In summary this LCA is a mix of recreation and tourism facilities amongst large scale arable farmland punctuated with occasional small scale villages of historic interest.

Large scale wind development is evident within the northern part of this LCA, with a cumulative effect incorporating developments within adjoining areas.

EVALUATION

Quality

Due to the presence of detractors such as numerous caravan parks, turbines and the gas terminal at Easington coupled with the fact that the condition of the landscape is not considered to be good the quality of this LCT is assessed to be ordinary overall. However, it should be recognised that there are areas of higher quality within this LCT and these areas should be protected. For example, Skipsea is an important historic settlement and the
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 20: COASTAL FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESSE

landscape character in that area reflects this. Hornsea has medieval origins and the Mere is an important feature unique in the East Riding.

The high value of this coastal landscape to the tourist industry in the East Riding should also be recognised when considering landscape quality and development proposals.

Positive Landscape Features

- Gently undulating landform sloping gradually eastwards affording views out to the North Sea
- Scattered small scale hamlets and villages contrasting with the surrounding large scale agricultural landscape
- Exposed open landscape
- A number of ecological and historical sites of interest

Forces for Change

Coastal erosion is the major force for change in this area. Sea defences are in place at Hornsea and Withernsea and they impact on erosion further down the coast. Coastal erosion may lead to pressure for existing linear settlements to extend westwards away from the coast. The sea defences themselves are large uncharacteristic structures.

The requirement for tourism and recreation facilities is another force for change. The coast is a popular tourist destination and there are a number of static caravan parks along the coast. Facilities linked to these caravan parks also impact on character. Coastal erosion has led to pressure for the roll back of caravan parks i.e. moving caravan sites in land from the coast.

Coastal erosion is also impacting upon residential properties, for example at Skipsea, and there is pressure for properties to be relocated inland.

The economy of the area is seasonal and there may be encouragement for the development of employment sites to help the coastal economy.

There will continue to be pressure for renewable energy developments in the East Riding. The exposed coast is likely to have the necessary wind speeds to accommodate wind turbines, a number of which have already been constructed.

Condition and Strength of Character

The condition of the coastal landscape is mixed. There are areas, particularly around the villages and hamlets (e.g. Barmston, Skipsea, Atwick, Holmpton and Easington) that display intact characteristics such as historic field patterns, intact hedgerows, clumps of trees and distinctive vernacular. However, the presence of caravan parks in fields adjacent to the coast has altered land use and fragmented character. In addition fields are generally large and their hedgerow boundaries are largely lost or are fragmented.

The action of the North Sea and the response of the land has shaped the coast line in this area. This has helped the coast maintain a reasonably strong sense of place. However, it has not helped improve the condition of this fragmented landscape.
**LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 20: COASTAL FARMLAND**  
**NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDENNESS**

**Sensitivity and Capacity**

The following table sets out the sensitivity of the LCT to different types of development. Refer to Appendix 4 for full details of the assessment criteria.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landscape quality (condition)</td>
<td>The LCT has a mixed landscape condition between remote coastal regions and developed towns/ villages. The area includes Spurn Heritage Coast in the south and some other high quality elements such as Skipsea. The LCT has a high landscape value in terms of tourism. High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenic quality</td>
<td>The area offers some pleasant views across the coast out to sea, with a number of historical/ ecological sites of interest. The presence of tourism and industry detract in places with caravan sites being a visually prominent aspect in the landscape. Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarity (of elements, features or LCT's)</td>
<td>The LCT encompasses a long area of coast which includes Spurn Heritage Coast. High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representativeness (in relation to prevailing landscape character)</td>
<td>The area includes a significant number of camping and caravanning parks which is unique to this area. The remaining rolling coastal landscape is representative of local character. Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation interests (wildlife, earth science, archaeological, historic, cultural)</td>
<td>The LCT includes Spurn Heritage Coast which overlaps with LCA 20A to the south. There are 5 SSSI's across the LCT including Skipsea Bail Mere, Withow Gap, Dimlington Cliff, The Lagoons and Humber Estuary SSSI/SAC. There are also several local wildlife sites including The Cowden Ranges, an area of semi natural grassland and scrub habitat within a landscape dominated by arable farming. High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational value</td>
<td>The LCT contains recreational routes including National Cycle Route 65 and other forms of recreation such as camping and caravanning. Spurn Heritage Coast offers an attractive landscape setting for numerous activities. High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perceptual aspects (openness, wildness, tranquillity, remoteness)</td>
<td>The relatively flat coastal landscape has many human detractors especially surrounding tourism. The area has limited areas of tranquillity with little tree cover due to the exposed coastal location. Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associations (with people or events)</td>
<td>No know associations with people or events Low</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 20: COASTAL FARMLAND
### NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value attached to LCT</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mixed landscape condition between remote coastal regions and developed towns/ villages. Spurn Heritage Coast to the south and other higher quality elements such as around Skipsea. High landscape value in terms of tourism. However, there are a number of detractors. Wind development is obvious within this LCT.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Susceptibility to Development</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Residential</strong></td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A number of small to medium sized coastal towns, with the exception of Bridlington to the north and numerous scattered farmsteads. Open and expansive views across most of the LCT. Some capacity to accommodate development of this nature without eroding the overall character of the landscape.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Commercial</strong></td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A lack of commercial development within this area, limited to small scale areas within settlements. Very limited capacity to accommodate development of this nature without affecting the landscape character of the area.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Industrial</strong></td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial development is limited within this LCT, with the exception of Easington Waterworks. Open and expansive views across most of the LCT. Very limited capacity to accommodate development of this nature without affecting the landscape character of the area.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Agricultural</strong></td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A great number of small to medium sized agricultural developments present within the landscape, associated with scattered farmsteads. Some capacity for sensitively located development of this nature without affecting the integrity of the landscape.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recreational</strong></td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A great many recreational and tourism related developments, including the England Coast Path, within an expansive landscape. Due to the scale and nature of the LCT, there is some capacity for sensitively located development of this nature without affecting the integrity of the landscape.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Residential</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>20 A</strong></td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>20 B</strong></td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>20 C</strong></td>
<td>Medium</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 20: COASTAL FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS

This coastline is an important recreation resource as well as an area of historic importance. Detractors tend to be prominent from within the LCT but there are limited views into this LCT from the far west due to landform.

The cumulative impact of caravan sites on the exposed coast is affecting the character of the relatively remote coastline. Caravan sites tend to be large scale and their layout organised and this contrasts considerably with built development in the area. These developments also impact upon views that contribute to character. The area is assessed to be sensitive to an increase in the number of caravan sites as a result of the cumulative impacts of such developments on views of the coastline. However, where coastal erosion is leading to pressure for existing caravan parks to relocate the landscape does have the capacity to accept this type of development where caravan parks are located to a site with similar characteristics.

Other recreation facilities on the coast include golf courses and car parks for access the narrow beaches. The landscape character of this LCT is assessed as medium sensitivity to recreational development and has some capacity to accept small scale recreational developments that are low key and respect character and settlement pattern and uses appropriate materials.

There are a number of small to medium sized towns along this coastal corridor, with the exception of Bridlington to the north and numerous scattered properties. Open and expansive views are present across the majority of this landscape and adjoining LCT’s. There is some capacity to accommodate residential development, in keeping with existing development, without eroding the overall character of the landscape.

There is a lack of commercial development within this landscape and the open, primarily rural nature of the area would be impacted by any large scale development of this nature. There may be very limited capacity to accommodate sensitively located, small scale commercial development without affecting the landscape character of the area.

Similarly, industrial development is limited within this LCT, with the exception of Easington Waterworks. LCT may have very limited capacity to accommodate development of this nature without affecting the landscape character of the area.

There are a number of small to medium scale agricultural developments present within the landscape, associated with scattered farmsteads. LCT has some capacity for sensitively located development of this nature without affecting the integrity of the landscape.

**Strategy**

The strategy for this LCT is to protect village character from the impact of large scale tourism and other development. The villages contrast with the large scale arable landscape and are an important characteristic in this LCA.

New proposals for tourism development should demonstrate an understanding of the landscape character of this valued coastline in the design of proposals. New tourist development should not be highly visible in the landscape and should seek to minimise the cumulative effects of development.

Ensure that recreation and tourism facilities in the area are of a scale that can be accommodated within the landscape. Roll back of caravan sites from the coast is an opportunity to improve their integration within and reduce their visibility in the landscape.

New development should respect local vernacular, context and mitigate visual prominence within the open landscape. Local character should be
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 20: COASTAL FARMLAND
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HOLDERNESS

reflected through appropriate use of materials, and sensitivity to landscape pattern.

Promote opportunities to utilise and reinforce existing hedgerows and trees to screen development and to introduce woodland and gap up hedgerows.

The coast is very exposed and erosion is occurring rapidly. Tree and hedge planting is difficult to establish and as a result it is difficult to successfully mitigate new development that is beyond the existing development limits.

Tree planting may also affect views. Encourage planting to be located set back from the coast and ensure that species are tolerant of the location. Hawthorn, buckthorn and gorse all grow in coastal locations. Where planting is proposed as mitigation for development proposals, a high specification of shelter will be required to aid establishment.

Wind turbines at Out Newton (2017)
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 21 LOW LYING DRAINED FARMLAND

NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBER ESTUARY

DESCRIPTION OF LOCATION

This Landscape Character Type (LCT) is located on the north bank of the Humber Estuary east of Kingston upon Hull. This LCT includes the village of Paull, Sunk Island and Spurn point. Much of the land has been reclaimed and the landscape is in a constant state of change as a result of natural estuarine processes. The large industrial development at Salt End on the Humber Estuary east of Hull is on the western edge of this LCT.

Relevant National Character Areas
- 41: Humber Estuary

SUMMARY OF KEY CHARACTERISTICS, FEATURES AND LAND USE

Key characteristics of the Low Lying Drained Farmland of the Humber Estuary
- Flat low lying flood plain of the River Humber.
- Regular drainage pattern forming field boundaries.
- Sparse tree cover concentrated around scattered farmsteads.
- 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.
- Scattered farmsteads of nucleated form.
- Paull is a village on the north bank of the Estuary and the largest settlement in the LCT.
- Views of Salt End industry to the west on the edge of Hull.

STATEMENT OF OPPORTUNITIES

- Protect and enhance the dynamic estuarine landscape of historic importance.
- Encourage a strategic approach to land use to maintain the valued open characteristics of this bleak and featureless landscape.
- Encourage land management regimes and farm diversification to avoid the amalgamation of fields and retain the open, large scale and well maintained characteristics of the area.

LANDSCAPE INFLUENCES

Physical Influences

The underlying solid geology of the area was laid down during the Cretaceous period, overlaid with tidal alluvium. The landscape includes extensive drainage ditches which flow southwards into the River Humber.

The area is very flat and land is below 15 metres AOD, with extensive large earth embankment along the edge of the River Humber to prevent tidal flooding. Soils are a combination of surface water gleys and brown earths that have been reclaimed and drained resulting in an Agricultural Land Classification being predominantly of Grade 2 with small areas of Grade 1 and Grade 3. The area of Sunk Island has been subject to historic ‘warping’ which has created a nutrient rich silt soil overlaying a sand and gravel sub soil.

There is one minor settlement in the LCT and few scattered farmsteads. Paul is a small village on the estuary at the LCT’s western extent.
Human Influences

The tidal influence of the River Humber has historically restricted human activity in much of this area prior to the reclamation of land which began at Sunk Island in the late 17th century and continued into the 19th century. Field pattern clearly shows the extent of the island in the early 18th century and also outlines the course of the original North Channel (which is now encompassed by Winestead Drain). This drain eventually silted up and the land was drained for agricultural use. The area has been embanked in stages as land has been reclaimed.

Sunk Island was first inhabited in 1669 when Old Hall was built. As the Island was reclaimed, the land belonged to the Crown and Crown Estates embarked on a major rebuilding programme in the mid 1850's. The farms and houses therefore have a uniformity of design. By 1917 the eastern part of the island was taken over for the resettlement of soldiers and twenty pairs of three bedroom cottages were built. Only a few of these remain today. Sunk Island is a designated Conservation Area.

Fields vary in size but are generally large and very large and intensively farmed for arable crop production. The area has a well-managed almost manicured appearance for the most part due to the intensive nature of farming practices. Several farmsteads are sparsely scattered throughout the area. Paull is the only village in the LCT and is located on the bank of the Humber Estuary southeast of Hull. Patrington Haven is a small hamlet located north of North Channel where boats once had access until New Clough sluice was installed in 1897.

There are four scheduled monuments in this LCT. Three are medieval moated sites and one is the Battery at Paull. Paul l Battery is a very important historic military structure built in the 1860s. Paull Holme Tower is a late medieval structure once part of a larger structure and located on the site of a deserted medieval village.

Other military structures in the area are found at Spurn Head which was an important military complex during the Napoleonic and First and Second World Wars. There are off shore forts within the Estuary.

There are no primary or secondary transport corridors in this LCT. Roads are limited to smaller country lanes and private access tracks. There is a small network of public footpaths in the area that mostly link tracks and lanes.

Ecological Influences

The Humber Estuary and Spurn Point are internationally important wildlife habitats, especially for birds. There are also several small areas of relatively species-poor saltmarsh along the north bank of the Humber Estuary. The best example of this habitat, being the most extensive and most species rich, is at Welwick. In other areas new saltmarshes are building up as the rate of the ebb flow decreases and silt is deposited. Some of these areas are dominated by red fescue and are grazed by cattle.

The Humber Estuary is an internationally important site for birds and is a designated SSSI.

Statutory Designations

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<tr>
<td>Special Protection Area (SPA)</td>
<td>Humber Estuary</td>
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</table>
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 21 LOW LYING DRAINED FARMLAND

NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBER ESTUARY

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Special Area of Conservation (SAC)</th>
<th>Humber Estuary</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Humber Estuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Nature Reserve (NNR)</td>
<td>Spurn Point</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DETAILED CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTIONS

Character Area 21A: Spurn Point Heritage Coast

The Spurn Peninsula is the most extensive area of coastal sand dune in the region and is composed of debris washed down from the soft cliffs further north. The present spit began to develop in the 17th century after its predecessor was largely washed away. The area is a defined Heritage Coast in recognition of its distinctiveness and strategic importance. There are the remains of military installations dating back to Napoleonic times.

Spurn Point was breached in 2013, which has led to the overtopping of the neck during high tides. The lighthouse at the end of Spurn Point is a focal point on the otherwise flat and featureless spit of land that is surrounded by the North Sea and Humber Estuary.

LINKS TO ADJACENT CHARACTER AREAS

Adjacent ERYC LCTs

- 17: Farmed Urban Fringe
- 19: Open Farmland
- 20: Coastal Farmland

Adjacent regional Landscape Character Area (acknowledging water based boundaries)

North East Lincolnshire Character Areas (2010)

- Humber Estuary

North Lincolnshire Landscape Character Assessment (1999)

- Humber Estuary

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS

Four Landscape Character Areas (LCA's) have been identified in this LCT, these are:

- 21A: Spurn Point Heritage Coast
- 21B: Sunk Island
- 21C: South Patrington, Ottringham and Keyingham Farmland
- 21D: Paull Farmland
The Spurn Peninsula is a nationally important site for many species of insects and birds, along with regular sightings of common seal and grey seal.

This small LCA is a remote and distinctive landscape under a constant flux of change due to natural processes. It is a unique landscape and its importance is recognised through its Heritage Coast status.

Land use is coastal sand dune, sand banks and salt marsh split by a single access track which is also a Public Right of Way. There are no settlements are areas of farmed land. The access road was lost to storm damage in 2013.

Cultural and historic interests include remnants of a Napoleonic Signal Station and the disused Spurn Lighthouse. There are also WW1 and WW2 fortifications.

**Character Area 21B: Sunk Island**

Sunk Island is a Conservation Area and an example of direct land reclamation, linking the original island with the mainland. This was done by constructing levees to prevent flooding then enclosing and artificially draining the land. The area is at risk of flooding and is protected by the clay embankment along the north bank of the Humber Estuary.

The area is designated a Conservation Area in recognition of its historic importance and character that is the result of gradual land reclamation since the late 17th Century. Access to the island was restricted until a series of roads were built in the mid-1800s.

Most of the land apart from a few individual properties remains the property of the Crown. The brick church was closed in the 1980s and is now a heritage centre.

Agricultural land adjacent to the Humber Estuary would have at one time consisted of wet pasture. Much of this has been drained, however it is still important for many birds including pink-footed goose, wigeon, lapwing and golden plover. Field pattern is comprised of large, rectilinear arable fields bordered by tracks and drainage ditches.

East of Welwick, there are several stretches of canal, brackish pools and marshes and damp grassland. All of these are small in extent but never-the-less important for plant species rarely found elsewhere nationally. This is a bleak landscape unique to the East Riding.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 21 LOW LYING DRAINED FARMLAND

NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBER ESTUARY

A managed realignment site has been created at Welwick, located immediately to the west of the pumping station at the end of Winestead Drain. This area was the last part of the Humber Estuary to be reclaimed in the 1960's. Previously arable farmland, the area is now a mix of inter-tidal saltmarsh and mudflat.

There are few people and settlements are mostly scattered brick built farmsteads that punctuate the flat and open landscape. Tree cover is sparse. A notable feature is the avenue of trees on the Sunk Island to Ottringham Road.

Character Area 21C: South Patrington, Ottringham and Keyingham Farmland

This farmed area is located on higher ground north of Sunk Island and south of the villages at the southern edge of LCA 19E: Burstwick to Withernsea Farmland. It differs from Sunk Island as the land is slightly raised and was once part of the north bank of the Humber Estuary prior to the reclamation of Sunk Island. Drainage pattern here is slightly more complex and overall fields are smaller and less regular. The area also includes several small woodlands and clumps of trees around farmsteads and hamlets.
There are three medieval scheduled monuments in this area which are all moated sites.

Land use, settlements and field patterns are similar to LCA 21B.

Character Area 21D: Paull Farmland

The Conservation Area of Paull is the site of a landing that dates back to Viking times. The site has been an important location for defence in the past. The first battery was constructed in 1542 and the present complex dates from 1861-61 and is a very important historic military structure. A submarine mining base was added in 1886-87. The area is designated a scheduled monument. This area also contains the remains of World War II decoys designed to attract bombs away from Hull Docks.

Paull Holme Tower was a 15th Century manor house located on high ground (14m AOD) approximately 1 mile east of Paull. Paull Church is also an important landmark just east of Paull. Hedon church (in the neighbouring LCT) is also visible from this LCA.

Land use is predominantly arable and fields are medium in size, relatively irregular in shape and bound by a combination of ditches and fragmented hedges. Paul is the only settlement with a few scattered farmsteads.

There are extensive views across the Humber Estuary to the south and the Humber Bridge can be seen in the distance to the west. The industrial development on the east edge of Hull is clearly visible and is a detractor on the edge of this pleasant landscape.

Agricultural land adjacent to the Humber Estuary would have at one time consisted of wet pasture. Much of this has been drained, however it is still important for many birds including pink-footed goose, wigeon, lapwing and golden plover. A managed realignment site was created at Paull Holme Strays in 2005. The area was formerly farmland and is now a mix of inter-tidal saltmarsh and mudflat.

This LCA differs from its neighbours due to its slightly more varied topography and relatively high density of buildings. The proximity of the industrial edge of Hull also impacts upon character.

EVALUATION

Quality

There are few detractors located within this landscape which is unique in the East Riding. The key characteristics, e.g. reclaimed field pattern, open uninterrupted views, historic characteristics and sparse scattered settlement, are intact and in a good condition overall. The historic context of this landscape and its intact nature that is the result of land reclamation and subsequent management make this a good to high quality landscape. Locations within the LCT close to the River Humber have open and extensive views towards the highly industrialised areas along the north and south bank of the Estuary, especially at Immingham and Hull.

Positive Landscape Features

- Flat to gently undulating landscape below 15m AOD.
- Extensive views over the Humber Estuary east towards Spurn Point.
- Unique dynamic landscape and seascape associated with Spurn Point.
- Historic significance as a landing point and defence.
- Lack of tree cover resulting in openness and long distance views with big skies.
- Sparse scattered farmsteads.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 21 LOW LYING DRAINED FARMLAND

NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBER ESTUARY

- Fields are regular and display a pattern that reflects phases of reclamation.

Forces for Change

- Changing sea level will increase pressure on this low lying landscape potentially resulting in the loss of land as sea level rises.
- Coastal processes affecting the integrity of Spurn Point, including the potential for permanent breaching of the spit.
- Coastal managed realignment schemes resulting in the loss of farmland and the creation of saltmarsh and mudflats.
- Pressures on the farming industry are likely to result in changing land management practices that will change the appearance of this landscape. Part of the distinctiveness of this landscape is its reclamation for intensive arable use. A change in this may impact on the historic character of the area.
- Renewable energy needs and the exposed and relatively low density of settlement in this LCT may result in pressure for wind turbine development.

Condition and Strength of Character

The intensively farmed landscape retains its relatively recent historic character that has resulted from a pattern of drainage and reclamation over the last 300 years. Historically human activity has been ongoing for many years although most of the physical evidence for this is recent. Paull is an important settlement historically and has a conservation area designation as well as a scheduled monument (the Battery).

This landscape has a unique identity and strong sense of place despite the fact that it is relatively featureless lacking in vertical interest.
## Sensitivity and Capacity

The following table sets out the sensitivity of the LCT to different types of development. Refer to Appendix 4 for full details of the assessment criteria.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landscape quality (condition)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenic quality</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarity (of elements, features or LCT's)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representativeness (in relation to prevailing landscape character)</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation interests (wildlife, earth science, archaeological, historic, cultural)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational value</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perceptual aspects (openness, wildness, tranquility, remoteness)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associations (with people or events)</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This LCT is an intensively farmed landscape with limited features. There are several important historic elements including Paull Conservation Area and a Scheduled Monument. There are very few landscape detractors within a high-medium quality landscape.

The LCT has very few scenic detractors due to the relative lack of vertical elements in the landscape. There are open uninterrupted views across the entire LCT.

The LCT includes a considerable variety of conservation interests unique to the area. The area is relatively devoid of vertical features and settlement which is unusual within East Riding.

The landscape is relatively sparse in terms of tree cover and is representative of its coastal influence. The vast majority of landscape is arable farmland.

The LCT contains Spurn Heritage Coast, Spurn National Nature Reserve, Humber Estuary SSSI/SPA/SAC/Ramsar Site and Sunk Island Conservation Area. There is a Local Wildlife Site at Haverfield Quarry. There are also several WWII related Scheduled monuments and the Paull Scheduled Monument.

The LCT includes Spurn Heritage Coast and Spurn National Nature Reserve and, although there are relatively few Public Rights of Way in the area, there is a footpath route from Paull to Spurn Point along the estuary and the England Coast Path.

The area is an open, flat landscape with some areas of tranquillity due to a lack of roads, settlements and industry.

Spurn point holds remains of military installations dating back to Napoleonic times.
**LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 21 LOW LYING DRAINED FARMLAND**

**NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBER ESTUARY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value attached to LCT</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>An intensively farmed, flat landscape with some important historic elements including Paull Conservation Area and Scheduled Monument and Sunk Island Conservation Area. Very few landscape detractors within a medium-high quality landscape including Spurn Point Heritage Coast. A great many ecological designations particularly associated with Spurn Point. Overall high value but LCA 21D is of lower value.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Susceptibility to Development</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Residential</strong> Residential development is limited to small, scattered settlements and a number of dispersed farmsteads with the rural landscape. Residential development would risk affecting the characteristics of the landscape.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Commercial</strong> Limited existing commercial development, within settlements. The urban edge of Hull is a detractor on the skyline. Development of this kind would risk affecting the characteristics of the open, expansive rural landscape.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Industrial</strong> Limited industrial development within a predominantly flat and featureless landscape. Some views of the industrial urban edge of Hull on the skyline. Development of this kind would risk affecting the characteristics of the open, expansive rural landscape.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Agricultural</strong> Intensively farmed landscape with a number of scattered farmsteads and associated agricultural development. Expansive views over most of the LCT are present. Development of this kind, sensitively located, may be accommodated without affecting the landscape character.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recreational</strong> A distinct lack of PRoW's within the area which segregates Spurn Heritage Coast and National Nature Reserve. The landscape has very limited capacity to accommodate some development of this kind, sympathetic to existing landscape character.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 21 LOW LYING DRAINED FARMLAND

### NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBER ESTUARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Residential</th>
<th>Commercial</th>
<th>Industrial</th>
<th>Agricultural</th>
<th>Recreational</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21 A</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 B</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 C</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 D</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
<td>High-Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This low lying flat landscape that displays characteristics that are unique has high sensitivity to large scale built development. Vertical structures in particular may impact upon the characteristic open and extensive views and the skies that stretch for miles. The industrial edge of Hull already impacts upon the remote and tranquil character of the LCA at Paull.

The more remote areas, especially at Spurn Point and Sunk Island can offer relatively high levels of tranquillity and are particularly sensitive to development.

The character of the LCT will also be sensitive to changing land management practices as it is the intensive nature of arable production in the area that is one of the key characteristics contributing to the openness and well maintained appearance of the area.

Residential development is limited to small, scattered settlements and a number of dispersed farmsteads are located within the rural landscape. This LCT is assessed as medium-high sensitivity to residential development. Large scale development of this nature would risk affecting the characteristics of the landscape. However, there may be some capacity for small scale, sensitively located residential development in keeping with local vernacular.

There are limited examples of existing commercial and industrial development within this LCT, however views of the urban edge of Hull detract along the skyline. Development of these types would risk affecting the characteristics of the open, expansive rural landscape. Therefore there is no capacity for development of this nature.

The intensively farmed rural landscape has a number of agricultural developments associated with scattered farmsteads. Due to the open and expansive views across the landscape sensitivity to this development type is assessed as medium, however there may be some capacity to accommodate sensitively located agricultural development.

There is a distinct lack of Public Rights of Way, within the area which segregates Spurn Heritage Coast and National Nature Reserve. There are few other recreational developments within this open landscape. However, there may be very limited capacity to accommodate development of this kind, sympathetic to existing landscape character.

**Strategy**

The strategy for this LCT is to conserve the unique character of the landscape. This has historic importance due to the extensive area of reclaimed land and associated pattern and development.

Maintain the open characteristics of this flat, low lying and remote landscape. New tree planting should respect openness, retain views and be located around existing settlements. The open character of the landscape also means that it is exposed and species should be selected to tolerate exposure to salt laden winds. New planting and woodland management should improve diversity in structure, habitat and help integrate new development within the existing landscape.

Changing land management regimes and farm diversification should respect the open, large scale well maintained characteristics of the area.

Avoid development that would result in cumulative impact, including a visible increase in settlement density in the area.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 21 LOW LYING DRAINED FARMLAND

NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBER ESTUARY

Field patterns are important in highlighting the successive phases of land reclamation and in distinguishing reclaimed land from its neighbour. Avoid the amalgamation of fields.

Vertical structures should be avoided in this landscape to limit impact on the characteristic openness. Small scale development may be accommodated without detriment to openness if it is appropriately located within or adjacent to existing built form and is of comparable scale.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 22: FARMED URBAN FRINGE
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBER ESTUARY

DESCRIPTION OF LOCATION
This Landscape Character Type (LCT) is located to the west of Hull between Elloughton cum -Brough and Ferriby and the River Humber. The A63 marks the northern boundary and the Humber Estuary marks the southern boundary of this small LCT. The area contains a low lying and flat landscape with prominent industrial and commercial development especially to the west. The landscape fragmented by commercial, industrial and residential development and isolated by the A63 corridor to the north and the Humber Estuary to the south.

Relevant National Character Areas
• 27: Yorkshire Wolds
• 40: Holderness
• 41: Humber Estuary

SUMMARY OF KEY CHARACTERISTICS, FEATURES AND LAND USE

Key Characteristics of the Farmed Urban Fringe
• Flat low lying flood plain of the River Humber.
• Flood banks along the Humber.
• Large scale industrial development to the west.
• Regular field and drainage pattern.
• Sparse tree cover.
• Brough Airfield and Brough Haven.
• Views of the Humber Bridge.

STATEMENT OF OPPORTUNITIES
• Protect and enhance the important coastal landscape of the Humber Estuary
• Opportunities to return part of the area to wet grassland would increase biodiversity in the area and the diversity of land use
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 22: FARMED URBAN FRINGE
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBER ESTUARY

LANDSCAPE INFLUENCES

Physical Influences
The underlying solid geology of the area was laid down during the Cretaceous period and is overlain with glacial till and more recent tidal flat deposits.

The area is very flat and land is below 10 metres AOD. Man-made riverbanks prevent tidal flooding.

Soils are a combination of surface water gleys and brown earths that have been reclaimed and drained resulting in an Agricultural Land Classification of Grade 2.

Human Influences
Brough, at the western edge of this area, was the site of a Roman fort and the location of a crossing point on the Humber. Evidence of earlier human activity has been found in the mudflats of the area near North Ferriby. Historic maps from the Victorian period show that the area consisted of a series of small regular fields with hedgerow boundaries. Development such as brickworks and the Airfield have resulted in the loss of the historic landscape pattern in this area.

The Hull to Selby Railway Line and the A63 mark the approximate boundary of the area to the north. These transportation corridors are detractors in the landscape. There are numerous public footpaths in the area including the Trans Pennine Trail, along the north bank of the estuary, the Yorkshire Wolds Way and National Cycle Route 65.

The landscape is busy with development, industry and the expanding settlement of North Ferriby.

Brough Haven is located to the west on the north bank of the Humber west of Brough Airfield. The Haven was the location of the ferry crossing point for the Humber during the Romano British period. It is now used for pleasure craft and the Humber Yawl Club, one of the oldest sailing clubs in the country is located there.

The Humber Bridge and associated country park is a significant recreational feature on the eastern boundary.


Land use in the area is mixed with some arable fields and grassland fields that have hedgerow boundaries in varying condition. Housing and industrial development on the eastern edge of Brough is impacting upon the character of the area.
The Hull to Selby Railway Line is a linear feature cutting across the area. It contributes to the severance of the area to the south from land to the north. The landfill site at Welton Ings is another detractor.

Housing development to the southeast of Elloughton cum Brough has replaced the area of former glass houses although one glasshouse remains.

Ecological Influences

The Humber Estuary is an important international and national habitat zone with Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), RAMSAR, Special Protection Area (SPA) and Special Area of Conservation (SAC) designations attached and is an important local resource.

There are small pockets of woodland clumps in the area and some of the field boundaries are well wooded as they have been allowed to grow unmanaged. The areas of rough grassland that have been allowed to grow also contribute to diversity.

Statutory Designations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RAMSAR</td>
<td>Humber Estuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Protection Area (SPA)</td>
<td>Humber Estuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Area of Conservation (SAC)</td>
<td>Humber Estuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Humber Estuary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LINKS TO ADJACENT CHARACTER AREAS

Adjacent ERYC LCTs

- 9: Drained Open Farmland
- 11: Jurassic Hills Farmland
- 17: Farmed Urban Fringe
- 23: Humber Banks

Adjacent Regional Landscape Character Area

North Lincolnshire Landscape Character Assessment (1999) – LCA
- Humber Estuary

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS

One Landscape Character Area (LCA) has been identified in this LCT.

DETAILED CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTIONS

Character Area 22A: North Ferriby Farmland

The LCA was a farmed landscape with small scale fields that had hedgerow boundaries. 20th Century development has altered this by introducing large scale industry to the area between Brough and North Ferriby. The land between North Ferriby and Hessle has retained a farmed landscape that extends from the Wolds to the Humber. The extraction of clay for brickworks has resulted in the creation of large water bodies at Melton Ings that are used for water sports.

Agricultural land adjacent to the Humber Estuary would have, at one time, consisted of wet pasture. However, much of this has now been drained.

The Humber Estuary has a large influence on this area ecologically and in terms of landscape character.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 22: FARmed URBAN FRINGE
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: Humber Estuary

There are good views of the Humber Bridge across this area. Views to the south bank of the Humber are also extensive and contribute to the large scale appearance of the area.

An area of very large scale turbines adds a vertical element to the skyline.

The current land use is a mix of arable and grass farmland in the form of large rectilinear fields, industrial/commercial infrastructure and residential development.

North Ferriby is the only settlement in the LCA, several parts of which have conservation area designations.

EVALUATION

Quality

Landscape quality is assessed to be ordinary. Small pockets of the original landscape character of this low lying area remain. Overgrown hedgerows and mature trees are present in places. However, the large number of detractors such as turbines, transport corridors including the railway line, and the large scale industrial and residential development on the edge of this LCA diminishes its quality.

Positive Landscape Features

- Flat flood plain strongly influenced by the River Humber
- Ecological value of habitat.
- Buffer to continuous development along the north bank of the River Humber.
- Views of the Humber Bridge to the east and south across the River to the south bank.

Forces for Change

The numerous transportation developments within this LCT have improved access to the western half near Brough. This has increased pressure for residential, industrial and commercial development in the LCT.

The LCT is located close to Hull and benefits from good transportation network links. Pressure for further development of both industrial and residential development is set to continue.

Housing development has taken place on former glasshouse sites. This may result in pressure to relocate the glasshouses in the area.
There will continue to be pressure for renewable energy developments in the East Riding. There may be pressure for wind turbines in the area away from residential development. However, this may be resisted as a result of the status of the Humber Estuary and River Humber as a national and international site of nature conservation importance. Rising sea levels will impact upon this low lying area protected from flooding by the riverbank.

**Condition and Strength of Character**

This is a fragmented landscape that is isolated. The airfield at Brough and industrial and commercial development are prominent in this formerly rural landscape. Development on the edge of the settlements of Brough and North Ferriby also impact on character.
**LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 22: FARmed URBAN FRINGE**  
**NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: Humber Estuary**

**Sensitivity and Capacity**

The following table sets out the sensitivity of the LCT to different types of development. Refer to Appendix 4 for full details of the assessment criteria.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landscape quality (condition)</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenic quality</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarity (of elements, features or LCT's)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representativeness (in relation to prevailing landscape character)</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation interests (wildlife, earth science, archaeological, historic, cultural)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational value</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This LCT contains a low lying, flat landscape with prominent industrial and commercial development especially to the west. The area is fragmented by industrial and residential development and isolated by the A63 corridor and the Humber Estuary. The expanding settlement of North Ferriby detracts from landscape quality. The landscape is of ordinary landscape quality with a great many human detractors.

The area has relatively low scenic quality due to a great many visible human detractors.

The LCT contains the Humber Estuary SSSI/SPA/SAC/ Ramsar Site and the Humber Bridge Local Nature Reserve/ Local Wildlife Site. The area also contains Humberhead Levels Nature Improvement Area. The Humber Bridge Country Park/ Local Nature Reserve/ Local Wildlife Site is located close to the eastern boundary and Broughton Aerodrome is located close to the western boundary. The combination of elements in this LCT is rare.

The flat low lying area is typical of this estuarine region.

This LCT contains the Humber Estuary SSSI/SPA/SAC/ Ramsar Site, Humber Bridge Country Park/ Local Nature Reserve/ Local Wildlife Site, North Ferriby Ings and Field Local Wildlife Site, Brough Airfield Local Wildlife Site and the Humberhead Levels Nature Improvement Area.

The LCT includes the Humber Bridge Country Park/ Local Nature Reserve/ Local Wildlife Site, Trans Pennine Trail and Yorkshire Wolds Way. National Cycle Route 65 also passes through the area.
**Perceptual aspects (openness, wildness, tranquillity, remoteness)**
The landscape within this LCT is busy with development/industry and subsequently the area is not tranquil.

**Associations (with people or events)**
No known associations with people or events.

**Value attached to LCT**
Low lying, flat, fragmented and isolated landscape with prominent industrial and commercial development especially to the west. The expanding settlements of Melton Park and Brough detract from landscape quality. A number of important ecological designations associated with the Humber Estuary. The Humber Bridge Country Park offers an important recreational space in an otherwise urban edge location.

**Susceptibility to Development**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residential</td>
<td>Relatively busy, low quality landscape with evidence of recent expansion of the settlements of North Ferriby and Brough. Development of this kind, adjacent to existing is unlikely to affect the overall landscape character.</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>A large number of commercial units already existing within this urban edge location. Major road networks and built form are detractors. Development of this kind, adjacent to existing, is unlikely to affect the overall landscape character.</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>Some evidence of industry within this LCT, however most recent development tends to be residential and commercial. The LCT has limited capacity to accommodate development of this nature, without effects upon its overall integrity.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural</td>
<td>Low number of agricultural developments within LCT. LCT has limited capacity to accommodate further development of this nature without altering the overall character.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational</td>
<td>The urban edge location is served by the Trans Pennine Trail and NCR 65. The Humber Bridge Country Park is an important recreational feature. Development of this kind, sensitively located, may be accommodated with minimal effects to the overall landscape character.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Sensitivity to Development at LCA level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Residential</th>
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<th>Industrial</th>
<th>Agricultural</th>
<th>Recreational</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22A</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 22: FARMED URBAN FRINGE
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBER ESTUARY
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 22: FARMED URBAN FRINGE
NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA: HUMBER ESTUARY

The area is assessed to be of ordinary quality with areas of higher value, where they relate to the Yorkshire Wolds escarpment (Landscape between North Ferriby and Hessle), and of low value, where a number of detractors are already present. Therefore sensitivity to further detrimental change as a result of development is assessed to be low-medium overall. However, this area does have sensitivity to the cumulative impact of development on its role in separating the developments of Brough and North Ferriby. The LCT also helps to provide a green buffer between development and the Humber Estuary. As a result, despite the detractors present, the LCT has high sensitivity to development that would result in the loss of separation between developments. This separation provides visual amenity as well as a green corridor in an area where there are a large number of detractors.

There is some evidence of recent expansion to the settlements of North Ferriby and Brough. Sensitivity to adequately located development of this nature is assessed as low. Residential development located adjacent to existing settlement boundaries, or within existing settlement boundaries, is unlikely to affect the overall landscape character.

There are a large number of commercial units already existing within this urban edge location. Major road networks and built form are detractors. Development of this kind, adjacent to existing, is unlikely to affect the overall landscape character.

There is some evidence of industry within this LCT, however most recent development tends to be residential and commercial. The LCT has some capacity to accommodate development of this nature, sensitively located, without effects upon its overall integrity. Sensitivity to this type of development is medium overall.

Similarly, there are limited agricultural developments within this LCT. LCT is assessed as medium sensitivity to agricultural development and has limited capacity to accommodate further development of this nature without altering the overall character.

This urban edge location is served by the Trans Pennine Trail and NCR 65. The Humber Bridge Country Park is an important recreational feature. Further recreational development, sensitively located, may be accommodated with minimal effects to the overall landscape character.

Strategy

The strategy for this LCT is to promote landscaping that helps to integrate new development with the surrounding area. New development should respect local vernacular, context and mitigate visual prominence within the open landscape. Measures to integrate development with the surrounding landscape should include woodland, tree and hedgerow planting. Planting should be of appropriate scale to match the size of the development.

Promote the planting of hedgerows on field boundaries where they have been lost to reinforce local landscape pattern.

Promote opportunities to return part of the area to wet grassland would increase biodiversity in the area and the diversity of land use.

Avoid large scale industrial development that would result in coalescence between the areas of industrial development at Elloughton cum Brough, Melton and North Ferriby.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 23: HUMBER BANKS
COUNTRYSIDE CHARACTER AREA: HUMBER ESTUARY

DESCRIPTION OF LOCATION
This Landscape Character Type (LCT) is located east of Elloughton-cum-Brough along the banks of the Humber at its confluence with the River Trent. The landscape is a flat, low lying floodplain landscape close to the north and south banks of the Humber estuary. The area includes RSPB Blacktoft Sands on the south bank.

The LCT includes the villages of Ousefleet on the south banks and Blacktoft on the north bank.

Relevant National Character Areas
• 39: Humberhead Levels
• 41: Humber Estuary

SUMMARY OF KEY CHARACTERISTICS, FEATURES AND LAND USE
Key Characteristics of the Humber Banks
• Flat low lying flood plain of the River Humber with man-made river banks to defend neighbouring farmland from flooding.
• Grassed banks grazed by livestock.
• Reed beds are a unique feature.
• Extensive views across the river and neighbouring low lying farmland, particularly from top of river bank.
• Diversity of river habitat.

STATEMENT OF OPPORTUNITIES
• Protect and enhance the important coastal landscape of the Humber Estuary.
• Opportunities to return part of the area to wet grassland would increase biodiversity in the area and the diversity of land use.
• Protect and enhance the estuarine landscape of historic importance.
• Protect and enhance riparian vegetation along the Humber banks.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 23: HUMBER BANKS
COUNTRYSIDE CHARACTER AREA: HUMBER ESTUARY

LANDSCAPE INFLUENCES

Physical Influences

The underlying solid geology of the area was laid down during the Cretaceous period and is overlain with glacial till and more recent tidal flat deposits.

The area is very flat and land is below 10 metres AOD. Man-made riverbanks prevent tidal flooding.

Soils are a combination of surface water gleys and brown earths that have been reclaimed and drained resulting in an Agricultural Land Classification of Grade 2 with small areas of Grade 4.

Ditches drain land into the Humber.

Human Influences

The landscape is dominated by the River Humber and the man-made river banks that protect the neighbouring farmland from flooding. There is evidence that the Humber has been embanked to varying degrees for many centuries. Small villages and large farmsteads are present protected by the riverbank. Yokefleet (on the edge of this character type), Blacktoft and Faxfleet are small settlements spread out along the river. Farm houses and traditional buildings are red brick with grey slate or tile roofs.

No visible evidence of prehistoric activity but there are moated sites at Faxfleet and Broomfleet. The Market Weighton Canal enters the river Humber in this character type. Market Weighton Lock is located south of Broomfleet.

There are no major roads in the areas either side of the river. Access routes to villages and farmsteads are via small country lanes and private access tracks.

There is a network of public footpaths in the area that provide a number of routes including the Trans Pennine Trail along the river’s north bank and National Cycle Route 65.

The river banks are heavily grazed or mown. The dominant land use is arable farming. Much of the land is Grade 2 agricultural land. However, the area relies on a pumped drainage system.

Ecological Influences

The River Humber is a designated Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and Blacktoft Sands on the south bank is a nature reserve managed by the RSPB. There is no woodland in this LCT. Trees and bushes are sparse. Reed beds are an important ecological resource.

Statutory Designations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RAMSAR</td>
<td>Humber Estuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Protection Area (SPA)</td>
<td>Humber Estuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Area of Conservation (SAC)</td>
<td>Humber Estuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</td>
<td>Humber Estuary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 23: HUMBER BANKS
COUNTRYSIDE CHARACTER AREA: HUMBER ESTUARY

LINKS TO ADJACENT CHARACTER AREAS

Adjacent ERYC LCTs

- 4: River Corridors
- 9: Wooded Open Farmland
- 22: Farmed Urban fringe

Adjacent regional Landscape Character Area (acknowledging water based boundaries)

North Lincolnshire Landscape Character Assessment (1999)
- LCA Humber Estuary and LCA Trent Levels

View south across the Humber east of Elloghton cum Brough (2005)

The broad River Humber has several sand bars that have developed providing habitat for wildfowl. The largest of these sand banks is Whitton Sand located in the river south of Broomfleet.

The river banks are grazed grass and offer limited habitat value. The neighbouring arable farmland is intensively managed.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 23: HUMBER BANKS
COUNTRYSIDE CHARACTER AREA: HUMBER ESTUARY

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS
Two Landscape Character Areas (LCA) have been identified in this LCT. They are:

- 23A: Brough to Yokefleet Riverbank
- 23B: Blacktoft Sands

DETAILED CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTIONS

Character Area 23A: Brough to Yokefleet Riverbank.
This LCA is located on the north bank of the River Humber before it broadens on its way to the sea. The man made riverbanks are an important defence for the neighbouring fertile farmland. These low lying areas of farmland have been drained to allow for agricultural production.

The tidal nature of the river influences the areas character. Mudflats are exposed at low tide and at high tide are covered. From the river banks there are views across the River Humber and neighbouring flat farmland.

Agricultural land adjacent to the Humber Estuary would have at one time consisted of wet pasture. Much of this has now been drained. Open and expansive views are available across the Humber estuary within this managed riparian landscape.

Land use is arable, with rectilinear field patterns, and grazing close to the river bank. The only settlement is Blacktoft to the west and farmsteads are scarce and well scattered.

Character Area 23B: Blacktoft Sands
This LCA is located on the south bank where the Ouse and Trent meet to become the Humber. The two rivers are narrower than the River Humber and at their meeting point is the important wildlife habitat of Blacktoft Sands, managed by the RSPB. The area consists of tidal reedbed, saltmarsh, mudflats and brackish lagoons. It is the largest area of inter-tidal reedbed in England.

Other land uses in the LCA are rectilinear arable fields and grazing close to the river. The only settlement is Ousfleet to the west and farmsteads are scarce and well scattered.

Blacktoft Sands is a 192 hectare mosaic of habitats that is important for a large number of birds.

The area also includes the sand bars in the river Humber the largest of which is Whitton Sand. There are also sand bars at Trent Falls where the river Ouse meets the river Trent, at Faxfleet and in the River Trent on the boundary with North Lincolnshire.

EVALUATION

Quality
The characteristics that define this unique landscape are largely intact. Habitat value contributes to the quality. Large boats move slowly up and down the River Humber. There are elements of high quality to the landscape. For example there is limited access to the riverbanks resulting in a remote character and the riparian habitat contrasts strongly with the neighbouring arable farmland. There are very few properties nearby. The historic use of rivers for transportation continues to contribute to its character.

Positive Landscape Features
- Habitat value of the rivers and associated features provide contrast amidst the intensively farmed landscape.
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE 23: HUMBER BANKS
COUNTRYSIDE CHARACTER AREA: HUMBER ESTUARY

- Broad river corridors with grazed grass river banks.
- Bank side vegetation adds to habitat diversity.
- The navigable River Humber has a steady flow of traffic.
- No large scale industry to detract from tranquil and isolated character.
- Tidal reed bed natural habitat.

Forces for Change

Changing land management practices of the grass river banks would potentially change character. The changing management regimes of bank side vegetation may also impact on character.

There is evidence to suggest that sea level is rising. This would affect the low lying area adjacent to the river banks which may end up under water in time. There are proposals to return areas of farmland immediately adjacent to the River Humber to natural habitat. This would involve re-organising flood defences and allowing areas of land to become periodically inundated by the tidal river. This would help improve habitat diversity in the area and provide a buffer between the river and agricultural land. It would also extend the influence of the riparian characteristics beyond the immediate environs of the River Humber banks.

River traffic is a potential source of pollution as are the drainage ditches that feed into the river from the surrounding agricultural land.

Increased river traffic may be encouraged by government and European policy. This would potentially impact upon the tranquil character of the river.

Recreations and tourism is a growing industry. The River Humber is used by some pleasure craft. There are also fishing opportunities on the river corridor. Facilities for recreation and tourism may affect landscape character.

Condition and Strength of Character

The River Humber is a great unifying characteristic. Man-made river banks are important features. Views of the surrounding landscape from the footpaths on the top of the north bank are extensive across the river and surrounding low lying open landscape.

There are few roads and there is relatively little traffic on the river making this a tranquil LCT.

The landscape is large scale as a result of openness, the width of the river and the scale of fields in and adjacent to this LCT.

There will continue to be pressure for renewable energy developments in the East Riding. However, the high value of the habitat may reduce the pressure for wind turbines in this remote area.

Prepared for: East Riding of Yorkshire Council
Landscape Character Assessment Update
### Sensitivity and Capacity

The following table sets out the sensitivity of the LCT to different types of development. Refer to Appendix 4 for full details of the assessment criteria.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landscape quality (condition)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The riparian habitat value contributes to the landscape quality along the river bank regions. The neighbouring arable farmland and lack of large settlements creates a sense of isolation.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenic quality</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There are long distance views across the surrounding landscape from the Trans Pennine Trail to the north of the LCT. The scenic value is medium to high.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarity (of elements, features or LCT's)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The area contains the Humberhead Levels, Humberhead Estuary and Blacktoft Sands RSPB Reserve. The area contains unique riparian features including reed beds, saltmarsh, mudflats and a diversity of river habitats.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representativeness (in relation to prevailing landscape character)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT contains a flat low lying floodplain landscape typical of the area. The high quality habitats and their associated status are of greater rarity within such a small area.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation interests (wildlife, earth science, archaeological, historic, cultural)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT includes the Humberhead Levels Nature Improvement Area, Humberhead Estuary SSSI/ SPA/ SAC/ Ramsar Site and Blacktoft Sands RSPB Reserve.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational value</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCT contains good recreational routes including the Trans Pennine Trail and National Cycle Route 65. Blacktoft Sands RSPB Reserve is a recreational asset within this LCT.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perceptual aspects (openness, wildness, tranquillity, remoteness)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The area contains a lack of roads and settlements. This creates a relatively open, tranquil and remote landscape.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associations (with people or events)</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There are no known associations with people or events.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Value attached to LCT**

Flat landscape with expansive views across the Humber. Well managed agricultural land with wilder riparian landscapes along the river banks, a lack of major roads adds tranquility to the rural setting. The Humber Estuary has a number of important ecological designations. The Trans Pennine Trail and NCR 65 run through the LCT. **High**
Susceptibility to Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residential</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- A relatively remote riverside landscape where settlement is limited to a few small linear villages and a handful of scattered farmsteads. An expansion of settlement edges or any residential development would risk affecting the integrity of the landscape character.

- A distinct lack of commercial development within this rural landscape. Any development of this type would be likely to alter the character of the landscape and the tranquil rural setting.

- A distinct lack of industrial development within this rural landscape. Any development of this type would be likely to alter the character of the landscape and the tranquil rural setting.

- Some evidence of agricultural development alongside existing farmsteads, these are generally dispersed across the landscape. The landscape has some capacity to accommodate additional development of this type, in relation to farmsteads.

- Recreational development is limited within the LCT, the trans Pennine Trail and National Cycle Route 65 offer recreational routes through the area. A pleasant scenic, rural landscape which has some capacity to accommodate recreational development sympathetic to the landscape character.

Sensitivity to Development at LCA level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Residential</th>
<th>Commercial</th>
<th>Industrial</th>
<th>Agricultural</th>
<th>Recreational</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23 A</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 B</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This tranquil and open LCT that has high ecological value is assessed to have medium to high sensitivity to newly built development. Blacktoft is the main settlement in the area. It is a small village adjacent to the north bank of the river Humber. Yokefleet is on the edge of the LCT to the west. The LCT includes Ousefleet and Adlingfleet on its southern boundary. The character of the landscape would be highly sensitive to residential development, as expansion of settlement edges or any other residential development would risk affecting the integrity of the landscape character. Further development along the river corridor would change the rural character of the LCT by potentially resulting in the coalescence of development.

There is a distinct lack of commercial or industrial development within this LCT. The area is assessed as high sensitivity to these development types which would be likely to alter the character of the landscape and the tranquil rural setting.

There is some evidence of agricultural development alongside existing farmsteads, these are generally dispersed across the landscape. The landscape has some capacity to accommodate additional development of this type, in relation to farmsteads and is assessed as medium sensitivity overall.

Recreational development is limited within the LCT, the Trans Pennine Trail and National Cycle Route 65 offer recreational routes through the area. Recreation and tourism facilities that are small scale and low key using vernacular materials may be accommodated without detriment to character. Such facilities should recognise the landscape and habitat value of the river corridor.

**Strategy**

The strategy for this LCT is to promote the management of the river corridor for its habitat value.

Bank side vegetation and reed beds should be retained and extended where possible to strengthen the local character and increase wildlife diversity that is unique to this LCT.

Opportunities to return land to the river should take account of farm economies. The loss of high grade agricultural land may affect farm businesses and as a result the management of the land. This would potentially result in change to landscape character.

New built structures, particularly tall elements that may impact on views across the open river channel, should be avoided. There are few built structures in this corridor landscape which has many ecological designations. Fences and hedgerows mark the boundary of the river banks with neighbouring arable farmland and pump houses contribute to its drainage. These features should be retained and enhanced where possible.
5.0 SUMMARY

This section of the Landscape Character Assessment looks at the results of the assessment and aims to highlight the major changes in the landscape of the East Riding of Yorkshire since 2005.

LANDSCAPE QUALITY

The East Riding has a varied landscape and quality of the landscape across the district also varies. Several high quality landscapes have been identified based on their condition and strength of character.

High quality landscapes in the East Riding are; the Yorkshire Wolds, the Derwent River Corridor, Lower Derwent Valley, Thorne Crowle, Goole Moors and Hatfield Moors in the Humberhead levels, Sunk Island Farmland in the Humber Estuary and the two heritage Coasts, namely Spurn Point and the Flamborough Coast.

There are areas within landscape character types that have been identified of poor quality. These areas tend to be pockets within character areas where landscape character has been affected by development and the introduction of detractors. Therefore areas of poor landscape quality tend to be located on the edge of settlements but may also be in rural locations where industrial development has taken place.

The remainder of the landscape of the East Riding is assessed to be ordinary or good.

SENSITIVITY AND CAPACITY

The sensitivity of the different character areas to development has been assessed. However, it should be recognised that this assessment is general and each type of development has different characteristics that will impact on the landscape character of an area or type. Therefore each type of development requires a detailed assessment of sensitivity.

As a general rule high quality landscapes and highly visible landscapes are more sensitive to development than poor quality landscapes and those that have restricted views.

CHANGES SINCE 2005

Industrial and commercial development concentrated in the M62 corridor, especially at Goole and Howden Dyke, has impacted on views across the flat open farmed landscape. The introduction of industrial and commercial buildings has changed landscape character on the western edge of Goole.

Recreation facilities in the countryside have developed over the years resulting in a change to the characteristics of farmland particularly in the area around Foggathorpe in the western part of the East Riding and at Brandesburton linked to the quarry farmland of Holderness.

Caravan parks are characteristic of the coast but their cumulative effects on landscape character are increasing their influence on the landscape character of the coastal farmland.

Land management practices have the largest influence on the character of the rural landscape. Incentives to landowners are changing and result in different land management practices. For example there is less set-a-side land. Countryside stewardship may lead to further changes for example more hedgerows and woodland.

Several settlements have expanded over the last ten years. There has been considerable residential development in recent years resulting in changing character although this is still on a relatively small scale.
Since 2005 approximately 321 wind turbines have been constructed across the East Riding. The scale of this development has impacted landscape character in a number of areas including along the M62 corridor, the open farmland to the east of the County and the drained open farmland to the south of Goole. Large scale off shore wind farm developments have also been constructed off the coast at Withernsea and Spurn Point. The potential for significant cumulative impacts from this type of development is great and may lead to further changes in landscape character.

Coastal change has been significant since 2005. The most significant effects since 2005 have been:

- General coastal erosion – Continuing losses of land and properties to the sea.
- Spurn erosion - The tidal surge of December 2013 has significantly changed the peninsular and destroyed the road access to the point.

Managed realignment has been adopted in several areas to help manage local losses of land. There are currently two managed realignment sites (Welwick and Paul Holme Strays) and larger scale realignment at Skeffling / Outstrays is being planned by the Environment Agency. Development pressure around the Humber Estuary is likely to result in the creation of more managed realignment sites adjacent to the Humber Estuary as compensation for development.
6.0 REFERENCES

PUBLICATIONS

- S Ellis and DR Crowther (1990) Humber Perspectives: A Region Through the Ages
- Natural England (October 2014) An Approach to Landscape Character Assessment
- Natural England (October 2012) An Approach to Seascape Character Assessment
- Natural England (2013) NCA Profile: Yorkshire and the Humber

WEBSITES

- British History Online: http://www.british-history.ac.uk
- Centre for Ecology and Hydrology http://www.ceh.ac.uk
- Defra http://www.defra.gov.uk
- Driffield online http://www.driffield.co.uk/wolds.htm
7.0 GLOSSARY

Agricultural Land Classification (ALC)
Classification of agricultural land according to its quality. Grade 1 is excellent quality land i.e. best and most versatile land that can grow a wide range of agricultural and horticultural crops, Grade 5 is very poor agricultural land.

Alluvial
Pertaining to geological deposits associated with former and existing watercourses.

Biodiversity
Genetically determined variability amongst living organisms, including the variability within species, between species, and of ecosystems. Abbreviated from ‘biological diversity’.

Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)
Action plans (which are on both national and local scales) through which biodiversity objectives are set out.

Characteristics
Elements or combinations of elements, which make a contribution to distinctive landscape character.

Conservation Area
Designation given by the Local Authority to areas of settlements, the character or appearance of which it is considered desirable to preserve and enhance.

Designated Sites
Areas of landscape identified as being of importance at international, national or local levels, such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) or Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM), identified and protected by national or international legislation.

Detractor
Element that detracts from distinctive characteristics.

Development
Any proposal that results in a change to the landscape and/or visual environment.

Development Plan Document
A Local Development Document in the Local Development Framework which forms part of the Statutory Development Plan.

Drift
Superficial geological deposits, such as sand, clay, gravel, etc., overlying bedrock.

Ecology
The study of the relationships between living organisms and between organisms and their environment.
Elements
Individual parts which make up the landscape, such as, for example, trees, hedges and buildings.

Enhancement
Proposals that seek to improve the landscape resource and the visual amenity of the proposed development site and its wider setting, over and above its baseline condition.

Environmental Impact/Effect
A change in the existing environment caused directly or indirectly by the scheme or development.

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)
The process of gathering environmental information; describing a development; identifying and describing the likely significant environmental effects of the project; defining ways of preventing/avoiding, reducing, or offsetting or compensating for any adverse effects; consulting the general public and specific bodies with responsibilities for the environment; and presenting the results to the competent authority to inform the decision on whether the project should proceed.

Fauna
The animals of a specified area.

Feature
Particularly prominent or eye-catching elements in the landscape, such as tree clumps, church towers or wooded skylines OR a particular aspect of the project proposal.

Flora
The plants of a specified area.

Geomorphology
The study and interpretation of landforms.

Habitat
The environment in which a species lives at any stage of its life cycle.

Heritage
The historic environment and especially valued assets and qualities such as historic buildings and cultural traditions.

Humberside Structure Plan
Planning policy document that sets out the broad strategy for the future development and use of land for former Humberside area to 2006.

Hydrogeology
Pertaining to groundwater, i.e. water present in soils, superficial deposits such as sands and gravels and in bedrock.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hydrology</td>
<td>The study of water systems.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intervisibility</td>
<td>Where there is a direct line of sight between a source and a receptor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint Structure Plan</td>
<td>Planning policy document that sets out the broad strategy for the future development and use of land for the combined area of the East Riding and Hull to 2016.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key characteristics</td>
<td>Those combinations of elements which are particularly important to the current character of the landscape and help to give an area its particularly distinctive sense of place.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land cover</td>
<td>The surface cover of the land, usually expressed in terms of vegetation cover or lack of it. Related to but not the same as land use.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land use</td>
<td>What land is used for, based on broad categories of functional land cover, such as urban and industrial use and the different types of agriculture and forestry.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landmark</td>
<td>A prominent feature that is distinctive and unique.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscape</td>
<td>An area, as perceived by people, the character of which is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscape character</td>
<td>A distinct, recognisable and consistent pattern of elements in the landscape that makes one landscape different from another, rather than better or worse.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscape Character Areas</td>
<td>Single unique areas that are discrete geographical areas of a particular landscape type.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscape Character Types</td>
<td>Distinct types of landscape that are relatively homogeneous in character. They are generic in nature in that they may occur in different areas in different parts of the country, but wherever they occur they share broadly similar combinations of geology, topography, drainage patterns, vegetation and historical land use and settlement pattern, and perceptual and aesthetic attributes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Landscape quality                  | A measure of the physical state of the landscape. It may include the extent to which typical character is
Landscape value
The relative value that is attached to different landscapes by society.

Listed Building
A building or structure included on the Statutory List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest compiled by the Scottish Ministers. Graded A, B and C(s).

Local Development Document
The various individual LDF documents (DPD, SCI, SPD).

Local Development Framework
The overall name for the portfolio of Local Development Documents and the LDS and AMR.

Local Development Scheme
A public statement setting out which documents will make up the LDF and when they will be produced over a three year period.

Local Plan
Documents produced by CEC setting out their policies regarding planning issues within a specific area.

Mitigation
Measures taken to avoid, reduce or remove environmental impacts. Mitigation can moderate adverse effects and enhance the beneficial ones arising from the whole or specific elements of the Scheme.

Moraine
Geological deposits associated with glaciers.

Planning Policy Guidance

Physiography
The description of natural features.

Public Open Space
Area of open land designated by the local authority and protected for continued use by the public.

Receptor
Receptors comprise anything that may be affected by an environmental impact, be this human beings, socio-economic activity, habitats, species, controlled waters, landscape or cultural heritage.

Regional Spatial Strategy
The broad development strategy for the region prepared by the Regional Assembly and forming part of the statutory development plan.

represented in individual areas, the intactness of the landscape and the condition of individual elements.
### Renewable Energy Targets
Targets set at a regional level for energy production from renewable sources.

### Resource
A biophysical feature or item of ‘environmental capital'; examples include habitats, aquifers, agricultural land, views, access routes and community facilities.

### RIGS
Regionally Important Geological/Geomorphological Site

### Riparian
Relating to a river bank.

### Scheduled Ancient Monument
A monument considered of national importance and which is listed on a statutory schedule.

### Seascape
Landscapes with views of the coast or seas, and coasts and adjacent marine environments with cultural, historical and archaeological links with each other.

### Sensitivity
A term applied to specific receptors, combining judgements of the susceptibility of the receptor to the specific type of change or development proposed and the value related to that receptor.

### Severance
Where the scheme would reduce access by acting as a physical barrier. Generally, severance applies to pedestrians and road users but in the context of Tram Line 2 it also applies to farm management.

### Significant or Substantial Impact
Where Environmental Impacts are moderate or major after mitigation has taken place.

### Site of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI)
Locally designated areas of nature conservation interest (not statutory sites)

### Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
An area designated for protection under the Habitats Directive. A cSAC is a candidate SAC, which is afforded the same protection as a full SAC. Such sites are also Natura 2000 site or European Sites.

### Special Protection Area (SPA)
An area designated for protection under the Birds Directive. A pSPA is a proposed SPA. Such sites are also Natura 2000 site or European Sites.

### Species
A group of closely-related organisms sharing constant differences from allied groups.

### Structure Planting
Planting that provides a framework for the integration of development with its landscape setting. May consist
of woodland planting, hedgerows, trees and shrubs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supplementary Planning Document</th>
<th>Elaborates on policies or proposals in DPDs and gives additional guidance.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Supplementary Planning Guidance</td>
<td>Provides guidance or development briefs to supplement policies and proposals in a Local Plan (being replaced by SPD).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susceptibility</td>
<td>The ability of a defined landscape or visual receptor to accommodate the specific proposed development without undue negative consequences.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Townscape</td>
<td>The character and composition of the built environment including the buildings and the relationships between them, the different types of urban open space, including green spaces, and the relationship between buildings and open spaces.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tranquillity</td>
<td>A state of calm and quietude associated with peace, considered to be a significant asset of landscape.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tree Preservation Order (TPO)</td>
<td>Single trees or groups of trees that are afforded a degree of protection under planning law. NB any trees within Conservation Areas are afforded similar protection as TPO trees.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>Generally, buried services such as gas, electricity, water, sewerage and telecommunications.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual amenity</td>
<td>The overall pleasantness of the views people enjoy of their surroundings, which provides an attractive visual setting or backdrop for the enjoyment of activities of the people living, working, recreating, visiting or travelling through an area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual Receptors</td>
<td>Individuals and/or defined groups of people who have the potential to be affected by a proposal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual amenity</td>
<td>The overall pleasantness of the views people enjoy of their surroundings, which provides an attractive visual setting or backdrop for the enjoyment of activities of the people living, working, recreating, visiting or travelling through an area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual effects</td>
<td>Effects on specific views and on the general visual amenity experienced by people.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Visual envelope
The zone within which views of the proposed development may be achieved. It is influenced by many factors including topography and intermediate visual intrusions, such as blocks of woodland and buildings.

### Visual receptors
Individuals and/or defined groups of people who have the potential to be affected by a proposal.

### Wildlife Corridor
A linear feature that is likely to be used by wildlife to move between various areas.

### Zone of Theoretical Visibility
A map, usually digitally produced, showing areas of land within which a development is theoretically visible.
APPENDIX 1

EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT
PROJECT BRIEF
INTRODUCTION

East Riding of Yorkshire Council (the Council) is seeking to commission consultants to prepare an update of the East Riding Landscape Character Assessment 2005 (LCA). This will be used to inform the preparation and review of the East Riding Local Plan, support decision making on the location of development across the Authority’s administrative area and provide general information about landscape character across the East Riding.

Sections 1 to 3 of the Landscape Character Assessment provides an Introduction, Landscape Context and Overview of the East Riding of Yorkshire area.

Section 4 of the Landscape Character Assessment analyses at the key characteristics, features and land uses associated with the 23 Landscape Character Types within the East Riding of Yorkshire.

Section 5 of the Landscape Character Assessment looks at the results of the assessment and aims highlight the major changes in the landscape of the East Riding of Yorkshire since 2005.

A separate Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Study (LSC) is provided in Annex A, to help inform the identification of:

- areas where onshore wind energy developments would be inappropriate within the wider landscape setting; and
- areas of less sensitivity where wind energy development could be accommodated with appropriate mitigation.

BACKGROUND

The East Riding contains a diverse range of land forms that give particular areas a distinctive character. These are described through the National Countryside Character Areas (NCCAs) and include: the chalk uplands of the Yorkshire Wolds; meandering rivers and streams of the Vale of York; watery raised mires of the Humberhead Levels; coastal plain of Holderness; and broad expanse of the Humber Estuary and its surroundings. Along the East Riding’s coast the landscape changes from the dramatic chalk cliffs of Flamborough Head in the north, through the crumbling clay cliffs of Holderness, to the nationally unique Spurn Head at the southern tip of the coast. Two sections of the coast, at Flamborough and Spurn Head, are designated as Heritage Coast and are protected for their special scenic and environmental value.

These rich and diverse landscapes, open spaces and coastal areas are a source of great pleasure to local people and visitors. This includes an extensive (1,600km) Public Right of Way network, for example the Yorkshire Wolds National Trail and the Trans Pennine Trail. There are also areas of high landscape quality that are of local importance, including parts of the Yorkshire Wolds and the Lower Derwent Valley, and nationally designated Heritage Coast at Flamborough Headland and Spurn Head.

There are many sites in the East Riding that are designated because of their international, national or local ecological importance. This includes sites such as Hornsea Mere, the Humber Estuary and Thorne Moor, which should be protected and, where possible enhanced. In addition, parts of the administrative area lie within the Humberhead Levels Nature Improvement Area, specifically the area around Goole and the River Foulness corridor. These provide a wide variety of habitats such as lowland heath, salt marshes and flood meadows, as well as the most northerly chalk stream in the world.

The East Riding also has an important and diverse built heritage. It has the second highest number of designated historic assets in Yorkshire and the Humber with over 2,500 Listed Buildings and 350 Scheduled Monuments. Additionally, there are over 100 Conservation Areas illustrating the East Riding’s rich historic character.
The 2005 LCA was prepared by Carl Bro and Golder Associates, and identifies the areas of distinct landscape character (their quality, value, sensitivity and capacity for new development) within the East Riding.

The 2005 LCA identified 23 landscape character types based on the Countryside Agency's Countryside Character Areas that cover the East Riding. The areas were used to identify positive and negative landscape features and assess the condition and strength of landscape character. This provided the Council with an assessment of landscape qualities, forces for change, landscape sensitivities and the landscape's capacity to accept change across the East Riding.

The preparation of the 2005 LCA predated the 'Topic Papers' produced by The Countryside Agency (now Natural England). For example there are notable changes in the terminology / process set out in Topic Paper 6 (Techniques and criteria for judging capacity and sensitivity) that are not reflected within the 2005 LCA’s capacity study. These include less emphasis placed on:

- the subjective assessment criteria used previously to describe ‘Landscape Quality’, (the term ‘Landscape Quality’ is not included in Topic Paper 6); and
- landscape capacity’ which relates to a specific type of development. According to Topic Paper 6 the term ‘landscape capacity’ should be used to describe the ability of a landscape to accommodate different amounts of change, or development of a ‘specific type’.

**EAST RIDING LOCAL PLAN**

The East Riding Local Plan is the name for a portfolio of planning documents, that together provide the framework for managing development and addressing key planning issues in the East Riding. Once individual documents are adopted they will be used to guide investment decisions and determine planning applications.

A number of documents make up the Local Plan. These are listed below and illustrated by Figure 1.

- **Strategy Document** - sets the overall direction for the Local Plan, providing strategic policies to guide decisions on planning applications.
- **Allocations Document** - allocates sites for development (such as housing, retail, or industry) or protection (such as open space or land for transport schemes).
- **Bridlington Town Centre Area Action Plan** - provides specific policies to guide development and contribute to the urban renaissance of Bridlington Town Centre.
- **Policies Map** - shows Local Plan designations such as areas of open space, important landscape areas and allocations for particular land use(s), which relate to specific policies in the Local Plan.
The Strategy Document is due to be adopted by the Council in April 2016. Policy ENV2 seeks to restore and enhance landscape characteristics such as key open areas, important hedgerows and identifies a number of Important Landscape Areas (see Strategy Document figure11 below). The sub area policies A1-A6 provide a local interpretation of the most important spatial planning objectives for specific areas across the East Riding. This includes the identification of specific important environmental features such as the location of key open areas, landmarks, habitats and heritage assets.

This is evidenced in part by the 2005 LCA and further work undertaken by Golders Associates in 2013.

In addition, Strategy Document policy ENV3 (Valuing our Heritage) identifies the importance of significant views, setting and character of heritage assets as well as the need to protect and enhance them. Policy ENV5 (Strengthening green infrastructure) sets out the Council's approach towards the creation, protection, enhancement and management of green infrastructure corridors. The green infrastructure benefits that are of particular importance to the East Riding are: climate change adaptation, flood attenuation, habitat provision, place making/ urban renaissance, contribution to local character and access to nature and recreation.
Policy EC5(C) of the Strategy Document sets out that:

“Suitable areas for wind energy development will be identified through a review of the Local Plan and/or preparation of Neighbourhood Development Plans. Prior to the completion of the review proposals involving wind energy development will be determined in accordance with national planning policy and practice guidance.”

This criterion was recommended by the Inspector in response to the Secretary of State's Written Ministerial Statement dated 18 June 2015. The written statement states that:

- “When determining planning applications for wind energy development involving one or more wind turbines, local planning authorities should only grant planning permission if:
  - the development site is in an area identified as suitable for wind energy development in a Local or Neighbourhood Plan; and
  - following consultation, it can be demonstrated that the planning impacts identified by affected local communities have been fully addressed and therefore the proposal has their backing.”

The renewable and low carbon energy section of the Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) has been updated following the publication of the statement. It is clear from both the statement and the revisions to the PPG that any future wind energy development must be in an area that has capacity within the landscape to accommodate the development. The Council does not currently have suitable landscape evidence to identify appropriate areas for onshore wind energy.

The Local Plan Allocations Document allocates land for development through the application of the Council's Site Assessment Methodology. This has considered evidence from the 2005 LCA together with settlement specific landscape character assessments produced by Golder Associates in 2013. Whilst the Allocations Document was submitted alongside the Strategy Document, the Council are currently awaiting the Inspector’s Report. The updated LCA will be used as evidence to aid the delivery of the individual site allocation planning applications as well as any future windfall developments.
APPENDIX 2
LIST OF CONSULTEES
APPENDIX 2 LIST OF CONSULTEES

All town and parish Councils in the East Riding of Yorkshire were consulted by letter along with the following organisations:

- 2B Landscape Consultancy
- ABP Humber
- Association of Drainage Authorities
- Beverley & District Civic Society
- Bridlington & District Civic Society
- British Horse Society
- Canal & River Trust
- City of York Council
- Civic Aviation Authority
- Cottingham Civic Society
- Country Land and Business Association
- CPRE
- Customer Correspondence Team Office of Rail Regulation
- Discover Yorkshire Coast
- Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council
- East Riding Clinical Commissioning Group
- East Riding of Yorkshire & Kingston Upon Hull Joint
- East Yorkshire Rivers Trust
- Environment Agency
- Environmental Services Association
- Flamborough Headland Heritage Coast
- Forestry Commission
- Georgian Society for East Yorkshire
- Heritage Coast Forum
- HEYwoods
- Historic England Yorkshire Region
- Homes and Communities Agency
- Howardian Hills AONB
- Howden Civic Society
- Renewable UK
Hull & East Riding Local Nature Partnership
Hull & East Riding Wildlife Association
Hull City Council
Humber Archaeology Partnership
Humber Local Enterprise Partnership
Lower Derwent Valley Conservation Group
Marine Management Organisation
National Farmers Union
National Gardens Trust
National Playing Fields Association
Natural England
NHS England
NHS Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group
North East Lincolnshire Council (Spatial Planning)
North Lincolnshire Council
North Yorkshire County Council
Ramblers Association
RSPB
Ryedale District Council
Scarborough Borough Council
Selby District Council (Policy & Strategy Team)
Sport England
The Crown Estate Commissioners
The Gardens Trust
The National Trust
The Woodland Trust
Thorne & Hatfield Moors Conservation Forum
York Consortium of Drainage Boards
York, North Yorkshire & East Riding LEP
Yorkshire Gardens Trust
Yorkshire Water
Yorkshire Wildlife Trust
Yorkshire Wolds Buildings Preservation Trust
Yorkshire Wolds Heritage Trust
APPENDIX 3
FIELD SURVEY SHEET
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>East Riding of Yorkshire</th>
<th>Landscape Character Assessment Update</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LCT</td>
<td>LCA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geology</td>
<td>Drainage</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Land Cover</th>
<th>Settlement Pattern</th>
<th>Woodland Cover</th>
<th>Field Pattern</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Land Use</td>
<td>Boundary Treatments</td>
<td>Transport Pattern</td>
<td>Infrastructure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Landscape Context</th>
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</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aesthetic Factors</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Line</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aesthetic Context</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Perceptual Factors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Security</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Perceptual Context

## Landscape Condition and Access

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Landscape Condition</th>
<th>PRoW</th>
<th>Detractors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

## Condition Summary

## Key Characteristics / Description Notes

## Landscape Sensitivity Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Landform and Scale</th>
<th>Land Cover/PATTERN/Human Scale</th>
<th>Transport and Access</th>
<th>Skyline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aesthetic Qualities</td>
<td>Perceptual Qualities</td>
<td>Historic Landscape Character</td>
<td>Scenic Quality</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Overall Landscape Sensitivity
APPENDIX 4
LANDSCAPE SENSITIVITY METHODOLOGY
LANDSCAPE SENSITIVITY METHODOLOGY

The sensitivity of the Landscape Character Type (LCT) or Landscape Character Area (LCA) is a combination of susceptibility and value. This assessment uses criteria derived from the Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Third Edition, Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management & Assessment (GLVIA3) in which sensitivity judgments are derived from the factors listed below.

- The susceptibility of the landscape to the type of change arising; and
- The value attached to the landscape.

In determining sensitivity it is important to recognise that some areas within the LCT will, as a result of the specific location, be more sensitive than others and may be in a higher sensitivity category. Any development proposal should be judged on its particular effects and site specific context and a full landscape assessment or appraisal should be carried out.

The different types of development to be considered for each of the LCT’s are:

- Residential;
- Commercial;
- Industrial;
- Agricultural; and
- Recreational.

Wind energy development will be considered separately as part of the sensitivity and capacity assessment.

Susceptibility

The susceptibility to change is a measure of the ability of a landscape to accommodate a specific type of development without undue negative consequences. The assessment of susceptibility must be tailored to the Proposed Development.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria Level</th>
<th>Susceptibility to Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>The receptor has a low capacity to accommodate the development type without effects upon its overall integrity. The landscape is likely to have a strong pattern/ texture or is a simple but distinctive landscape and/or with high value features and essentially intact.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>The receptor has some capacity to accommodate the development type without effects upon its overall integrity. The pattern of the landscape is mostly intact and/or with a degree of complexity and with features mostly in reasonable condition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>The receptor is robust; it can accommodate the development type without effects upon its overall integrity. The landscape is likely to be simple, monotonous and/or degraded with common/ indistinct features and minimal variation in landscape pattern.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Landscape Susceptibility to Change

Landscape Value

Establishing the landscape value of the LCT is necessary to determine the landscape sensitivity.
The value of a landscape receptor is a reflection of its importance in terms of any designations that may apply, or its importance in itself as a landscape or landscape resource, which may be due to its ecological, cultural or recreational value. The following factors are generally agreed to influence value (GLVIA p.84, para 5.28):

- Landscape quality (condition); A measure of the physical state of the landscape.
- Scenic quality; Landscapes that appeal primarily to the senses.
- Rarity; The presence of rare elements or features or the presence of a rare Landscape Character Type.
- Representativeness; Whether the landscape contains a particular character and/or features or elements considered particularly important.
- Conservation interests; Features of wildlife, earth science or archaeological or historical and cultural interest can add to value.
- Recreation value; The value of recreational activity where experience of the landscape is important.
- Perceptual aspects; The value of its perceptual qualities, notably wildness and/or tranquillity; and
- Associations: Associations with particular people, such as artists, writers or events in history that contribute to perceptions of natural beauty.

Judgements on landscape value for each LCT will be informed by the following criteria:

- High: Nationally designated or iconic, unspoiled landscape with few, if any degrading elements.
- Medium: Regionally or locally designated landscape or an undesignated landscape with locally important features which may include some degrading elements.

- Low: Undesignated landscape with few, if any distinct features or several degrading elements.

GLVIA3 indicates that combining susceptibility and value can be achieved in a number of ways and needs to include professional judgement. However it is generally accepted that a combination of high susceptibility and high value is likely to result in the highest sensitivity, whereas a low susceptibility and low value is likely to resulting in the lowest level of sensitivity. A summary of the likely characteristics of the different levels of sensitivity is described below. It should be noted that these are indicative and in practice there is not a clear distinction between criteria levels.
### Landscape Sensitivity Criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sensitivity</th>
<th>Scale</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landscape which by nature of their character would be unable to accommodate change of the type proposed.</td>
<td>More Sensitive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscapes which by nature of their character would be able to accommodate a minimal change of the type proposed.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscapes which by nature of their character would be able to partly accommodate change of the type proposed.</td>
<td>Less Sensitive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscapes which by nature of their character would be able to accommodate change of the type proposed.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Damaged or substantially modified landscapes with few characteristic features of value, capable of absorbing major change.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>