

**APPENDIX 1**  
**EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE**  
**LANDSCAPE CHARACTER**  
**ASSESSMENT PROJECT BRIEF**

# EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE COUNCIL LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT UPDATE 2018

## 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

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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.

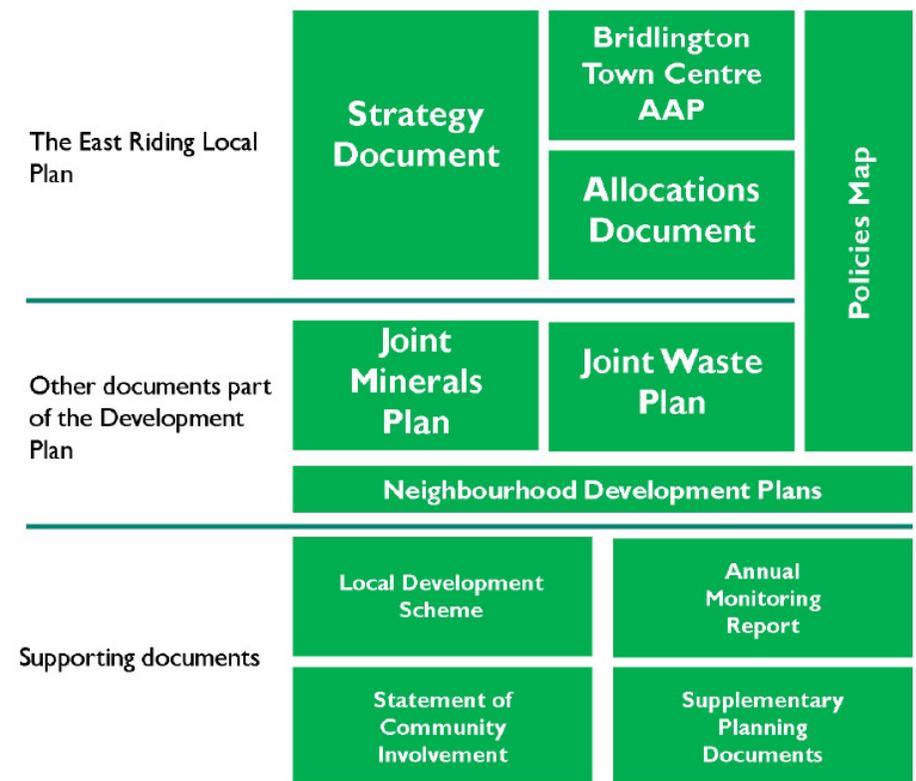
A number of documents make up the Local Plan. These are listed below and illustrated by Figure 1.

- **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.

**Figure 1 - The East Riding Local Plan Structure**

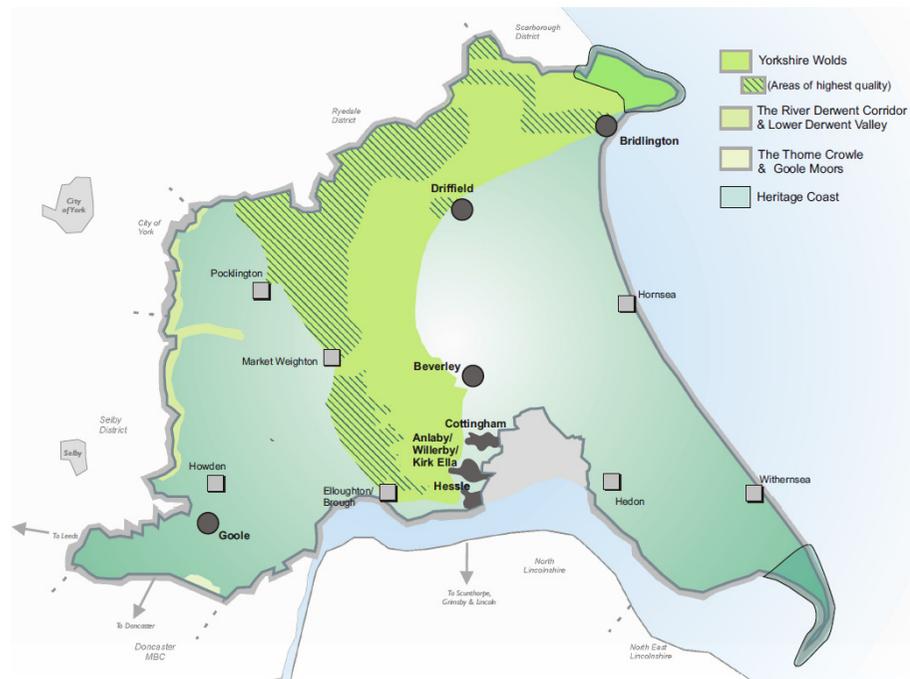


The Strategy Document is due to be adopted by the Council in April 2016. Policy ENV2 seeks to restore and enhance landscape characteristics such as key open areas, important hedgerows and identifies a number of Important

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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.

Figure 11 - Important Landscape Areas



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.

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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**

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## **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	East Riding Clinical Commissioning Group
ABP Humber	East Riding of Yorkshire & Kingston Upon Hull Joint
Association of Drainage Authorities	East Yorkshire Rivers Trust
Beverley & District Civic Society	Environment Agency
Bridlington & District Civic Society	Environmental Services Association
British Horse Society	Flamborough Headland Heritage Coast
Canal & River Trust	Forestry Commission
City of York Council	Georgian Society for East Yorkshire
Civic Aviation Authority	Heritage Coast Forum
Cottingham Civic Society	HEYwoods
Country Land and Business Association	Historic England Yorkshire Region
CPRE	Homes and Communities Agency
Customer Correspondence Team Office of Rail Regulation	Howardian Hills AONB
Discover Yorkshire Coast	Howden Civic Society
Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council	Renewable UK
Hull & East Riding Local Nature Partnership	RSPB
Hull & East Riding Wildlife Association	Ryedale District Council

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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

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**

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East Riding of Yorkshire				Landscape Character Assessment Update		
LCT	LCA	Surveyor	Date	Time	Grid-Reference	Weather Conditions
Geology		Drainage		Topography		
Land Cover	Settlement Pattern	Woodland Cover			Field Pattern	
Land Use	Boundary Treatments	Transport Pattern			Infrastructure	
Landscape Context						
Aesthetic Factors						
Scale	Enclosure	Diversity	Texture		Form	
Line	Colour	Balance	Movement		Pattern	
Aesthetic Context						
Perceptual Factors						
Security	Stimuli	Tranquillity	Naturalness		Noise	

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Perceptual Context			
Landscape Condition and Access			
Landscape Condition	PRoW	Detractors	
Condition Summary			
Key Characteristics/ Description Notes			
Landscape Sensitivity Assessment			
Landform and Scale	Land Cover/Pattern/Human Scale	Transport and Access	Skyline
Aesthetic Qualities	Perceptual Qualities	Historic Landscape Character	Scenic Quality
Overall Landscape Sensitivity			

**APPENDIX 4**  
**LANDSCAPE SENSITIVITY METHODOLOGY**

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## 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.

Criteria Level	Susceptibility to Change
High	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.
Medium	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.
Low	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.

*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.

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- 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.

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Sensitivity	Scale
Landscape which by nature of their character would be unable to accommodate change of the type proposed.	<p data-bbox="840 416 1032 443"><b>More Sensitive</b></p>  <p data-bbox="840 1034 1032 1061"><b>Less Sensitive</b></p>
Landscapes which by nature of their character would be able to accommodate a minimal change of the type proposed.	
Landscapes which by nature of their character would be able to partly accommodate change of the type proposed.	
Landscapes which by nature of their character would be able to accommodate change of the type proposed.	
Damaged or substantially modified landscapes with few characteristic features of value, capable of absorbing major change.	

*Landscape Sensitivity Criteria*