

EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT UPDATE 2018

5.0 SUMMARY

This section 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.

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

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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.

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6.0 REFERENCES

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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.
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.

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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.
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.
Hydrogeology	Pertaining to groundwater, i.e. water present in soils, superficial deposits such as sands and gravels and in bedrock.
Hydrology	The study of water systems.
Key characteristics	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.
Land cover	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.
Land use	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.
Landmark	A prominent feature that is distinctive and unique.
Landscape	An area, as perceived by people, the character of which is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors.
Landscape character	A distinct, recognisable and consistent pattern of elements in the landscape that makes one landscape different from another, rather than better or worse.
Landscape Character Types	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

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similar combinations of geology, topography, drainage patterns, vegetation and historical land use and settlement pattern, and perceptual and aesthetic attributes..

Landscape quality

A measure of the physical state of the landscape. It may include the extent to which typical character is represented in individual areas, the intactness of the landscape and the condition of individual elements.

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 Scheme

A public statement setting out which documents will make up the LDF and when they will be produced over a three year period.

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

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.

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

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.

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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.
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.
Susceptibility	The ability of a defined landscape or visual receptor to accommodate the specific proposed development without undue negative consequences.
Townscape	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.
Tranquillity	A state of calm and quietude associated with peace, considered to be a significant asset of landscape.
Visual amenity	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.
Visual Receptors	Individuals and/or defined groups of people who have the potential to be affected by a proposal.
Visual amenity	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.
Visual effects	Effects on specific views and on the general visual amenity experienced by people.

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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.