

**Rotherham Landscape Character
Assessment and Landscape Capacity Study**

to

Inform the LDF process

for

Rotherham Borough Council

January 2010

Final Draft Report

Quality control

Landscape Character Assessment and Landscape Capacity Study

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Landscape Partnership was commissioned by Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council, in August 2009, to undertake the preparation of an outline Landscape Character Assessment and a Landscape Capacity Study for the rural areas of Rotherham Borough. The brief for the project required the following main outputs, which will be used to inform the Council's Core Strategy and other Local Development Documents:
- An assessment of broad landscape character and capacity of areas currently considered in the preparation of the Site Allocations Development Plan Document. These sites cover much of the Borough and the broad landscape character assessment has therefore been undertaken for the whole of the rural area of the authority.
 - More detailed assessment to identify relative varying sensitivity to accommodate development without loss of character or potential to enhance existing character of key potential urban extensions/urban expansion areas.
 - Identification of 'sensitive landscape zones'; landscape features and vistas valued by the local community and key zones of visual influence e.g. M1, M18, rail corridors. Identification of cross boundary features of special landscape value with neighbouring local planning authorities where applicable within the scope of the study.
 - Recommendations for Core Strategy policy wording and supporting justification on landscape protection and enhancement.
 - Justified recommendations on the need to retain, delete or amend (including possible extension or new designation) of the Areas of High Landscape Value designated in the Unitary Development Plan (Policy ENV1.1).
- 1.2 The assessment work has been undertaken in two stages. Stage One involved the identification of Landscape Character Areas within the whole of the Borough and the key characteristics present. The draft Landscape Character Areas were then tested at two stakeholder workshops. Stage One does not constitute a fully detailed Landscape Character Assessment, but was sufficient to provide context, at an appropriate scale, for Stage Two.
- 1.3 Stage Two involved a more detailed consideration of the landscape sensitivity and landscape capacity of the key potential urban extensions/urban expansion areas. This was considered at a smaller scale of units based around individual fields, groups of fields or parcels of land. The assessment used a consistent method that evaluated the Land Parcels against a number of criteria, to test both the sensitivity of a unit and its capacity to accept development in the context of the character of the wider landscape within which they are situated. Stage Two generally considered areas that were closer to the periphery of existing settlements, as this is where most future growth is likely to be targeted i.e. the potential urban extensions/urban expansion areas identified in the Rotherham LDF Core Strategy Revised Options (May 2009) as 'Bassingthorpe Farm', 'Bramley and Wickersley', 'Dinnington East', 'Dinnington West', 'Wales and Kiveton Park', 'Wath, Brampton and West Melton', and 'Waverley'. This assessment of capacity to accommodate development relates only to landscape issues. Decisions on the allocation of sites for inclusion in the LDF will also take into consideration other studies and evidence base documents.
- 1.4 A period of Consultation was held on a draft version of this report, during November 2009. Draft versions of the report, Appendices and Drawings were made available on the Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council website for comment and these were also circulated internally within the Council for comment by Council Officers. Responses received during this period have been incorporated into this document as appropriate. In addition, an area identified in the Rotherham LDF Core Strategy Revised Options (May 2009) as potential 'Green belt addition' at Thorpe Hesley has been added to the list of areas considered as part of Stage Two of this study.
- 1.5 This study builds on work undertaken at both the national, regional and district scale, as discussed in more detail in section 2 of this report.

2 Context

National Context

- 2.1 The process of landscape characterisation and assessment has been promoted at a national scale in England by the work of Natural England (formerly the Countryside Agency). In tandem with English Nature, parallel approaches were formulated and tested by the Countryside Agency during 1995-97 to derive, on the one hand, a series of Natural Area profiles for the whole of England and, on the other, Countryside Character profiles. While the Natural Area profiles highlighted the distinctive ecology of rural areas, the Countryside Character profiles analysed landscape character in fairly broad-brush terms via the assessment of physical influences, historic and cultural influences, buildings and settlement, land cover and changes in the landscape.
- 2.2 Through this process 159 Character Areas were formulated and published, as 'The Character of England: landscape, wildlife and natural features' (see Figure 1). The detailed descriptions for the areas are included within eight separate volumes with 'Volume 3: Yorkshire and Humberside' being the relevant volume for Rotherham.

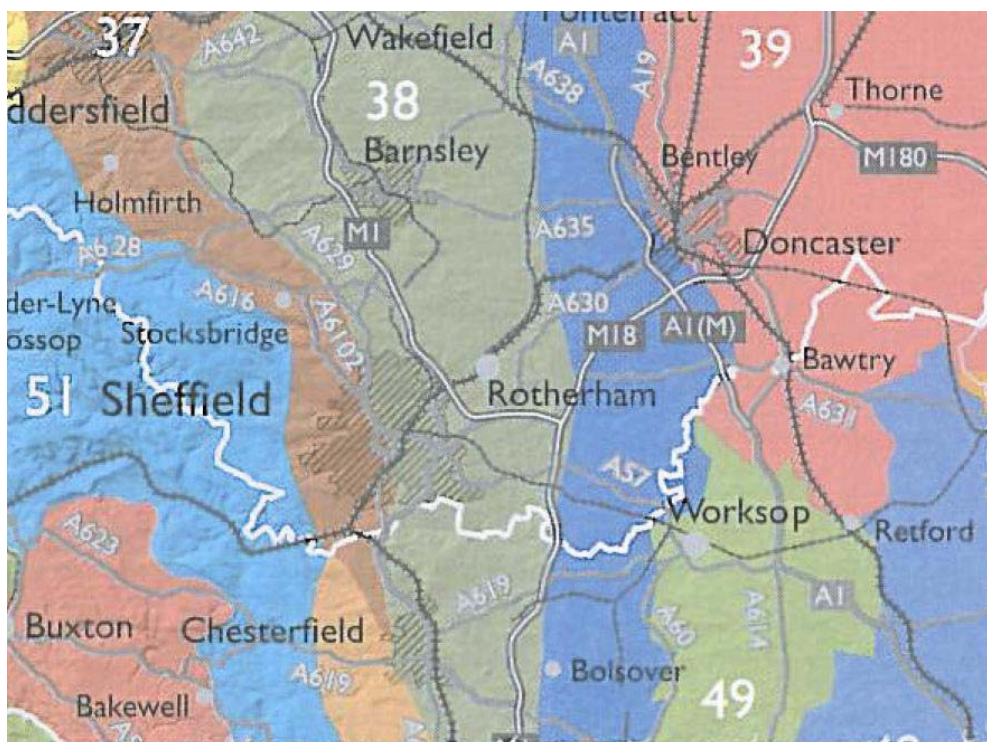


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Figure 1 – Countryside Character Areas – National Picture

2.3 This national character map defines Rotherham Borough as lying within the following National Character Areas (See Figure 2 and Drawing 01):

- Area 30 Southern Magnesian Limestone
- Area 38 Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield



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Figure 2 – Countryside Character Areas – Detail around Rotherham Borough

2.4 Current guidance on carrying out character work is provided in 'Landscape Character Assessment – Guidance for England and Scotland' (2002). The approach is currently enshrined as a major planning tool in Planning Policy Statement 7 (PPS7, 2004). PPS7 sets out some important overarching principles for "raising the quality of life and the environment in rural areas", with the "continued protection of open countryside for the benefit of all". It sets out that sustainable patterns of development should focus development in or next to existing settlements, while also maximising the benefits of the urban fringe landscapes with leisure opportunities for the local population. In particular two of the Key Principles in PPS7 state:

"iv), *New building in the open countryside away from settlements or outside areas allocated for development in development plans, should be strictly controlled; the Governments overall aim is to protect the countryside for the sake of its intrinsic character and beauty, the diversity of its landscapes, heritage and wildlife, the wealth of its natural resources and so it may be enjoyed by all.*" (our emphasis)

"vi) *All development in rural areas should be well designed and inclusive, in keeping and scale with its location, and sensitive to the character of the countryside and the local distinctiveness.*" (our emphasis)

South Yorkshire Context

2.5 The whole of Rotherham Borough to the west of the M1/M18 corridor falls within the area covered by the 'South Yorkshire Forest'. The South Yorkshire Forest was set up in 1991 as part of the then Countryside Commission's 'Forests for the Community' initiative, to help regenerate South Yorkshire both economically and environmentally. The first Forest Plan was adopted in 1994 and

set out the vision, aims and objectives of the Community Forest. The Forest Plan was updated in 2002, which is the current version of the document.

2.6 Within the Forest Plan, a number of 'Landscape Management Zones' are identified within the Community Forest (See Figure 3 and Drawing 01). These nine zones were identified through landscape surveys and identify the character, in landscape terms, of each zone. Of the nine zones identified, seven occur within or immediately adjacent to Rotherham Borough, as follows:

1. Dearne Towns
2. Wentworth Parks
3. Lower Don Valley
4. Rotherham Plains
5. Rother Valley
6. Southern Sheffield Valleys
7. Northern Sheffield Valleys



Figure 3 – South Yorkshire Community Forest Landscape Management Zones

Local Context

- 2.7 At present, no Landscape Character Assessments have been undertaken specifically for Rotherham Borough. However, within the Rotherham Unitary Development Plan, as Adopted in June 1999, a number of areas of open countryside within the Borough are designated as 'Areas of High Landscape Value' (AHLV) under saved Policies ENV1.1 and ENV1.2 (see Drawing 01). Policy ENV1.2 states that these areas are intended to "provide additional protection so that only development essential to Areas of High Landscape Value locations or which enhance their character is permitted, and any development that does take place is of a particularly high standard and will respect the local context". The five designated areas are referred to as 'Wentworth', 'Sandbeck-Harthill', 'Hooton Roberts', 'Dalton Dean', and 'Ulley-Whiston'. Further discussion of these areas and their purpose is provided in section 6 of this report.
- 2.8 The Rotherham Unitary Development Plan also contains saved Policy ENV1, which identifies much of the Borough as Green Belt (see Drawing 01). Green Belt is designated to restrict development in the open countryside. The policy states that within the Green Belt "development will not be permitted except in very special circumstances for purposes other than agriculture, forestry, recreation, cemeteries and other uses appropriate to a rural area".

Other Landscape Character Assessments

- 2.9 Many of the Local Authorities adjacent to Rotherham have already undertaken Landscape Character Assessments. The character areas/types identified in these studies and their boundaries with Rotherham Borough have been considered as part of this study in order that there is cross authority consistency where possible. The following Landscape Character Assessments are illustrated on Drawing 01:
- Barnsley Borough Landscape Character Assessment, 2002
 - Landscape Character and Capacity Assessment of Doncaster Borough, 2007
 - The Landscape Character of Derbyshire, 2003
 - Nottinghamshire Landscape Guidelines, 2003
- 2.10 The northern edge of Rotherham Borough abuts the boundary of Barnsley Borough. The Landscape Character Assessment identifies four character areas adjacent or very close to Rotherham Borough (see Figure 4 and Drawing 01), which are:
- C1: Elsecar Lowland River Floor
 - C2: Lower Dearne Lowland River Floor
 - D2: East Dearne Settled Arable Slopes
 - E4: Hoyland Settled Wooded Farmland

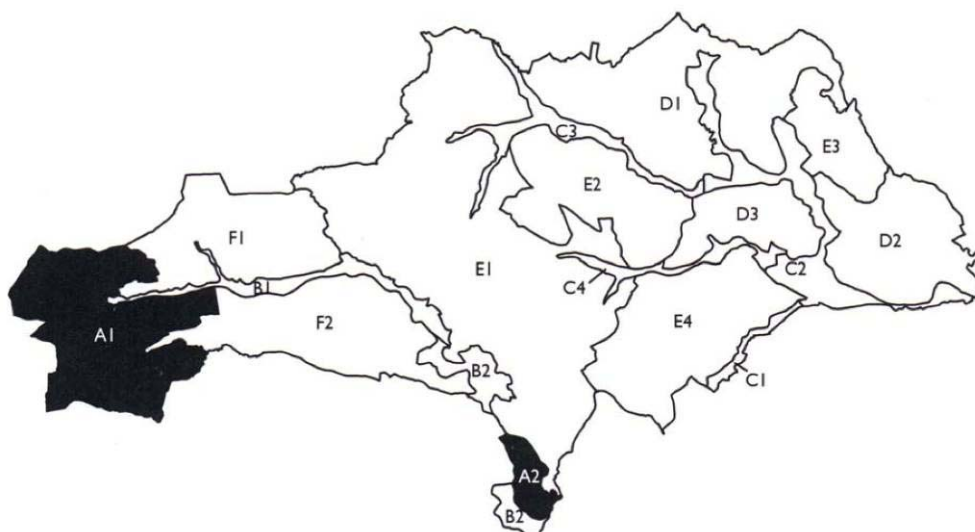


Figure 4 – Barnsley Borough Landscape Character Assessment

2.11 The north eastern edge of Rotherham Borough abuts the boundary of Doncaster Borough. The Landscape Character Assessment identifies six character areas adjacent or very close to Rotherham Borough (see Figure 5 and Drawing 01), which are:

- A1: Conisborough & Denaby Coalfield Farmlands
- A2: Mexborough Coalfield Farmlands
- B1: Don Coalfield River Corridor
- B2: Dearne Coalfield River Corridor
- C1: Stainton to Edlington Limestone Plateau
- E1: Torne River Carrlands

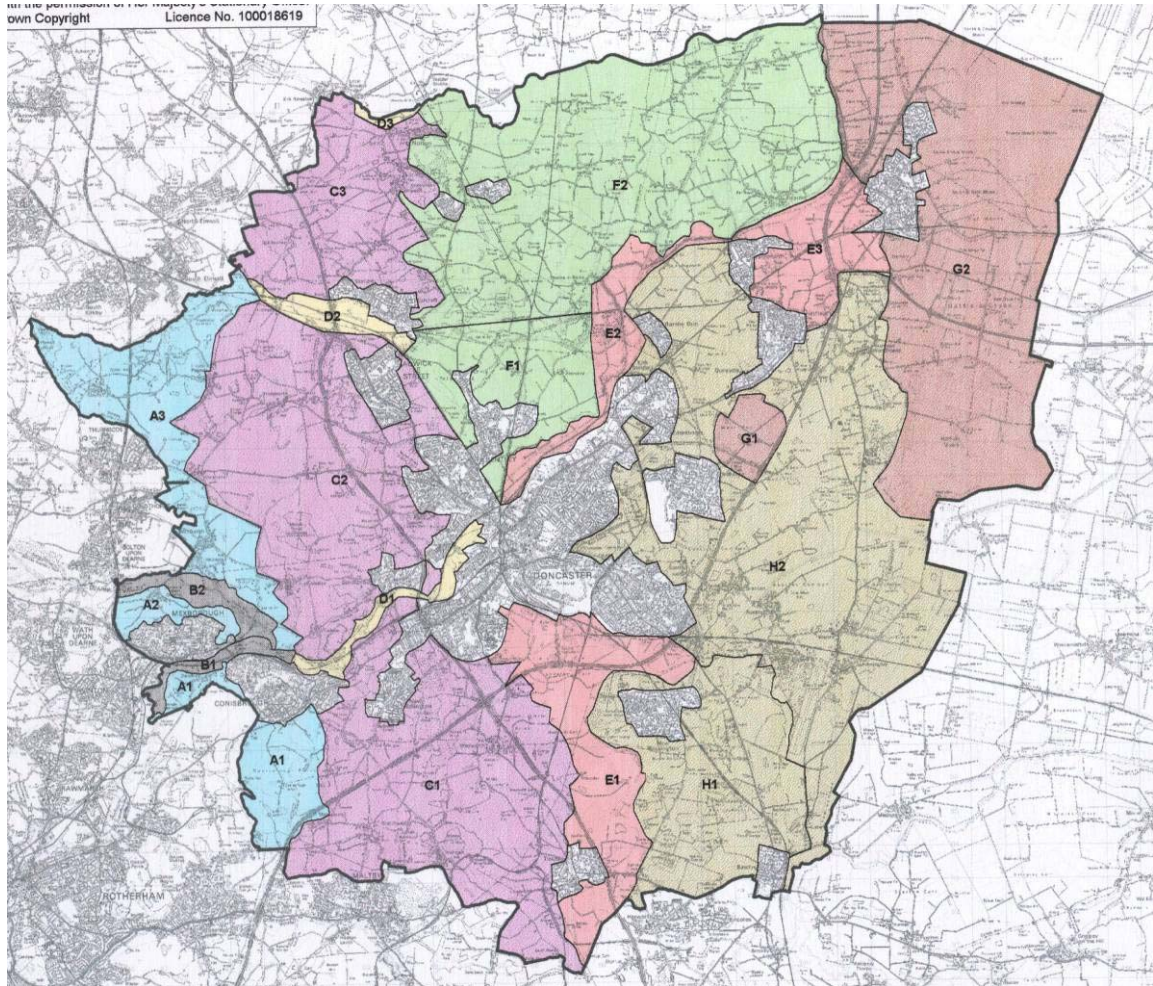


Figure 5 – Landscape Character and Capacity Assessment of Doncaster Borough

2.12 The south eastern edge of Rotherham Borough abuts the boundary of Nottinghamshire. The Landscape Character Assessment identifies three character types adjacent or very close to Rotherham Borough (see Figure 6 and Drawing 01), which are:

- 4. Magnesian Limestone Ridge - Limestone Farmlands
- 5. Sherwood Region - Sandstone Estatelands
- 6. Idle Lowlands - Valley Carrs and Levels
- 6. Idle Lowlands – Village Sandlands

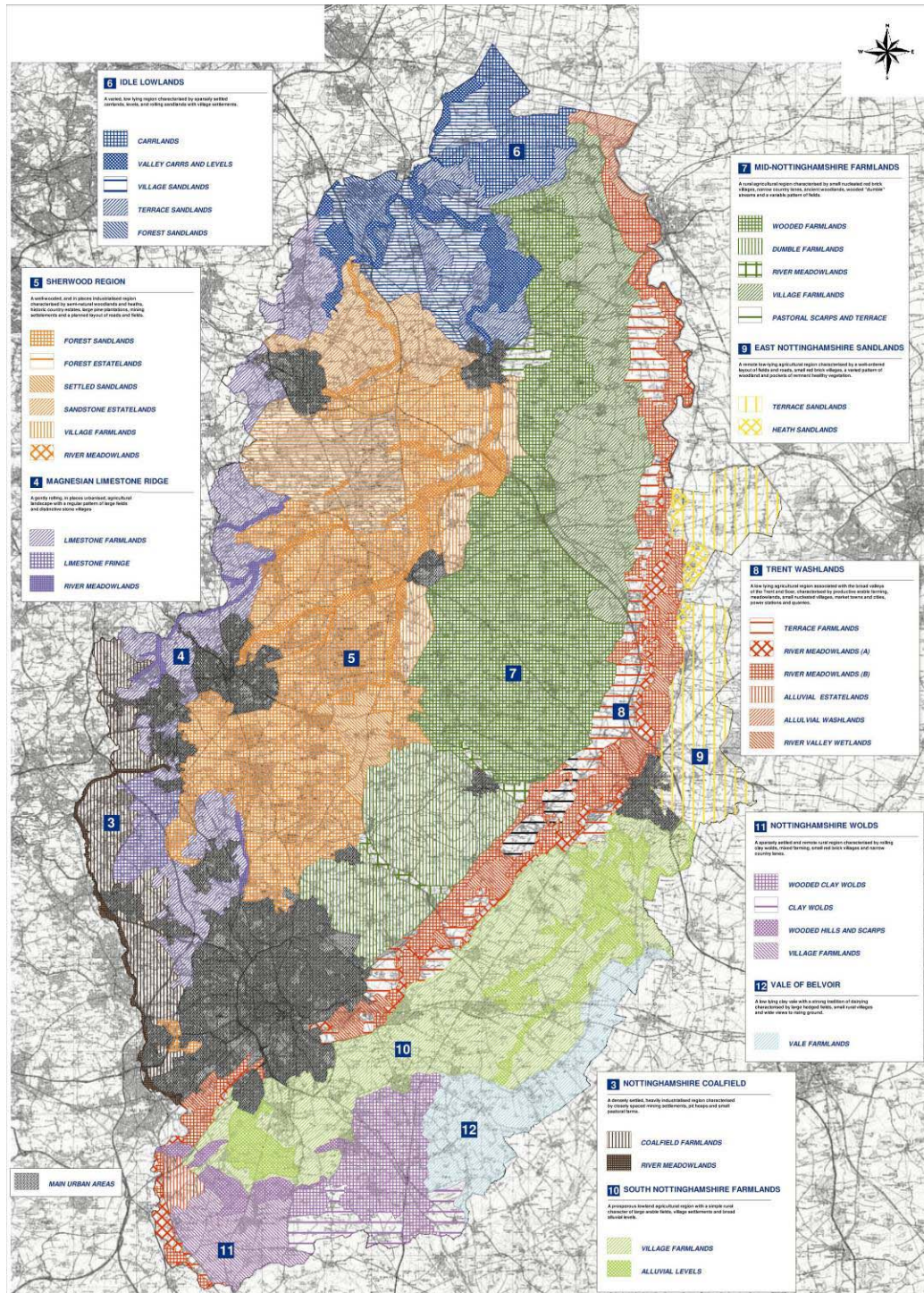


Figure 6 – Nottinghamshire Landscape Guidelines

2.13 The south edge of Rotherham Borough abuts the boundary of Derbyshire. The Landscape Character Assessment identifies three character types adjacent or very close to Rotherham Borough (see Figure 7 and Drawing 01), which are:

- Southern Magnesian Limestone - Limestone Farmlands
- Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire & Yorkshire Coalfield - Wooded Farmlands
- Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire & Yorkshire Coalfield - Riverside Meadows

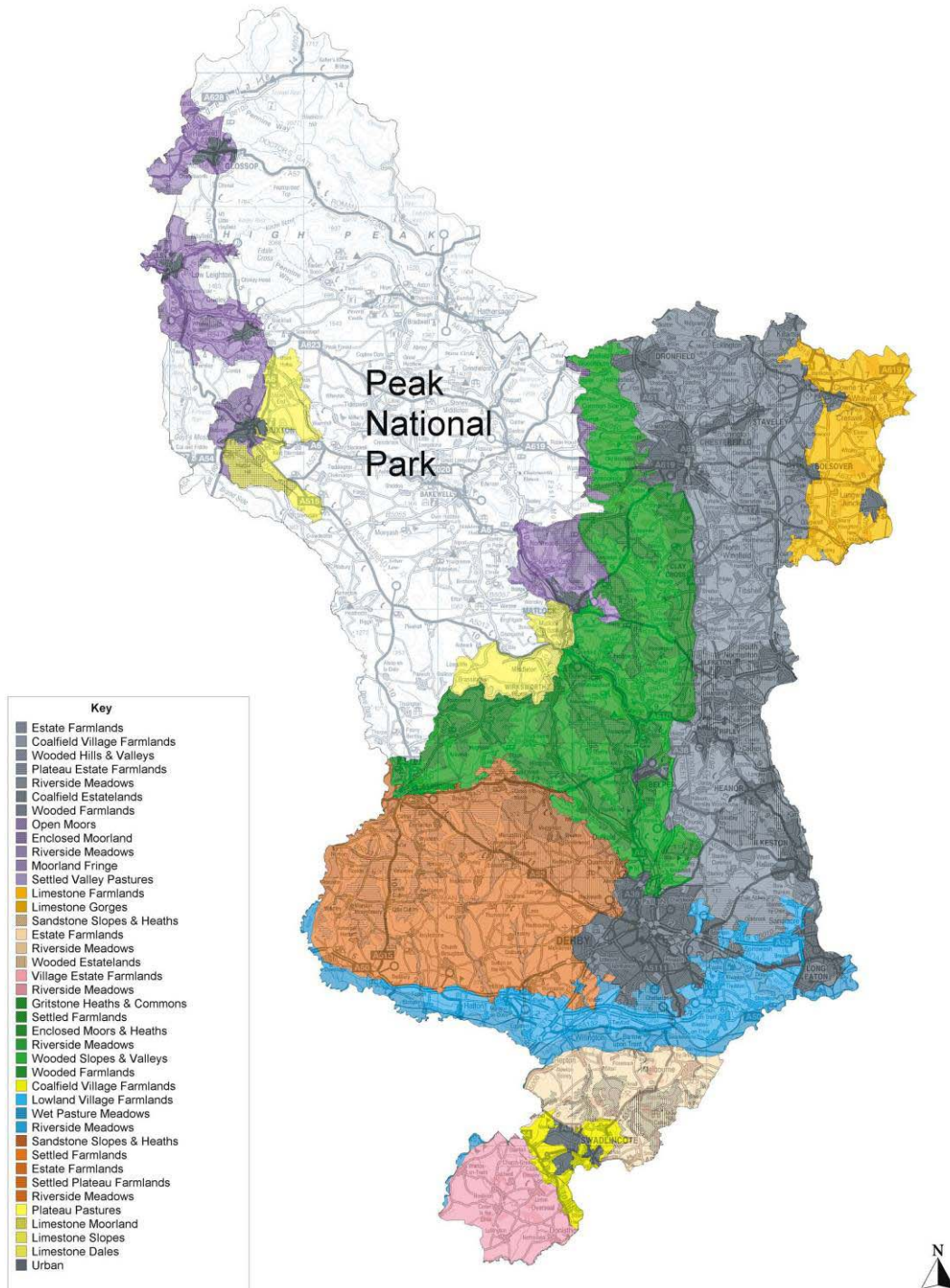


Figure 7 – The Landscape Character of Derbyshire

3 Landscape Character Assessment – Methodology

- 3.1 The methodology used is based on the national guidance found in 'Landscape Character Assessment – Guidance for England and Scotland' (2002) and the other associated Topic Papers. The precise approach was also determined to meet the requirements of Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council (RMBC) in the development of their Local Development Documents.

Project Administration

- 3.2 The project was monitored throughout the contract period by officers within the LDF team at RMBC. Monitoring included the use of the following:
- progress meetings
 - liaison by phone
 - work programme
 - correspondence - by letter, fax and e-mail

Desk Based Stage

- 3.3 The initial stage of the Landscape Character Assessment involved the assessment of the study area using the surrounding Landscape Character Areas and Level 1 scale Landscape Description Units (LDUs). LDUs are distinct and relatively homogenous units of land, each defined by a series of definitive attributes, so called because they define the extent of each spatial unit. This is a subdivision at a national/regional scale in accordance with the Joint Character Map of England combining both Landscape Character Regions and Natural Areas and is provided as a desk based analysis by the Countryside Agency as their National Typology. Level 1 LDUs provide a framework for analysis at a finer grain.

Field Survey

- 3.4 A field survey form was developed and designed to ensure that a structured, consistent recording of information was possible. Character and condition information is collected in distinct sections, in a mixture of guided responses as well as in sections of free text to provide greater opportunity for description. The character section of the survey form covered landform, landcover, historical pattern and visual and sensory perception. The condition section of the survey form covered historical integrity, ecological integrity and visual impact. The study area was systematically appraised by a survey team, who considered each part of the Borough in turn. Field survey record sheets were used to record data. A sample of the two-page pro forma used is included as Appendix A. Additional notes and photographic records supplemented the use of forms. Both notes and photographs informed the process of drafting a description of and illustrating each character area in the final report.
- 3.5 Urban areas, defined as those areas not currently allocated as green belt, were not surveyed but the interface of these urban areas with rural areas has been considered. The field survey was carried out in August and September 2009, visiting publically accessible locations throughout the Borough. The survey team consisted of a team of two Landscape Architects, who were responsible for drafting the text and defining the boundaries of each landscape character area surveyed. The use of two surveyors ensured that there was consistency to the appraisal across the study area.

The characterisation process

- 3.6 Following on from the desk study and fieldwork coherent Landscape Character Areas were identified, against the wider LDU framework. For most people, landscape is strongly associated with place and Character Areas can provide an appropriate vehicle for presenting countryside information to a public audience. In this study eleven Landscape Character Areas were identified to form the main units of the landscape in the Borough, with a further five sub areas within these wider Character Areas. Aspects of each of the Character Areas and sub areas are reflected in the character areas statements in section 4.

Boundaries

- 3.7 It should be recognised that although the drawing of boundary lines on a plan is an inevitable part of the process, this does not always mean that landscape character is dramatically different to either side of each and every line. Landscape character can suddenly change, e.g. at the interface of an historic parkland, at the foot of a steep scarp slope or at a settlement edge, but often there is a more gradual transition. In such cases the boundary line marks more a watershed of character, where the balance of the defining elements has shifted from one landscape type to another.
- 3.8 It should also be appreciated when viewing the GIS version of the landscape character areas, that the lines are digitised against a 1:10,000 base and at a scale of accuracy of c.1:2,500. This level of detail can infer that a decision has been made about which side of a road a change in landscape character occurs or whether one particular house is included in an area or not. In practice a reasonable decision has been made on the basis of the available OS data, existing boundary information and the fieldwork data and survey sheets, but will be subject to change over time and cannot in every instance be regarded as definitive, but rather as indicative of a transition.

Stakeholder involvement

- 3.9 An important part of the process of landscape character assessment is the involvement of local stakeholders and this was carried out through two Stakeholder Events, which were held on 15th September 2009. A wide range of consultees were invited including: those with a professional interest, environmental organisations, landowners, developers, parish councils and the general public. The workshops were attended by approximately 40 people who are listed in Appendix D. At the meeting attendees received a presentation on the background to the principles of Landscape Character Assessment and details of the process underway within Rotherham Borough. Attendees were then given the opportunity to discuss their views and to make suggestions on the draft character areas and key characteristics within smaller groups. Questionnaires were also provided both in electronic and hard copy form (see Appendix C) to enable fuller more detailed contributions from the stakeholders. Those who were unable to attend were given further opportunity to contribute to the character statements using the electronic questionnaire available through the Council's website. All the returns and comments (see Appendix E) were carefully considered and where appropriate included into the Character Area Statements.

Landscape Character Areas

- 3.10 Landscape Character Areas have been defined using the survey data from the fieldwork and following consideration of comments from stakeholders. The Landscape Character Areas are identified on a series of maps both as hard copy plans and digitally using GIS (ArcView 9.3). The Landscape Character Areas are as follows (see Drawings 02 and 03):
- 1a. Wentworth Parklands - Core
 - 1b. Wentworth Parklands - Fringes
 2. Dearne Valley Floor
 3. Wath and Swinton Farmlands
 4. Don Valley Floor
 - 5a. Coalfield Tributary Valleys - Thrybergh
 - 5b. Coalfield Tributary Valleys - Treeton
 - 5c. Coalfield Tributary Valleys - Canklow
 6. Rother Valley Floor
 7. Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland
 - 8a. East Rotherham Limestone Plateau
 - 8b. East Rotherham Limestone Plateau - Maltby Colliery
 - 9a. Sandbeck Parklands - Core
 - 9b. Sandbeck Parklands - Fringes
 10. Ryton Farmlands
 11. Rother Valley Reclaimed Woodland

- 3.11 For each of the identified Landscape Character Areas, a brief description has been prepared and the key characteristics identified (see Section 4). These form the context for the next stage of work, relating to Landscape Capacity, as described in Section 5.
- 3.12 As part of the description of the Character Areas, a 'Condition and Strength of Character Matrix' has been included for each Landscape Character Area or sub area as appropriate. In order to assess any landscape's potential ability to adapt to change without losing its intrinsic character, it is necessary to analyse the functional integrity or condition of the landscape together with the strength of character as demonstrated by the more permanent or robust elements of the landscape. Landscape condition is determined from an evaluation of the relative state (poor/moderate/good) of elements within the landscape that are subject to change, such as survival of hedgerows, extent and impact of built development. Strength of character is determined from an evaluation of the impact of relatively stable factors, such as landform, pattern of land cover, the continuity of an historic pattern, the degree of visibility and its rarity.
- 3.13 Six factors were considered for condition and six different factors were considered for strength of character in relation to each area (see matrix for any area). Each factor was evaluated in the field, with a record made on the survey sheet against a three-point scale and entered in the matrix table. Values for the factors on each axis were then aggregated and a majority total applied. Where totals of equal value were identified, 'prime' categories have been identified that are considered to be of higher importance when considering landscape character and these are given priority weighting. The field survey form included at Appendix A identifies the elements that are considered when assessing each of the factors.
- 3.14 The resulting intersection on the matrix derived the general strategy for each Landscape Character Area. For example where a landscape area is assessed overall as in good 'condition' but only moderate 'strength of character' the strategy will be to 'conserve and strengthen', see Figure 8 below. Once this primary strategy is established, an approximation of the inherent sensitivity of the landscape can also be applied (see Drawing 04), based on the five colour codings from high to low sensitivity indicated below.

Condition	Good	Strengthen and reinforce	Conserve and strengthen	Safeguard and manage
	Moderate	Improve and reinforce	Improve and conserve	Conserve and restore
	Poor	Reconstruct	Improve and restore	Restore condition to maintain character
		Weak	Moderate	Strong
		Strength of Character		

Figure 8 - Landscape Strategy Matrix

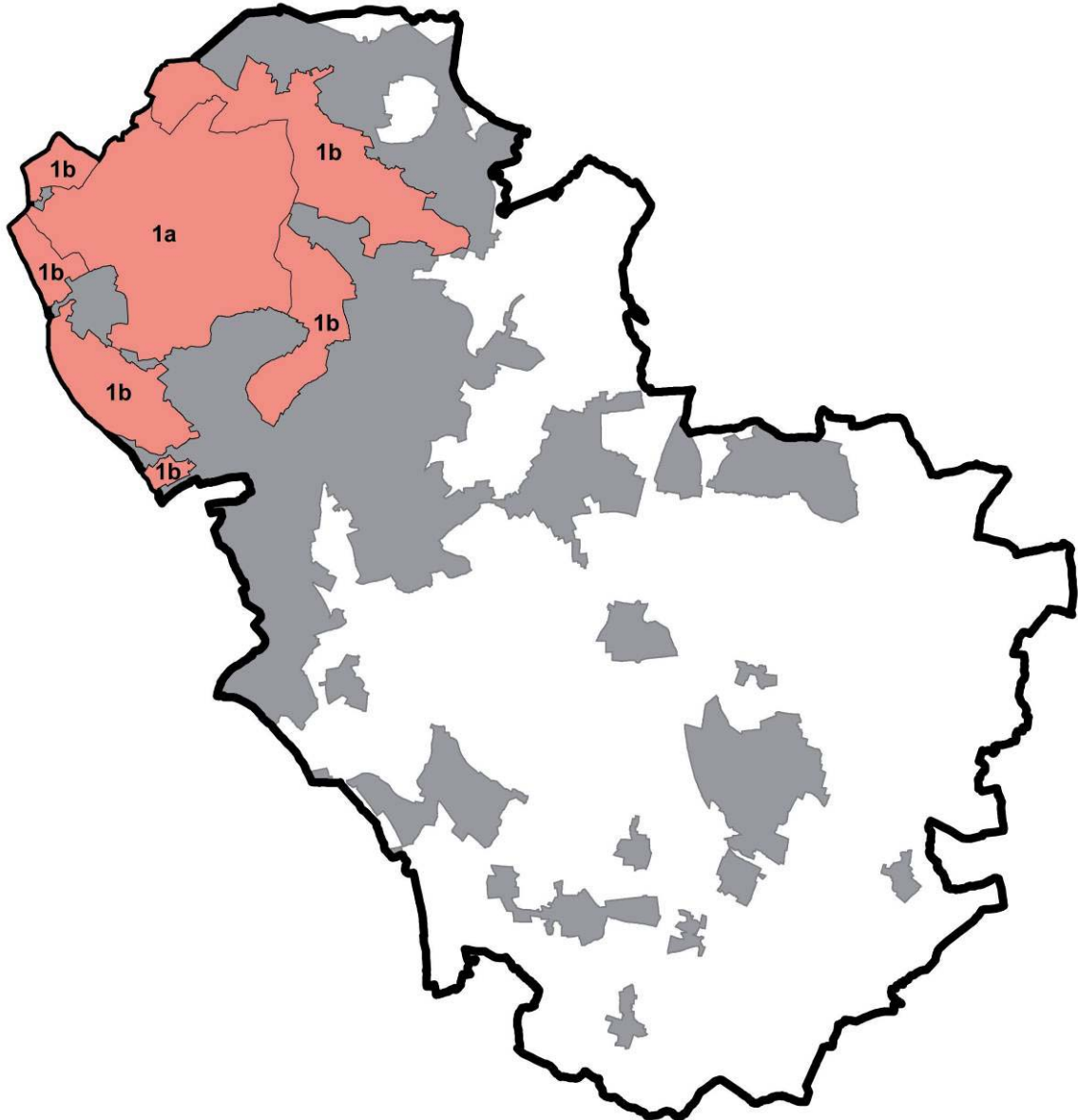
	=	High Sensitivity
	=	Moderate / High Sensitivity
	=	Moderate Sensitivity
	=	Moderate / Low Sensitivity
	=	Low Sensitivity

- 3.15 Each of the strategies identified above reflects the strength of character and the condition of the landscape as recorded in the field. The strategy suggests the way in which each Landscape Character Area and sub area should be managed in order to maximise the character and condition of the landscape. These strategies can be summarised as follows:
- Reconstruct – reconstruct the landscape to create a new landscape character with increased condition. Particularly relevant to sites due for reclamation or restoration following mineral extraction or areas despoiled by built development
 - Improve and restore – improve the character of the landscape by increasing the prominence and presence of key characteristics and increase management of the landscape in order to improve and restore its condition
 - Improve and reinforce – improve the character of the landscape by increasing the prominence and presence of key characteristics or suggesting additional characteristics that could be introduced and improve management of the landscape in order to increase its condition further
 - Restore condition to maintain character – increase management of the landscape in order to improve the condition and maintain the existing strong character
 - Improve and conserve – manage the management of the landscape to improve the factors that are reducing the condition and strength of character of the Landscape Character Area, whilst conserving the factors that contribute to the Landscape Character at present
 - Strengthen and reinforce – introduce features that would strengthen the character of the landscape and reinforce its good condition
 - Conserve and restore – conserve the existing strong character of the landscape whilst restoring the condition by improving management practices
 - Conserve and strengthen – conserve the existing good condition of the landscape whilst reintroducing features that have been lost that would improve the strength of character
 - Safeguard and manage – safeguard the key characteristics and distinctive features of the Landscape Character Area and manage the landscape to avoid their erosion or removal
- 3.16 The different strategies identified can be used to develop guidelines for future countryside management within the different Landscape Character Areas and sub areas. They can also help to address development issues by suggesting the most appropriate and inappropriate forms of development for each Character Area, as well as suitable mitigation measures for any development that does occur. Factors that could be considered within the guidelines include agricultural practices, development pressures, landscape detractors, recreation, cultural heritage and biodiversity. The production of guidelines for each Landscape Character Area is beyond the scope of this study, but should be addressed when producing a full, detailed Landscape Character Assessment.

4 Landscape Character Assessment – Rotherham Landscape Character Areas (Landscape Character Areas are shown on Drawings 02 and 03)

4.1 1. Wentworth Parklands

Location



This area is located to the north west of Rotherham, adjacent to the boundaries with both Sheffield and Barnsley. The Character Area runs up to the urban edge of Rotherham, as well as the towns of Swinton, Wath Upon Dearne, Rawmarsh and Thorpe Hesley. Part of the Character Area is identified as an Area of High Landscape Value in the Rotherham UDP.

There are two sub areas within Wentworth Parklands, the Core and the Fringes. The Core sub area (1a) contains the registered parkland of the Wentworth Estate, the most intact areas of landscape and the follies within the slightly wider landscape. The Fringes sub area (1b) contain similar characteristics but are more heavily influenced by urban areas and infrastructure, with evidence of past mining activity more obvious.

Key Characteristics

- Gently undulating agricultural landscape of dispersed farmsteads with large deciduous woodland blocks, planted for sporting and amenity purposes
- Heavily influenced by the Wentworth Estate, including an 18th Century Registered Parkland designed by Humphry Repton and the architectural influences of John Carr of York (architect).
- Predominantly large scale arable fields, with the exception of the Deer Park adjacent to Wentworth Woodhouse
- Many sunken roads with wide verges
- Larger settlements outside of the Character Area appear as skyline features on the high ground/ridges
- Church towers form landmarks and are a key element of the scenery
- Despite an apparent visual absence of mining influence there has been a past mining influence within Wentworth Park. Mining shaped the area and 60-70% has been opencast or underground mined. Remnants of 3 former pitheads have been largely reinstated after opencasting
- Stone buildings with blue slate roofs
- Wentworth village, which predates the Victorian era, but limited other settlement within the Character Area

Distinctive Features

- Wentworth Woodhouse, associated deer park and Repton designed landscape with four serpentine lakes now used for course fishing
- The collection of follies associated with the Fitzwilliam's of Wentworth Woodhouse - Hooper Stand, Keppel's Column, Rockingham Mausoleum, Rockingham Monument, an Ionic Temple and The Eye of the Needle. Many of these are intervisible
- Wentworth New Church
- Thorpe Hesley Church
- West Melton Electricity Substation
- Wentworth Family Farm
- Craft workshops located in the former Fitzwilliam (Wentworth) Hunt kennels
- Rockingham Pottery and ponds
- Former open cast landscape
- Matrix of dry stone walls and hedges
- Stubbin Incline – a disused railway line and former wagon way

1a. Wentworth Parklands – Core

STRENGTH OF CHARACTER	WEAK	MODERATE	STRONG
S1 Impact of landform* S2 Impact of landcover* S3 Historic pattern* S4 Tranquillity S5 Distinctiveness/rarity S6 Visual unity	Insignificant Insignificant Insignificant Discordant Frequent Incoherent	Apparent Apparent Apparent Moderate Unusual Coherent	Dominant/Prominent Dominant/ Prominent Dominant/ Prominent Tranquil Unique/ rare Unified
Totals * Prime character categories if tie	0	1*	5**
CONDITION	POOR	MODERATE	GOOD
C1 Landcover Change C2 Age Structure of Tree Cover* C3 Extent of semi-natural habitat survival* C4 Management of semi-natural habitats C5 Survival of cultural pattern (fields and hedges) C6 Impact of built development*	Widespread Over mature Relic Poor Declining/Relic High	Localised Mature or young Scattered Not obvious Interrupted Moderate	Insignificant Mixed Widespread/ Linked Good Intact Low
Totals * Prime condition categories if tie	0	1	5***

MATRIX	Good	Strengthen and reinforce	Conserve and strengthen	Safeguard and manage
	Moderate	Improve and reinforce	Improve and conserve	Conserve and restore
	Poor	Reconstruct	Improve and restore	Restore condition to maintain character
		Weak	Moderate	Strong
		Strength of Character		

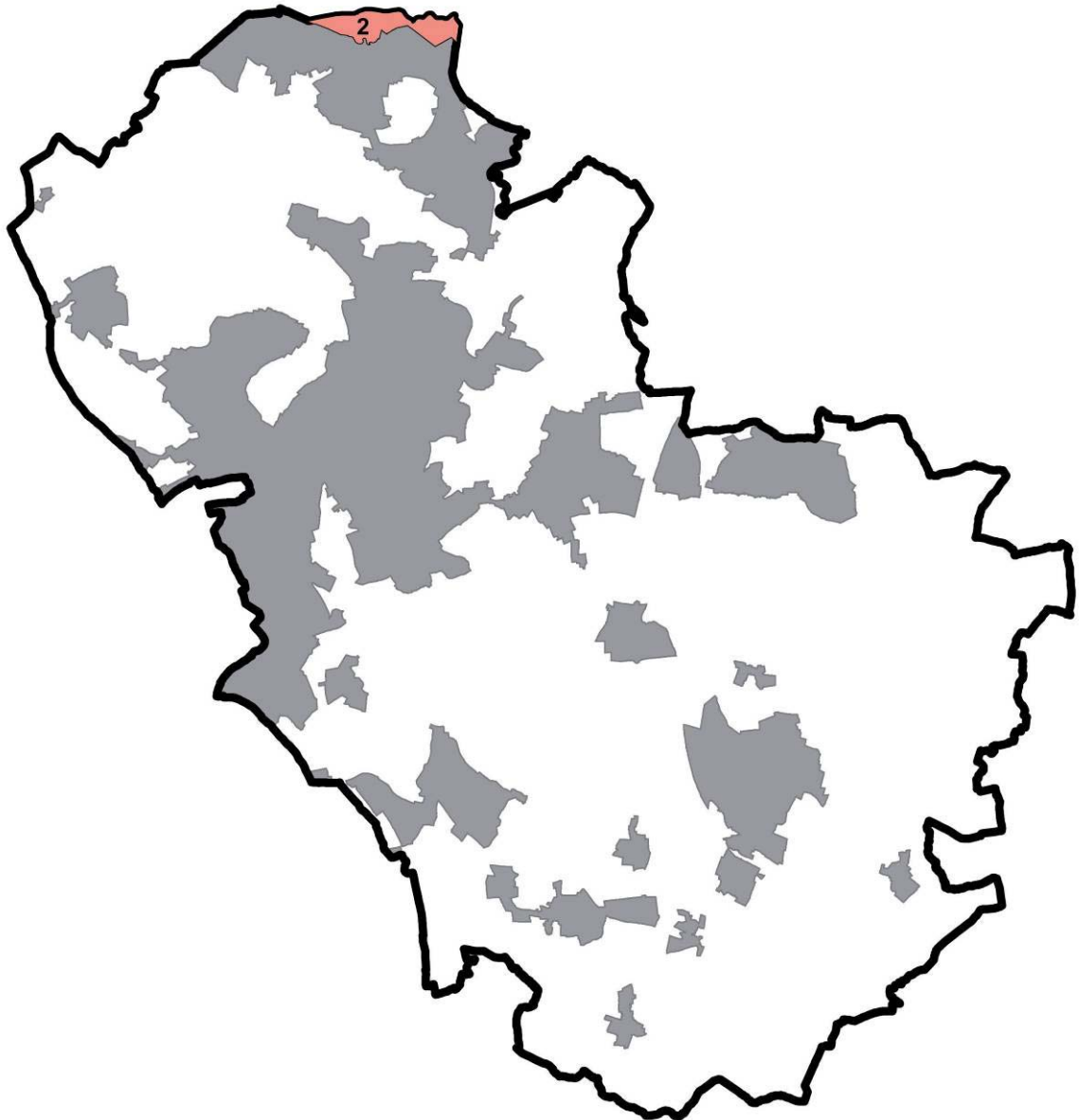
1b. Wentworth Parklands – Fringes

STRENGTH OF CHARACTER	WEAK	MODERATE	STRONG
S1 Impact of landform* S2 Impact of landcover* S3 Historic pattern* S4 Tranquillity S5 Distinctiveness/rarity S6 Visual unity	Insignificant Insignificant Insignificant Discordant Frequent Incoherent	Apparent Apparent Apparent Moderate Unusual Coherent	Dominant/Prominent Dominant/Prominent Dominant/Prominent Tranquil Unique/rare Unified
Totals * Prime character categories if tie	1	5***	0
CONDITION	POOR	MODERATE	GOOD
C1 Landcover Change C2 Age Structure of Tree Cover* C3 Extent of semi-natural habitat survival* C4 Management of semi-natural habitats C5 Survival of cultural pattern (fields and hedges) C6 Impact of built development*	Widespread Over mature Relic Poor Declining/Relic High	Localised Mature or young Scattered Not obvious Interrupted Moderate	Insignificant Mixed Widespread/ Linked Good Intact Low
Totals * Prime condition categories if tie	2*	3*	1*

MATRIX	Good	Strengthen and reinforce	Conserve and strengthen	Safeguard and manage
	Moderate	Improve and reinforce	Improve and conserve	Conserve and restore
	Poor	Reconstruct	Improve and restore	Restore condition to maintain character
		Weak	Moderate	Strong
		Strength of Character		

4.2 2. Dearne Valley Floor

Location



This small area is located in the northern corner of the Borough, adjacent to Barnsley Borough. It links into Barnsley's Landscape Character Area C2: Lower Dearne Lowland River Floor, and Doncaster's Landscape Character Area B2: Dearne Coalfield River Corridor.

Key Characteristics

- A largely reclaimed landscape associated with the former Manvers Main Colliery and its spoil heap
- A number of large waterbodies
- Young woodland
- Recreation based – part of the Character Area is a golf course and part an area of parkland
- Relatively flat landform in much of the Character Area, with mounding associated with the former spoil heap
- Heavily influenced by built development to the south, including very large distribution warehouses within the former Manvers Enterprise Zone
- The Trans Pennine Trail walking, cycling and horse riding route runs through the Character Area

Distinctive Features

- The River Dearne
- Manvers Lake
- Brookfield Park
- Close proximity to Old Moor wetlands RSPB reserve

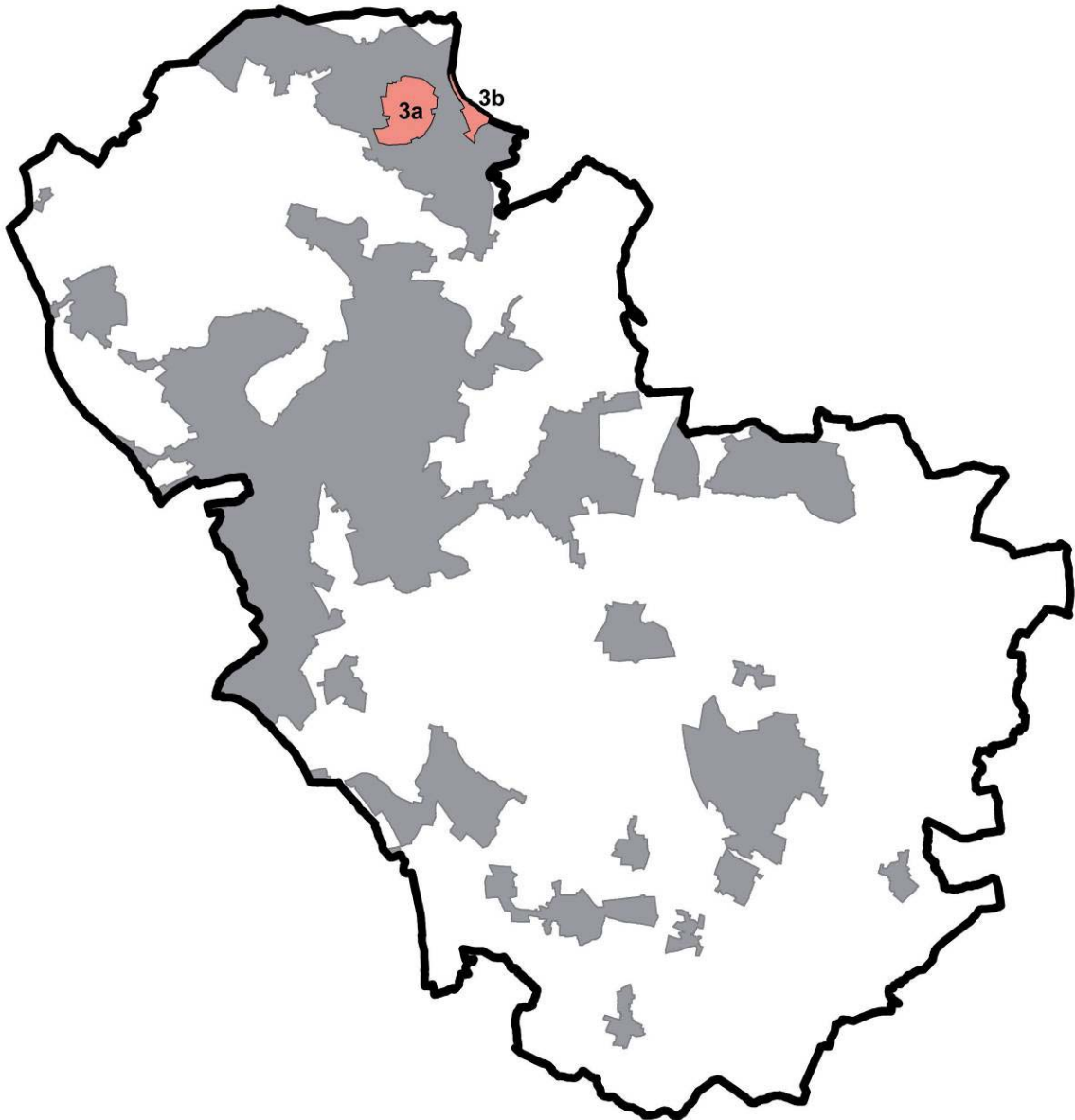
STRENGTH OF CHARACTER	WEAK	MODERATE	STRONG
S1 Impact of landform* S2 Impact of landcover* S3 Historic pattern* S4 Tranquillity S5 Distinctiveness/rarity S6 Visual unity	Insignificant Insignificant Insignificant Discordant Frequent Incoherent	Apparent Apparent Apparent Moderate Unusual Coherent	Dominant/ Prominent Dominant/ Prominent Dominant/Prominent Tranquil Unique/rare Unified
Totals * Prime character categories if tie	2*	2	2**
CONDITION	POOR	MODERATE	GOOD
C1 Landcover Change C2 Age Structure of Tree Cover* C3 Extent of semi-natural habitat survival* C4 Management of semi-natural habitats C5 Survival of cultural pattern (fields and hedges) C6 Impact of built development*	Widespread Over mature Relic Poor Declining/ Relic High	Localised Mature or young Scattered Not obvious Interrupted Moderate	Insignificant Mixed Widespread/ Linked Good Intact Low
Totals * Prime condition categories if tie	3*	2*	1*

MATRIX

Condition	Good	Strengthen and reinforce	Conserve and strengthen	Safeguard and manage
	Moderate	Improve and reinforce	Improve and conserve	Conserve and restore
	Poor	Reconstruct	Improve and restore	Restore condition to maintain character
		Weak	Moderate Strength of Character	Strong

4.3 3. Wath and Swinton Farmlands

Location



This Character Area comprises residual undeveloped land between Wath Upon Dearne and Swinton. The most easterly portion of the Character Area is adjacent to the boundary with Doncaster Borough and links into Doncaster's Landscape Character Area A2: Mexborough Coalfield Farmlands.

There are two sub areas within Wath and Swinton Farmlands, Swinton Racecourse and the Railway Triangle. The Swinton Racecourse (3a) is an area of residual farmland and contains part of the former Swinton Racecourse. The Railway Triangle (3b) is dominated by rail and road infrastructure and contains semi-urban uses such as allotments and open space.

Key Characteristics

- The Character Area is predominantly arable farmland, particularly within the area enclosed by Swinton and Wath Upon Dearne
- Allotments, grassland and other open space are secondary landuses, often with informal public access. Some allotment areas are no longer in use.
- Heavily influenced by urban areas, particularly large scale warehouses and residential developments, and transport corridors
- Hedgerows within the Character Area are generally poor quality
- Gently sloping bowl shaped landform with views over the top of it
- Remains as undeveloped land between Wath and Swinton, physically and visually contained from the open countryside

Distinctive Features

- A disused racecourse, which once formed part of the Wentworth Estate, is located in the south west corner of the Character Area. Much of the racecourse has been built on, with the remainder forming a wildlife and public access corridor
- A combination of active and disused railway lines

3a Wath and Swinton Farmlands – Swinton Racecourse

STRENGTH OF CHARACTER	WEAK	MODERATE	STRONG
S1 Impact of landform* S2 Impact of landcover* S3 Historic pattern* S4 Tranquillity S5 Distinctiveness/rarity S6 Visual unity	Insignificant Insignificant Insignificant Discordant Frequent Incoherent	Apparent Apparent Apparent Moderate Unusual Coherent	Dominant/Prominent Dominant/Prominent Dominant/Prominent Tranquil Unique/rare Unified
Totals * Prime character categories if tie	3*	3**	0
CONDITION	POOR	MODERATE	GOOD
C1 Landcover Change C2 Age Structure of Tree Cover* C3 Extent of semi-natural habitat survival* C4 Management of semi-natural habitats C5 Survival of cultural pattern (fields and hedges) C6 Impact of built development*	Widespread Over mature Relic Poor Declining/Relic High	Localised Mature or young Scattered Not obvious Interrupted Moderate	Insignificant Mixed Widespread/Linked Good Intact Low
Totals * Prime condition categories if tie	4**	2*	0

MATRIX	Good	Strengthen and reinforce	Conserve and strengthen	Safeguard and manage
	Moderate	Improve and reinforce	Improve and conserve	Conserve and restore
	Poor	Reconstruct	Improve and restore	Restore condition to maintain character
		Weak	Moderate	Strong
		Strength of Character		

3b Wath and Swinton Farmlands – Railway Triangle

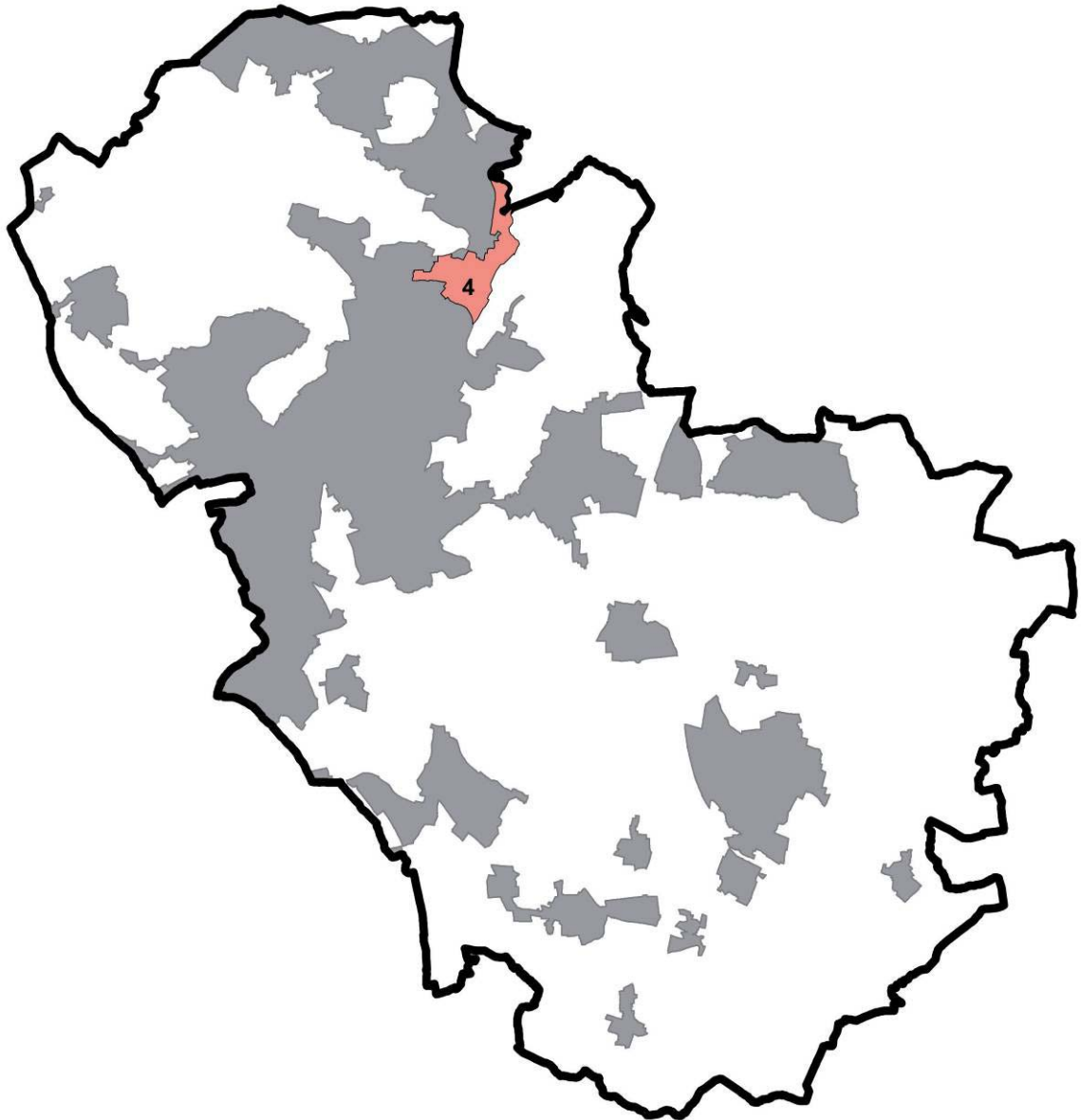
STRENGTH OF CHARACTER	WEAK	MODERATE	STRONG
S1 Impact of landform* S2 Impact of landcover* S3 Historic pattern* S4 Tranquillity S5 Distinctiveness/rarity S6 Visual unity	Insignificant Insignificant Insignificant Discordant Frequent Incoherent	Apparent Apparent Apparent Moderate Unusual Coherent	Dominant/Prominent Dominant/Prominent Dominant/Prominent Tranquil Unique/rare Unified
Totals * Prime character categories if tie	4*	2**	0
CONDITION	POOR	MODERATE	GOOD
C1 Landcover Change C2 Age Structure of Tree Cover* C3 Extent of semi-natural habitat survival* C4 Management of semi-natural habitats C5 Survival of cultural pattern (fields and hedges) C6 Impact of built development*	Widespread Over mature Relic Poor Declining/ Relic High	Localised Mature or young Scattered Not obvious Interrupted Moderate	Insignificant Mixed Widespread/Linked Good Intact Low
Totals * Prime condition categories if tie	4**	2*	0

MATRIX

Condition	Good	Strengthen and reinforce	Conserve and strengthen	Safeguard and manage
	Moderate	Improve and reinforce	Improve and conserve	Conserve and restore
	Poor	Reconstruct	Improve and restore	Restore condition to maintain character
		Weak	Moderate	Strong
		Strength of Character		

4.4 **4. Don Valley Floor**

Location



This area is located in the east of the Borough and runs up to the urban edge of Rotherham. It is adjacent to the boundary with Doncaster Borough and links into Doncaster's Landscape Character Area B1: Don Coalfield River Corridor.

Key Characteristics

- Small section of a longer, more urbanised corridor
- Meandering mainly naturalistic channel of River Don
- Canalised and engineered channel of Kilnhurst Cut
- Flat, broad valley floor
- Large areas of flood meadow
- Extensive areas of disturbed land/former works

Distinctive Features

- River Don
- Kilnhurst Bridge
- Kilnhurst Ings Local Wildlife Site
- Thrybergh Tip

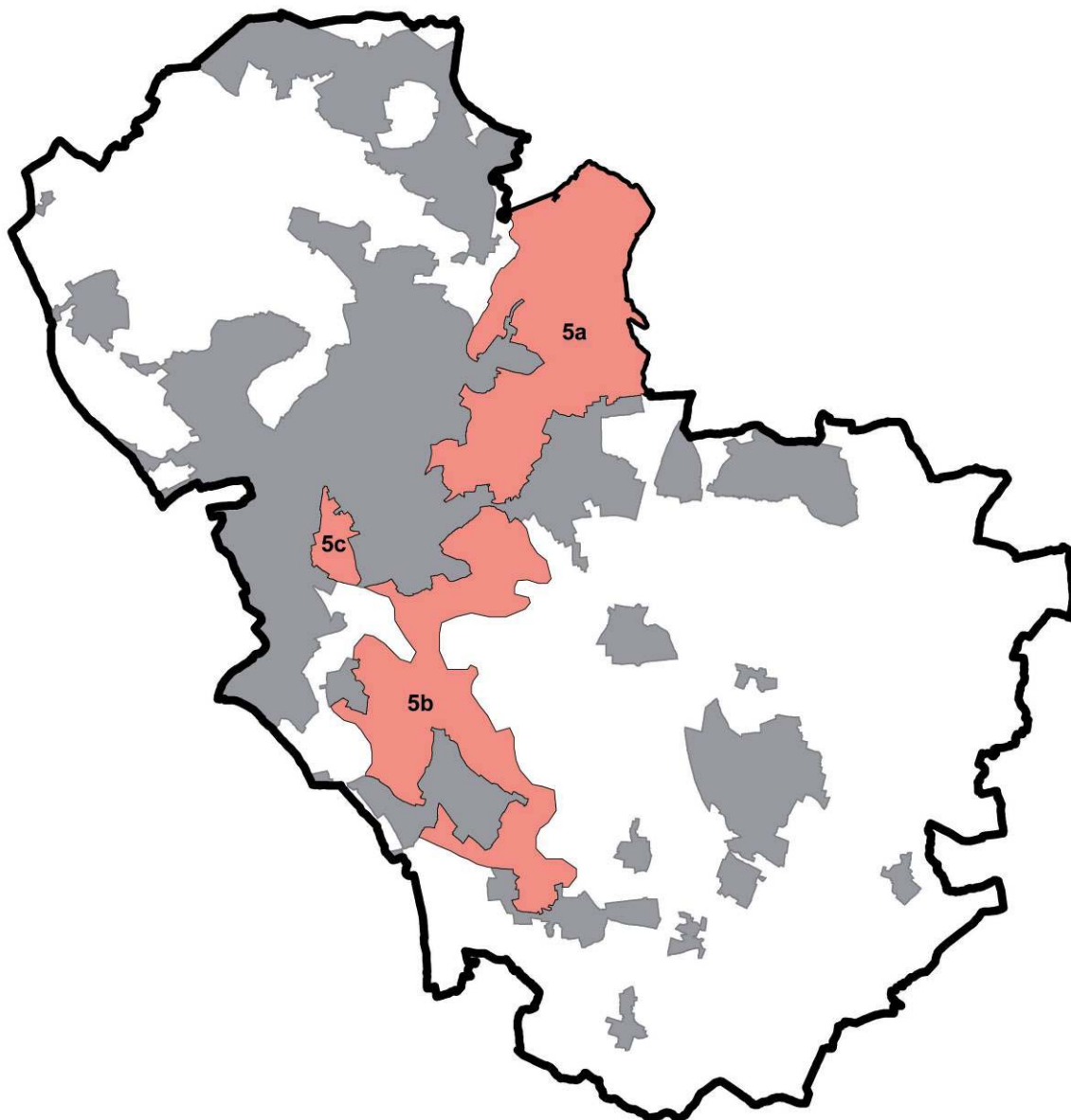
STRENGTH OF CHARACTER	WEAK	MODERATE	STRONG
S1 Impact of landform* S2 Impact of landcover* S3 Historic pattern* S4 Tranquillity S5 Distinctiveness/rarity S6 Visual unity	Insignificant Insignificant Insignificant Discordant Frequent Incoherent	Apparent Apparent Apparent Moderate Unusual Coherent	Dominant/Prominent Dominant/Prominent Dominant/Prominent Tranquil Unique/rare Unified
Totals * Prime character categories if tie	1	5***	0
CONDITION	POOR	MODERATE	GOOD
C1 Landcover Change C2 Age Structure of Tree Cover* C3 Extent of semi-natural habitat survival* C4 Management of semi-natural habitats C5 Survival of cultural pattern (fields and hedges) C6 Impact of built development*	Widespread Over mature Relic Poor Declining/Relic High	Localised Mature or young Scattered Not obvious Interrupted Moderate	Insignificant Mixed Widespread/ Linked Good Intact Low
Totals * Prime condition categories if tie	1	3*	2**

MATRIX

Condition	Good	Strengthen and reinforce	Conserve and strengthen	Safeguard and manage
	Moderate	Improve and reinforce	Improve and conserve	Conserve and restore
	Poor	Reconstruct	Improve and restore	Restore condition to maintain character
		Weak	Moderate	Strong
		Strength of Character		

4.5 5. Coalfield Tributary Valleys

Location



This area runs north south through the Borough, to the east of the urban edge of Rotherham. It abuts the boundary with Doncaster Borough and links into Doncaster's Landscape Character Area A1: Conisborough & Denaby Coalfield Farmlands. The A631 road separates the first two of these sub areas, and the Canklow sub area is separated by part of the edge of Rotherham. Much of the Character Area is currently identified as an Area of High Landscape Value in the Rotherham UDP.

The Coalfield Tributary Valleys consists of three sub areas; Thrybergh (5a), Treeton (5b) and Canklow (5c). The Thrybergh sub area is more intact as a landscape and more strongly exhibits the Key Characteristics of the Landscape Character Area as a whole. The Treeton sub area has been more heavily affected by urban areas. The Canklow sub area is almost entirely surrounded by built development and is much more steeply sloping than the other sub areas.

Key Characteristics

- Predominantly treed arable farmland with fragmented woodland blocks
- Undulating landform with narrow valleys to the north and wide valleys to the south
- Large reservoirs found within the valleys
- Settlement on surrounding higher ground very visually prominent
- Settlement often built of local Rotherham Red stone
- Proximity of urban areas

Distinctive Features

- Thrybergh Reservoir and Country Park
- Ulley Reservoir and Country Park, although it is well screened from the surrounding area
- Ravenfield Park and Hall to the north of Ravenfield, as well as the village. The village is recorded in the Domesday Book
- Hooten Roberts Church and Mill Buildings
- Treeton Wood
- Aston Hall Conservation Area, which includes the Hall and its associated parkland
- Issues and springs
- Canklow Woods ancient woodland
- Boston Castle

5a. Coalfield Tributary Valleys - Thrybergh

STRENGTH OF CHARACTER	WEAK	MODERATE	STRONG
S1 Impact of landform* S2 Impact of landcover* S3 Historic pattern* S4 Tranquillity S5 Distinctiveness/rarity S6 Visual unity	Insignificant Insignificant Insignificant Discordant Frequent Incoherent	Apparent Apparent Apparent Moderate Unusual Coherent	Dominant/Prominent Dominant/ Prominent Dominant/Prominent Tranquil Unique/rare Unified
Totals * Prime character categories if tie	0	3*	3**
CONDITION	POOR	MODERATE	GOOD
C1 Landcover Change C2 Age Structure of Tree Cover* C3 Extent of semi-natural habitat survival* C4 Management of semi-natural habitats C5 Survival of cultural pattern (fields and hedges) C6 Impact of built development*	Widespread Over mature Relic Poor Declining/Relic High	Localised Mature or young Scattered Not obvious Interrupted Moderate	Insignificant Mixed Widespread/Linked Good Intact Low
Totals * Prime condition categories if tie	1	5***	0

MATRIX	Good	Strengthen and reinforce	Conserve and strengthen	Safeguard and manage
	Moderate	Improve and reinforce	Improve and conserve	Conserve and restore
	Poor	Reconstruct	Improve and restore	Restore condition to maintain character
		Weak	Moderate	Strong
		Strength of Character		

5b. Coalfield Tributary Valleys - Treeton

STRENGTH OF CHARACTER	WEAK	MODERATE	STRONG
S1 Impact of landform* S2 Impact of landcover* S3 Historic pattern* S4 Tranquillity S5 Distinctiveness/rarity S6 Visual unity	Insignificant Insignificant Insignificant Discordant Frequent Incoherent	Apparent Apparent Apparent Moderate Unusual Coherent	Dominant/ Prominent Dominant/Prominent Dominant/Prominent Tranquil Unique/rare Unified
Totals * Prime character categories if tie	1	4**	1*
CONDITION	POOR	MODERATE	GOOD
C1 Landcover Change C2 Age Structure of Tree Cover* C3 Extent of semi-natural habitat survival* C4 Management of semi-natural habitats C5 Survival of cultural pattern (fields and hedges) C6 Impact of built development*	Widespread Over mature Relic Poor Declining/Relic High	Localised Mature or young Scattered Not obvious Interrupted Moderate	Insignificant Mixed Widespread/Linked Good Intact Low
Totals * Prime condition categories if tie	2*	4**	0

MATRIX	Good	Strengthen and reinforce	Conserve and strengthen	Safeguard and manage
	Moderate	Improve and reinforce	Improve and conserve	Conserve and restore
	Poor	Reconstruct	Improve and restore	Restore condition to maintain character
		Weak	Moderate	Strong
		Strength of Character		

5c. Coalfield Tributary Valleys - Canklow

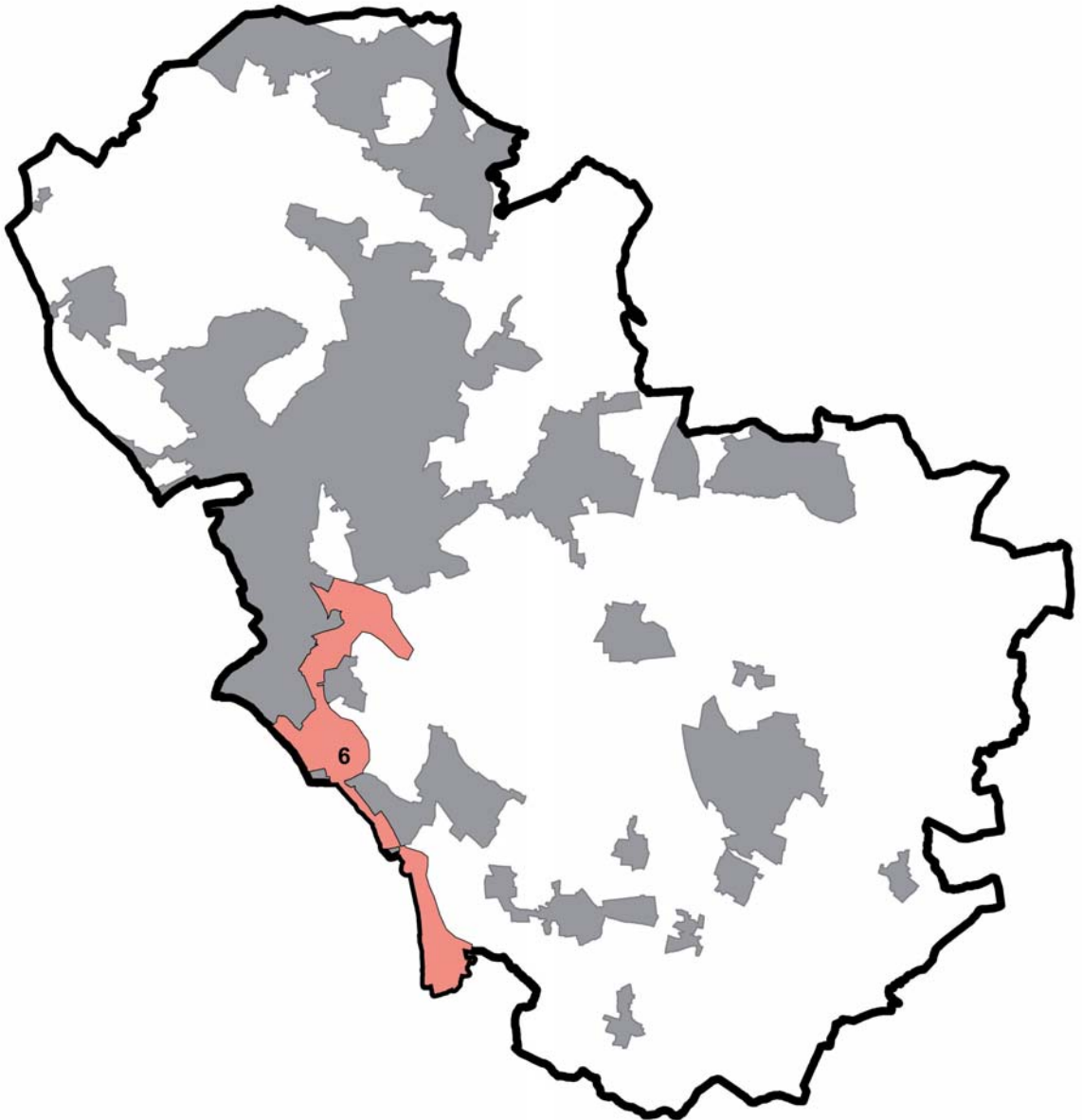
STRENGTH OF CHARACTER	WEAK	MODERATE	STRONG
S1 Impact of landform* S2 Impact of landcover* S3 Historic pattern* S4 Tranquillity S5 Distinctiveness/rarity S6 Visual unity	Insignificant Insignificant Insignificant Discordant Frequent Incoherent	Apparent Apparent Apparent Moderate Unusual Coherent	Dominant /Prominent Dominant/Prominent Dominant/Prominent Tranquil Unique/rare Unified
Totals * Prime character categories if tie	0	5**	1*
CONDITION	POOR	MODERATE	GOOD
C1 Landcover Change C2 Age Structure of Tree Cover* C3 Extent of semi-natural habitat survival* C4 Management of semi-natural habitats C5 Survival of cultural pattern (fields and hedges) C6 Impact of built development*	Widespread Over mature Relic Poor Declining/Relic High	Localised Mature or young Scattered Not obvious Interrupted Moderate	Insignificant Mixed Widespread /Linked Good Intact Low
Totals * Prime condition categories if tie	1*	4*	1*

MATRIX

Condition	Good	Strengthen and reinforce	Conserve and strengthen	Safeguard and manage
	Moderate	Improve and reinforce	Improve and conserve	Conserve and restore
	Poor	Reconstruct	Improve and restore	Restore condition to maintain character
		Weak	Moderate	Strong
		Strength of Character		

4.6 **6. Rother Valley Floor**

Location



This area is located on the south west edge of Rotherham Borough, adjacent to the boundary with Sheffield. It abuts the boundary with Derbyshire, running into the Landscape Character Types Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield; Riverside Meadows; and Wooded Farmlands. The Character Area follows the course of the River Rother through the countryside, up to the urban edge of Rotherham.

Key Characteristics

- Broad, flat valley floor and floodplain
- Meandering course of River Rother, canalised in places to allow for mining operations
- Heavily influenced by opencast mining, most of which has been or is in the process of being restored
- Immature woodland planting
- Major recreation and wildlife corridor
- Bisected by M1 motorway

Distinctive Features

- Rother Valley Country Park
- Catcliffe Flash lake
- Treeton Dyke
- Former Orgreave Open Cast Mine, which is being restored with the intention of creating a new community
- Blue Man's Bower (SAM)
- Canklow Meadows
- Woodhouse Washlands
- Electricity substation at Canklow Meadows

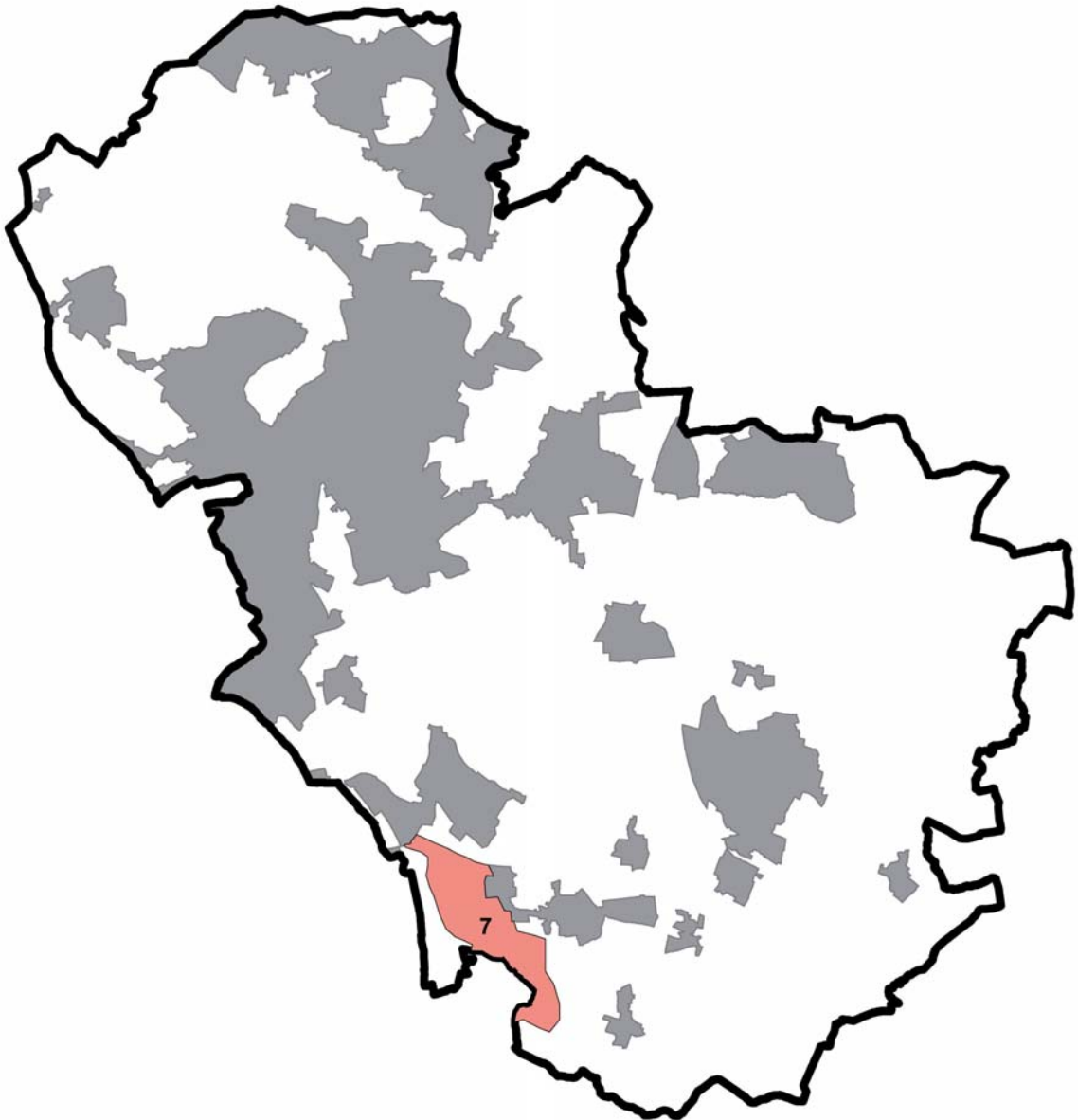
STRENGTH OF CHARACTER	WEAK	MODERATE	STRONG
S1 Impact of landform* S2 Impact of landcover* S3 Historic pattern* S4 Tranquillity S5 Distinctiveness/rarity S6 Visual unity	Insignificant Insignificant Insignificant Discordant Frequent Incoherent	Apparent Apparent Apparent Moderate Unusual Coherent	Dominant/ Prominent Dominant/Prominent Dominant/Prominent Tranquil Unique/rare Unified
Totals * Prime character categories if tie	0	5**	1*
CONDITION	POOR	MODERATE	GOOD
C1 Landcover Change C2 Age Structure of Tree Cover* C3 Extent of semi-natural habitat survival* C4 Management of semi-natural habitats C5 Survival of cultural pattern (fields and hedges) C6 Impact of built development*	Widespread Over mature Relic Poor Declining/Relic High	Localised Mature or young Scattered Not obvious Interrupted Moderate	Insignificant Mixed Widespread/ Linked Good Intact Low
Totals * Prime condition categories if tie	1	4**	1*

MATRIX

Condition	Good	Strengthen and reinforce	Conserve and strengthen	Safeguard and manage
	Moderate	Improve and reinforce	Improve and conserve	Conserve and restore
	Poor	Reconstruct	Improve and restore	Restore condition to maintain character
		Weak	Moderate	Strong
		Strength of Character		

4.7 7. Rother Valley Reclaimed Woodland

Location



This area is located in the south of Rotherham Borough, adjacent to the boundary with Derbyshire. It forms part of the reclaimed landscape associated with Rother Valley Country Park but is not part of the Rother Valley. It runs into the Derbyshire Landscape Character Type Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire & Yorkshire Coalfield - Wooded Farmlands.

Key Characteristics

- Mounded landform associated with the spoil heaps of the former opencast mine that was restored to form the Rother Valley Country Park
- A large proportion of the Character Area is located within the Rother Valley Country Park, with recreational uses such as a golf course and footpaths
- Large blocks of young woodland, planted at the time of the Country Park’s creation in the 1980s
- Numerous ditches following the contours of the landform
- Several small waterbodies
- The route of the Chesterfield Canal, disused in this vicinity

Distinctive Features

- Rother Valley Country Park
- Rother Valley Golf Course
- The former Chesterfield Canal
- Nor Wood

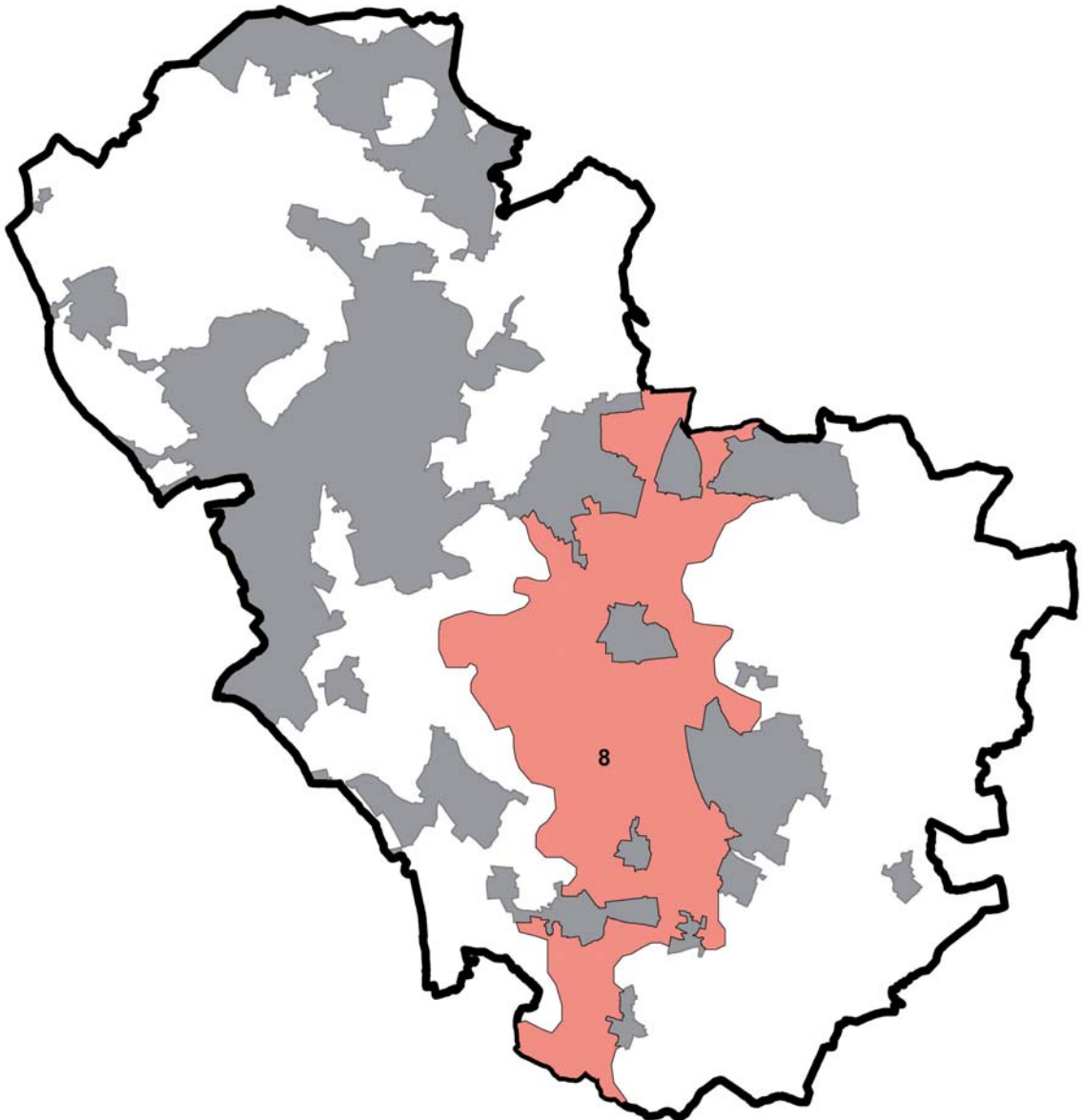
STRENGTH OF CHARACTER	WEAK	MODERATE	STRONG
S1 Impact of landform* S2 Impact of landcover* S3 Historic pattern* S4 Tranquillity S5 Distinctiveness/rarity S6 Visual unity	Insignificant Insignificant Insignificant Discordant Frequent Incoherent	Apparent Apparent Apparent Moderate Unusual Coherent	Dominant/Prominent Dominant/ Prominent Dominant/Prominent Tranquil Unique/rare Unified
Totals * Prime character categories if tie	1*	4*	1*
CONDITION	POOR	MODERATE	GOOD
C1 Landcover Change C2 Age Structure of Tree Cover* C3 Extent of semi-natural habitat survival* C4 Management of semi-natural habitats C5 Survival of cultural pattern (fields and hedges) C6 Impact of built development*	Widespread Over mature Relic Poor Declining/ Relic High	Localised Mature or young Scattered Not obvious Interrupted Moderate	Insignificant Mixed Widespread/ Linked Good Intact Low
Totals * Prime condition categories if tie	2	3**	1*

MATRIX

Condition	Good	Strengthen and reinforce	Conserve and strengthen	Safeguard and manage
	Moderate	Improve and reinforce	Improve and conserve	Conserve and restore
	Poor	Reconstruct	Improve and restore	Restore condition to maintain character
		Weak	Moderate	Strong
		Strength of Character		

4.8 **8. Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland**

Location



This area is located at the centre of Rotherham Borough and runs north south through it. It abuts the boundaries with both Doncaster Borough and Derbyshire, running into the Doncaster Landscape Character Area C1: Stainton to Edlington Limestone Plateau and the Derbyshire Landscape Character Type Southern Magnesian Limestone - Limestone Farmlands. Part of the Character Area is identified as an Area of High Landscape Value in the Rotherham UDP.

Key Characteristics

- Gently undulating landform
- Large scale arable landscape, with smaller fields around settlements
- Limited woodland cover, although there are woodland blocks at Wickersley Wood and Listerdale Wood
- Most settlement based on mining villages (apart from Todwick which is a dormitory village) with red brick buildings
- Several former deep mines, most now reclaimed, including Thurcroft, Dinnington, Kiveton Pit and Silverwood
- Motorway corridors generally in cutting and not a prominent feature (except in extreme south) – junction of M1 and M18 is prominent
- Stone quarries present around Wickersley
- Panoramic wide-angled views to the south west horizon towards Sheffield

Distinctive Features

- Thurcroft Electricity Substation and associated pylons, to the north west of the M1/M18 junction
- The Chesterfield Canal, some parts of which have been removed or blocked up, including Norwood flight and tunnel
- Numerous small fishing lakes
- Brampton-en-le-Morthen village, which has historically been associated with farming rather than mining
- Harthill Reservoir
- Wickersley Wood and Wickersley Gorse
- Monk's Trail near Wickersley
- Hellaby Hall
- Harthill village and church

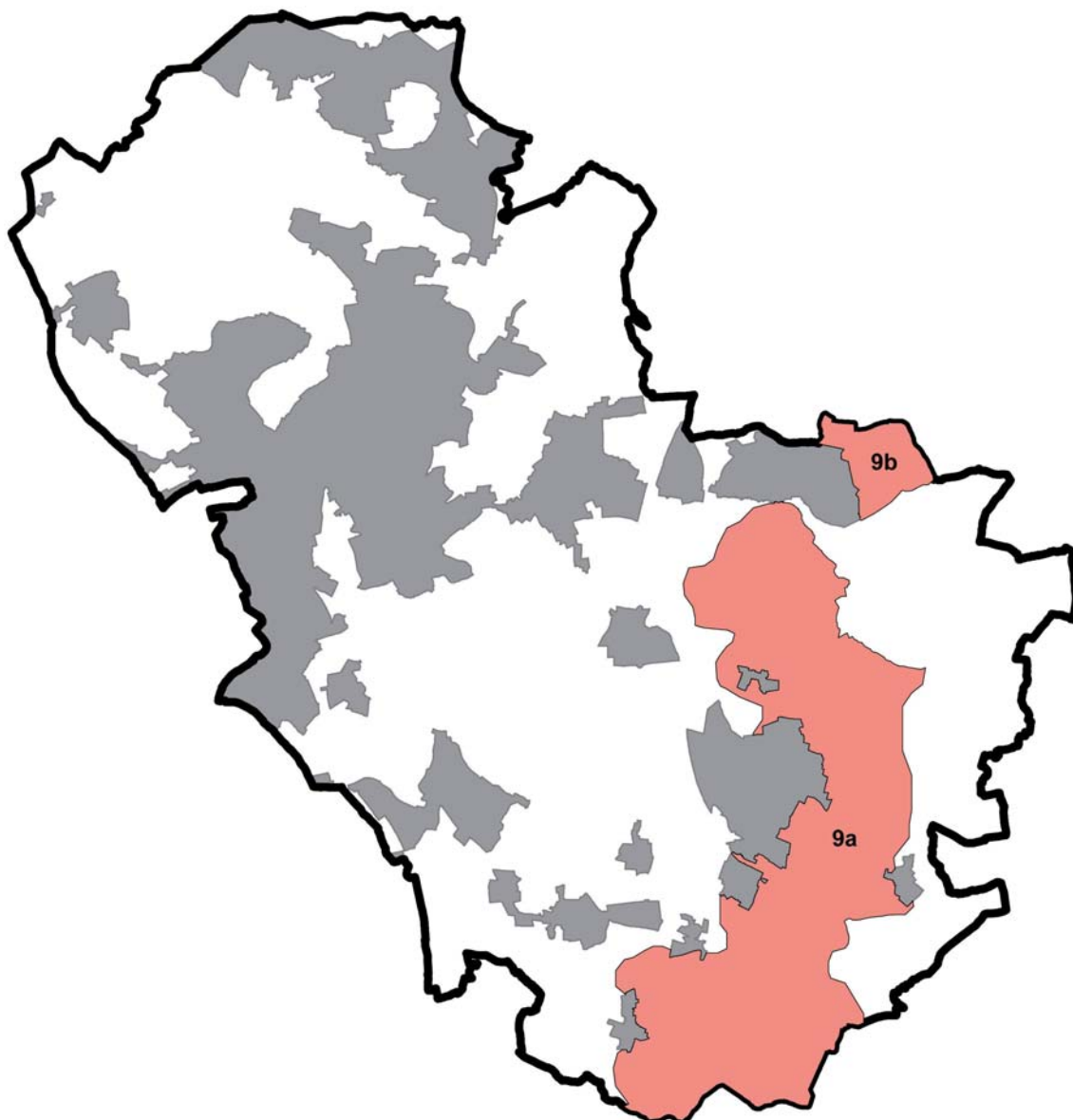
STRENGTH OF CHARACTER	WEAK	MODERATE	STRONG
S1 Impact of landform* S2 Impact of landcover* S3 Historic pattern* S4 Tranquillity S5 Distinctiveness/rarity S6 Visual unity	Insignificant Insignificant Insignificant Discordant Frequent Incoherent	Apparent Apparent Apparent Moderate Unusual Coherent	Dominant/Prominent Dominant/ Prominent Dominant/Prominent Tranquil Unique/rare Unified
Totals * Prime character categories if tie	2	2**	2*
CONDITION	POOR	MODERATE	GOOD
C1 Landcover Change C2 Age Structure of Tree Cover* C3 Extent of semi-natural habitat survival* C4 Management of semi-natural habitats C5 Survival of cultural pattern (fields and hedges) C6 Impact of built development*	Widespread Over mature Relic Poor Declining/ Relic High	Localised Mature or young Scattered Not obvious Interrupted Moderate	Insignificant Mixed Widespread/Linked Good Intact Low
Totals * Prime condition categories if tie	4*	2**	0

MATRIX

Condition	Good	Strengthen and reinforce	Conserve and strengthen	Safeguard and manage
	Moderate	Improve and reinforce	Improve and conserve	Conserve and restore
	Poor	Reconstruct	Improve and restore	Restore condition to maintain character
		Weak	Moderate	Strong
		Strength of Character		

4.9 9. East Rotherham Limestone Plateau

Location



This area is located towards the east of Rotherham Borough and runs north south through it. It abuts the boundaries with Doncaster Borough, Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire, running into the Doncaster Landscape Character Area C1: Stainton to Edlington Limestone Plateau, the Nottinghamshire Landscape Character Type Magnesian Limestone Ridge - Limestone Farmlands and the Derbyshire Landscape Character Type Southern Magnesian Limestone - Limestone Farmlands. Much of the Character Area is identified as an Area of High Landscape Value in the Rotherham UDP.

There are two sub areas within this Character Area, the main Limestone Plateau (9a) and Maltby Colliery (9b). The main Plateau area exhibits all the characteristics of the Character Area, whilst some of these have been eroded from the Maltby Colliery sub area due to the mining activity. The landform created by the colliery is, however, distinctive in its own right.

Key Characteristics

- Gently undulating landform with incised valleys, including Anston Brook, Pudding Dike and Lamb Lane Brook
- Valley sides generally well vegetated, often with ancient woodland and species particular to Magnesian Limestone
- Large scale arable landscape with surviving evidence of 'Estate' management
- Several railway lines, both active and disused lines associated with former mines
- Several small Magnesian Limestone-built villages and hamlets in addition to larger mining towns and villages, often also with earlier limestone village cores
- Most settlement located on higher ground
- Panoramic views of the wider landscape beyond Rotherham Borough
- Small stand of trees, holts and coverts of (often ancient) woodland break up the arable landscape

Distinctive Features

- All Saints church in Laughton-en-le-Morthen
- Maltby Colliery and Stainton Quarter
- Dinnington Community Woodland adjacent to the boundary of the LCA and associated with Dinnington
- Thorpe Salvin Hall and Church
- Netherthorpe airfield
- Harthill church forms a landmark on the horizon, despite being outside the LCA
- Anston Stones SSSI, which are limestone crags and the site of Neolithic dwellings
- The Chesterfield Canal corridor
- St James' church in South Anston
- Harry Croft quarry
- Wood Lee Common SSSI at Maltby
- Several former limestone quarries, the stone quarried from which was used in the construction of the Houses of Parliament

9a. East Rotherham Limestone Plateau

STRENGTH OF CHARACTER	WEAK	MODERATE	STRONG
S1 Impact of landform* S2 Impact of landcover* S3 Historic pattern* S4 Tranquillity S5 Distinctiveness/rarity S6 Visual unity	Insignificant Insignificant Insignificant Discordant Frequent Incoherent	Apparent Apparent Apparent Moderate Unusual Coherent	Dominant/ Prominent Dominant/ Prominent Dominant/ Prominent Tranquil Unique/rare Unified
Totals * Prime character categories if tie	0	3**	3*
CONDITION	POOR	MODERATE	GOOD
C1 Landcover Change C2 Age Structure of Tree Cover* C3 Extent of semi-natural habitat survival* C4 Management of semi-natural habitats C5 Survival of cultural pattern (fields and hedges) C6 Impact of built development*	Widespread Over mature Relic Poor Declining /Relic High	Localised Mature or young Scattered Not obvious Interrupted Moderate	Insignificant Mixed Widespread/Linked Good Intact Low
Totals * Prime condition categories if tie	2	3**	1*

MATRIX	Good	Strengthen and reinforce	Conserve and strengthen	Safeguard and manage
	Moderate	Improve and reinforce	Improve and conserve	Conserve and restore
	Poor	Reconstruct	Improve and restore	Restore condition to maintain character
		Weak	Moderate	Strong
	Condition	Strength of Character		

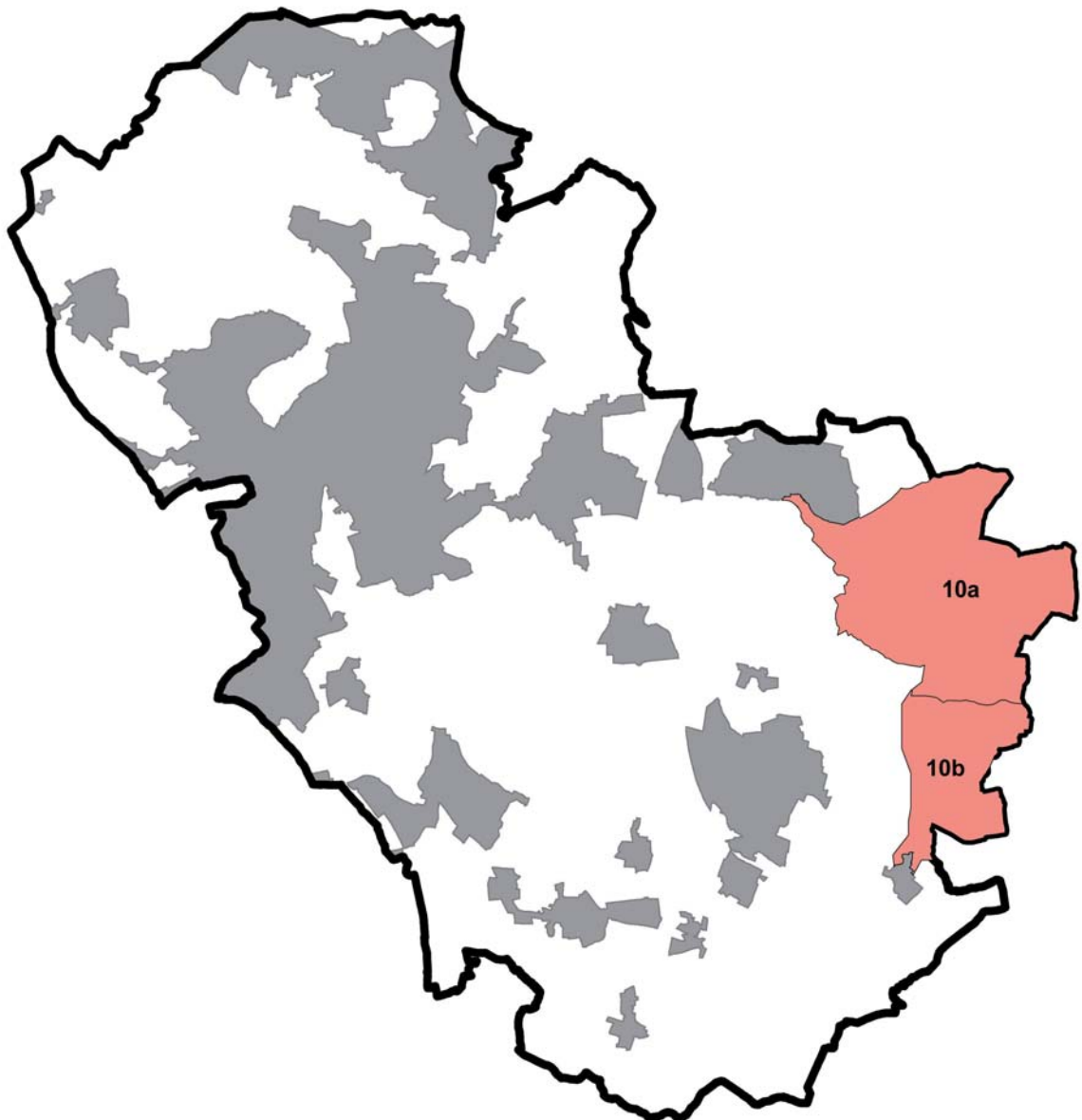
9b. East Rotherham Limestone Plateau – Maltby Colliery

STRENGTH OF CHARACTER	WEAK	MODERATE	STRONG
S1 Impact of landform* S2 Impact of landcover* S3 Historic pattern* S4 Tranquillity S5 Distinctiveness/rarity S6 Visual unity	Insignificant Insignificant Insignificant Discordant Frequent Incoherent	Apparent Apparent Apparent Moderate Unusual Coherent	Dominant/ Prominent Dominant/ Prominent Dominant/ Prominent Tranquil Unique/rare Unified
Totals * Prime character categories if tie	2	2*	2**
CONDITION	POOR	MODERATE	GOOD
C1 Landcover Change C2 Age Structure of Tree Cover* C3 Extent of semi-natural habitat survival* C4 Management of semi-natural habitats C5 Survival of cultural pattern (fields and hedges) C6 Impact of built development*	Widespread Over mature Relic Poor Declining /Relic High	Localised Mature or young Scattered Not obvious Interrupted Moderate	Insignificant Mixed Widespread/Linked Good Intact Low
Totals * Prime condition categories if tie	4*	2**	0

MATRIX	Good	Strengthen and reinforce	Conserve and strengthen	Safeguard and manage
	Moderate	Improve and reinforce	Improve and conserve	Conserve and restore
	Poor	Reconstruct	Improve and restore	Restore condition to maintain character
		Weak	Moderate	Strong
	Condition	Strength of Character		

4.10 **10. Sandbeck Parklands**

Location



This area is located in the north east of Rotherham Borough, adjacent to both Doncaster Borough and Nottinghamshire. It runs into the Doncaster Landscape Character Area C1: Stainton to Edlington Limestone Plateau and the Nottinghamshire Landscape Character Type Magnesian Limestone Ridge - Limestone Farmlands. Much of the Character Area is identified as an Area of High Landscape Value in the Rotherham UDP.

There are two sub areas within Sandbeck Parklands, the Core (10a) and the Fringes (10b) to the south. The Core area contains the registered parkland of the Sandbeck Estate, the most intact areas of landscape and other distinctive features such as Roche Abbey, Firbeck Hall and Maltby Crags. The Fringes sub area exhibits similar characteristics but the condition has been slightly eroded and there are fewer of the distinctive features.

Key Characteristics

- Parkland core associated with Sandbeck (and to a lesser extent Firbeck Hall)
- Main halls private and not visible from many of the surrounding public roads or rights of way. There are occasional glimpses of Sandbeck House and the area around it from the B6463
- Extensive woodland blocks within high quality agricultural land
- Gently undulating landform
- Narrow valleys associated with streams such as Maltby Dike and Firbeck Dike
- Presence of farm courts/model farms (also known as common farm courts when associated commons are present). Often converted now.
- Tenant farm houses and buildings associated with or previously associated with local estates

Distinctive Features

- Roche Abbey
- Roche Abbey SSSI
- Sandbeck Park
- Firbeck Hall
- Maltby Craggs, containing caves and exposed magnesian limestone geology
- Rough Park/Jubilee Plantation
- King's Wood
- Stone walls and gate piers
- The medieval village of Letwell, with its listed dovecot and historic parish church
- The former Firbeck Racecourse, home to the original St Leger horserace
- Maltby Dike and Firbeck Dike

10a. Sandbeck Parklands - Core

STRENGTH OF CHARACTER	WEAK	MODERATE	STRONG
S1 Impact of landform* S2 Impact of landcover* S3 Historic pattern* S4 Tranquillity S5 Distinctiveness/rarity S6 Visual unity	Insignificant Insignificant Insignificant Discordant Frequent Incoherent	Apparent Apparent Apparent Moderate Unusual Coherent	Dominant/Prominent Dominant/ Prominent Dominant/ Prominent Tranquil Unique/ rare Unified
Totals * Prime character categories if tie	0	2*	4**
CONDITION	POOR	MODERATE	GOOD
C1 Landcover Change C2 Age Structure of Tree Cover* C3 Extent of semi-natural habitat survival* C4 Management of semi-natural habitats C5 Survival of cultural pattern (fields and hedges) C6 Impact of built development*	Widespread Over mature Relic Poor Declining/Relic High	Localised Mature or young Scattered Not obvious Interrupted Moderate	Insignificant Mixed Widespread/ Linked Good Intact Low
Totals * Prime condition categories if tie	0	2	4***

MATRIX	Good	Strengthen and reinforce	Conserve and strengthen	Safeguard and manage
	Moderate	Improve and reinforce	Improve and conserve	Conserve and restore
	Poor	Reconstruct	Improve and restore	Restore condition to maintain character
	Condition			
		Weak	Moderate	Strong
		Strength of Character		

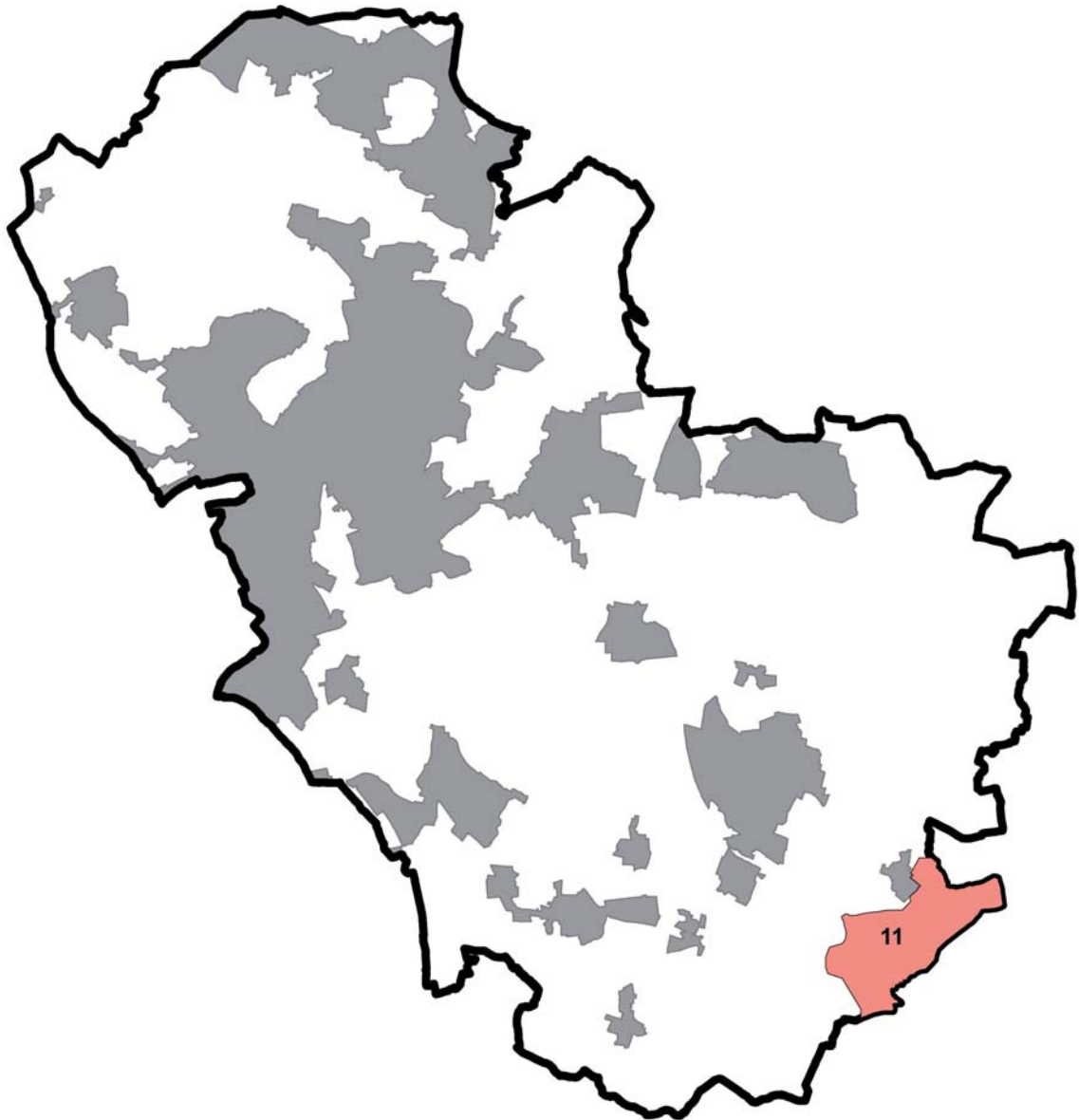
10b. Sandbeck Parklands - Fringes

STRENGTH OF CHARACTER	WEAK	MODERATE	STRONG
S1 Impact of landform* S2 Impact of landcover* S3 Historic pattern* S4 Tranquillity S5 Distinctiveness/rarity S6 Visual unity	Insignificant Insignificant Insignificant Discordant Frequent Incoherent	Apparent Apparent Apparent Moderate Unusual Coherent	Dominant/Prominent Dominant/ Prominent Dominant/Prominent Tranquil Unique/rare Unified
Totals * Prime character categories if tie	0	4**	2*
CONDITION	POOR	MODERATE	GOOD
C1 Landcover Change C2 Age Structure of Tree Cover* C3 Extent of semi-natural habitat survival* C4 Management of semi-natural habitats C5 Survival of cultural pattern (fields and hedges) C6 Impact of built development*	Widespread Over mature Relic Poor Declining/Relic High	Localised Mature or young Scattered Not obvious Interrupted Moderate	Insignificant Mixed Widespread/ Linked Good Intact Low
Totals * Prime condition categories if tie	0	5**	1*

MATRIX	Good	Strengthen and reinforce	Conserve and strengthen	Safeguard and manage
	Moderate	Improve and reinforce	Improve and conserve	Conserve and restore
	Poor	Reconstruct	Improve and restore	Restore condition to maintain character
	Condition			
		Weak	Moderate	Strong
		Strength of Character		

4.11 **11. Ryton Farmlands**

Location



Located in the east of Rotherham Borough, adjacent to Nottinghamshire, this small Character Areas forms part of a more extensive valley landscape. It runs into the Nottinghamshire Landscape Character Type Magnesian Limestone Ridge - Limestone Farmlands. Much of the Character Area is identified as an Area of High Landscape Value in the Rotherham UDP.

Key Characteristics

- Flat floodplain of the River Ryton
- Numerous small disused limestone quarries
- Small discrete woodland blocks
- Medium scale arable farmland with poor hedgerows
- Settlement generally isolated properties and small hamlets, constructed of limestone with pantile roofs
- The railway line between Worksop and Sheffield passes through area, as does the A57 and the Chesterfield Canal
- Areas of heathland, particularly around the golf course, typified by the presence of birch and gorse

Distinctive Features

- Lindrick Common and Golf Course
- The Chesterfield Canal and its Canal Feeder, which defined the activities that were undertaken historically in this area e.g. small limestone quarries
- The hamlet of Turnerwood
- Moses’ Seat/The Seat, a glacial feature known as a drumlin

STRENGTH OF CHARACTER	WEAK	MODERATE	STRONG
S1 Impact of landform* S2 Impact of landcover* S3 Historic pattern* S4 Tranquillity S5 Distinctiveness/rarity S6 Visual unity	Insignificant Insignificant Discordant Frequent Incoherent	Apparent Apparent Apparent Moderate Unusual Coherent	Dominant/ Prominent Dominant/Prominent Tranquil Unique/rare Unified
Totals * Prime character categories if tie	0	5**	1*
CONDITION	POOR	MODERATE	GOOD
C1 Landcover Change C2 Age Structure of Tree Cover* C3 Extent of semi-natural habitat survival* C4 Management of semi-natural habitats C5 Survival of cultural pattern (fields and hedges) C6 Impact of built development*	Widespread Over mature Relic Poor Declining/Relic High	Localised Mature or young Scattered Not obvious Interrupted Moderate	Insignificant Mixed Widespread/ Linked Good Intact Low
Totals * Prime condition categories if tie		4*	2**

MATRIX	Good	Strengthen and reinforce	Conserve and strengthen	Safeguard and manage
	Moderate	Improve and reinforce	Improve and conserve	Conserve and restore
	Poor	Reconstruct	Improve and restore	Restore condition to maintain character
		Weak	Moderate	Strong
	Condition	Strength of Character		

5 Landscape Sensitivity and Landscape Capacity of Potential Urban Extensions/ Urban Expansion Areas

5.1 The methodology to assess the capacity parcels of the landscape to accommodate development within this study is based on the approach promoted in Topic Paper 6 – 'Techniques and criteria for judging capacity and sensitivity', which forms part of the Countryside Agency and Scottish Heritage guidance 'Landscape Character Assessment Guidance for England and Scotland'. The paper explores current thinking and recent practice on judging capacity and sensitivity. Topic Paper 6 also reflects the thinking in the publication, 'Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment' 2002.

5.2 The methodology developed for this part of the study, relating to parcels of land within the Potential Urban Extensions/ Urban Expansion Areas, adopts the following premise that:

"existing landscape character sensitivity + visual sensitivity = Overall Landscape Sensitivity"

where the existing landscape character sensitivity relates to the strength or robustness of the characteristics of the landscape and the interactions between them; visual sensitivity relates to the visibility of the landscape and the extent to which potential visual impacts can be mitigated; and overall landscape sensitivity refers to the 'inherent' sensitivity of the landscape and does not relate to any specific type of development. An extract from Topic Paper 6 demonstrating this is provided at Appendix F.

5.3 A number of criteria have been used to identify both the landscape features that form part of the landscape character and the visual sensitivities. These criteria reflect the relevant criteria from the national guidance in Topic Paper 6, as discussed above, and the particular circumstances for the rural landscape of Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council in the context of proposed growth.

5.4 The following criteria have been used to reflect the landscape character sensitivity for this part of the study:

- slope analysis
- tree cover/hedgerow type pattern and enclosure
- the complexity and scale of the landscape including land use
- the condition or quality of the landscape

5.5 The following criteria have been used to reflect visual sensitivity:

- openness to public view
- openness to private views
- relationship with existing urban built form
- safeguarding of separation between settlements
- scope to mitigate the development

5.6 It is recognised that Topic Paper 6 makes reference to a wider range of factors within what is termed Landscape Character Sensitivity. However, in the context of this assessment it is assumed that other topics listed in Topic Paper 6 are covered elsewhere by assessments of Biodiversity and Cultural Heritage. It is considered that for the purpose of this assessment the main relevant existing landscape and visual factors are addressed in the above categories set out in 5.4-5.5. In regard to Visual Sensitivity the influence of landform and vegetation is not included twice, as suggested by Topic Paper 6, to avoid double counting.

5.7 The Overall Landscape Sensitivity profile provides an evaluation of the sensitivity of a number of 'Land Parcels' that have been identified in the field. The Land Parcels are individual fields or groups of fields that share common characteristics, such as topography and landuse. These are nested within the district scale Landscape Character Assessment areas. The scale of units is

considered appropriate to identify sensitivity and capacity in landscape terms to respond to proposed growth locations.

- 5.8 In order to assess an area's Overall Landscape Capacity, landscape value is added to the equation as follows.

$$\text{"Overall Landscape Sensitivity + Landscape Value = Overall Landscape Capacity"}$$

where overall landscape sensitivity refers to the 'inherent' sensitivity of the landscape and does not relate to any specific type of development; landscape value reflects landscape designations and other factors such as consensus on the value of the landscape, tranquillity and scenic beauty; and overall landscape capacity relates to the ability of a landscape to accommodate different amounts of change or development of a specific type. An extract from Topic Paper 6 demonstrating this is provided at Appendix F.

- 5.9 Questionnaires supplied during the initial stakeholder workshop (see Appendix C) included questions relating to the value placed on the different landscapes found throughout Rotherham Borough. In the light of limited response to the questions relating to value, the absence of any site specific stakeholder consultation, and based on the scale of the land parcels being considered, the landscape value was assessed by considering a combination of the following factors:

- landscape designations, including Areas of High Landscape Value and Registered Parks and Gardens
- assessed value of area for recreation and perceptual factors including tranquillity and scenic beauty

- 5.10 Although Areas of High Landscape Value are a Local Landscape Designation (see Section 6 for further information), they indicate an historic consensus on the value placed on the landscape, which has previously been endorsed by both the Council and local residents.

- 5.11 To effectively assess the landscape capacity of a site, an assumption was made as to the form that the potential development may take. For the purposes of this study it was assumed that residential areas would include predominantly two storey dwellings with a smaller proportion of 3 storeys. It was assumed that any employment uses would be located in the vicinity of existing employment areas unless identified differently within the LDF database of sites. Employment areas were assumed to comprise of 2-3 storey buildings. It was not anticipated that there will be any taller structures in the assessment unless otherwise stated in the detailed Land Parcel Sheets.

- 5.12 Each Parcel has been assessed against the criteria noted above, using a 5-point scale from A to E where A is most suitable for potential development and E least suitable. The definitions which have been devised for this particular study are contained in Table A below. A site visit to each land parcel has been a necessary pre-requisite to assess each criterion.

- 5.13 The entries were aggregated for each Land Parcel to provide both a Landscape Sensitivity Profile and a Landscape Capacity Profile.

- 5.14 It should be emphasized that no absolute conclusion should be drawn from the totals. There may be individual criteria at the E end of the scale that would suggest that development might be incompatible unless it can be effectively mitigated. It is important that the overall spread and balance of the profiles is fully considered, in order that one factor does not skew the outcome.

- 5.15 To aid these considerations a brief commentary of the key points has been provided under the following headings.

- Landscape Quality
- Existing settlements
- Overall Sensitivity

- 5.16 A measure has also been provided of the overall landscape capacity of the Land Parcels. This is an assessment based on the landscape capacity profile for each Parcel. It reflects the spread of scores in the profile, the maximum score in any given category, and the particular circumstances of the Parcel as assessed in the field, including landuse, perceived value and Parcel configuration. Capacity is broadly derived as the opposite of sensitivity, whilst allowing for consideration of the landscape value, in accordance with the following:
- High sensitivity = Low capacity
Medium – high sensitivity = Medium – low capacity
Medium sensitivity = medium capacity
Medium – low sensitivity = medium – high capacity
Low sensitivity = high capacity
- 5.17 This then provides a measure of both the sensitivity and the capacity of each Land Parcel in relation to the Borough as a whole. The relative sensitivity and capacity of Land Parcel within each potential urban extension should not be assessed in isolation from other Parcels in the rest of the District.
- 5.18 An indication has also been provided in regard to the likely capacity for a range of types of development and of a range of scales. The development types include:
- Residential
 - Employment – office
 - Employment – warehouse
- 5.19 In regard to the potential scale of residential development the following broad parameters have been assumed. Small = <100 units, medium = 100-500 units, large = > 500 units.
- 5.20 The results of the Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity study are provided at Appendix B and illustrated on Drawings 05-11. Each drawing relates to a separate potential urban extension/urban expansion area, as identified in the Rotherham LDF Core Strategy Revised Options (May 2009), 'Bassingthorpe Farm' (Drawing 06), 'Bramley and Wickersley' (Drawing 07), 'Dinnington East' (Drawing 10), 'Dinnington West' (Drawing 10), 'Wales and Kiveton Park' (Drawing 09), 'Wath, Brampton and West Melton' (Drawing 05), and 'Waverley' (Drawing 08), as well as the additional potential 'Green belt addition' at Thorpe Hesley (Drawing 11).
- 5.21 A total of 62 different Land Parcels were assessed in this part of the study. The completed Land Parcel Assessment Sheets and associated Overall Capacity values identified areas with relatively higher landscape capacity to accommodate new development. These included a single Parcel in the 'Wath, Brampton and West Melton' area, several more enclosed Parcels in the 'Bassingthorpe Farm' area, Parcels adjacent to the existing urban edge in the 'Bramley and Wickersley' area, the whole of the 'Waverley' area, Parcels to the south of Wales in the 'Wales and Kiveton Park' area, enclosed Parcels and those close to the urban edge in the 'Dinnington East' and 'Dinnington West' areas, and smaller enclosed Parcels in the Thorpe Hesley area.
- 5.22 Areas least suitable for development include a small Parcel in the 'Bassingthorpe Farm' area, prominent Parcels and those used for recreation in the 'Bramley and Wickersley' area, a prominent and exposed Parcel in the 'Wales and Kiveton Park' area, small scale Parcels in the 'Dinnington East' and 'Dinnington West' areas, and isolated Parcels in the Thorpe Hesley area.

Table A

Criteria group	Criteria	Measurement of criteria	Comments
Landscape Character	Slope analysis	<p>A= Plateau</p> <p>B= Rolling/undulating landform providing enclosure</p> <p>C= Valley Floor</p> <p>D= Tributary valleys/lower valley slopes/gentle side slopes</p> <p>E= Elevated landforms, plateau edge, ridges and prominent slopes on valley sides</p>	
	Enclosure by vegetation	<p>A= Enclosed by mature vegetation – extensive tree belts/woodland</p> <p>B= Semi-enclosed by vegetation - moderate woodland cover, good quality tall hedgerows/ hedgerows with hedgerow trees</p> <p>C= Fragmented vegetation - scattered small woodlands, fragmented shelterbelts and/or hedgerows</p> <p>D= Limited/poor hedges (with few /no trees) and/or isolated copses</p> <p>E= Largely open with minimal vegetation or dense woodland cover which would require removal to allow for development</p>	
	Complexity/ Scale	<p>A= Extensive simple landscape with single land uses</p> <p>B= Large scale landscape with limited land use and variety</p> <p>C= Large or medium scale landscape with variations in pattern, texture and scale</p> <p>D= Small or medium scale landscape with a variety in pattern, texture and scale</p> <p>E= Intimate and organic landscape with a richness in pattern, texture and scale</p>	
	Landscape Character Quality/ Condition	<p>A= Area of weak character in a poor condition</p> <p>B= Area of weak character in a moderate condition or of a moderate character in a poor condition</p> <p>C= Area of weak character in a good condition or of a moderate character in a</p>	

Criteria group	Criteria	Measurement of criteria	Comments
		moderate condition or of a strong character in a poor condition D= Area of moderate character in a good condition or of a strong character in a moderate condition E= Area of strong character in a good condition	
Visual Factors/ sensitivity	Openness to public view	A= Site is well contained from public views B= Site is generally well contained from public views C= Site is partially contained from public views D= Site is moderately open to public views E= Site is very open to public views	Public views will include views from Roads, Rights of Way and public open space. The evaluation considers a summer and winter evaluation. However due to the time of the study the winter evaluation was estimated based on the character of the vegetation. This criterion is also considered in association with 'Scope to mitigate the development' criteria. Score will depend on the extent of the visibility from the parcel perimeters and the rights of way through the site.
	Openness to private view	A= Site is well contained from private views B= Site is generally well contained from private views C= Site is partially contained from private views D= Site is moderately open to private views E= Site is very open to private views	This relates to private views from residential properties and private landholdings. The evaluation considers a summer and winter evaluation. However due to the time of the study the winter evaluation was estimated based on the character of the vegetation. This criterion is also considered in association with 'Scope to mitigate the development' criteria. The score will depend on the extent of the visibility from the parcel perimeters. A greater weight will also be given where there are relatively more private views affected.

Criteria group	Criteria	Measurement of criteria	Comments
	Relationship with existing urban built form	<p>A= Location where built development will form a natural extension of an adjacent part of the urban fabric</p> <p>B= Location where built development will form some close associations with the existing parts of the urban fabric</p> <p>C= Location where built development will form some moderate associations with the existing urban fabric</p> <p>D= Location where built development will only form some limited associations with the existing urban fabric due to major obstacles</p> <p>E= Location where development will be isolated from and not form any relationship with the existing urban fabric</p>	
	Safeguarding of settlement separation	<p>A= Development would not compromise any separation</p> <p>B= Development would have slight impact on separation</p> <p>C= Development would have moderate impact on separation</p> <p>D= Development would significantly compromise separation</p> <p>E= Development would cause complete coalescence</p>	
	Scope to mitigate the development	<p>A= Good scope to provide mitigation in the short to medium term in harmony with existing landscape pattern</p> <p>B= Good scope to provide mitigation in the medium term and in keeping with existing landscape pattern</p> <p>C= Moderate scope to provide mitigation in the medium term broadly in keeping with existing landscape pattern</p> <p>D= Limited scope to provide adequate mitigation in keeping with the existing landscape in the medium term</p> <p>E= Very limited scope to provide adequate mitigation in the medium to long term</p>	This is an assessment based on landscape character, aesthetic factors - scale, enclosure, pattern, movement – overall visibility of site and consideration of existing viewpoints

Criteria group	Criteria	Measurement of criteria	Comments
Landscape Value	Landscape designations	<p>A= Location where built development is unlikely to have any landscape or visual impact on landscape designations</p> <p>B= Location where built development will have slight landscape or visual impact on landscape designations</p> <p>C= Location where built development will have moderate landscape or visual impact on landscape designations</p> <p>D= Location where built development is adjacent to a landscape designation and /or will have high landscape or visual impact</p> <p>E= Location fully within existing landscape designations</p>	Landscape designations include Areas of High Landscape Value and Registered Parks and Gardens
	Value for recreation and perceptual factors	<p>A= No identified use for recreation/ poor scenic value and low tranquillity</p> <p>B= Minimal use for recreation/ low scenic value and low /moderate tranquillity</p> <p>C= Moderate use for recreation/ moderate scenic value and/or area of moderate tranquillity</p> <p>D= Moderate-high use for recreation/ moderate- high scenic value and/or area of moderate - high tranquillity</p> <p>E= High use for recreation/ high scenic value and/or area of high tranquillity</p>	This criteria is used as a proxy for Landscape Value in absence of specific stakeholder consultation, and includes consideration of value for recreation, rights of way, locally identified greenspace, remoteness/tranquillity and scenic beauty

6 Areas of High Landscape Value and current Sensitive Landscape Zones

Review of National Policy Context

6.1 Planning Policy Statement 7 – Sustainable Development in Rural Areas, is the key government policy document that Local Authorities should reflect and comply with in regard to Local Landscape Designations (LLDs). The current PPS7, published in 2004, includes a number of overarching principles. These include the support for raising the quality of life and the environment in rural areas, with the ‘continued protection of open countryside for the benefit of all.’ It sets out that sustainable patterns of development should focus development in or next to existing settlements, while also maximising the benefits of the urban fringe landscapes with leisure opportunities for the local population. In particular two of the Key Principles in PPS7 state:

“iv) *New building in the open countryside away from settlements or outside areas allocated for development in development plans should be strictly controlled; the Government’s overall aim is to protect the countryside for the sake of its intrinsic character and beauty, the diversity of its landscapes, heritage and wildlife, the wealth of its natural resources and so it may be enjoyed by all.*” (Our emphasis)

“vi) *All development in rural areas should be well designed and inclusive, in keeping and scale with its location, and sensitive to the character of the countryside and the local distinctiveness.*” (Our emphasis)

6.2 The most relevant section of the current PPS7 in relation to existing local designations reads as follows:

Local landscape designations

24. *The Government recognises and accepts that there are areas of landscape outside nationally designated areas that are particularly highly valued locally. The Government believes that carefully drafted, criteria-based policies in LDDs, utilising tools such as landscape character assessment, should provide sufficient protection for these areas, without the need for rigid local designations that may unduly restrict acceptable, sustainable development and the economic activity that underpins the vitality of rural areas.*

25. *Local landscape designations should only be maintained or, exceptionally, extended where it can be clearly shown that criteria-based planning policies cannot provide the necessary protection. LDDs should state what it is that requires extra protection, and why. When reviewing their local area-wide development plans and LDDs, planning authorities should rigorously consider the justification for retaining existing local landscape designations. They should ensure that such designations are based on a formal and robust assessment of the qualities of the landscape concerned.”*

6.3 The above paragraphs are essential to setting out the basis for rigorously testing the place for Areas of High Landscape Value (AHLVs) within Rotherham. The particular points to note from paras 24 and 25 are:

- There is a general presumption in paragraph 24 against local landscape designations and rather a reliance on criteria based policies supported by Landscape Character Assessment to provide sufficient protection of locally valued landscapes.
- According to paragraph 25 there is scope to retain Local Landscape Designations only when a number of factors are met, which are shown below with our comments:
 - a) Where criteria based policies (i.e. non area based policies) cannot work for the areas involved in terms of providing suitable protection from a variety of proposed development.
 - PPS7 does not detail what would show that criteria policies cannot work, however it is anticipated this could involve evidence such as lost appeals on landscape grounds or situations where an authority may be under extensive development pressure which could have a direct or indirect impact on existing locally valued landscapes. If this approach implies that criteria based policies would have to be established in place in

of a previous LLD and then be seen to fail before a LLD is seen as appropriate and necessary, then it would probably be too late to counter the impact of potentially damaging applications that had been approved by the testing of the criteria approach alone. An alternative transition should therefore be considered.

- b) The features to be protected need to be identified.
 - This would be best carried out through a comprehensive Landscape Character Assessment.
- c) The reasons why the features need protection need to be clearly stated.
- d) LLDs will only be allowed if they are supported through a formal and robust assessment of the qualities of the landscape concerned.
 - This would again be through a Landscape Character Assessment and further supplemented by studies that look at issues of Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity.

Review of Areas of High Landscape Value in Rotherham's Rural Areas

- 6.4 As discussed in section 2 of this report, saved Policies ENV1.1 and ENV1.2 of the Rotherham Unitary Development Plan identify Areas of High Landscape Value within Rotherham Borough. This designation was originally referred to as Areas of County Landscape Value and identified in the South Yorkshire Structure Plan (1980). Prior to the Structure Plan, the West Riding County Development Plan (1st Review) (1966) identified Areas of Great Landscape Value within the whole of the West Riding of Yorkshire. The Areas of County Landscape Value identified in the South Yorkshire Structure Plan were based on the locations where the West Riding Areas of Great Landscape Value coincided with areas of 'Grade 1 and 2 landscape quality' as identified in a County Environmental Study undertaken by South Yorkshire County Council in 1977.
- 6.5 The County Environmental Study involved a two-stage assessment process. The first stage involved fieldwork to assess a sample of the landscapes throughout the County. A survey team consisting of a landscape architect, a town planner, a geographer, an ecologist, and architect and an engineer visited between them a sample of 102 square kilometres. Each square was graded between 0 (minimum score) and 100 (maximum score) for the quality of its landscape. A moderation process was also undertaken, based on control squares and each assessor's thoughts on the best and worst landscapes in the British Isles.
- 6.6 The second stage was a desk-based analysis of the whole of the South Yorkshire County, assessed as kilometre squares. This used mapping and aerial photography to measure and record components of the landscape, under the following categories:
- A Landform
 - B Land use
 1. Agriculture (arable, grassland rotation, market gardening and allotments)
 2. Rough Pasture (hill pasture, permanent grassland)
 3. Moorland (heather, gorse, scrub, bracken, open rocks)
 4. Deciduous Woodland (including orchards)
 5. Coniferous Woodland
 6. Parkland (Country estates~ golf courses)
 7. Open space (parks, recreation grounds, cemeteries, sports grounds, airfields)
 8. Water (including marsh)
 9. Residential (including caravans)
 10. Industry
 11. Derelict, despoiled and degraded - tipping

12. Derelict, despoiled and degraded - surface (including derelict buildings)
13. Derelict, despoiled and degraded - excavation
14. Large groups of farm buildings
15. Roads (motorways, A, B or C class roads)
16. Railways (including marshalling yards)
17. Other developed land (schools, hospitals, shops, car parks etc.)
18. Peat Workings
19. River embankments

C Land features

1. Power lines
2. Hedgerows
3. Escarpments
4. Listed Buildings

6.7 Following this process, a weighting was calculated for a number of the above variables, based on the significance of the impact of the features on landscape quality. The study states that *"the absence of unsightly features contributes more to a pleasant landscape than the presence of attractive features"*. Scores were derived for each kilometre square and this was found to provide similar results to the fieldwork undertaken for sample squares. The overall scores were then banded in order to illustrate areas of 'very good', 'good', 'average', 'poor' and 'very poor'. Figure 9 below illustrates the findings of this study.

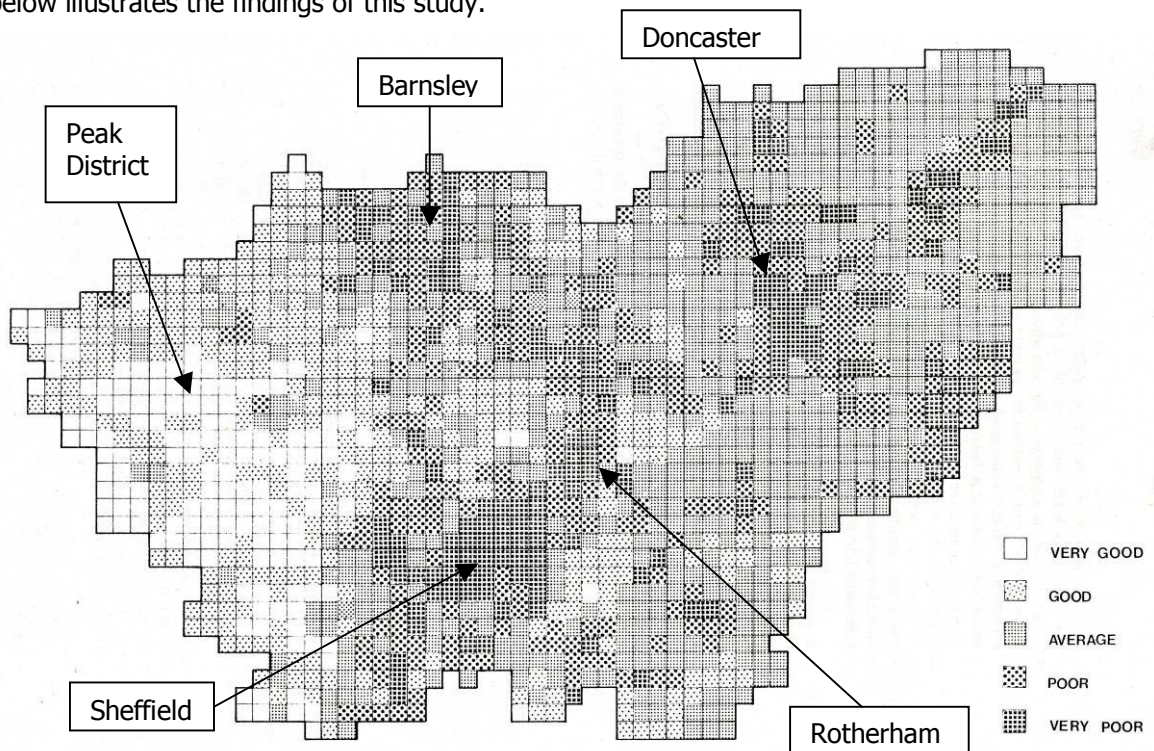


Figure 9 - South Yorkshire County Environmental Study – Landscape Quality

6.8 The structure plan identified two Areas of County Landscape Value within Rotherham Borough, one centred on Wentworth and one stretching along the eastern boundary of the Borough from Sandbeck to Harthill. Criteria from the County Study were then used at the Borough scale to assist with defining the boundaries of the Areas of County Landscape Value. This led to an additional three Areas being identified, which surrounded Hooton Roberts, Dalton Dean and Ulley-Whiston.

The Rotherham Green Belt Local Plan (1990) identified the boundaries of the Areas for the first time, with the boundaries relating to features on the ground such as field boundaries and lanes.

- 6.9 These designated Areas were retained in the 1999 Unitary Development Plan. Minor 'drafting changes' were made to the Areas at this time, and they were renamed Areas of High Landscape Value. The policies within the UDP are currently saved and are as follows:

Policy ENV1.1 Areas of High Landscape Value

"The following areas, whose boundaries are defined on the Proposals Map, are designated as Areas of High Landscape Value:

*Wentworth,
Sandbeck-Harthill,
Hooton Roberts,
Dalton Dean, and
Ulley-Whiston."*

Policy ENV1.2 Development in Areas of High Landscape Value

"In Areas of High Landscape Value, development other than for agriculture will only be allowed where it will not result in a significant, and permanent adverse impact on the landscape. New agricultural buildings and ancillary development requiring planning permission will normally be allowed, provided they are not detrimental to the local environment, as will agricultural dwellings where a genuine agricultural need for them is demonstrated. Strict control will be exercised over any development that does take place to ensure that the visual character of these areas is not affected."

- 6.10 The preamble associated with the policies outlines some of the history behind the designations, as discussed above, and explanation of some of the development/activities that would and would not be acceptable in the Areas of High Landscape Value. This includes the following:

"6.4.15 ... Notwithstanding the blanket protection of the Green Belt, these policies provide additional protection so that only development essential to Areas of High Landscape Value locations or which enhance their character is permitted, and any development that does take place is of a particularly high standard and will respect the local context provided by buildings, street patterns, historic plot patterns, building materials, building frontages, topography, established public views, landmark buildings, roof detail, important landscape features and other relevant design elements ... The defined Areas include those parts of the transferred Green Belt referred to in paragraph 6.4.7 which have been included in broadly similar designations by neighbouring authorities or which form a logical extension to the RGBP Areas.

6.4.16 Recreation activities may be accommodated in Areas of High Landscape Value where they are quiet and passive and do not prejudice wildlife, landscape and amenity interests. Consequently there will be instances where certain formal recreational uses cannot be satisfactorily accommodated in these areas, which are best suited to low-key, informal recreational activities that relate to existing natural features, and respect the scale and character of their surroundings. An exception may be made, however, in respect of facilities directly related to country parks within them (presently Ulley and Thrybergh) provided that they otherwise satisfy Green Belt policies. Similarly, the sensitive provision of new facilities associated with the recreational use of the Chesterfield Canal ... or with the tourism development of other appropriate features ... will not be seen as contrary to this Policy."

- 6.11 Whilst there is historical reference to the origins of the Areas of High Landscape Value, there is no detailed justification of the boundaries of these Areas. Much of the work that the AHLVs were derived from, whilst based on thinking that was best practice at the time, is no longer the accepted approach to identifying sensitive or valued landscapes. There have also been many changes in the landscape since the original survey work was undertaken in the late 1970s. The use of Landscape Character Assessment is now widely advocated as a strong basis for identifying sensitive landscapes and the work to date on a Landscape Character Assessment for Rotherham Metropolitan Borough suggests that the AHLVs no longer fully match the most sensitive landscapes in the Borough (see Drawing 04).

Review of the use of Local Landscape Designations in England

- 6.12 There are a range of approaches to the use of Local Landscape Designations within English Local Authorities. This variety broadly speaking reflects the ongoing transition from the previous use of Locally Designated Landscapes (dating back to the 1950's) such as AHLVs to a more Landscape Character Based approach. This change reflects the advice first given in PPG7 in 1997.
- 6.13 The general trend is that many authorities have carried out or commissioned Landscape Character Assessments since 1997. These have been applied at differing scales of detail and using a range of methods (as is allowed for in the 2002 guidance). Many of these assessments are now supported by Criteria based Policies in Local Plans and LDF's. This move to Landscape Character Assessment seems to be strongly supported at a County level. This may reflect the fact that County level studies are completed at a more general scale and a number of District Councils have yet to complete their character assessments. It may also reflect County Councils taking a more strategic view and being less involved with the development control issues that will arise from contentious development in the countryside.
- 6.14 A number of Local Authorities have retained LLDs in their Local Plans/LDFs. In some cases there is limited evidence in terms of a landscape character assessment to support their inclusion, whilst other authorities, e.g. High Peak District, have stated that they will be maintaining LLDs until their landscape character assessment is effectively completed. In reality where LLDs are retained these often do not correlate in spatial terms within the Landscape Character Areas identified during the landscape character assessment approach.
- 6.15 This retention of LLDs in Local Plans/LDFs without a supporting landscape character assessment may be due to an underlying reluctance to lose what many, including some planning officers, council members, parish councils and the general public, consider to have been an effective landscape protection policy. The idea of a defined area being protected by a single policy, particularly in authorities where there are no other nationally designated landscapes, e.g. National Parks and AONB, has been in place over many years. LLDs in the eyes of many have a longstanding track record of being an easily understood and effective planning tool. Furthermore to replace the historic approach of LLDs with what at first may seem to be a more complicated landscape character approach causes some reticence about how effective the resultant policies would be in protecting the landscape from inappropriate development. This may particularly be the case for authorities that are facing pressures for considerable new development such as in the growth areas/points. To effectively introduce a change in attitude on this subject can involve a considerable degree of ongoing encouragement, education to the process involved and, most importantly, seeing it effectively applied to planning applications in practice.

Countryside Agency – Local Landscape Designations Study – National Review

- 6.16 In recognition of the various approaches taken throughout England, the Countryside Agency commissioned Chris Blandford Associates to undertake a fact finding review of how authorities are approaching LLDs in the light of PPS7 – whether they are moving away with alternative approaches or further justifying them based on LCA. As well as the fact finding, the study aims to find out how LCA based approaches and/or LLDs are being used to manage development and whether they are also encouraging more positive planning and management of landscapes themselves.
- 6.17 The Final Report was produced in June 2006 and selected relevant findings were as follows:
- 154 responses from local authorities = 42% of those invited.
 - 105 of the respondents (67%) still had some form of LLD in their Local Plans, Unitary Development Plans or Structure Plans.
 - 87 authorities (56%) had carried out a landscape character assessment in one form or another.
 - 40% of the 105 with LLDs had used landscape character assessment to define the LLD boundaries.

- Many of those who had not used the LCA approach said that the boundaries dated back to a time before landscape character area guidance.
- The majority of local authorities used landscape character assessment as an evidence base for development plans and LDFs and a wide range of other uses including: a development control tool linked to criteria based policies, as a focus for landscape enhancement schemes and target funding.
- Local authorities said that Planning Inspectors supported the use of LLDs where they were supported by LCA, were established for a significant period of time and where they related to areas of high quality.
- Of the respondents, 36% were intending to retain LLDs in LDFs, while 43% said they were considering alternatives to LLDs such as criteria based policies.

6.18 In summary the findings of the Countryside Agency study are that there is a variation in the approaches currently being taken by local authorities. A significant proportion of authorities are moving away from LLDs to the use of criteria based policies, while others are seeking to retain LLDs but with them being informed by the LCA approach. This has been referred to as the 'combined approach'. This joint approach is being favoured by some authorities who feel that there is a need for a type of LLD to fill a potential policy vacuum. A further significant proportion of authorities appear to be unclear or as yet undecided. This variation reflects a lack of clear guidance from central government agencies.

Review of Local Landscape Designations in surrounding Authorities

6.19 All of the Local Authorities surrounding Rotherham Borough have had, at least at some point in time, local landscape designations that were reflected in Local Plan Policies. The designations in Barnsley, Doncaster and Sheffield were derived from the same surveys and policy documents as the ones within Rotherham Borough. In Derbyshire, the designation of Special Landscape Areas was based on a Visual Quality Assessment undertaken in the late 1970s and pre dates a countywide Landscape Character Assessment being undertaken. The Landscape Character Assessment of Derbyshire does not refer to or test the Special Landscape Areas. In Nottinghamshire, Mature Landscape Areas were designated, which were identified as part of a Landscape Character Assessment for the County.

Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council

6.20 Barnsley's Adopted UDP contained Policy GS13 - Areas of Borough Landscape Value. This policy has not been saved during the LDF process and is no longer a consideration in planning decisions. The Revised Preferred Options consultation document for the Core Strategy (June 2009) includes a preferred policy relating to Landscape Character, as follows:

"CSP44 Landscape Character

We will only allow development that is not harmful to the character of the landscape and does not adversely affect:

Geology

Topography

Soils

Tree cover

Settlement pattern or

Land use

We will assess the effect of development on the character of the landscape using the Landscape Character Assessment"

6.21 The supporting text to this draft policy refers to the Borough wide Landscape Character Assessment and the 6 character types and 17 Landscape Character Areas identified in the study. Planning applications would be assessed against the policy and with reference to the Landscape Character Assessment. This demonstrates a complete move away from Local Landscape Designations.

Doncaster Council

- 6.22 The Adopted Doncaster Unitary Development Plan contains Policy SENV3 and Policy ENV17, both of which relate to Areas of Special Landscape Value. This included two areas identified at the South Yorkshire County level via the same process as Rotherham's. An additional five Areas were identified at the Borough level when boundaries were defined for the UDP. The wording of Policy ENV17 is as follows:

"ENV 17

WITHIN AREAS OF SPECIAL LANDSCAPE VALUE, AS DEFINED ON THE PROPOSALS MAP, PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT OF THE LANDSCAPE WILL BE THE OVERRIDING FACTOR IN CONSIDERING PROPOSALS FOR DEVELOPMENT. SUCH DEVELOPMENT AS IS ACCEPTABLE WILL ONLY BE PERMITTED WHERE IT WOULD NOT DETRACT FROM THE VISUAL CHARACTER OF THE AREA AND WHERE THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF DESIGN AND LANDSCAPING ARE EMPLOYED"

- 6.23 Subsequently, a Borough wide Landscape Character Assessment has been undertaken. The Core Strategy: Preferred Options document (December 2005) indicates a preference for retention of ASLVs. The supporting text for Policy CS-N4 of this document indicates that the ASLVs represent the *"best and most typical examples of the landscape character areas"*. However, this appears to be despite there being no correlation between the boundaries of the ASLVs and the Character Areas. The Landscape Character Assessment refers to an earlier document in the preparation of the Core Strategy, which suggests that the Local Landscape Designations should be retained, and potentially extended, as they are valued by local people and easily understood by developers.

Sheffield City Council

- 6.24 The Sheffield City UDP (1998) included Policy GE8 – Areas of High Landscape Value. This policy was intended to protect and enhance the landscape in 'areas of the countryside which are very attractive and which have a special character'. This policy was saved whilst the Core Strategy was prepared but has now been deleted. The adopted Core Strategy does not provide any replacement for the policy and the Council does not have a Landscape Character Assessment.

Bolsover District Council - Derbyshire

- 6.25 The Adopted Bolsover Local Plan mentions Special Landscape Areas, which were designated at a County level. The Local Plan does not contain any policies to protect the Special Landscape Areas, but refers to policies within the County Structure Plan. The Structure Plan policies (Environment Policies 1-3) require the character of the landscape to be conserved and enhanced (although no reference is made to a Landscape Character Assessment) and development to not impact on landscape quality. Work on the LDF to date does not appear to have addressed either Landscape Character Assessment or Local Landscape Designations.

North East Derbyshire District Council - Derbyshire

- 6.26 The Adopted version of the North East Derbyshire Local Plan contains policies on Landscape Character and Special Landscape Areas as follows:

Landscape Character

2.12 Local authorities, in partnership with the Countryside Agency, have undertaken an assessment of all the types of landscape in Derbyshire to identify the landscape components that contribute to local distinctiveness and diversity. The Landscape Character of Derbyshire (2004) document will be used to inform the planning process to seek to ensure that the character of the different areas in the District are respected and where possible, enhanced through development.

2.13 Landscape character is an important consideration for all development within the countryside but is particularly important when developing on the edge of existing settlements, ensuring the transition between the urban and rural environment is sensitively and appropriately achieved. It is important that new development fits well within the context of the settlement and the countryside.

2.14 Proposals for new development will also be encouraged to respect and adopt the features that make the landscape distinctive, and locally important landscape features should be protected

during construction work. Planning conditions will be used to achieve this where appropriate. The loss of distinctive features that contribute towards and add value to the landscape character (such as dry stone walls, hedgerows, plant species and building materials) will be resisted.

NE1 Landscape Character

The varied and distinctive landscape character of the District should be conserved and/or enhanced. Development proposals that would result in the loss of distinctive features that contribute towards and add value to the landscape character of an area will not be permitted.

Special Landscape Areas

2.15 The Derbyshire Special Landscape Area Local Plan (June 1988) produced by Derbyshire County Council sets out the areas designated as Special Landscape Areas. This system of local landscape designation has been incorporated into the Derbyshire Structure Plan and District Local Plan since this time. Special Landscape Areas are examples of the finest Derbyshire landscape outside the Peak District National Park and represent those areas of landscape most similar in character to the Peak District National Park and are mainly found within the north and western part of this District. In Special Landscape Areas, new development or major extensions to existing development will only be permitted where development would not detract from the surrounding landscape, nor adversely affect the setting of any heritage or wildlife resource. Other development proposals should respect and adopt the features that contribute to the character of the area and not detract from the visual, nature conservation and heritage value of the area.

2.16 Special care should be taken to protect features of high visual amenity visible from important viewpoints, even where these viewpoints are outside the Special Landscape Area. Special care should also be taken to ensure that new development or extensions to existing development on land adjoining the Special Landscape Area does not intrude into these areas and does not have a detrimental effect on the character and function of the Special Landscape Area.

NE2 Special Landscape Areas

Within Special Landscape Areas as defined on the Proposal Maps, development will be permitted where:

- (a) it would not materially detract from the surrounding landscape, nor adversely affect the setting of any heritage or wildlife resources; and
- (b) the siting, scale, design, landscape treatment and the use and colour of materials in any building or engineering works are in keeping with the special character of the area; and
- (c) it would not unduly disturb or detract from the visual amenity of an area by the attraction of large numbers of people or excessive traffic.

In addition, new development or extensions to existing development on land adjoining a Special Landscape Area will be permitted provided it would not have a detrimental effect on the visual amenity, character and function of the Special Landscape Area.

- 6.27 These policies are currently saved and work on the LDF to date does not appear to have addressed either Landscape Character Assessment or Local Landscape Designations.

Bassetlaw District Council - Nottinghamshire

- 6.28 The Bassetlaw Adopted Local Plan includes Policy 6/4 – Special Landscape and Heritage Area and Policy 6/5 – Mature Landscape Areas. The first of these seeks to control development in the Sherwood Forest area. The second policy seeks to prevent, as far as possible, development that would damage or detract from Mature Landscape Areas. These were identified as part of the Countywide Landscape Character Assessment undertaken for Nottinghamshire. These policies are currently saved, although the designations are not referred to in the Core Strategy Issues and Options Consultation document. The Issues and Options document does refer to Landscape Character Assessment and seeks opinion as to whether policies should be included within the Core Strategy in relation to development proposals.

Review of Local Landscape Designations in Other Growth Area/Point Locations

- 6.29 Other authorities considered include Cambridgeshire, where there has been a complete move from Areas of Best Landscape to the landscape character approach. Peterborough Council has some similarities to Rotherham, being a unitary authority with some associated rural areas. They are currently reviewing the Areas of Best Landscape and are seeking to adopt a character based

approach. This is the preferred option for their Core Strategy, which is still under preparation. Ashford Borough Council still had Special Landscape Areas until fairly recently. In their adopted Core Strategy, Special Landscape Areas were retained until a Development Plan Document relating to rural areas had been produced that would indicate whether they should be retained and provide justification for the approach taken. A detailed landscape character study was carried out in 2005 to inform growth options around Ashford, with additional work undertaken in 2009 to provide a comprehensive assessment of the whole Borough. This has led to the inclusion of a criteria based policy, related to the Landscape Character Assessment, being included in the Regulation 27 - Publication version of the 'Tenterden and Rural Sites development plan document'.

- 6.30 In Cheshire West and Chester, a newly formed unitary authority and growth point, Areas of Special County Value are still referred to in the Issues and Options for the Core Strategy. The Areas of Special County Value are also still within the saved policies in the Local Plans of the Councils that now make up Cheshire West and Chester. The former Structure Plan policy that these designations stemmed from, however, has been replaced by a policy in the North West Regional Spatial Strategy that requires detailed Landscape Character Assessments to be the basis of policies relating to landscape and refers only to Nationally Designated Landscapes, not Local Landscape Designations.
- 6.31 Within Leicestershire, which forms part of the 6 Cs Growth Point (Leicestershire County Council, Leicester City Council, Nottinghamshire County Council, Nottingham City Council, Derbyshire County Council, Derby City Council), policies relating to Areas of Particularly Attractive Countryside have generally been saved by Local Authorities. Most of the Local Authorities within Leicestershire have now undertaken detailed Landscape Character Assessments and there is emerging evidence that several of the Local authorities are now moving towards Landscape Character criteria based policies, including Hinkley and Bosworth Borough Council and Harborough District Council.
- 6.32 In Staffordshire, which contains the Stafford and East Staffordshire Growth Points, the County Structure Plan identified Special Landscape Areas, although there was no specific policy relating to this designation. The latest adopted Structure Plan recommended that Local Authorities reviewed the Special Landscape Areas, particularly in relation to a countywide Landscape Character Assessment that had been produced. Stafford Borough Council has not saved policies relating to the Special Landscape Areas and references Landscape Character Assessment work in the Issues and Options for their Core Strategy.

Review of criteria based policies in England

- 6.33 A number of Local Authorities have adopted a criteria based approach to planning policies in contrast to the area designations of LLDs. Examples are provided in Appendix G. There are a variety of ways this is done as described below.

Hart District

- 6.34 Hart District produced (saved) Policy GEN 3, in line with government advice, which supports development as long as it does not adversely affect the particular character of the landscape. It identifies the approach in the supporting text and provides details of the key characteristics of each of the fifteen character areas identified. Further reference is made to the detailed 'Hart District Landscape Assessment', which should be used for the purposes of appraising proposed developments. The approach taken seems to balance providing key information in the Local Plan with reference to the fuller text and guidance. The assessment is used by planning and landscape staff in the council, but the full assessment is not adopted as a SPG or SPD and this should ideally be achieved to give additional weight.

High Peak Borough

- 6.35 The district included (saved) Policy OC4 on Landscape Character in the 2005 Local Plan. This highlights the generic issues that need to be addressed in any development in relationship to landscape character. This was produced in advance of a detailed landscape character assessment being available for the district. In these circumstances (saved) Policy OC3 – Special Landscape Area Development was retained. However in paragraph 4.17 it was indicated that the SLA policy

would only be in place until Character Assessment work is completed. The Issues and Options consulted on during the ongoing preparation for the Core Strategy suggests a Landscape Character based approach to managing development in the countryside. No option was presented that suggested the retention of Special Landscape Areas.

Bath & North East Somerset

- 6.36 The Bath & North East Somerset Revised Deposit Local Plan 2003 refers in paragraph C2.7 to 'Rural Landscapes of Bath & North East Somerset: A Landscape Character Assessment' published in April 2003, which forms Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) to (saved) Policy NE.1. Policy NE.1 is a simple policy stating that: 'development which does not either conserve or enhance the character and local distinctiveness of the landscape will not be permitted'. No further information is provided in terms of the areas or key characteristics in the Local Plan, however its status as SPG gives additional weight when used in relation to planning applications. The Local Plan includes a further policy NE3 to specifically protect the landscape qualities of the important Hillside areas around Bath. This is a type of LLD but is partially justified on the basis of the city's World Heritage site status. A draft replacement policy in the Spatial Options Consultation Document for Bath and North East Somerset's Core Strategy recommends updating the Landscape Character Assessment and seeks to 'Protect, promote and enhance the distinctive qualities and features of the local landscape character'.

South Gloucestershire District

- 6.37 The 2006 Adopted Local Plan has (saved) Policy L1 for the protection and enhancement of the landscape. This is supported by extensive text on various aspects of landscape assessment. In our opinion not all of the text is required in the Local Plan, but is better included in the separate Character Assessment. In contrast, the list of 21 character areas is not given or the key characteristics relating to them. However paragraph 4.17 refers to the detailed character assessment, which was adopted as a SPD. The LCA was subject to extensive consultation in its development. It is the intention to provide further detailed guidance through a landscape strategy for the district relating to each of the character areas.

West Sussex County

- 6.38 The County Structure Plan 2001-2016 includes a whole section on Character. Policy CH1 refers to the character of both natural and built features and refers to the five natural areas in the County. Paragraph 297 also refers to a more detailed LCA, which identifies 45 areas, although these are not listed or further detailed in the Structure Plan. It clearly says that there is no judgment in these areas in regard to 'relative worth' and although there are AONBs in West Sussex there are no further Local Landscape Designations. The Local Plans are required to include policies on character listing the generic elements that should be included in the assessment of character. Paragraph 311 details the strategies that have been developed to provide additional information on various aspects of character, although their status is not clarified. Paragraph 312 requires local authorities to further the understanding and work in regard to character. This policy was saved until the adoption of the South East Plan RSS, but has now ceased to be in force. The RSS contains Policy C4: Landscape and Countryside Management, which requires Local Authorities to 'protect and enhance, the diversity and local distinctiveness of the region's landscape, informed by landscape character assessment'.

Central Bedfordshire Council

- 6.39 The 2009 Adopted Core Strategy and Development Management Strategy for the Former Mid Bedfordshire part of Central Bedfordshire includes policy CS16: Landscape and Woodland. The Policy seeks to conserve, enhance and where appropriate protect the landscapes of the Council's area, and makes specific reference to a District wide Landscape Character Assessment. The document is described as a "*comprehensive landscape evidence base to help underpin planning and management decisions in the district*". Three aspects included in the Policy are:

- *Conserve and enhance the varied countryside character and local distinctiveness in accordance with the findings of the Mid Bedfordshire Landscape Character Assessment;*
- *Resist development where it will have an adverse effect on important landscape features or highly sensitive landscapes;*
- *Require development to enhance landscapes of lesser quality in accordance with the Landscape Character Assessment*

Mole Valley District Council

- 6.40 The Mole Valley Adopted Core Strategy (October 2009) includes a section on A Continuing High Quality Environment. This includes Policy CS 13 on Landscape Character, which requires development to respect or enhance the landscape character of the whole District with extra protection given to Designated Landscapes. Within the District a full Landscape Character Assessment is under preparation and Local Landscape Designations have been retained until such time as there has been a review of an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and the Landscape Character Assessment is complete. It is the intention the completed Landscape Character assessment will assist in identifying key landscape features and the character and distinctiveness of each landscape character area.

North Norfolk District Council

- 6.41 The North Norfolk Core Strategy Incorporating Development Control Policies, as Adopted in September 2008, contains Policy EN 2 on the Protection and Enhancement of Landscape and Settlement Character. The preamble to the policy recommends that the Landscape Character Assessment produced for the District is used to *"ensure that development proposals reflect the distinctive character, qualities and sensitivities of the area"*. The Policy requires development proposals to demonstrate that *"their location, scale, design and materials will protect, conserve and, where possible, enhance:*

the special qualities and local distinctiveness of the area (including its historical, biodiversity and cultural character)

gaps between settlements, and their landscape setting

distinctive settlement character

the pattern of distinctive landscape features, such as watercourses, woodland, trees and field boundaries, and their function as ecological corridors for dispersal of wildlife
visually sensitive skylines, hillsides, seascapes, valley sides and geological features"

Concluding remarks on criteria based policies

- 6.42 The examples above show a variety of approaches. From this range the following features of best practice should be included in any landscape orientated criteria based policy for Rotherham:
- Reference to the main generic issues that should be considered in assessing character
 - Avoiding extensive use of landscape jargon and methodology in the text
 - Promoting specific guidance for enhancements to the landscape whether related to a new development or in the general management of the landscape resource
 - Reference to a supporting District Scale Landscape Character Assessment. (Whilst this is an outline document at present, a full detailed Landscape Character Assessment should ideally be produced in future.)
 - Ideally, adoption of the detailed Landscape Character Assessment as a SPD. Inclusion in the LDF background documents should be a minimum requirement.
 - Where possible a plan showing the areas should be included in the preamble to the policy, and reference made to the names of the landscape character areas, even if an outline description of the landscape character areas and the key characteristics cannot be included

6.43 It is generally considered that detailed reference to the acceptability of certain types of development in landscape character areas should not be included in the character assessment statements. This should be part of separate sensitivity and capacity studies that relate to particular types of development such as minerals, wind farms and built development as each will vary in the important factors and the potential impact on the landscape.

Recommended approach in Rotherham

6.44 It is not considered that there is strong enough justification for the Areas of High Landscape to be retained in the longer term. As identified in paragraph 6.11, the methodology originally used to identify the Areas is no longer best practice and there have been many changes to the landscape since they were identified. Government guidance also requires strong justification for the retention of Local Landscape Designations, which is not provided by the initial work undertaken in this study to assess Landscape Character across Rotherham Metropolitan Borough (see Drawing 04).

6.45 The use of Landscape Character Assessment dates back to the early 1990s and is now widely established. It is rooted in the concept that all landscapes are distinctive and have characteristics that should be identified and that by identifying these that the landscape can be enhanced and developed in a manner that fosters the local and regional variations that exist within the English Landscape. This is also the approach recommended in Planning Policy Statement 7 for identifying and protecting locally valued landscapes.

6.46 It is acknowledged that Locally Designated Landscapes have been in place for many decades throughout much of England. Over the years an understandable attachment has been made to these areas and the associated policies as they have helped to provide another level of protection for parts of the countryside. There is often concern amongst officers, members and the public that replacing Locally Designated Landscapes with a Landscape Character approach over the whole countryside will weaken the previously designated areas and lead to undesirable development being more difficult to resist in policy terms. However, the use of detailed character assessments, together with guidelines and, where necessary, sensitivity and capacity assessments, can serve to provide suitable protection of existing features and encourage appropriate improvements and or mitigation.

6.47 The current AHLVs in Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council do not have a structured description of the areas and the features that make them distinctive or any guidelines for managing change. It is considered that such descriptions and guidelines as provided within a detailed Landscape Character Assessment, if correctly applied, will provide more specific measures to test the appropriateness of a development and if it is acceptable to provide an improved scheme in landscape terms. Furthermore and most importantly, this measure of enhancement and protection through a Landscape Character Assessment can be extended to all the rural landscapes by the use of criteria based policies. This can overcome the criticism that the areas outside of AHLVs seem less protected by default.

6.48 It is therefore important that a more structured Landscape Character Assessment approach is introduced and used in the authority. However, the Landscape Character Assessment work undertaken for this study is of an outline nature. Whilst this identifies Landscape Character Areas, their key characteristics and distinctive features, as well as the inherent sensitivity of the Landscape Character Areas, this is not a full Landscape Character Assessment. Further work is required to describe the historical, cultural and natural factors that have combined to create the different Landscape Character Areas, as well as to identify guidelines for the future management of the landscape and development within each of the Landscape Character Areas. Production of a full Landscape Character Assessment would ideally involve specialist contributions from specialists in areas such as ecology and cultural heritage to add richness and detail to the document which would include for each Landscape Character Area:

- Summary Page
- Assessment Page – covering more detail of ecology, history, settlements, designations
- Evaluation Page – covering Stakeholder value and comments, impact of built development, visibility of area and a condition/strength of character matrix

- Guidelines – To include an overall landscape strategy and detailed guidelines for each area and sub area to guide countryside management and development issues.

6.49 Production of the guidelines, in particular, will be vital to ensuring protection of the landscape through a criteria based policy. These will help to guide development decision and influence mitigation requirements, as well as assist with more general management of the countryside. It is not considered that it would be advisable to completely remove policy relating to Areas of High Landscape Value without this information being available. Recommendations for Core Strategy policy wording and supporting justification on landscape protection and enhancement, following production of a full Landscape Character Assessment are provided as Appendix I.

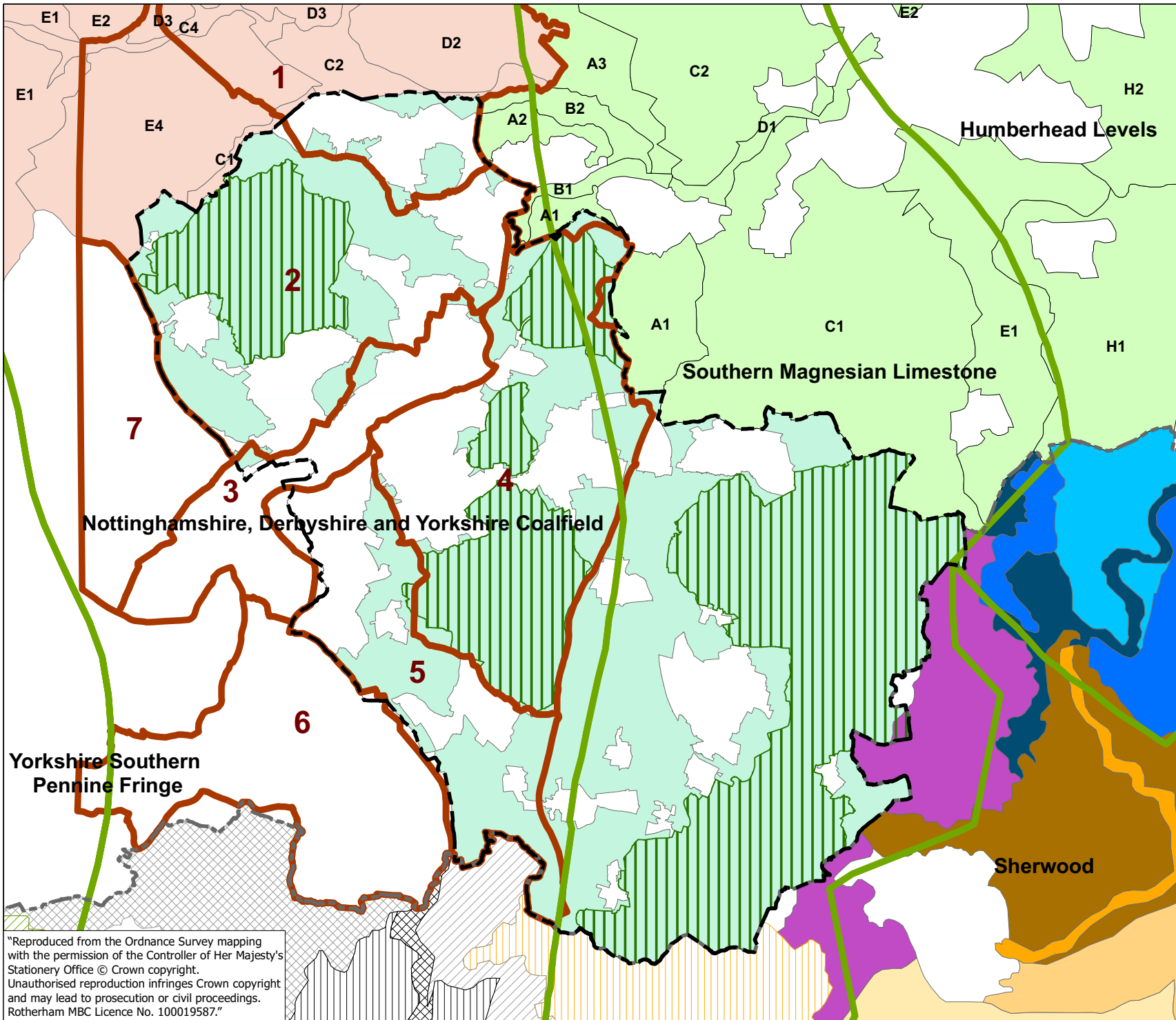
Current Sensitive Landscape Zones

6.50 The brief for this study requires the identification of 'Sensitive Landscape Zones'. Drawing 04 identifies the sensitivity of the Landscape Character Areas within the Borough. This illustrates where the most sensitive landscapes are located, which does not entirely correlate with the previous Areas of High Landscape Value. The Landscape Character Areas with High and Moderate-high landscape sensitivity are considered to be those most in need of protection.

6.51 The brief also requires the identification of landscape features and vistas valued by the local community and key zones of visual influence. During the Stakeholder Workshops, and from feedback received on draft versions of this study, these have been identified for each Character Area as Key Characteristics and Distinctive Features. Drawing 12 identifies the most Significant Landscape Feature, both positive and negative.

7 Conclusions and Recommendations

- 7.1 The study has considered the landscape of Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council, defined as the areas currently allocated as Green Belt, and defined Landscape Character Areas covering the whole of this landscape. Eleven Landscape Character Areas have been identified through fieldwork, consultation events and consideration of assessment work undertaken at a broader scale than Borough wide and by surrounding Local Authorities. Outline descriptions have been produced for these LCAs, and their inherent sensitivity defined. The Core areas of both the Wentworth Parklands and the Sandbeck Parklands, as well as the Coalfield Tributary Valleys Thrybergh sub area, are considered to be the most sensitive landscapes in the Borough.
- 7.2 At a smaller scale, the sensitivity and the capacity of the landscape in relation to potential urban extensions/urban expansion areas has been considered. This identifies those Land Parcels most and least suitable for development within these potential urban extensions/urban expansion areas. A total of 62 different Land Parcels were assessed in this part of the study. Those Parcels with relatively higher landscape capacity to accommodate new development include a single Parcel in the 'Wath, Brampton and West Melton' area, several more enclosed Parcels in the 'Bassingthorpe Farm' area, Parcels adjacent to the existing urban edge in the 'Bramley and Wickersley' area, the whole of the 'Waverley' area, Parcels to the south of Wales in the 'Wales and Kiveton Park' area, enclosed Parcels and those close to the urban edge in the 'Dinnington East' and 'Dinnington West' areas, and smaller enclosed Parcels in the Thorpe Hesley area.
- 7.3 Areas least suitable for development include a small Parcel in the 'Bassingthorpe Farm' area, prominent Parcels and those used for recreation in the 'Bramley and Wickersley' area, a prominent and exposed Parcel in the 'Wales and Kiveton Park' area, small scale Parcels in the 'Dinnington East' and 'Dinnington West' areas, and isolated Parcels in the Thorpe Hesley area.
- 7.4 The study has also evaluated the existing Areas of High Landscape Value as supported by saved Policies ENV1.1 and ENV1.2 of the Adopted Unitary Development Plan. This has been in the context of PPS7 and considers that these locally designated landscapes are not fully in compliance with the tests set out in PPS7 since they are not supported by a sufficiently robust assessment. Retention of local landscape designations cannot be defended without a full Landscape Character Assessment and in this situation Landscape Character Assessment work does not provide justification for retention of Areas of High Landscape Value in the longer term.
- 7.5 This study has established a robust desk study and field based method to provide the foundation for completing the Landscape Character Assessment process, which is in compliance with national guidance. It is strongly recommended that a detailed assessment is completed for the whole of the rural areas of Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council. This detailed Landscape Character Assessment should include specialist input from e.g. ecological and historic experts and suitable landscape guidelines.
- 7.6 Following the preparation of a detailed Landscape Character Assessment the Council should including a criteria based policy within the Core Strategy. This should fully reference the landscape character assessment and include a similar level of detail to that set out in the concluding remarks in Para 6.42 of this report. It is considered that these policies and the supporting assessment and guidelines should be able to provide greater specific direction to the factors that are important in the protection, management and enhancement of landscape within the whole of the rural areas than is currently the case.
- 7.7 In view of the likely scale and duration of future development within RMBC it is considered that there is a strong case to identify the strategic landscape resources within the authority. This study has begun this, by following the LCA process and by ensuring that the special features and characteristics of Landscape Character Areas are recorded. This needs to be extended to identify guidelines for their future management. In the meantime, it is recommended that the existing AHLVs are retained under Policies ENV1.1 and ENV1.2 as a means of protecting the most valued and sensitive landscapes in the Borough.



- Key**
- RMBC Boundary
 - South Yorkshire Region Boundary
 - Boundary of National Character Area
 - South Yorkshire Forest LMZs
 - Areas of High Landscape Value
 - Greenbelt within Rotherham Borough
 - Doncaster LCA
 - Barnsley LCA
 - Nottinghamshire LCA
 - 4 Limestone Farmlands
 - 5 Forest Estatelands
 - 5 Forest Sandlands
 - 5 River Meadowlands
 - 5 Sandstone Estatelands
 - 6 Forest Sandlands
 - 6 Valley Carrs and Levels
 - 6 Village Sandlands
 - Derbyshire LCA
 - Estate Farmlands
 - Riverside Meadows
 - Wooded Farmland
 - Wooded Hills and Valleys
 - Wooded Slopes and Valleys
 - Limestone Farmlands

Rotherham MBC B09024
Landscape Character and Capacity Study

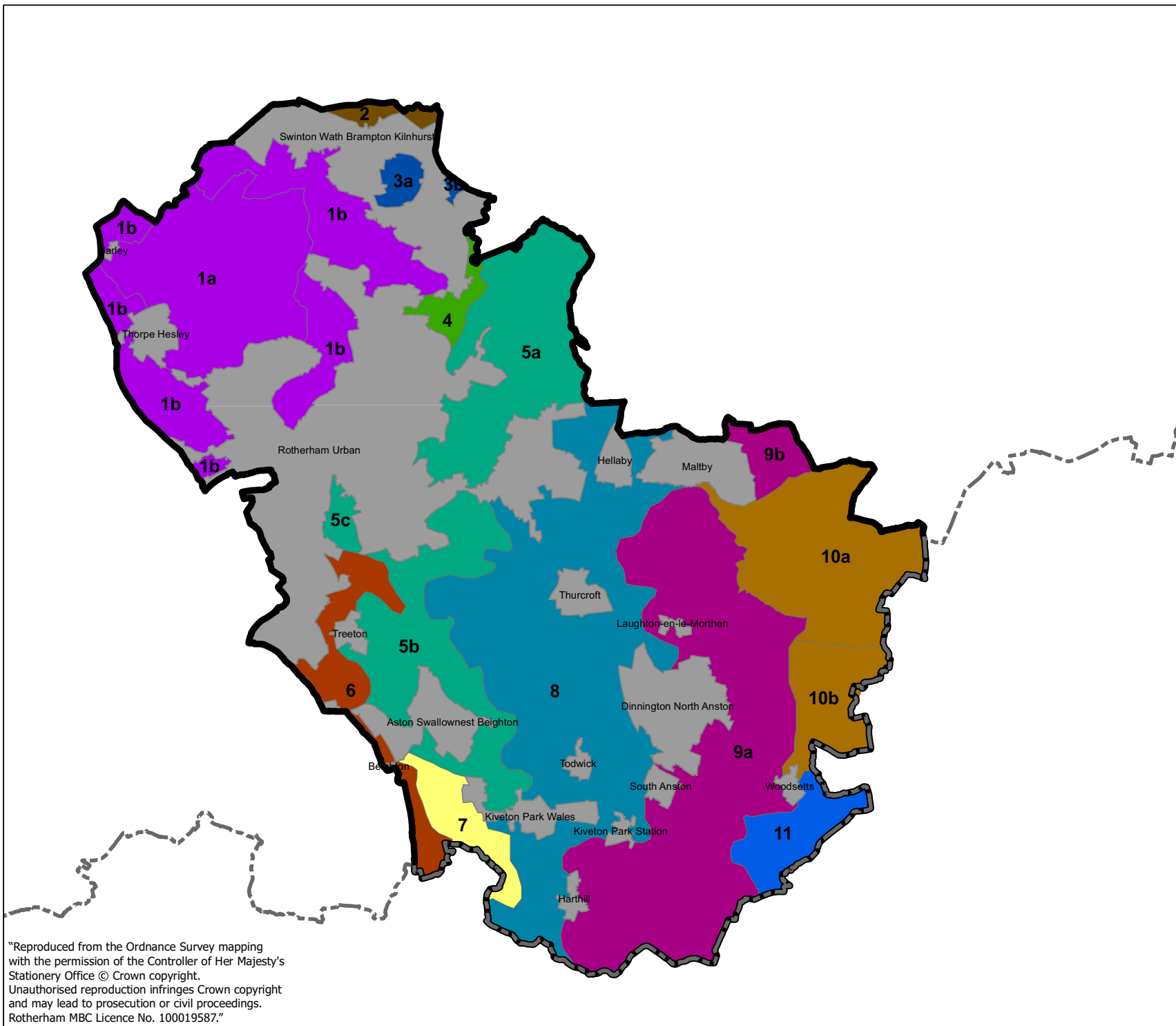
Drawing 09024/01
Existing Landscape Character
Assessments & Landscape Designations

Scale 1: 100,000
November 2009

Drawn: RS
Checked: PW



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- Key**
- South Yorkshire Region Boundary
 - Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- Rotherham Landscape Character Areas**
- 1a. Wentworth Parklands - Core
 - 1b. Wentworth Parklands - Fringes
 - 2. Dearne Valley Floor
 - 3a. Wath and Swinton Farmlands - Swinton Racecourse
 - 3b. Wath and Swinton Farmlands - Railway Triangle
 - 4. Don Valley Floor
 - 5a. Coalfield Tributary Valleys - Thrybergh
 - 5b. Coalfield Tributary Valleys - Treeton
 - 5c. Coalfield Tributary Valleys - Canklow
 - 6. Rother Valley Floor
 - 7. Rother Valley Reclaimed Farmland
 - 8. Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland
 - 9a. East Rotherham Limestone Plateau
 - 9b. East Rotherham Limestone Plateau - Maltby Colliery
 - 10a. Sandbeck Parklands - Core
 - 10b. Sandbeck Parklands - Fringes
 - 11. Ryton Farmlands

Rotherham MBC B09024
Landscape Character and Capacity Study

Drawing 09024/02

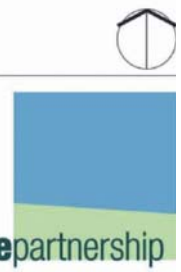
Rotherham Landscape Character Areas

Scale 1: 100,000

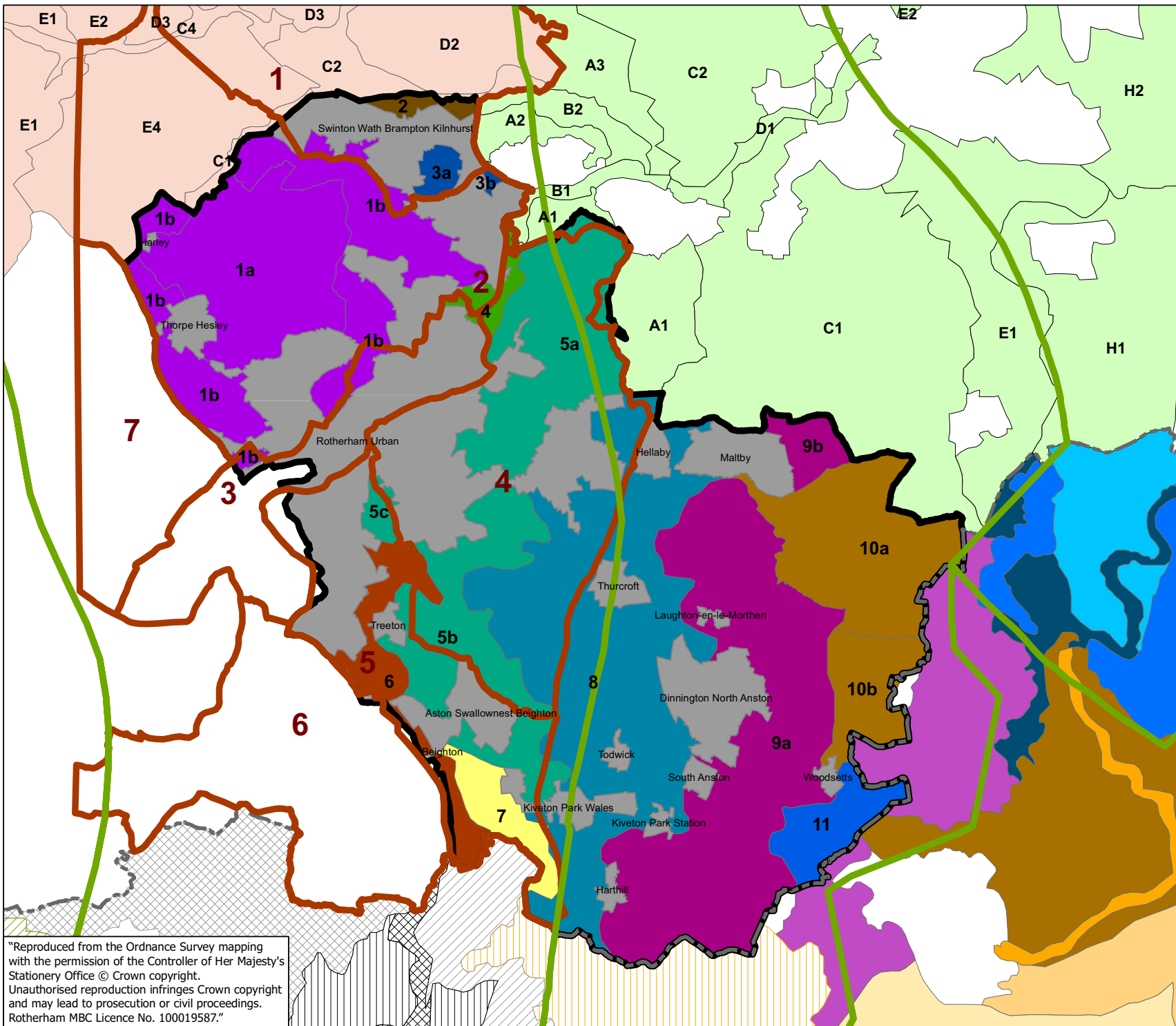
November 2009

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Key

- South Yorkshire Region Boundary
- Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

- Rotherham Landscape Character Areas**
- 1a. Wentworth Parklands - Core
 - 1b. Wentworth Parklands - Fringes
 - 2. Dearne Valley Floor
 - 3a. Wath and Swinton Farmlands - Swinton Racecourse
 - 3b. Wath and Swinton Farmlands - Railway Triangle
 - 4. Don Valley Floor
 - 5a. Coalfield Tributary Valleys - Thrybergh
 - 5b. Coalfield Tributary Valleys - Treeton
 - 5c. Coalfield Tributary Valleys - Canklow
 - 6. Rother Valley Floor
 - 7. Rother Valley Reclaimed Farmland
 - 8. Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland
 - 9a. East Rotherham Limestone Plateau
 - 9b. East Rotherham Limestone Plateau - Maltby Colliery
 - 10a. Sandbeck Parklands - Core
 - 10b. Sandbeck Parklands - Fringes
 - 11. Ryton Farmlands

See Drawing 09024/01 for details of Landscape Character Areas in surrounding Authorities

Rotherham MBC B09024
Landscape Character and Capacity Study

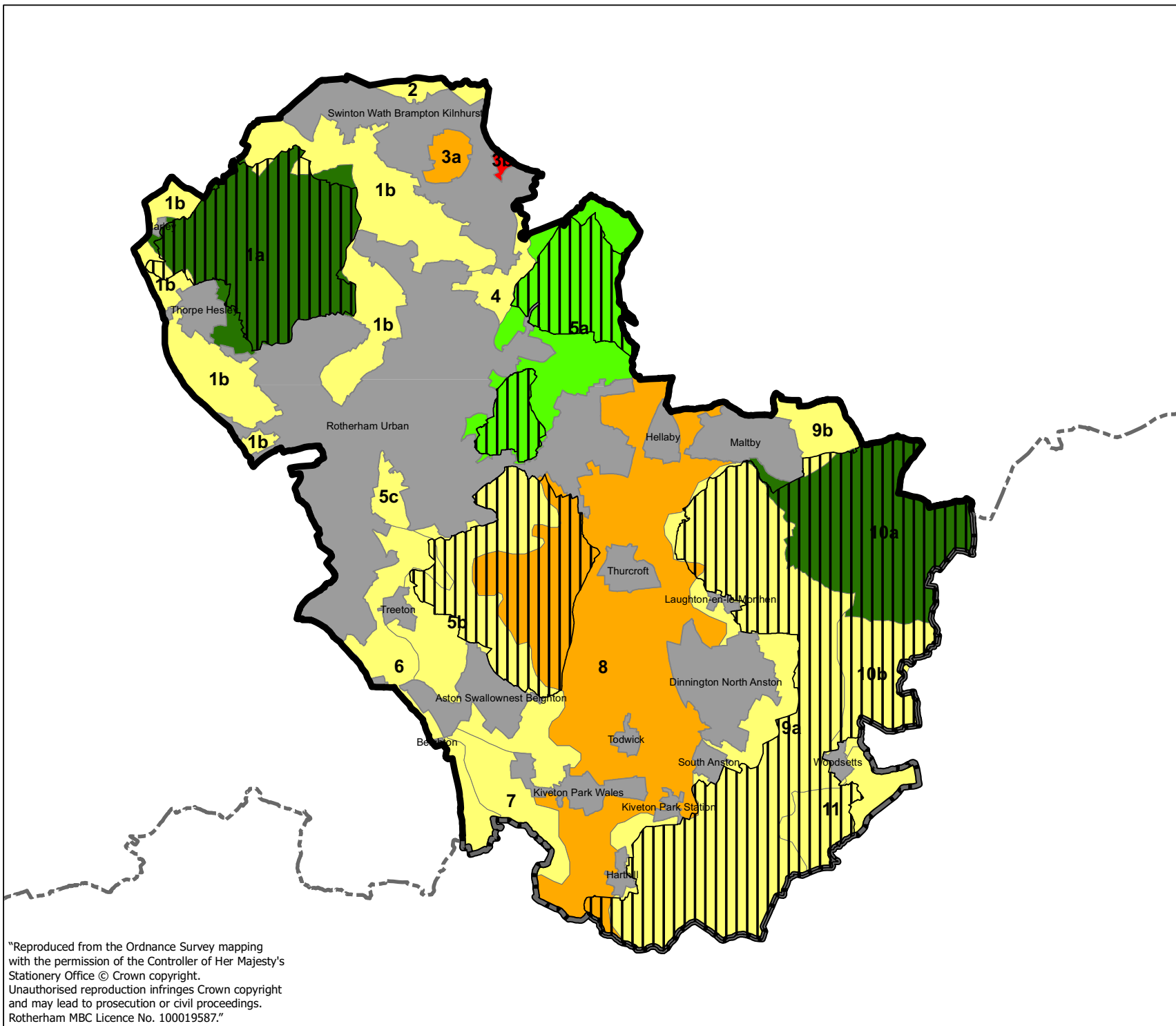
Drawing 09024/03
Rotherham Landscape Character Areas and surrounding Landscape Character Assessments
Scale 1: 100,000

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Key

- South Yorkshire Region Boundary
- Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- Areas of High Landscape Value

Rotherham Landscape Character Areas

Landscape Sensitivity

- High
- Moderate-high
- Moderate
- Moderate-low
- Low

Rotherham MBC B09024
Landscape Character and Capacity Study

Drawing 09024/04

Rotherham Landscape Character Areas
Sensitivity

Scale 1: 100,000

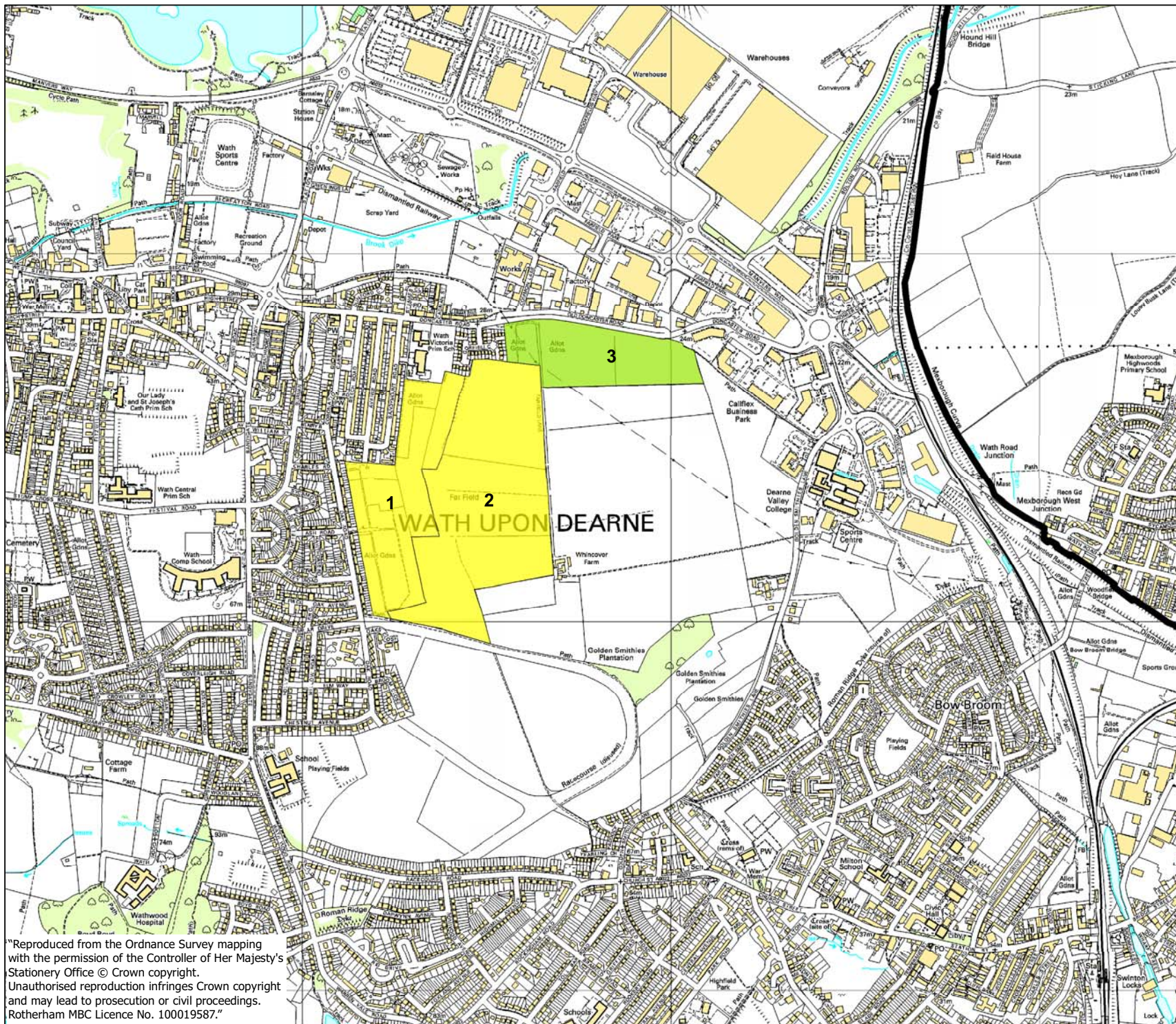
November 2009

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




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Key

-  South Yorkshire Region Boundary
-  Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- Capacity of Land Parcels
-  Low
-  Medium-low
-  Medium
-  Medium-high
-  High

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Rotherham MBC B09024
Landscape Character and Capacity Study

Drawing 09024/05
Individual Land Parcels (Area 1: Wath, Brampton and West Melton) – Capacity

Scale 1: 10,000

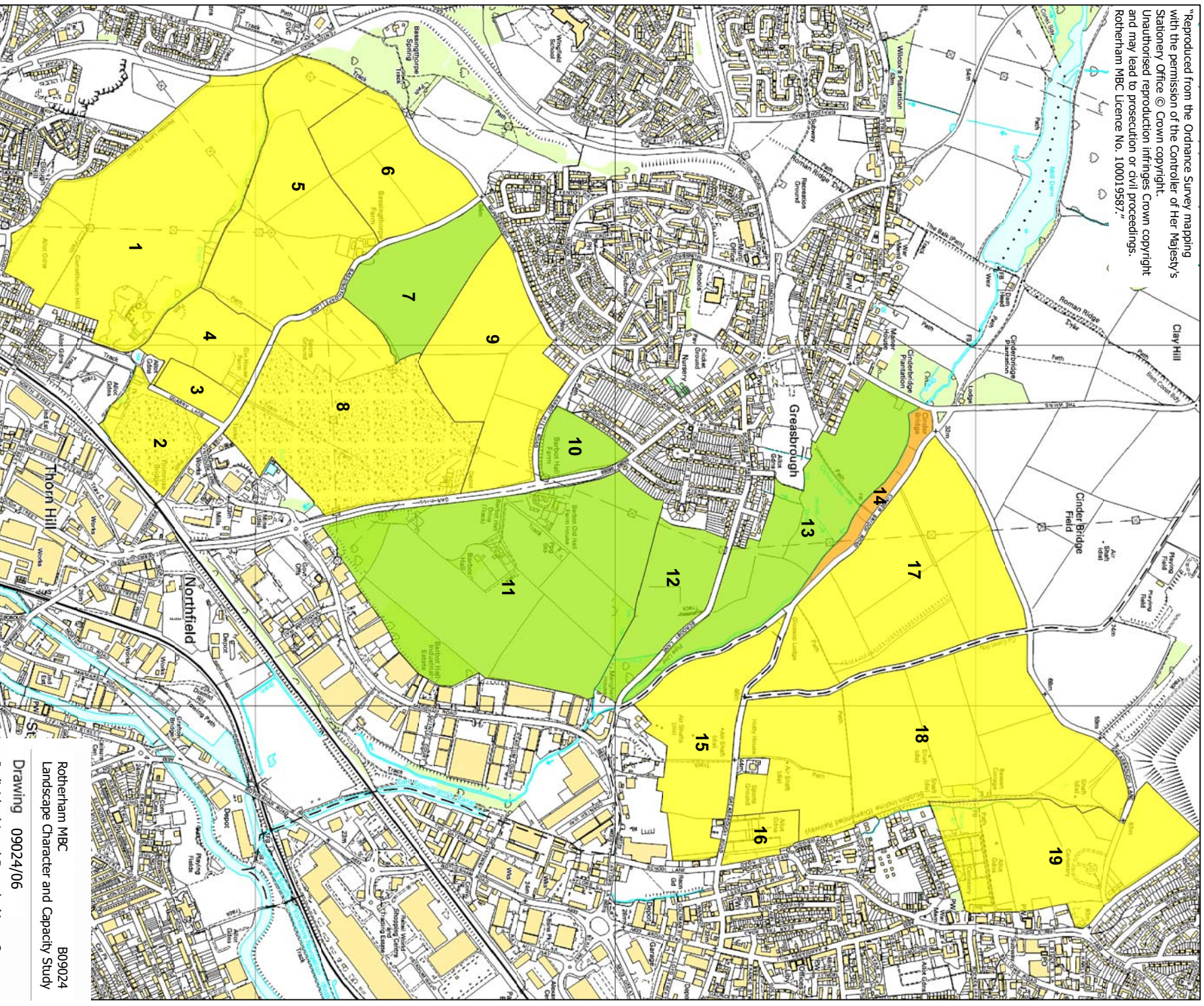
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Key

South Yorkshire Region Boundary

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Capacity of Land Parcels

Low

Medium-low

Medium

Medium-high

High

Rotherham MBC B09024
Landscape Character and Capacity Study

Drawing 09024/06
Individual Land Parcels (Area 2:
Bassingthorpe Farm) – Capacity

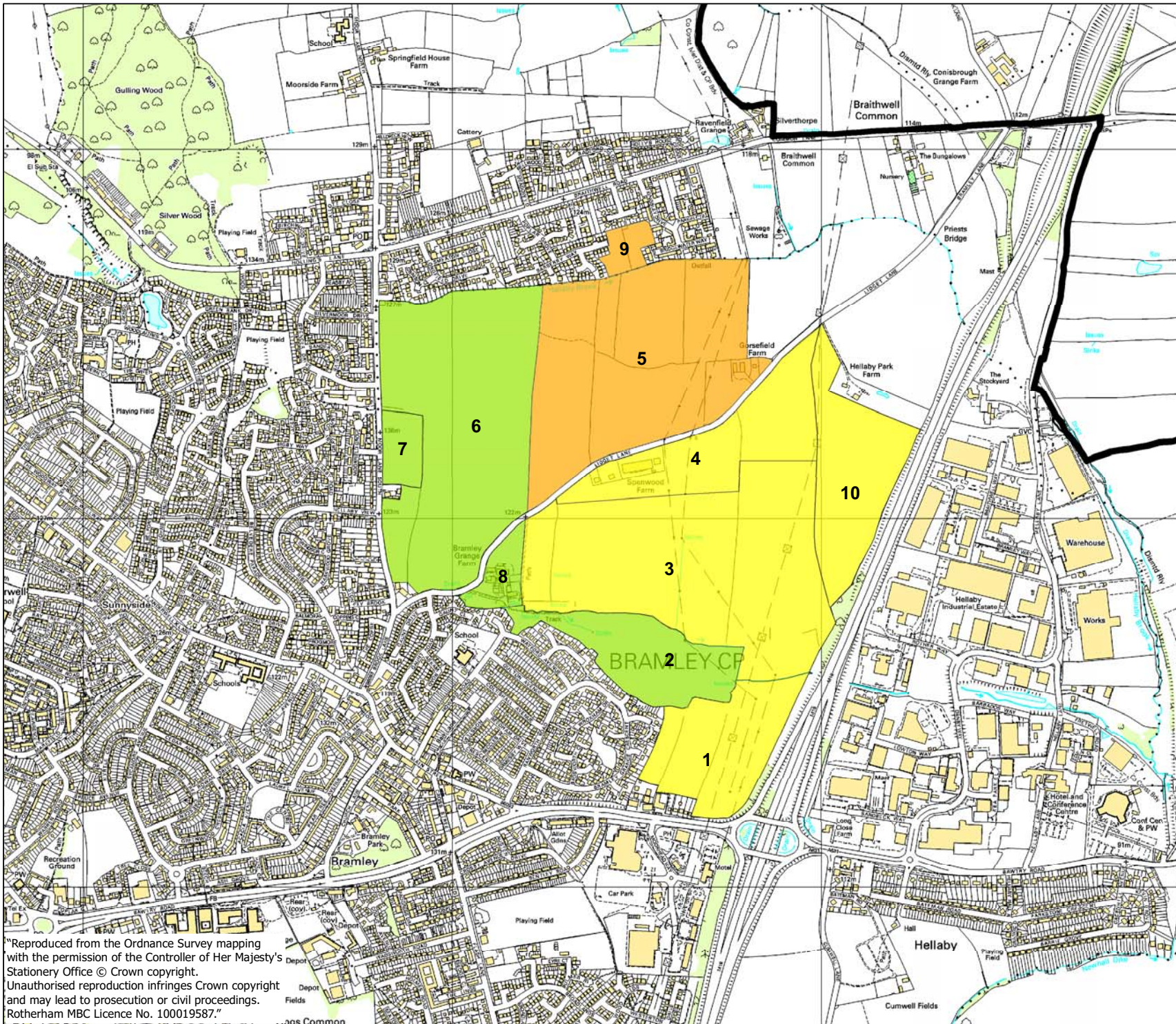
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November 2009










Drawn: RS

Checked: PW



Key

-  South Yorkshire Region Boundary
-  Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- Capacity of Land Parcels
-  Low
-  Medium-low
-  Medium
-  Medium-high
-  High

Rotherham MBC B09024
Landscape Character and Capacity Study

Drawing 09024/07
Individual Land Parcels (Area 3: Bramley
and Wickersley) – Capacity

Scale 1: 10,000

November 2009

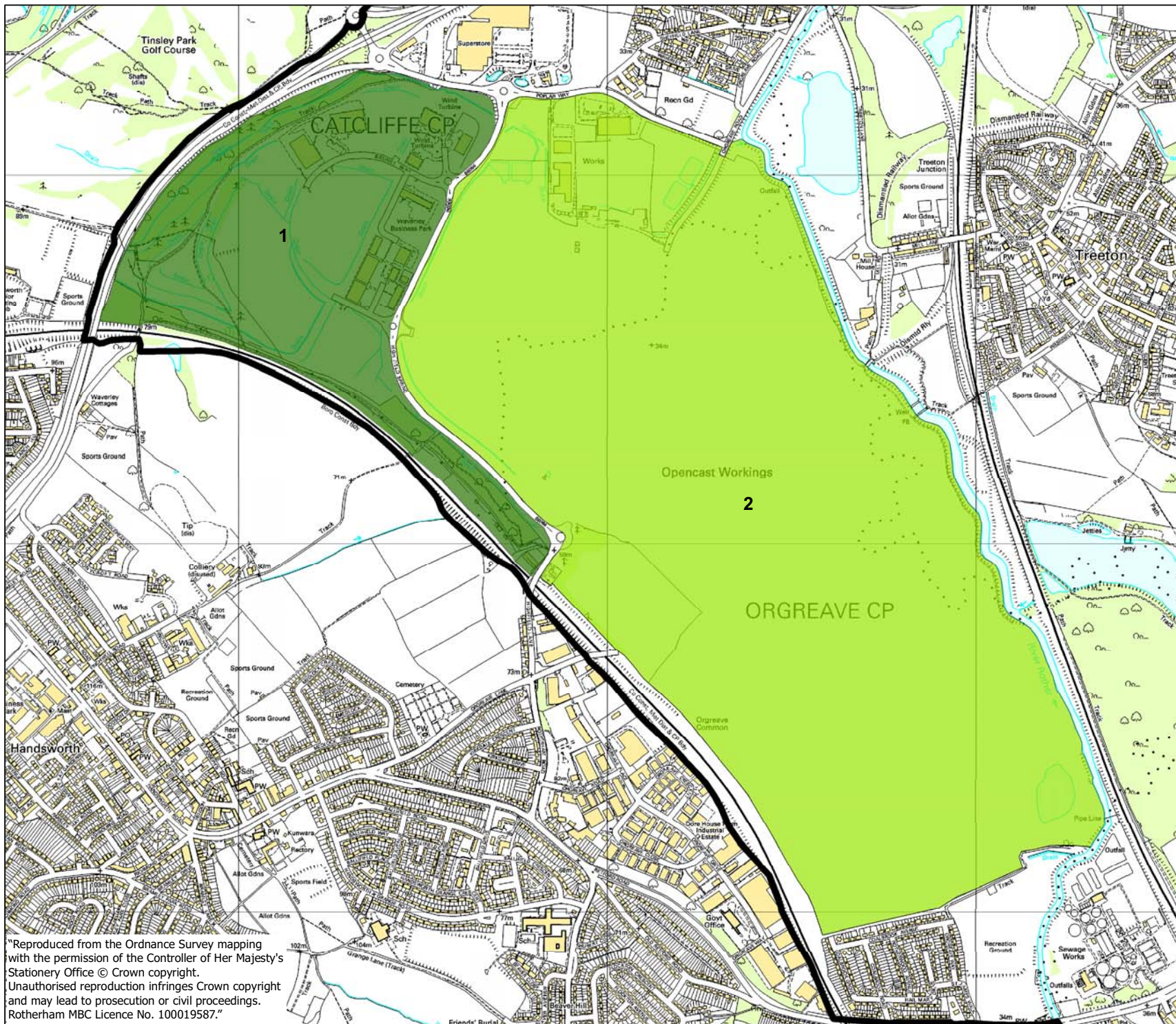
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






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Key

-  South Yorkshire Region Boundary
-  Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- Capacity of Land Parcels
-  Low
-  Medium-low
-  Medium
-  Medium-high
-  High

Rotherham MBC B09024
Landscape Character and Capacity Study

Drawing 09024/08
Individual Land Parcels (Area 4:
Waverley) – Capacity

Scale 1: 10,000

November 2009

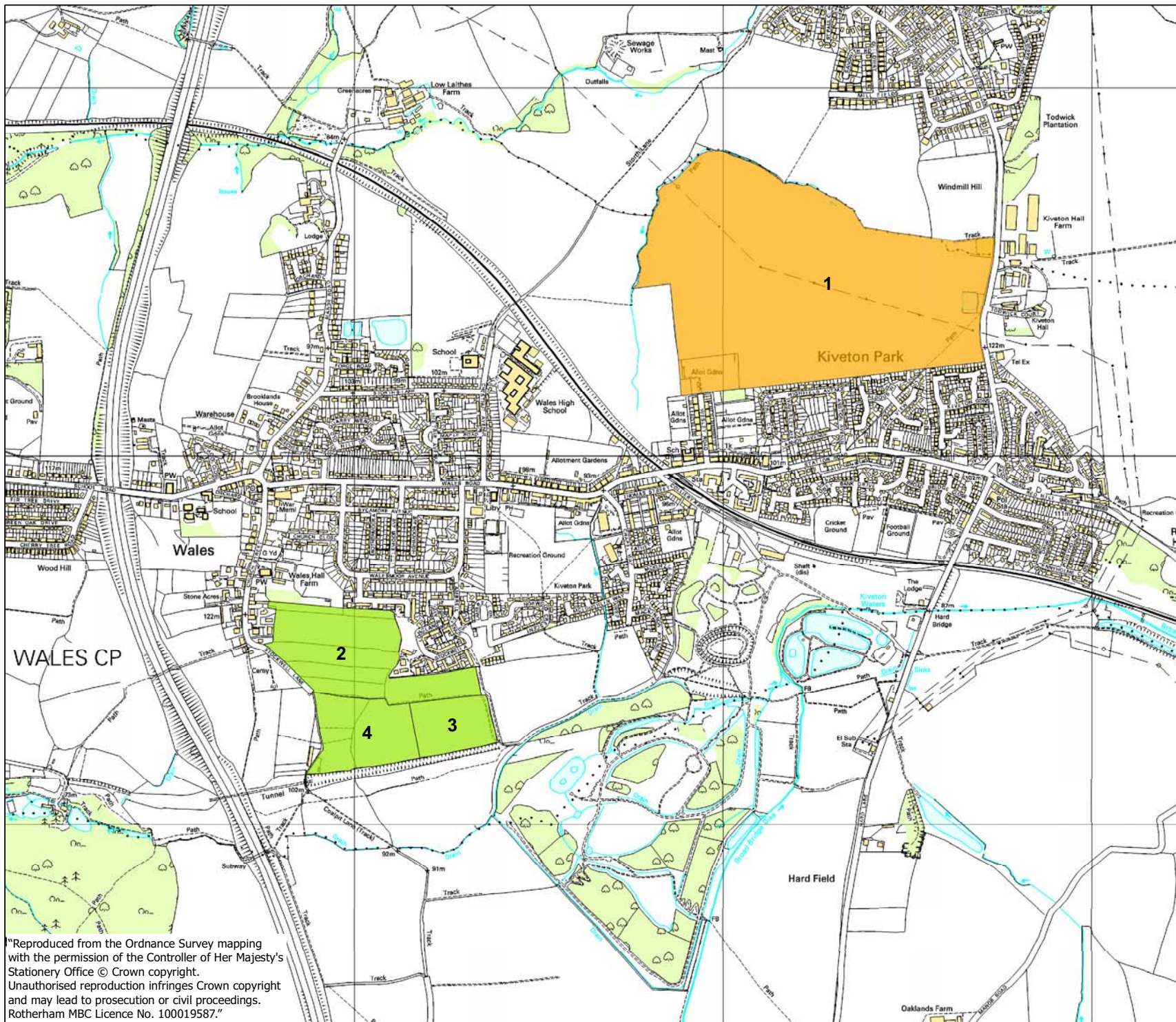
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






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Key

-  South Yorkshire Region Boundary
-  Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- Capacity of Land Parcels
-  Low
-  Medium-low
-  Medium
-  Medium-high
-  High

Rotherham MBC B09024
Landscape Character and Capacity Study

Drawing 09024/09

Individual Land Parcels (Area 5: Wales and Kiveton Park) – Capacity

Scale 1: 10,000

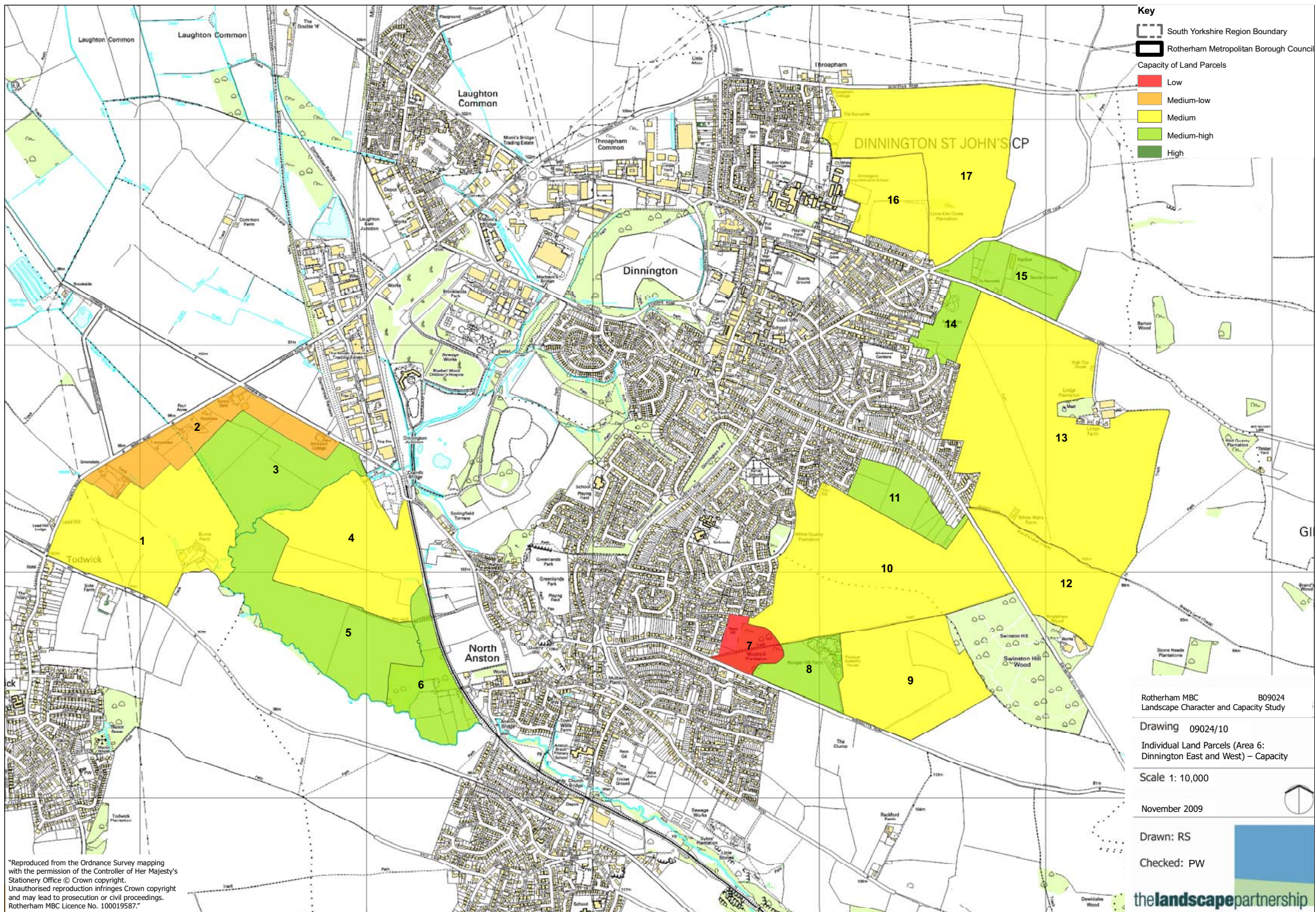
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Rotherham MBC B09024
 Landscape Character and Capacity Study

Drawing 09024/10
 Individual Land Parcels (Area 6:
 Dinnington East and West) – Capacity

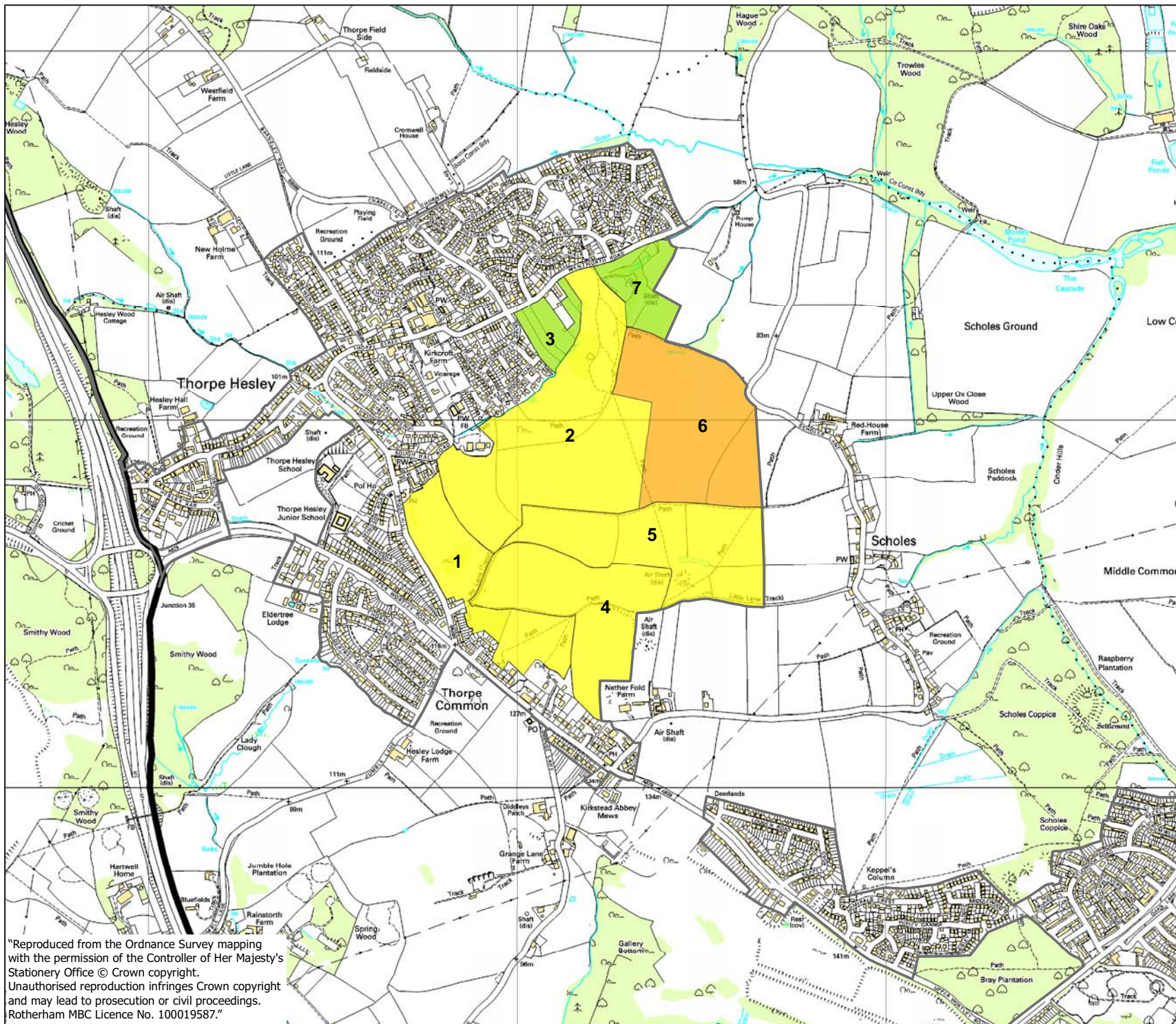
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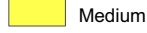


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Key

-  South Yorkshire Region Boundary
-  Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- Capacity of Land Parcels
-  Low
-  Medium-low
-  Medium
-  Medium-high
-  High

Rotherham MBC B09024
Landscape Character and Capacity Study

Drawing 09024/11
Individual Land Parcels (Area 7: Thorpe Hesley) – Capacity

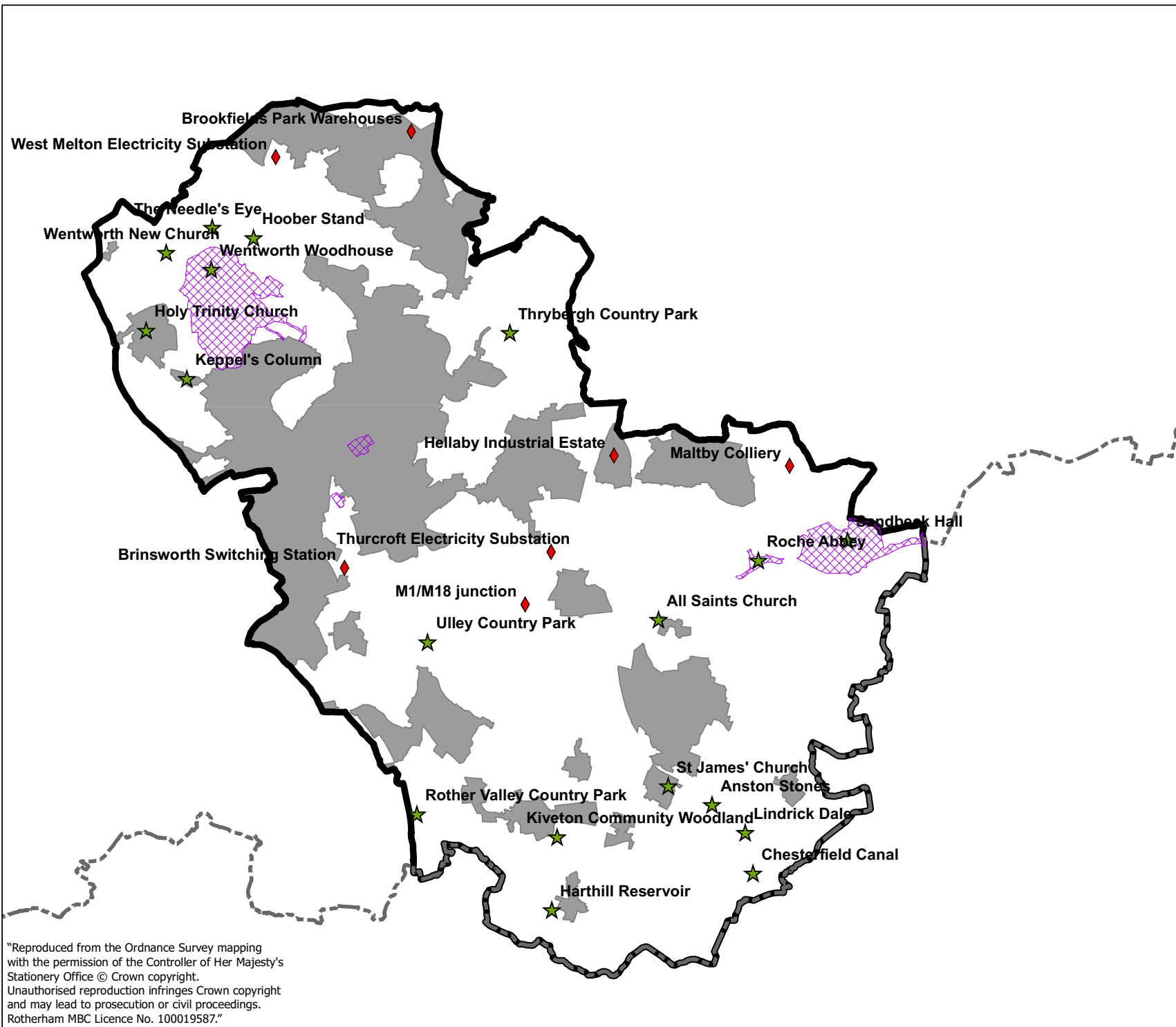
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Key

-  South Yorkshire Region Boundary
-  Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
-  Registered Parks and Gardens
-  Landscape features
-  Landscape detractors

Rotherham MBC B09024
Landscape Character and Capacity Study

Drawing 09024/12
Significant Landscape Features

Scale 1: 100,000

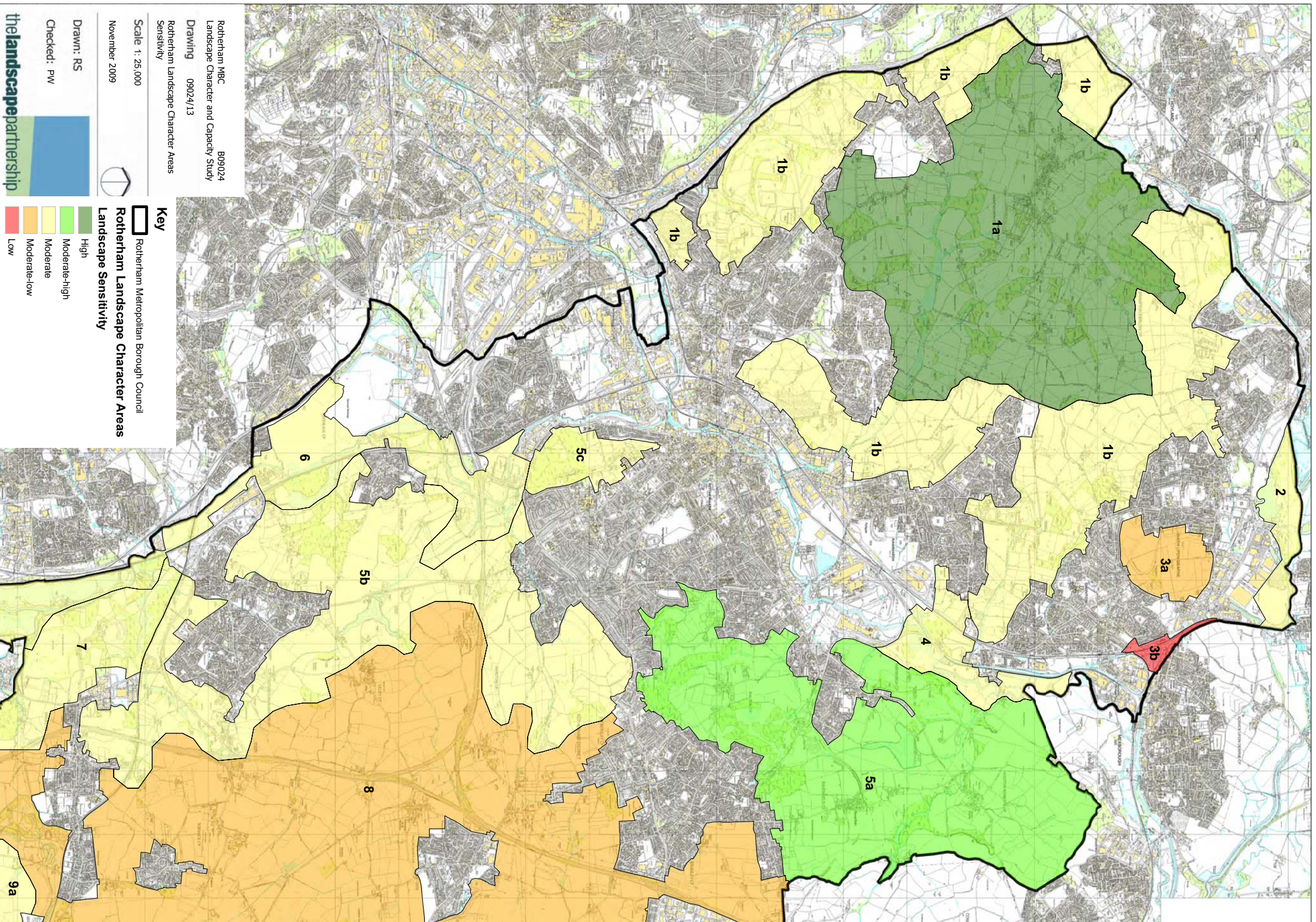
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Rotherham MBC
 B09024
 Landscape Character and Capacity Study

Drawing 09024/13

Rotherham Landscape Character Areas
 Sensitivity

Scale 1: 25,000








November 2009

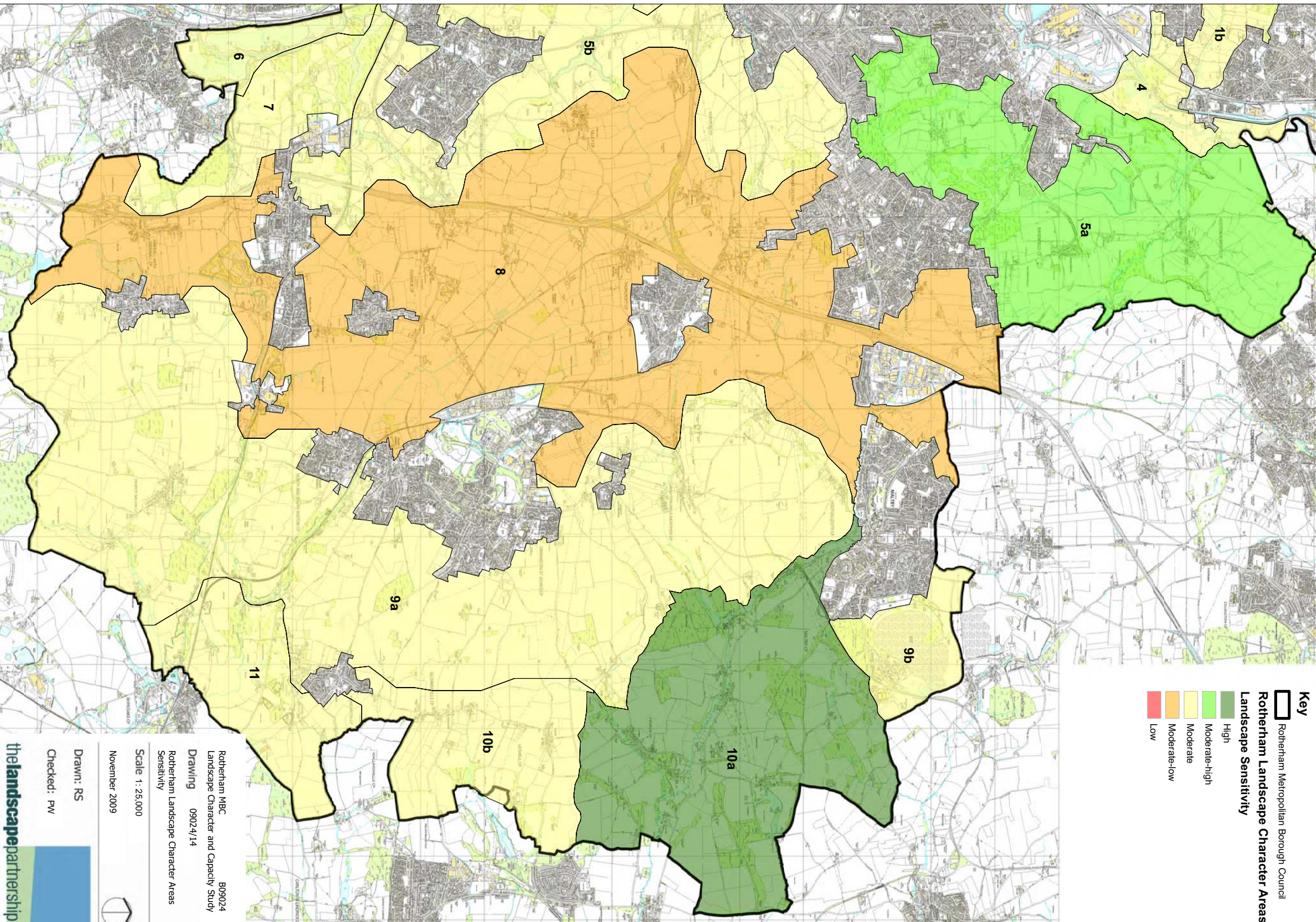
Drawn: RS

Checked: PW

the landscapepartnership

Key

-  Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- Rotherham Landscape Character Areas**
- Landscape Sensitivity**
-  High
-  Moderate-high
-  Moderate
-  Moderate-low
-  Low
-  Low








Key

 Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Rotherham Landscape Character Areas

Landscape Sensitivity

-  High
-  Moderate-high
-  Moderate
-  Moderate-low
-  Low

B090024
 Rotherham MBC
 Landscape Character and Capacity Study
 Drawing 0902/4/14
 Rotherham Landscape Character Areas
 Sensitivity

Scale 1:25,000
 November 2009

Drawn: RS
 Checked: PW

Appendix A

ROTHERHAM L C A		FIELD SURVEY RECORD		SHEET No.	Page 1 of 2
Date :		Surveyors' Name/s :		National Typology Code:	
Location : Landscape Character Area : Conditions :				LDU Nos:	
STRENGTH OF CHARACTER					
LANDFORM (S1)		dominant prominent		apparent (widespread/localised) insignificant	
Description: flat gently undulating strongly undulating steep broad valley narrow valley plain plateau upland sloping		Hydrology: river stream ponds lakes reservoir wetlands other			
		Degree of slope:		Altitude :	
LANDCOVER (S2)		dominant prominent		apparent (widespread/localised) insignificant	
Description: open farmland treed farmland wooded farmland parkland woodland grassland / common open water or wetlands		Primary land use: ommercial / industrial farmland:arable/pastoral/mixed forestry:broadleaf/conifer/mixed common or green: grassed/treed nursery / allotments / orchard recreation or amenity:type reservoir disturbed : type			
Associated features: e.g. glasshouses/ marina.		Secondary land use (select from above)			
Woodland cover: extensive interlocking linear discrete fragmented	Species:	Field boundaries (in order of prominence): hedgerow (with/without trees) tree rows hedgebank fence wall/wet ditch other (high/medium/low)	Species:		
HISTORICAL PATTERN (S3)		dominant prominent		apparent (widespread/localised) insignificant	
Description: organic planned unenclosed					
Field pattern: geometric (ordered) regular (rectilinear) subregular (interlocking – curved boundaries) irregular (organic, winding lanes) discontinuous (no discernable pattern)		Transport pattern: motorway A road B road track / lane canal railway		straight winding sinuous sunken	
Field size: 1- small < 2ha 2- small/medium 3- medium/large 4- large > 8ha		Settlement: Form: village / hamlet / isolated house or farm/ other Building style: vernacular / non-vernacular Age: Tudor/Stuart/Georgian/ Victorian/Edwardian/20thC Materials: walls and roof			
Verges: absent variable uniform wide / medium / narrow ditched		Country houses: Age: Tudor/Stuart/Georgian/Victorian/Edwardian 20thC Materials:			
Other built features (function, age and materials):					
Other comments e.g. cultural features					
VISUAL AND SENSORY PERCEPTION					
Views of area from outside: widely visible locally visible concealed		Sense of enclosure: confined contained open exposed			
Tranquility (S4): tranquil/moderate/discordant Source: Level and constancy:		Rarity (S5): unique rare unusual Frequent			

ROTHERHAM L C A		FIELD SURVEY RECORD		SHEET No.	Page 2 of 2
CONDITION					
HISTORICAL INTEGRITY					
Extent and type of landcover change (C1): pasture to arable change in extent of woodland/tree cover on farmland loss of field boundaries parkland to farmland minerals other	widespread localised insignificant	Age structure of tree cover (C2): over mature mature/young mixed	Survival of cultural pattern (C5): intact and well managed intact but poorly managed interrupted (gen. intact but locally interrupted) declining (boundaries poorly managed) relic		
Notes:					
ECOLOGICAL INTEGRITY					
Extent of habitat/corridor survival (C3): Widespread Linked Scattered relic			Management of habitats (C4): Good Not obvious Poor		
Notes:					
VISUAL IMPACT					
Impact of built development (C6): Urban/Transport corridor/rural housing/ utilities/structures/other		high moderate low	Visual Unity (S6): Unified Coherent Incoherent		
Notes:			Notes:		
Boundary notes:					
CHARACTER SUMMARY					
STRENGTH OF CHARACTER		WEAK	MODERATE	STRONG	
S1 Impact of landform* S2 Impact of landcover* S3 Historic pattern* S4 Tranquillity S5 Distinctiveness/rarity S6 Visual unity		Insignificant Insignificant Insignificant Discordant Frequent Incoherent	Apparent Apparent Apparent Moderate Unusual Coherent	Dominant/Prominent Dominant/Prominent Dominant/Prominent Tranquil Unique/rare Unified	
Totals * Prime character categories if tie					
CONDITION		POOR	MODERATE	GOOD	
C1 Landcover Change C2 Age Structure of Tree Cover* C3 Extent of semi-natural habitat survival* C4 Management of semi-natural habitats C5 Survival of cultural pattern (fields and hedges) C6 Impact of built development*		Widespread Overmature Relic Poor Declining/Relic High	Localised Mature or young Scattered Not obvious Interrupted Moderate	Insignificant Mixed Widespread/Linked Good Intact Low	
Totals * Prime condition categories if tie					
MATRIX		Good	Strengthen and reinforce	Conserve and strengthen	Safeguard and manage
Condition		Moderate	Improve and reinforce	Improve and conserve	Conserve and restore
		Poor	Reconstruct	Improve and restore	Restore condition to maintain character
		Weak	Moderate	Strong	
		Strength of Character			

Appendix B

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 1: Wath, Brampton and West Melton

Land Parcel No = 1

Size = 10.52Ha

Landscape Character Area = Wath and Swinton Farmlands – Swinton Racecourse

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 3/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis				✓		The Parcel falls to the north and east, towards Brook Dike and River Dearne (located beyond site to the north)
	Vegetation enclosure			✓			There are poor hedgerows (tall but gappy) around some of the areas currently used as allotments, as well as palisade fencing. Elsewhere there are no hedges, but there are some areas of scrub within rough grass.
	Complexity/ Scale				✓		The Parcel consists of small fields/parcels of land with a variety of uses, including allotments, rough grass associated with areas of former allotments and open space/play areas.
	Condition	✓					Area of weak character in a poor condition – overgrown and unmanaged in many places
	Sub Total	1	0	1	2	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view					✓	Public views are relatively extensive. There is informal public access through much of the Parcel and it is adjacent to a school and a children's play area.
	Openness to private view			✓			There is some overlooking of the Parcel from properties along its western boundary. These are not views into the whole Parcel due to vegetation within and around the allotments. There are also more distant views into the Parcel from the south east.
	Relationship with existing urban built form	✓					Development of this Land Parcel could extend the existing rectilinear settlement pattern. Access could be from existing roads such as Avenue Road, the access to the allotments opposite Ash Road or in the vicinity of Poplar Drive and Oaks Close.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation			✓			Development within this Land Parcel would expand Wath Upon Dearne closer to Swinton but is unlikely to significantly compromise the existing separation

Area 1 Land Parcel No 1 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development		✓				The Wath and Swinton Coalfield Farmlands is a largely urbanized landscape enclosed by urban areas. There is little retained landscape pattern in the vicinity of the Parcel, but linear belts of vegetation and clumps of trees to mitigate the development would be largely in keeping with the surroundings.
	Sub Total	1	1	2	0	1	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		2	1	3	2	1	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no landscape designations within the vicinity of the Parcel and existing urban areas would prevent any intervisibility from the Area of High Landscape Value to the west.
	Recreational and perceptual factors				✓		The Parcel currently has a high recreational value, with good informal public access to most areas and allotments throughout the remainder. However, the Parcel has limited tranquility and scenic value due to its close proximity to the urban area.
	Sub Total	1	0	0	1	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		3	1	3	3	1	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the Wath and Swinton Farmlands – Swinton Racecourse Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate-low landscape sensitivity because of its disturbed nature and the influence of the surrounding urban areas. This Parcel is fairly typical of the Landscape Character Area, with poor hedgerows and an erosion of landscape features.

Settlements

Both Wath Upon Dearne and Swinton are relatively modern settlements, with residential properties in the vicinity of the Parcel being largely 20th century in origin. The closest properties in Wath are located along long straight roads and consist of terraced houses in various groupings. Warehouses and offices to the north east of the Parcel are also of modern origin and small to medium in scale.

Overall Sensitivity

Whilst there are many overgrown and unmanaged areas within this Parcel, there is good informal public access through much of the Parcel and formal access to the allotment areas. The Parcel forms part of a remaining small area of farmland and open space separating Wath Upon Dearne and Swinton, although development within this

Appendix B

Parcel would have a more limited impact on the separation of these settlements than some adjoining areas. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is potential scope for some small scale development as part of an extension to Wath, although the existing uses would appear to be valued by local residents and potentially worthy of retention.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium	Low	Low
Employment – offices	Low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as part of two separate potential residential developments. Some scope for small scale residential development but retention of allotments and informal open space uses would appear to be more beneficial to local residents.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 1: Wath, Brampton and West Melton

Land Parcel No = 2

Size = 20.00Ha

Landscape Character Area = Wath and Swinton Farmlands – Swinton Racecourse

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 3/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis				✓		The Parcel gently falls to the north, towards Brook Dike and River Dearne (located beyond site to the north)
	Vegetation enclosure			✓			This Parcel is generally fairly open with a limited number of poor hedgerows within it. There is some taller vegetation along the eastern boundary, associated with the route of Far Field Lane, but this is also gappy. Vegetation along the southern boundary of the Parcel is more intact.
	Complexity/ Scale			✓			The Parcel consists of medium to large arable fields. These appear larger due to the poor field boundaries.
	Condition		✓				Area of moderate character in a poor condition – poor hedgerows
	Sub Total	0	1	2	1	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view				✓		There are no rights of way through the Parcel. A public footpath runs along the southern boundary of the Parcel, along the route of the disused racecourse, and informal public access throughout the adjacent Land Parcel 1.1 and part of the southern part of this Parcel. There are also some views into the Parcel from Golden Smithies Lane to the east of the Parcel.
	Openness to private view				✓		There is some overlooking of the Parcel from properties to the west and from Whincover Farm on the eastern boundary of the Parcel. There are also more distant views into the Parcel from the south and west.
	Relationship with existing urban built form			✓			The Parcel is separated from the existing urban area by the adjacent Land Parcel 1. Without development occurring in Parcel 1, it would be difficult to access this Parcel.

Area 1 Land Parcel No 2 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
	Safeguarding of settlement separation				✓		Development within this Land Parcel would expand Wath Upon Dearne closer to Swinton. This expansion would bring the two settlements significantly closer together.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development			✓			The Wath and Swinton Coalfield Farmlands is a largely urbanized landscape enclosed by urban areas. There is little retained landscape pattern in the vicinity of the Parcel, so mitigation for development within this Parcel would need to break up the Parcel and enhance existing landscape features.
	Sub Total	0	0	2	3	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		0	1	4	4	0	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no landscape designations within the vicinity of the Parcel and existing urban areas would prevent any intervisibility from the Area of High Landscape Value to the west.
	Recreational and perceptual factors		✓				The Parcel currently has limited recreational value, with only informal access through part of the Parcel. Tranquility and scenic value are also limited due to its close proximity to the urban area.
	Sub Total	1	1	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		1	2	4	4	0	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the Wath and Swinton Farmlands – Swinton Racecourse Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate-low landscape sensitivity because of its disturbed nature and the influence of the surrounding urban areas. This Parcel is fairly typical of the Landscape Character Area, with poor hedgerows and arable landuse.

Settlements

Both Wath Upon Dearne and Swinton are relatively modern settlements, with residential properties in the vicinity of the Parcel being largely 20th century in origin. The closest properties in Wath are located along long straight roads and consist of terraced houses in various groupings. Warehouses and offices to the north east of the Parcel are also of modern origin and small to medium in scale.

Overall Sensitivity

The Parcel forms part of a remaining small area of farmland and open space separating Wath Upon Dearne and Swinton, with limited public access. Development within this Parcel would have an impact on the separation of these settlements and would be difficult to access if developed in isolation. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is potential scope for some development as part of an extension to Wath.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium	Medium	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-Low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as part of a potential residential development. Some scope for residential development but less scope for employment uses.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 1: Wath, Brampton and West Melton

Land Parcel No = 3

Size = 7.33Ha

Landscape Character Area = Wath and Swinton Farmlands – Swinton Racecourse

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 3/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis				✓		This Parcel is much flatter than the other Parcels in the vicinity. It does, however, still fall slightly towards the north. There is also a significant change in level between the northern boundary of the Parcel and Doncaster Road to the north.
	Vegetation enclosure				✓		The majority of the boundaries of this Parcel are fence lines with limited vegetation along them. The western part of the Parcel, which has previously been used as allotments, contains scrubby vegetation and has hedgerows to the south and east.
	Complexity/ Scale				✓		The Parcel consists of small to medium fields. The land uses are arable and scrub. There are no longer any allotments within this Parcel.
	Condition	✓					Area of weak character in a poor condition – overgrown and unmanaged in many places and poor hedgerows.
Sub Total		1	0	0	3	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view		✓				There are no public rights of way through this Parcel. Doncaster Road is at a lower level than the Parcel, preventing most views from the north.
	Openness to private view			✓			The scrubby vegetation in the western part of the Parcel restricts views from the housing to the west. There are distant views from Swinton to the south east.
	Relationship with existing urban built form			✓			Development within this Parcel would extend development along Doncaster/Old Doncaster Road. This could continue the existing pattern of development but would start to become more isolated from Wath Upon Dearne
	Safeguarding of settlement separation			✓			Development within this Land Parcel would expand Wath Upon Dearne noticeably closer to Swinton and join Wath Upon Dearne to the industrial development along Manvers Way.

Area 1 Land Parcel No 3 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development		✓				The Wath and Swinton Coalfield Farmlands is a largely urbanized landscape enclosed by urban areas. Mitigation of development within this Parcel would require extensive planting and woodland blocks to the south of the Parcel, recreating woodland similar to Golden Smithies Plantation. The screening offered by the bank along Doncaster Road could also be enhanced.
	Sub Total	0	2	3	0	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		1	2	3	3	0	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no landscape designations within the vicinity of the Parcel and existing urban areas would prevent any intervisibility from the Area of High Landscape Value to the west.
	Recreational and perceptual factors	✓					The Parcel currently has no recreational value, with limited tranquility and scenic value due to its close proximity to the urban area.
	Sub Total	2	0	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		3	2	3	3	0	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the Wath and Swinton Farmlands – Swinton Racecourse Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate-low landscape sensitivity because of its disturbed nature and the influence of the surrounding urban areas. This Parcel is not as typical of the Landscape Character Area as the two nearby Parcels, with scrub present in areas that have previously been used as allotments.

Settlements

Both Wath Upon Dearne and Swinton are relatively modern settlements, with residential properties in the vicinity of the Parcel being largely 20th century in origin. The closest properties in Wath are located along long straight roads and consist of terraced houses in various groupings. Warehouses and offices to the north east of the Parcel are also of modern origin and small to medium in scale.

Overall Sensitivity

There are overgrown and unmanaged areas within this Parcel, with little public access. The Parcel forms part of a remaining small area of farmland and open space separating Wath Upon Dearne and Swinton, and development within this Parcel would have an impact on the separation of these settlements. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium-low sensitivity**. There is potential scope for some small scale development as part of an extension to Wath or to reflect the employment uses on the opposite side of Old Doncaster Road.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium-high

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-high	Medium	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-high	Medium	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-high	Medium	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as part of two separate potential residential developments. Some scope for small to medium scale residential development or employment uses to reflect development on the opposite side of Old Doncaster Road.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 2: Bassingthorpe Farm

Land Parcel No = 1

Size = 29.97Ha

Landscape Character Area = Wentworth Parklands – Fringes

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 2/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis					✓	This Land Parcel slopes down to the north east, towards a valley feature containing a small stream/drain. There is a localized hill, Constitution Hill, in the southern corner of the Parcel.
	Vegetation enclosure			✓			There is a belt of tall vegetation along the course of the stream on the north eastern boundary of the Parcel, as well as woodland and tall hedgerows around a plant nursery in the eastern corner. The western boundary of the Parcel, along Henley Lane and around some allotments, is a gappy hawthorn hedgerow. The north west boundary of the Parcel is fairly open.
	Complexity/ Scale	✓					The Parcel is one large arable field with no sub divisions. There is also a small area of grassland on the western edge of the Parcel, adjacent to Fenton Road.
	Condition		✓				The Parcel has a moderate character in a weak condition – the landform is a strong feature but landscape elements such as hedgerows are missing.
Sub Total		1	1	1	0	1	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view				✓		There is a public footpath, which also forms part of the Rotherham Round Walk, along the northern boundary of the Parcel with an alternative route along the southern boundary. There are also views into the Parcel from surrounding roads such as Munsborough Lane, Bassingthorpe Lane and Fenton Road.
	Openness to private view			✓			In the vicinity of the Parcel, particularly to the south, views from private properties are only partial due to the presence of tall vegetation. There are more open distant views from Greasbrough to the north.

Area 2 Land Parcel No 1 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
	Relationship with existing urban built form			✓			There is currently built development on three sides of this Parcel.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation			✓			Development within this Parcel would increase the amount of development between Kimberworth Park, Masborough and Thorn Hill. It would also bring development closer to Greasbrough, but not beyond the existing built edge of Kimberworth Park.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development				✓		The prominent slope of the landform within the Parcel would prevent adequate screening in the short term.
	Sub Total	0	0	3	2	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		1	1	4	2	1	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no landscape designations within the vicinity of the Parcel and existing urban areas would prevent any intervisibility from the Area of High Landscape Value to the north.
	Recreational and perceptual factors		✓				The Rotherham Round Walk runs along the boundary of the Parcel but there is no recreational access to the Parcel and it has limited scenic value and tranquility.
	Sub Total	1	1	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		2	2	4	2	1	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the Wentworth Parklands – Fringes Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the influence of the surrounding urban areas and former mining. This Parcel is fairly typical of the Landscape Character Area, with sloping landform and limited hedgerows.

Settlements

Greasbrough is located to the north of Parcel and Rotherham to the south. Both are relatively modern settlements, particularly close to the Parcel. There are residential properties in Greasbrough to the north of the Parcel, which are largely 20th century in origin, as are properties to the south in Rotherham. To the east are medium to large scale employment uses, including warehouses and industrial works.

Overall Sensitivity

There is relatively little public access to this Parcel, although there are important routes along the boundaries. The Parcel is largely devoid of field boundaries and there are overhead cables through it. The Parcel forms part of an area of farmland separating Greasbrough and Rotherham, but any development within this Parcel would be more related to Rotherham. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is potential scope for some development as part of an extension to Rotherham, although the development would be located on a prominent slope, limiting mitigation measures.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium	Medium	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential mixed use development site. There would appear to be some scope for small to medium scale residential development with small areas of offices and/or warehouses.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 2: Bassingthorpe Farm

Land Parcel No = 2

Size = 5.64Ha

Landscape Character Area = Wentworth Parklands – Fringes

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 2/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis				✓		The Parcel is slightly domed as a result of its former use as a landfill site. There is currently some regrading work being undertaken and from Gin House Lane the Parcel appears to have a flat central area.
	Vegetation enclosure			✓			There is semi mature vegetation along the north west and south west boundaries of the Parcel, and patchy vegetation on the slopes of the former landfill site along the south east boundary. Some of the vegetation in the northern part of the site, around a former compound area, is coniferous and evergreen.
	Complexity/ Scale			✓			The Parcel comprises a single field that is currently undergoing restoration following its former uses as a landfill site.
	Condition	✓					The Parcel is currently an area of weak character in a poor condition. The landscape within this Parcel is currently being recreated.
	Sub Total	1	0	2	1	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view			✓			There is currently a public footpath along the north west boundary of the Parcel. Tall vegetation prevents most views into the Parcel from this footpath. There may be some views into the Parcel from the railway line to the south east and there are glimpsed views into the Parcel from Bassingthorpe Lane.
	Openness to private view		✓				There are very few private properties that would have views into this Parcel. Gin House Farm, to the north, is separated from the Parcel by an earth bank and evergreen vegetation. Properties to the east and south of the Parcel are generally industrial.
	Relationship with existing urban built form			✓			This Land Parcel would have no existing relationship with residential areas. It could relate to the commercial buildings along Gin House Road. The railway would act as a barrier in the south east.

Area 2 Land Parcel No 2 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
	Safeguarding of settlement separation		✓				Development within this Parcel would continue development along the railway line, with industrial buildings already located to the north east and south east, as well as allotments with residential properties beyond to the south west. This would not, however, encroach any closer to Greasbrough than the existing built edge.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development			✓			Enhancing the vegetation around the boundaries of the Parcel would help to screen any development, but this would not be in keeping with the character of the surrounding area.
	Sub Total	0	2	3	0	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		1	2	5	1	0	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no landscape designations within the vicinity of the Parcel and existing urban areas would prevent any intervisibility from the Area of High Landscape Value to the north.
	Recreational and perceptual factors	✓					A public footpath runs along the boundary of the Parcel but there is no recreational access to the Parcel and it has limited scenic value and tranquility.
	Sub Total	2	0	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		3	2	5	1	0	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the Wentworth Parklands – Fringes Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the influence of the surrounding urban areas and former mining. This Parcel is slightly unusual for the Landscape Character Area, in that it is a former industrial tipping site that is currently being restored. Most restored areas within the Character Area are related to past mining.

Settlements

Greasbrough is located to the north of Parcel and Rotherham to the south. Both are relatively modern settlements, particularly close to the Parcel. There are residential properties in Greasbrough to the north of the Parcel, which are largely 20th century in origin, as are properties to the south in Rotherham. To the north east and south east are medium to large scale employment uses, including warehouses and industrial works.

Overall Sensitivity

There is currently no public access to this Parcel, although there are routes close to the boundaries. The landform is in the process of being restored, with a level area being created at the centre and slopes around it. The Parcel forms part of an area of farmland separating Greasbrough and Rotherham, but any development within this Parcel would be more related to Rotherham. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is potential scope for some development as part of an extension to Rotherham, although the Parcel is relatively small in size, which would limit the amount of development that can be accommodated.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium	Medium-low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites does not identify this site as having development potential.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 2: Bassingthorpe Farm

Land Parcel No = 3

Size = 1.99Ha

Landscape Character Area = Wentworth Parklands – Fringes

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 2/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis				✓		This Parcel is relatively flat before rising up towards the north west and Gin House Farm.
	Vegetation enclosure		✓				There are good hedgerows to the south west and south east, with evergreen coniferous vegetation to the northern corner around Gin House Farm.
	Complexity/ Scale			✓			The Parcel is a small arable field.
	Condition			✓			The Parcel is currently an area of moderate character in a moderate condition.
	Sub Total	0	1	2	1	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view			✓			A public footpath runs along the south east boundary of the Parcel. There are also some views into the Parcel from Bassingthorpe Lane to the north east.
	Openness to private view	✓					The only private property in the vicinity of the Parcel is Gin House Farm. Views from this property are screened by evergreen vegetation around the farm and the raised bank also associated with the farm.
	Relationship with existing urban built form				✓		This Parcel is slightly remote from any existing urban areas. It is located to the west of the existing industrial area along Gin House Lane and separated from other built areas by allotments and the landfill site that is currently being restored.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation		✓				Development within this Parcel would slightly extend the existing built edge of Rotherham/Thorn Hill towards Greasbrough, but the landform will help to minimize the impacts of this.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development			✓			Mitigation of development within this Parcel could involve strengthening the existing hedgerows on the south east and south west boundaries, as well as creating hedgerows to the north and east.
	Sub Total	1	1	2	1	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		1	2	4	2	0	

Area 2 Land Parcel No 3 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no landscape designations within the vicinity of the Parcel and existing urban areas would prevent any intervisibility from the Area of High Landscape Value to the north.
	Recreational and perceptual factors		✓				A public footpath runs along the boundary of the Parcel but there is no recreational access to the Parcel and it has limited scenic value and tranquility.
	Sub Total	1	1	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		2	3	4	2	0	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the Wentworth Parklands – Fringes Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the influence of the surrounding urban areas and former mining. This Parcel is fairly typical of the Landscape Character Area, although smaller than many of the fields nearby.

Settlements

Greasbrough is located to the north of Parcel and Rotherham to the south and west. Both are relatively modern settlements, particularly close to the Parcel. There are residential properties in Greasbrough to the north of the Parcel, which are largely 20th century in origin, as are properties to the south in Rotherham. To the east are medium to large scale employment uses, including warehouses and industrial works.

Overall Sensitivity

There is relatively little public access to this Parcel, although there are important routes close by. The Parcel is relatively enclosed and slightly remote from any existing urban areas. The Parcel forms part of an area of farmland separating Greasbrough and Rotherham, but any development within this Parcel would be more related to Rotherham. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is potential scope for some development as part of an extension to Rotherham, although the development would be isolated and start to erode separation between Rotherham and Greasbrough.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium	Low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential mixed use development site. There would appear to be some scope for small scale residential or employment development, although this would be more appropriate if adjacent Parcels were also being developed.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 2: Bassingthorpe Farm

Land Parcel No = 4

Size = 5.93Ha

Landscape Character Area = Wentworth Parklands – Fringes

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 2/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis					✓	This Parcel is located on a localized ridgeline, which runs north east to south west.
	Vegetation enclosure			✓			There is a tall hedgerow along the north west boundary of the site and patchy woodland along the stream/ditch to the south west. There is also evergreen vegetation around Gin House Farm in the eastern corner of the site. The remainder of the south east and north east boundaries are open.
	Complexity/ Scale			✓			The fields within this Parcel are small to medium sized. Land uses include arable farmland and rough grass, as well as the curtilage of Gin House Farm.
	Condition			✓			The Parcel is currently an area of moderate character in a moderate condition. The landform creates some character for the Parcel.
	Sub Total	0	0	3	0	1	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view					✓	There is a public footpath to the north west of the Parcel, beyond a tall hedgerow. There is also another footpath to the south east of the Parcel, beyond Land Parcel 2.3. Two alternative routes for the Rotherham Round Walk are also located along the north east and south west boundaries of the Parcel
	Openness to private view				✓		The only private property in the vicinity of the Parcel is Gin House Farm. Views from this property are screened by evergreen vegetation around the farm and the raised bank also associated with the farm. There are distant views into the Parcel from the s. west and n. east.
	Relationship with existing urban built form				✓		The Land Parcel is isolated from existing urban areas, with Gin House Farm the only development in the immediate vicinity. The existing industrial area along Gin House Lane is to the east and residential properties are located to the south and south west.

Area 2 Land Parcel No 4 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
	Safeguarding of settlement separation		✓				Development within this Parcel would slightly extend the existing built edge of Rotherham/Thorn Hill towards Greasbrough, but the landform will help to reduce the impacts of this.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development					✓	The prominent position of this Parcel on a ridgeline will reduce the effectiveness of any mitigation measures.
	Sub Total	0	1	0	2	2	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		0	1	3	2	3	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no landscape designations within the vicinity of the Parcel and existing urban areas would prevent any intervisibility from the Area of High Landscape Value to the north.
	Recreational and perceptual factors			✓			There are rights of way or recreational routes on or beyond all the boundaries of this Parcel.
	Sub Total	1	0	1	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		1	1	4	2	3	

Commentary**Overall Landscape Quality**

This Parcel falls within the Wentworth Parklands – Fringes Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the influence of the surrounding urban areas and former mining. This Parcel is fairly typical of the Landscape Character Area, with sloping landform and limited hedgerows.

Settlements

Greasbrough is located to the north of Parcel and Rotherham to the south. Both are relatively modern settlements, particularly close to the Parcel. There are residential properties in Greasbrough to the north of the Parcel, which are largely 20th century in origin, as are properties to the south in Rotherham. To the east are medium to large scale employment uses, including warehouses and industrial works.

Overall Sensitivity

There is relatively little public access to this Parcel, although there are rights of way along the boundaries. The Parcel is largely devoid of field boundaries. The Parcel forms part of an area of farmland separating Greasbrough and Rotherham, but any development within this Parcel would be slightly more related to Rotherham. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is potential scope for some development as part of an extension to Rotherham, although the development would be slightly remote from existing urban areas.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium	Medium-low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential mixed use development site. There would appear to be some scope for small scale residential or employment development, although this would be more appropriate if adjacent Parcels were also being developed.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 2: Bassingthorpe Farm

Land Parcel No = 5

Size = 19.61Ha

Landscape Character Area = Wentworth Parklands – Fringes

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 2/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis					✓	The Parcel slopes up towards Greasbrough and Kimberworth Park to the north and west.
	Vegetation enclosure			✓			There is tall vegetation along the stream/ditch to the south west of the Parcel. The boundary with Parcel 2.4 is also a tall hedgerow. Most of the other hedgerows along the boundaries of the site and internally are poor and gappy.
	Complexity/ Scale			✓			The Land Parcel contains a mix of arable and pastoral farmland, with pasture being located closer to Bassingthorpe Farm. The fields are medium sized and have a mix of irregular and regular boundaries.
	Condition			✓			The Parcel is currently an area of moderate character in a moderate condition. The landform creates some character for the Parcel but hedgerows are of poor quality.
	Sub Total	0	0	3	0	1	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view				✓		There is a public footpath in the south east of the Parcel. Two alternative routes for the Rotherham Round Walk are also located along the north east and south west boundaries of the Parcel
	Openness to private view			✓			The only private property in the immediate vicinity of the Parcel is Bassingthorpe Farm. Views from this property are largely screened by vegetation around the farm. There are distant views into the Parcel from the west and north.
	Relationship with existing urban built form					✓	Development within this Parcel would be completely isolated from any existing urban areas. If other surrounding Parcels were not developed there would be farmland surrounding the Parcel.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation				✓		Development within this Parcel would be located in the middle of the existing gap between Greasbrough, Kimberworth Park and Rotherham/Thorn Hill, compromising this separation.

Area 2 Land Parcel No 5 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development			✓			The landscape pattern of hedgerows within this Parcel could be improved to act as mitigation for any proposed development. It is likely that some views would remain, however, due to the sloping nature of the Parcel.
	Sub Total	0	0	2	2	1	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		0	0	5	2	2	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no landscape designations within the vicinity of the Parcel and existing urban areas would prevent any intervisibility from the Area of High Landscape Value to the north.
	Recreational and perceptual factors			✓			There are rights of way or recreational routes on or beyond all the boundaries of this Parcel.
	Sub Total	1	0	1	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		1	0	6	2	2	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the Wentworth Parklands – Fringes Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the influence of the surrounding urban areas and former mining. This Parcel is fairly typical of the Landscape Character Area, with sloping landform and limited hedgerows.

Settlements

Greasbrough is located to the north of Parcel and Rotherham to the south. Both are relatively modern settlements, particularly close to the Parcel. There are residential properties in Greasbrough to the north of the Parcel, which are largely 20th century in origin, as are properties to the south in Rotherham. To the south east are medium to large scale employment uses, including warehouses and industrial works.

Overall Sensitivity

There is relatively little public access to this Parcel, although there are rights of way along the boundaries. The Parcel is largely devoid of field boundaries. The Parcel forms part of an area of farmland separating Greasbrough and Rotherham, and any development within this Parcel would be isolated between the two. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is potential scope for some development, although the development would be remote from existing urban areas.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium	Medium-low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential mixed use development site. There would appear to be some scope for small to medium scale residential or employment development, although this would be more appropriate if adjacent Parcels were also being developed.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 2: Bassingthorpe Farm

Land Parcel No = 6

Size = 10.74Ha

Landscape Character Area = Wentworth Parklands – Fringes

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 2/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis					✓	The landform in this Parcel slopes gently uphill to the north west, with the boundary of the Parcel being on the hilltop.
	Vegetation enclosure			✓			There are good hedgerows along the south west boundary of the Parcel and perpendicular to this boundary. Other hedgerows are gappy and the northern boundary is fairly open.
	Complexity/ Scale			✓			Landuse within this Parcel is a mixture of arable and pasture. Fields are of a medium scale and relatively regular.
	Condition		✓				The Parcel currently demonstrates a moderate character but is in weak condition. Hedgerows are poorly maintained.
	Sub Total	0	1	2	0	1	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view			✓			There is a public right of way and an area of access land along the northern boundary of the Parcel, and one of the routes of the Rotherham Round Walk runs along the road to the east of the Parcel.
	Openness to private view				✓		There are limited views into the Parcel from housing to the north. There are also some occasional more distant views from properties to the south and south west.
	Relationship with existing urban built form			✓			Although not directly linked to the Parcel, housing along Munsborough Lane in Greasbrough could relate to any proposed development.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation				✓		Any proposed development within this Parcel would significantly compromise the separation between Greasbrough and Kimberworth Park.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development			✓			The sloping nature of the Parcel would create difficulties in mitigating any development. Planting could strengthen the existing boundaries and reflect Bassingthorpe Spring Woodland.
	Sub Total	0	0	3	2	0	

Area 2 Land Parcel No 6 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		0	1	5	2	1	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no landscape designations within the vicinity of the Parcel and existing urban areas would prevent any intervisibility from the Area of High Landscape Value to the north.
	Recreational and perceptual factors			✓			There are recreational routes and land uses in close proximity to the Parcel but not within it. The Parcel has moderate scenic value but limited tranquility.
	Sub Total	1	0	1	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		1	1	6	2	1	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the Wentworth Parklands – Fringes Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the influence of the surrounding urban areas and former mining. This Parcel is fairly typical of the Landscape Character Area, although hedgerows are more frequent than in other parts of the sub area.

Settlements

Greasbrough is located to the north of Parcel and Rotherham to the south. Both are relatively modern settlements, particularly close to the Parcel. There are residential properties in Greasbrough to the north of the Parcel, which are largely 20th century in origin, as are properties to the south in Rotherham. To the south east are medium to large scale employment uses, including warehouses and industrial works.

Overall Sensitivity

There is relatively little public access to this Parcel, although there are rights of way along some boundaries. The Parcel is divided into smaller fields by hedgerows and has some overhead cables passing through. The Parcel forms part of an area of farmland separating Greasbrough and Rotherham, with any development within this Parcel more related to Greasbrough. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is scope for some development, which could relate to existing urban areas but would be seen from a wide area.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Medium-low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

Appendix B

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential mixed use development site. There would appear to be some scope for small to medium scale residential or employment development, which should relate to Greasbrough.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 2: Bassingthorpe Farm

Land Parcel No = 7

Size = 9.30Ha

Landscape Character Area = Wentworth Parklands – Fringes

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 2/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis		✓				The landform within this Parcel is gently rolling/undulating.
	Vegetation enclosure		✓				The hedgerows along the northern, eastern and southern boundaries are quite tall. The hedgerow on the western boundary is gappier.
	Complexity/ Scale			✓			Landuse within this Parcel is a mixture of arable farmland and horse paddocks. The fields are of a medium scale.
	Condition			✓			This Parcel is of moderate character and in moderate condition.
	Sub Total	0	2	2	0	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view		✓				There are no rights of way through the Parcel. There are occasional glimpses into the Parcel from the roads to the north and west.
	Openness to private view			✓			There are limited views into the Parcel from Bassingthorpe Farm. There are also glimpses from houses in Greasbrough (to the north) and distant views from the west.
	Relationship with existing urban built form		✓				Any development within this Parcel could reflect development already fronting onto Munsborough Road, to the north.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation			✓			Development within this Parcel would extend the existing urban edge of Greasbrough towards Rotherham and Thorn Hill.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development			✓			Development within this Parcel could be mitigated to a certain extent by strengthening the hedgerows and increasing woodland cover.
	Sub Total	0	2	3	0	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		0	4	5	0	0	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no landscape designations within the vicinity of the Parcel and existing urban areas would prevent any intervisibility from the Area of High Landscape Value to the north.

Area 2 Land Parcel No 7 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
	Recreational and perceptual factors		✓				There are no rights of way through the Parcel, although part of the Rotherham Round Walk is located to the west
	Sub Total	1	1	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		1	5	5	0	0	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the Wentworth Parklands – Fringes Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the influence of the surrounding urban areas and former mining. This Parcel is fairly typical of the Landscape Character Area, although part of the Parcel is used as paddocks, which is infrequent in the Wentworth Parklands – Fringes.

Settlements

Greasbrough is located to the north of Parcel and Rotherham to the south. Both are relatively modern settlements, particularly close to the Parcel. There are residential properties in Greasbrough to the north of the Parcel, which are largely 20th century in origin, as are properties to the south west in Rotherham. To the south east are medium to large scale employment uses, including warehouses and industrial works.

Overall Sensitivity

There is little public access to this Parcel and few rights of way close to the boundaries. The Parcel is partly arable and partly paddocks. The Parcel forms part of an area of farmland separating Greasbrough and Rotherham, with any development within this Parcel more related to Greasbrough. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium-low sensitivity**. There is scope for some development, which could relate to existing urban areas and be relatively well contained.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium-high

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-high	Medium	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Medium-low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential mixed use development site. There would appear to be some scope for small to medium scale residential or employment development, which should relate to Greasbrough.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 2: Bassingthorpe Farm

Land Parcel No = 8

Size = 25.74Ha

Landscape Character Area = Wentworth Parklands – Fringes

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 2/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis		✓				Much of this Land Parcel is reclaimed land. This has created some relatively flat areas, whilst the more intact areas are undulating.
	Vegetation enclosure			✓			A footpath/former track runs through the Parcel and is well vegetated. There is also tall vegetation around a former sports ground in the western part of the Parcel.
	Complexity/ Scale			✓			The majority of the Parcel comprises large arable fields. There are also smaller arable fields and a small scale sports ground.
	Condition		✓				This Parcel has moderate character but is in a poor condition. The sports field is disused and the farmland is lacking in hedgerows.
	Sub Total	0	2	2	0	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view				✓		There are no public rights of way through the Parcel but the route of an informal path/former track is located within it. There are some glimpses into the Parcel from Gin House Lane to the west.
	Openness to private view			✓			There are some views into the Parcel from properties along Munsborough Lane to the north. There are also views into the Parcel from Barbot Hall to the east.
	Relationship with existing urban built form			✓			This Land Parcel would have no existing relationship with residential areas. It could relate to the commercial buildings along Gin House Road.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation				✓		Development within this Parcel would extend the existing built edge of Rotherham/Thorn Hill towards Greasbrough.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development			✓			Development within this Parcel could be mitigated to a certain extent by strengthening the hedgerows and increasing woodland cover.
	Sub Total	0	0	3	2	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		0	2	5	2	0	

Area 2 Land Parcel No 8 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no landscape designations within the vicinity of the Parcel and existing urban areas would prevent any intervisibility from the Area of High Landscape Value to the north.
	Recreational and perceptual factors		✓				There are no public rights of way through the Parcel, although there is a disused sports ground on its western edge. The Parcel has relatively low scenic value.
	Sub Total	1	1	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		1	3	5	2	0	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the Wentworth Parklands – Fringes Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the influence of the surrounding urban areas and former mining. This Parcel is fairly typical of the Landscape Character Area, as it is reclaimed land with relatively few hedgerows.

Settlements

Greasbrough is located to the north of Parcel and Rotherham to the south. Both are relatively modern settlements, particularly close to the Parcel. There are residential properties in Greasbrough to the north of the Parcel, which are largely 20th century in origin, as are properties to the south west in Rotherham. To the south east are medium to large scale employment uses, including warehouses and industrial works.

Overall Sensitivity

There is little public access to this Parcel and few rights of way close to the boundaries. The Parcel is partly arable and partly a small disused sports ground. The Parcel forms part of an area of farmland separating Greasbrough and Rotherham, with any development within this Parcel more related to Rotherham. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is scope for some development, which could relate to existing urban areas but would significantly reduce separation between Rotherham and Greasbrough.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-low	Medium-low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium	Medium-low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential mixed use development site. There would appear to be some scope for small to medium scale residential or employment development, which could relate to existing industrial areas in Rotherham.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 2: Bassingthorpe Farm

Land Parcel No = 9

Size = 15.83Ha

Landscape Character Area = Wentworth Parklands – Fringes

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 2/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis					✓	This Parcel is located on prominent slopes, although not particularly steeply sloping. It slopes up towards a localized high point to the north west of the Parcel.
	Vegetation enclosure				✓		There is a gappy hedgerow along the north west boundary of the Parcel and a more substantial hedgerow along the south west boundary. Other boundaries, including those within the Parcel, are generally fences.
	Complexity/ Scale			✓			The only land use within this Parcel is arable farmland. Fields are small to medium in scale but look larger due to the lack of hedgerows.
	Condition		✓				This Parcel has moderate character but is in a poor condition. The farmland is lacking in hedgerows.
	Sub Total	0	1	1	1	1	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view				✓		There are no rights of way through this Parcel but there are open views into it from Munsborough Lane.
	Openness to private view				✓		There are open views into this Parcel from properties along Munsborough Lane.
	Relationship with existing urban built form		✓				Any development within this Parcel could reflect development already fronting onto Munsborough Road, to the north.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation			✓			Development within this Parcel would extend the existing urban edge of Greasbrough towards Rotherham and Thorn Hill.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development			✓			Mitigation of any development within this Parcel could be through strengthening existing boundaries, building on the good hedgerow to the south west. Increased vegetation within the Parcel would also be beneficial.
	Sub Total	0	1	2	2	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		0	2	3	3	1	

Area 2 Land Parcel No 9 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no landscape designations within the vicinity of the Parcel and existing urban areas would prevent any intervisibility from the Area of High Landscape Value to the north.
	Recreational and perceptual factors		✓				There are no rights of way through the Parcel, although part of the Rotherham Round Walk is located to the west.
	Sub Total	1	1	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		1	3	3	3	1	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the Wentworth Parklands – Fringes Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the influence of the surrounding urban areas and former mining. This Parcel is fairly typical of the Landscape Character Area, although part of the Parcel is used as paddocks, with sloping landform and limited hedgerows.

Settlements

Greasbrough is located to the north of Parcel and Rotherham to the south. Both are relatively modern settlements, particularly close to the Parcel. There are residential properties in Greasbrough to the north of the Parcel, which are largely 20th century in origin, as are properties to the south west in Rotherham. To the south east are medium to large scale employment uses, including warehouses and industrial works.

Overall Sensitivity

There is little public access to this Parcel and few rights of way close to the boundaries. The Parcel is entirely arable farmland. The Parcel forms part of an area of farmland separating Greasbrough and Rotherham, with any development within this Parcel more related to Greasbrough. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is scope for some development, which could relate to existing urban areas but would be in a prominent location.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential mixed use development site. There would appear to be some scope for small to medium scale residential or employment development, which should relate to Greasbrough.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 2: Bassingthorpe Farm

Land Parcel No = 10

Size = 3.13Ha

Landscape Character Area = Wentworth Parklands – Fringes

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 3/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis					✓	This Parcel is located on a prominent slope with views out towards Rawmarsh.
	Vegetation enclosure		✓				There are tall native hedgerows on the eastern and southern boundaries of the Parcel. The remaining boundary also has a hedgerow but this is more gappy and clipped as it also forms the rear boundary of residential properties.
	Complexity/ Scale			✓			The Parcel comprises one medium sized arable field.
	Condition		✓				This Parcel has moderate character but is in a poor condition. The hedgerows are variable.
	Sub Total	0	2	1	0	1	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view		✓				There are no rights of way through this Parcel. There are only occasional glimpses into the Parcel from the surrounding roads.
	Openness to private view			✓			Properties along Highfield Road, to the north west of the Parcel, back onto the arable field and share a boundary with the Parcel. They have some views into the Parcel, although not from the ground floor. There are also distant views into the Parcel from Rawmarsh.
	Relationship with existing urban built form	✓					The Parcel is enclosed on two sides by roads. Any development within this Parcel would directly relate to the existing edge of Greasbrough and the properties along Highfield Road.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation		✓				Development within this Parcel would slightly extend the existing urban edge of Greasbrough towards Rotherham and Thorn Hill.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development			✓			The prominence of the slope within this Parcel would make full mitigation of any proposed development difficult. Strengthening of the existing boundary hedgerows would reduce the impact of any development.
	Sub Total	1	2	2	0	0	

Area 2 Land Parcel No 10 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		1	4	3	0	1	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no landscape designations within the vicinity of the Parcel and existing urban areas would prevent any intervisibility from the Area of High Landscape Value to the north.
	Recreational and perceptual factors		✓				There is currently little of recreational value within this Parcel. The scenic value of the Parcel is also relatively limited.
	Sub Total	1	1	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		2	5	3	0	1	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the Wentworth Parklands – Fringes Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the influence of the surrounding urban areas and former mining. This Parcel is less typical of the Landscape Character Area, although it is a small arable field related to the urban fringe.

Settlements

Greasbrough is located to the north of Parcel and Rotherham to the south. Both are relatively modern settlements, particularly close to the Parcel. There are residential properties in Greasbrough to the north of the Parcel, which are largely 20th century in origin, as are properties to the south west in Rotherham. To the south are medium to large scale employment uses, including warehouses and industrial works.

Overall Sensitivity

There is little public access to this Parcel and few rights of way close to the boundaries. The Parcel is entirely arable farmland and is enclosed on two sides by minor roads. The Parcel forms part of an area of farmland separating Greasbrough and Rotherham, with any development within this Parcel more related to Greasbrough. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium-low sensitivity**. There is scope for some development, which could relate to existing urban areas and be relatively enclosed.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium-high

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-high	Low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

Appendix B

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential residential development site. There would appear to be some scope for small scale residential or employment development, which would be restricted by the small size of the Parcel.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 2: Bassingthorpe Farm

Land Parcel No = 11

Size = 39.02Ha

Landscape Character Area = Wentworth Parklands – Fringes

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 3/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis					✓	There is some undulation within this Land Parcel, but it generally slopes down to the south and east towards streams/dikes.
	Vegetation enclosure		✓				For much of the southern boundary of the Parcel there are woodland blocks, adjacent to Barbot Hall Industrial Estate. There is also woodland and mature trees around Barbot Hall. The western and north eastern boundaries are much gappier.
	Complexity/ Scale			✓			The fields within this Parcel are medium to large in scale. There is some variety in landuse, although the majority is arable farmland.
	Condition		✓				This Parcel has moderate character but is in a poor condition. The hedgerows are variable and gappy in places.
	Sub Total	0	2	1	0	1	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view		✓				There is a public footpath along the eastern boundary of the Parcel. Other than this, the Parcel is relatively well contained with limited views into it from public locations.
	Openness to private view			✓			Barbot Hall and Barbot Old Hall Farm have views into the Parcel. There are also limited views from properties along Lowfield Avenue to the north and distant views from Rawmarsh to the east.
	Relationship with existing urban built form			✓			There is an Industrial Estate to the south of the Parcel and residential areas to the north. Development within this Parcel could relate to both landuses, but would not form a natural extension to either.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation					✓	Development of the whole of this Parcel would cause complete coalescence of the existing urban edge of Greasbrough and Rotherham/Thorn Hill.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development		✓				There is room within this Parcel for an increase in woodland cover and to create additional enclosure.
	Sub Total	0	2	2	0	1	

Area 2 Land Parcel No 11 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		0	4	3	0	2	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no landscape designations within the vicinity of the Parcel and existing urban areas would prevent any intervisibility from the Area of High Landscape Value to the north.
	Recreational and perceptual factors		✓				There is currently little of recreational value within this Parcel, other than a footpath along the eastern boundary. The scenic value of the Parcel is also relatively limited.
	Sub Total	1	1	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		1	5	3	0	2	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the Wentworth Parklands – Fringes Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the influence of the surrounding urban areas and former mining. This Parcel is fairly typical of the Landscape Character Area, comprising predominantly arable fields on sloping ground.

Settlements

Greasbrough is located to the north of Parcel and Rotherham to the south. Both are relatively modern settlements, particularly close to the Parcel. There are residential properties in Greasbrough to the north of the Parcel, which are largely 20th century in origin, as are properties to the south west in Rotherham. To the south and east are medium to large scale employment uses, including warehouses and industrial works.

Overall Sensitivity

There is little public access to this Parcel and few rights of way close to the boundaries. The Parcel is almost entirely arable farmland, although there are small woodland blocks. The Parcel forms part of an area of farmland separating Greasbrough and Rotherham, with any development within this Parcel joining the two. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium-low sensitivity**. There is scope for some development, which could relate to existing urban areas but would cause coalescence between Rotherham and Greasbrough.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium-high

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-high	Medium-high	Medium
Employment – offices	Medium-high	Medium	Medium-low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-high	Medium-high	Medium-low

Appendix B

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as partly a potential residential development site and partly a mixed use development. There would appear to be some scope for small to medium scale residential or employment development, but the issue of coalescence would need to be carefully addressed.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 2: Bassingthorpe Farm

Land Parcel No = 12

Size = 7.57Ha

Landscape Character Area = Wentworth Parklands – Fringes

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 3/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis				✓		This Parcel is located on lower valley slopes, which are less prominent and steep than several of the surrounding Parcels.
	Vegetation enclosure			✓			There is a woodland block in the eastern part of the Parcel. The north and north eastern boundaries of the Parcel are relatively open, as is a large part of the southern boundary. Where the Parcel abuts housing, on its western boundary, enclosure by vegetation is variable, with mature trees in some locations and clipped hedgerows in others.
	Complexity/ Scale				✓		The Parcel comprises a combination of woodland, pasture and arable land. Fields are of a medium scale.
	Condition	✓					This Parcel is a weak example of the Character of the surrounding landscape and is in poor condition. Hedgerows have been removed and there are areas of disused land.
	Sub Total	1	0	1	2	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view				✓		There is a footpath and cycleway along the edge of Scrooby Lane, to the north of the Parcel. There are relatively open views from these routes, as well as the road itself.
	Openness to private view		✓				There are limited views from properties along Lowfield Avenue to the north and limited distant views from Rawmarsh to the east.
	Relationship with existing urban built form		✓				Development within this Land Parcel could continue development along Scrooby Lane in a similar way to existing residential areas.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation				✓		Development of the whole of this Parcel would cause almost complete coalescence of the existing urban edge of Greasbrough and Rotherham/Thorn Hill.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development		✓				Mitigation of any development within this Parcel could include increased woodland cover and strengthening of boundaries/ existing hedgerows.
	Sub Total	0	3	0	2	0	

Area 2 Land Parcel No 12 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		1	3	1	4	0	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no landscape designations within the vicinity of the Parcel and existing urban areas would prevent any intervisibility from the Area of High Landscape Value to the north.
	Recreational and perceptual factors		✓				There is currently little of recreational value within this Parcel, other than a footpath/cycleway along the northern boundary. The scenic value of the Parcel is also relatively limited.
	Sub Total	1	1	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		2	4	1	4	0	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the Wentworth Parklands – Fringes Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the influence of the surrounding urban areas and former mining. This Parcel is fairly typical of the Landscape Character Area, comprising predominantly arable field on sloping ground.

Settlements

Greasbrough is located to the north west of the Parcel, Rotherham to the south and Rawmarsh to the east. All of these are relatively modern settlements, particularly close to the Parcel. There are residential properties in Greasbrough to the north west of the Parcel, which are largely 20th century in origin, as are properties to the south in Rotherham and Rawmarsh to the east. To the south east are medium to large scale employment uses, including warehouses and industrial works.

Overall Sensitivity

There is little public access to this Parcel and few rights of way close to the boundaries. The Parcel is partly arable farmland and pasture. The Parcel forms part of an area of farmland separating Greasbrough and Rotherham, with any development within this Parcel largely joining the two. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium-low sensitivity**. There is scope for some development, which could relate to existing urban areas but would largely cause coalescence between Rotherham and Greasbrough.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium-high

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-high	Medium	Low
Employment – offices	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium	Medium-low	Low

Appendix B

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential mixed use development. There would appear to be some scope for small to medium scale residential or employment development, but the issue of coalescence would need to be carefully addressed.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 2: Bassingthorpe Farm

Land Parcel No = 13

Size = 16.61Ha

Landscape Character Area = Wentworth Parklands – Fringes

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 3/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis				✓		This Parcel is located on lower valley slopes and generally slopes down to a stream/dike on the north eastern boundary.
	Vegetation enclosure		✓				There are strong tree belts along the stream on the north eastern boundary of the Parcel, a footpath through the Parcel and around field boundaries in the southern part of the Parcel. Where the Parcel abuts the urban area vegetation is more intermittent and forms rear garden boundaries.
	Complexity/ Scale			✓			The Parcel comprises of medium to large arable fields and one field of rough grassland.
	Condition		✓				This Parcel has moderate character but is in a poor condition. Vegetation along the boundaries is variable.
	Sub Total	0	2	1	1	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view		✓				There is one footpath through the Parcel, with tall vegetation along part of its length. There are no direct views of the Parcel from surrounding roads.
	Openness to private view			✓			A number of residential properties back onto this Parcel, mostly along Harold Croft and Scrooby Street. There are no views into the Parcel from Rawmarsh.
	Relationship with existing urban built form		✓				Any development within this Parcel would wrap around the existing edge of Greasbrough and an existing area of open space. Development within the north west fields of this Parcel would have a better relationship with the existing urban area.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation				✓		Development of the whole of this Parcel would cause almost complete coalescence of the existing urban edge of Greasbrough and Rotherham/Thorn Hill, as well as extending Greasbrough closer to Rawmarsh.

Area 2 Land Parcel No 13 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development	✓					Mitigation of any proposed development within this Parcel could be achieved by strengthening the existing hedgerows and vegetation along the stream/dike.
	Sub Total	1	2	1	1	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		1	4	2	2	0	
3.Landscape Value	Designations				✓		This Parcel is adjacent to both an Area of High Landscape Value and a Registered Park.
	Recreational and perceptual factors		✓				There is currently little of recreational value within this Parcel, other than a footpath through the Parcel and an adjacent area of open space. The scenic value of the Parcel is also relatively limited.
	Sub Total	0	1	0	1	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		1	5	2	3	0	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the Wentworth Parklands – Fringes Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the influence of the surrounding urban areas and former mining. This Parcel is fairly typical of the Landscape Character Area, comprising predominantly arable field on sloping ground.

Settlements

Greasbrough is located to the south west of the Parcel, Rotherham to the south and Rawmarsh to the east. All of these are relatively modern settlements, particularly close to the Parcel. There are residential properties in Greasbrough to the south west of the Parcel, which are largely 20th century in origin, as are properties to the south in Rotherham and Rawmarsh to the east. To the south east are medium to large scale employment uses, including warehouses and industrial works.

Overall Sensitivity

There is limited public access to this Parcel and some rights of way close to the boundaries. The Parcel is largely arable farmland and forms part of an area of farmland separating Greasbrough, Rawmarsh and Rotherham, with any development within this Parcel largely related to Greasbrough. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium-low sensitivity**. There is scope for some development, which could relate to existing urban areas but would cause coalescence between Rotherham and Greasbrough and encroach on the separation between Greasbrough and Rawmarsh.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium-high

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-high	Medium	Low
Employment – offices	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium	Medium-low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential mixed use development. There would appear to be some scope for small to medium scale residential or employment development, but the issue of coalescence would need to be carefully addressed.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 2: Bassingthorpe Farm

Land Parcel No = 14

Size = 2.08Ha

Landscape Character Area = Wentworth Parklands – Fringes

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 3/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis				✓		This Parcel is relatively flat and is located on the lower valley slopes of the stream/dike to the south of the Parcel.
	Vegetation enclosure		✓				There is no woodland within the Parcel, but there are tall tree belts along the stream/dike to the south and the road to the north.
	Complexity/ Scale				✓		The Parcel itself is very small in scale. The predominant landuse is arable farmland.
	Condition			✓			This Parcel has moderate character and is in moderate condition.
	Sub Total	0	1	1	2	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view		✓				There is a public footpath through a small part of the Parcel and limited views from the adjacent Cinder Bridge Road.
	Openness to private view	✓					There are no residential properties within the vicinity that would have views into this Parcel.
	Relationship with existing urban built form				✓		The Parcel is in an isolated location and would not relate to any existing urban area.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation			✓			Development within this Parcel would decrease separation between Greasbrough and Rawmarsh.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development			✓			Due to the narrow width of this Parcel, any mitigation beyond the existing vegetation on the boundaries of the Parcel would be very difficult.
	Sub Total	1	1	2	1	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		1	2	3	3	0	
3.Landscape Value	Designations				✓		This Parcel is adjacent to both an Area of High Landscape Value and a Registered Park.
	Recreational and perceptual factors		✓				There is currently little of recreational value within this Parcel, other than a footpath through the Parcel. The scenic value of the Parcel is also relatively limited.
	Sub Total	0	1	0	1	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		1	3	3	4	0	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the Wentworth Parklands – Fringes Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the influence of the surrounding urban areas and former mining. This Parcel is not typical of the Landscape Character Area, comprising predominantly rough grass and pasture adjacent to a watercourse.

Settlements

Greasbrough is located to the south west of the Parcel, Rotherham to the south and Rawmarsh to the east. All of these are relatively modern settlements, particularly close to the Parcel. There are residential properties in Greasbrough to the south west of the Parcel, which are largely 20th century in origin, as are properties to the south in Rotherham and Rawmarsh to the east. To the south east, at a distance, are medium to large scale employment uses, including warehouses and industrial works.

Overall Sensitivity

There is limited public access to this Parcel and few rights of way close to the boundaries. The Parcel is a narrow strip of pasture, arable and rough grass, which forms part of an area of farmland separating Greasbrough and Rawmarsh, with any development within this Parcel largely related to Greasbrough. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium-high sensitivity**. There is limited scope for any development, due to the limited width of the Parcel.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium-low

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Low	Low	Low
Employment – offices	Low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as part of a potential mixed use development. There would appear to be limited scope for development, due to the narrow width of the Parcel.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 2: Bassingthorpe Farm

Land Parcel No = 15

Size = 12.09Ha

Landscape Character Area = Wentworth Parklands – Fringes

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 3/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis					✓	This Parcel slopes up towards a highpoint at the centre of the Parcel. The highpoint is located at the end of a ridgeline that runs into the Parcel from the north.
	Vegetation enclosure			✓			There is patchy vegetation along Greasbrough Road and Cinder Bridge Road to the north of the Parcel. Vegetation along a track on the western boundary of the Parcel is taller and more intact. There is a scrap yard to the south of the Parcel, with evergreen conifers along much of its boundary. There are also native hedgerows around an Italian restaurant in the north east corner of the Parcel.
	Complexity/ Scale			✓			The Parcel consists of medium to large arable fields.
	Condition	✓					This Parcel is a weak example of the Character of the surrounding landscape and is in poor condition. Hedgerows have been removed and the remainder are in poor condition.
	Sub Total		1	0	2	0	1
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view			✓			There is a bridleway to the west of the Parcel, along the track. However, there is tall vegetation between the Parcel and the bridleway. There are views into the Parcel from Greasbrough Road and Cinder Bridge Road.
	Openness to private view			✓			There are very few residential properties in the vicinity of the Parcel. There are some more distant views from properties in parts of Rawmarsh.
	Relationship with existing urban built form				✓		There is a large scrap yard to the south of the Parcel with other industrial and commercial uses beyond that. Rawmarsh is to the east of the Parcel but any proposed development would not be a natural extension of the town.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation				✓		Development within this Parcel would significantly narrow the gap between Rawmarsh and Greasbrough.

Area 2 Land Parcel No 15 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development				✓		There is very little existing vegetation within this Parcel to build on in terms of mitigation. The high ground at the centre of the site is likely to remain visible.
	Sub Total	0	0	2	3	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		1	0	4	3	1	
3.Landscape Value	Designations		✓				There may be some distant views towards this Parcel from the Area of High Landscape Value to the north west. These would be interrupted by existing vegetation.
	Recreational and perceptual factors		✓				There is a bridleway to the west of the Parcel but little other recreational value within or adjacent to the Parcel.
	Sub Total	0	2	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		1	2	4	3	1	

Commentary**Overall Landscape Quality**

This Parcel falls within the Wentworth Parklands – Fringes Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the influence of the surrounding urban areas and former mining. This Parcel is largely typical of the Landscape Character Area, comprising arable farmland on sloping ground.

Settlements

Greasbrough is located to the west of the Parcel, Rotherham to the south and Rawmarsh to the north east. All of these are relatively modern settlements, particularly close to the Parcel. There are residential properties in Greasbrough to the north west of the Parcel, which are largely 20th century in origin, as are properties to the south in Rotherham and Rawmarsh to the east. To the south and south east are medium to large scale employment uses, including warehouses and industrial works.

Overall Sensitivity

There is limited public access to this Parcel but some rights of way close to the boundaries. The Parcel is located on part of a ridgeline in a former mining area. It forms part of an area of farmland separating Greasbrough, Rotherham and Rawmarsh, with any development within this Parcel related to both Rawmarsh and Rotherham. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is some scope for development within the Parcel, related to either Employment uses in Rotherham or residential areas in Rawmarsh.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium	Medium-low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential mixed use development. There would appear to be some scope for small to medium scale residential or employment development, but the relationship between Rawmarsh and Rotherham would need to be carefully addressed.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 2: Bassingthorpe Farm

Land Parcel No = 16

Size = 2.38Ha

Landscape Character Area = Wentworth Parklands – Fringes

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 3/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis				✓		This Parcel slopes gently to the east.
	Vegetation enclosure			✓			There are trees and scrub to the north west and south east of the Parcel. The remaining boundaries of the Parcel are a combination of low hedgerows with some gaps and fences.
	Complexity/ Scale				✓		The Parcel consists of small scale allotments.
	Condition			✓			This Parcel has moderate character and is in moderate condition.
	Sub Total	0	0	2	2	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view				✓		There are no public rights of way through or close to the Parcel, but the Parcel is an area of allotments. There are also some views into the Parcel from Greasbrough Road to the south.
	Openness to private view		✓				A very limited number of properties overlook the allotments.
	Relationship with existing urban built form			✓			The Parcel is located on the western edge of Rawmarsh, but a dismantled railway line and an area of open space separate the Parcel from the urban edge.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation		✓				Development within this Parcel would slightly extend the edge of Rawmarsh towards Greasbrough.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development		✓				Any proposed development within this Parcel could be mitigated by increased vegetation around the perimeters of the Parcel.
	Sub Total	0	3	1	1	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		0	3	3	3	0	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no landscape designations within the vicinity of the Parcel and existing landform would prevent any intervisibility from the AHLV to the west.
	Recreational and perceptual factors			✓			The Parcel has recreational value as allotments.
	Sub Total	1	0	1	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		1	3	4	3	0	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the Wentworth Parklands – Fringes Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the influence of the surrounding urban areas and former mining. This Parcel is not typical of the Landscape Character Area, comprising predominantly allotments.

Settlements

Greasbrough is located at a distance to the west of the Parcel, Rotherham to the south and Rawmarsh to the east. All of these are relatively modern settlements, particularly close to the Parcel. There are residential properties in Rawmarsh to the east of the Parcel, which are largely 20th century in origin, as are properties to the south in Rotherham and Greasbrough to the west. To the south are medium to large scale employment uses, including warehouses and industrial works.

Overall Sensitivity

There is public access to the allotments in this Parcel. The Parcel is located adjacent to the existing urban edge of Rawmarsh but adjacent to an open space. It forms part of an area of farmland separating Greasbrough and Rawmarsh, with any development within this Parcel related to Rawmarsh. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is some scope for development within the Parcel, related to residential areas in Rawmarsh, although the size of the Parcel would limit the amount of development.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium	Low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium	Low	Low

NB. LDF database of potential sites does not identify this site as having development potential.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 2: Bassingthorpe Farm

Land Parcel No = 17

Size = 25.49Ha

Landscape Character Area = Wentworth Parklands – Fringes

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 3/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis					✓	This Parcel is located on prominent sloping land. The landform slopes down towards a stream/dike to the south west of the Parcel.
	Vegetation enclosure		✓				There are some blocks of young woodland within the Parcel. There is also a mature tree belt along the eastern boundary of the Parcel, adjacent to a track/bridleway. There are native hedgerows within the Parcel and along the roads to the north and south west.
	Complexity/ Scale			✓			The Parcel is predominantly arable farmland in medium to large fields. There is also some woodland within the Parcel.
	Condition			✓			This Parcel has moderate character and is in moderate condition.
Sub Total		0	1	2	0	1	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view			✓			There is a public footpath through the southern part of the Parcel. There is also a bridleway to the east, along the top of the ridge, although vegetation prevents views into the Parcel from parts of the bridleway. There are also glimpses into the Parcel from the surrounding roads.
	Openness to private view			✓			There are more distant views into the Parcel from properties in parts of Greasbrough, to the west of the Parcel.
	Relationship with existing urban built form					✓	Any proposed development within this Parcel would be relatively isolated from both Greasbrough and Rawmarsh.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation				✓		Any development within this Parcel would significantly reduce the separation between Greasbrough and Rawmarsh.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development			✓			Any development located towards the top of the ridgeline, the western part of this Parcel, would be difficult to mitigate. Woodland blocks could be increased within the Parcel and existing hedgerows reinforced.
Sub Total		0	0	3	1	1	

Area 2 Land Parcel No 17 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		0	1	5	1	2	
3.Landscape Value	Designations			✓			There are likely to be some views towards this Parcel from the Area of High Landscape Value to the west. These would be interrupted by existing vegetation.
	Recreational and perceptual factors			✓			There is a footpath through the Parcel, a bridleway and the Rotherham Round Walk to the east of the Parcel and the Parcel does have some scenic value.
	Sub Total	0	0	2	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		0	1	7	1	2	

Commentary**Overall Landscape Quality**

This Parcel falls within the Wentworth Parklands – Fringes Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the influence of the surrounding urban areas and former mining. This Parcel is largely typical of the Landscape Character Area, comprising arable farmland on sloping ground.

Settlements

Greasbrough is located to the west of the Parcel, Rotherham to the south and Rawmarsh to the east. All of these are relatively modern settlements, particularly close to the Parcel. There are residential properties in Greasbrough to the east of the Parcel, which are largely 20th century in origin, as are properties to the south in Rotherham and Rawmarsh to the east. To the south east, at a distance, are medium to large scale employment uses, including warehouses and industrial works.

Overall Sensitivity

There is limited public access to this Parcel but some rights of way close to the boundaries. The Parcel is located on prominent slopes in a former mining area. It forms part of an area of farmland separating Greasbrough and Rawmarsh, with any development within this Parcel related more to Greasbrough. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is some scope for development within the Parcel, although it would be slightly isolated from existing urban areas.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium**Development Type Landscape Capacity**

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Medium-low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Medium-low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential mixed use development. There would appear to be some scope for small to medium scale residential or employment development, although this would be more appropriate if adjacent Parcels were also being developed.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 2: Bassingthorpe Farm

Land Parcel No = 18

Size = 37.06Ha

Landscape Character Area = Wentworth Parklands – Fringes

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 3/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis					✓	This Parcel is located on prominent sloping land. It slopes towards Rawmarsh, which is to the east.
	Vegetation enclosure		✓				The Parcel is relatively well enclosed by native hedgerows that are predominantly hawthorn. These hedgerows do have some gaps, however, particularly to allow farm access between fields. There is also a block of woodland in the north east corner of the Parcel and tall vegetation along a bridleway on the western boundary of the Parcel.
	Complexity/ Scale			✓			The Parcel is arable farmland in medium to large fields. There are also small woodland blocks.
	Condition			✓			This Parcel has moderate character and is in moderate condition.
	Sub Total	0	1	2	0	1	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view		✓				There is a public footpath through the southern part of the Parcel. There is also a bridleway to the west, along the top of the ridge, although vegetation prevents views into the Parcel from parts of the bridleway. There are also glimpses into the Parcel from the surrounding roads and the allotments to the south.
	Openness to private view			✓			There are more distant views into the Parcel from properties in parts of Rawmarsh, to the east.
	Relationship with existing urban built form			✓			Any development within this Parcel would relate to Rawmarsh to the east. It would not be a natural extension.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation				✓		Any development within this Parcel would significantly reduce the separation between Rawmarsh and Greasbrough.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development		✓				Any development located towards the top of the ridgeline, the eastern part of this Parcel, would be difficult to mitigate. Woodland blocks could be increased within the remainder of the Parcel and existing hedgerows reinforced.
	Sub Total	0	2	2	1	0	

Area 2 Land Parcel No 18 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		0	3	4	1	1	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no landscape designations within the vicinity of the Parcel and existing landform would prevent any intervisibility from the Area of High Landscape Value to the west.
	Recreational and perceptual factors			✓			There is a footpath through the Parcel, and a bridleway and the Rotherham Round Walk to the west of the Parcel and the Parcel does have some scenic value.
	Sub Total	1	0	1	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		1	3	5	1	1	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the Wentworth Parklands – Fringes Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the influence of the surrounding urban areas and former mining. This Parcel is largely typical of the Landscape Character Area, comprising arable farmland on sloping ground.

Settlements

Greasbrough is located to the west of the Parcel, Rotherham to the south and Rawmarsh to the east. All of these are relatively modern settlements, particularly close to the Parcel. There are residential properties in Rawmarsh to the east of the Parcel, which are largely 20th century in origin, as are properties to the south in Rotherham and Greasbrough to the west. To the south are medium to large scale employment uses, including warehouses and industrial works.

Overall Sensitivity

There is some public access to this Parcel and some rights of way close to the boundaries. The Parcel is located on prominent slopes in a former mining area. It forms part of an area of farmland separating Greasbrough and Rawmarsh, with any development within this Parcel more related to Rawmarsh. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is some scope for development within the Parcel, related to residential areas in Rawmarsh.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium	Medium	Medium-low
Employment – offices	Medium	Medium	Medium-low
Employment - warehouse	Medium	Medium	Medium-low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential mixed use development. There would appear to be some scope for small to medium scale residential or employment development, but this would potentially reduce separation between Rawmarsh and Greasbrough.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 2: Bassingthorpe Farm

Land Parcel No = 19

Size = 17.87Ha

Landscape Character Area = Wentworth Parklands – Fringes

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 3/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis					✓	This Parcel is located on prominent sloping land. It slopes towards Rawmarsh, which is to the east.
	Vegetation enclosure			✓			There are tall hedgerows or tree belts along the majority of the boundaries of this Parcel. There are also lower hedgerows within the Parcel, with occasional hedgerow trees.
	Complexity/ Scale				✓		The Parcel comprises of small fields of pasture, allotments and two cemeteries.
	Condition			✓			This Parcel has moderate character and is in moderate condition.
	Sub Total	0	0	2	1	1	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view				✓		There are views of the Parcel from within the cemeteries and the allotments. There is also a public footpath through the Parcel and informal public access to some of the pastoral fields.
	Openness to private view		✓				Tall vegetation screens views into the Parcel for most of the residential properties in the vicinity. There are some distant views towards the Parcel from Greasbrough.
	Relationship with existing urban built form		✓				Development within the Parcel would expand Rawmarsh. The vegetation on the western boundary of the Parcel would create a logical edge to the urban area.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation		✓				Development within this Parcel would slightly erode the separation between Rawmarsh and Greasbrough. However, existing vegetation would provide a level of enclosure to any proposed development.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development			✓			It is likely that any proposed development will still be visible from Greasbrough in spite of any mitigation measures employed.
	Sub Total	0	3	1	1	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		0	3	3	2	1	

Area 2 Land Parcel No 19 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
3.Landscape Value	Designations			✓			There are likely to be some views towards this Parcel from the Area of High Landscape Value to the west. These would be interrupted by existing vegetation.
	Recreational and perceptual factors			✓			There are several recreational land uses within the Parcel and the Parcel does have some scenic value.
	Sub Total	0	0	2	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		0	3	5	2	1	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the Wentworth Parklands – Fringes Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the influence of the surrounding urban areas and former mining. This Parcel is not largely typical of the Landscape Character Area, comprising predominantly pasture with other uses such as allotments and cemeteries.

Settlements

Rawmarsh is located to the east of the Parcel, Greasbrough at a distance to the west of the Parcel and Rotherham to the south. All of these are relatively modern settlements, particularly close to the Parcel. There are residential properties in Greasbrough to the north west of the Parcel, which are largely 20th century in origin, as are properties to the south in Rotherham and Rawmarsh to the east. To the south, at a distance, are medium to large scale employment uses, including warehouses and industrial works.

Overall Sensitivity

There is some public access to this Parcel but limited rights of way close to the boundaries. The Parcel is located on sloping ground in a former mining area. It forms part of an area of farmland separating Greasbrough and Rawmarsh, with any development within this Parcel more related to Rawmarsh. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is some scope for development within the Parcel, related to residential areas in Rawmarsh.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel partly as a potential mixed use development and partly as 'other' development. There would appear to be some scope for small to medium scale residential development, although the urban edge will need to be carefully considered.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 3: Bramley and Wickersley

Land Parcel No = 1

Size = 10.07Ha

Landscape Character Area = Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 24/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis				✓		The Parcel slopes down towards a ditch/stream on its northern boundary.
	Vegetation enclosure			✓			There is a mature tree belt along the north west boundary of the Parcel, which gives way to a trimmed hedgerow to the north east. To the east of the Parcel, the M18 is slightly elevated above the Parcel, with patchy younger vegetation on the embankment slope. The boundary with residential properties to the west of the Parcel is generally formed by garden fences with little vegetation. The southern boundary of the Parcel is largely open.
	Complexity/ Scale			✓			The Parcel comprises 3 small to medium scale fields. These are a mixture of pasture and arable.
	Condition	✓					Area of weak character in a poor condition – hedgerows dividing the fields are poor and there are numerous large pylons running through the Parcel.
	Sub Total	1	0	2	1	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view			✓			There are no rights of way running through the Parcel. There are some views into the Parcel from the elevated motorway, through gaps in the vegetation, and views from Bawtry Road. There are also some glimpsed views from the recreation ground to the north of the Parcel.
	Openness to private view				✓		There are residential properties along the western and part of the southern boundaries of the Parcel. Whilst there is some vegetation within the rear gardens of these properties, most garden boundaries consist of fence lines.
	Relationship with existing urban built form		✓				The two western fields of this Parcel in particular would have a good relationship with the existing urban area of Bramley.

Area 3 Land Parcel No 1 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
	Safeguarding of settlement separation			✓			Development of this Land Parcel would result in the urban area of Bramley becoming closer to Hellaby. The M18 would still separate the two.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development		✓				Mitigation of development within this Parcel could involve strengthening the existing tree belt on the northern boundary, as well as increasing woodland cover adjacent to the M18.
	Sub Total	0	2	2	1	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		1	2	4	2	0	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no landscape designations within the vicinity of the Parcel and landform would prevent any intervisibility from the Areas of High Landscape Value to the north and east.
	Recreational and perceptual factors	✓					The Parcel currently has no recreational value, with limited tranquility and scenic value due to its close proximity to the M18 and the presence of pylons.
	Sub Total	2	0	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		3	2	4	2	0	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate-low landscape sensitivity because of the influence of former mining and built features such as motorways and overhead cable, as well as the lack of woodland and hedgerows. This Parcel is not entirely typical of the Landscape Character Area, as there are areas of pasture within it, but the influence of the M18 and overhead cables is noticeable.

Settlements

Bramley is located to the west of the Parcel. Ravenfield Common is to the north, at a distance, and Hellaby to the east beyond the M18. Whilst Bramley and Ravenfield have historic cores, the area of Bramley closest to the Parcel is largely of 20th century origin, as is Ravenfield Common and Hellaby. There are employment land uses to the south of the Parcel and on the opposite side of the M18.

Overall Sensitivity

There is limited public access to this Parcel and no rights of way close to the boundaries. There is a recreation ground to the north west. The Parcel is located on gently sloping ground with several pylons and overhead cables in it. It forms part of an area of farmland separating Bramley and Hellaby, adjacent to the M18, with any development within this Parcel more related to Bramley. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is some scope for development within the Parcel, related to residential areas in Bramley, but overhead cables would be likely cause difficulties in designing the layout of any development. Any proposed development would also reduce separation between Hellaby and Bramley.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-high	Low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel partly as a potential residential development and partly as 'other' development. There would appear to be some scope for small scale residential development, although the overhead cables and the separation between Bramley and Hellaby would need to be carefully considered.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 3: Bramley and Wickersley

Land Parcel No = 2

Size = 8.62Ha

Landscape Character Area = Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 24/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis			✓			The landform within this Parcel is relatively flat, with a small stream running through it.
	Vegetation enclosure		✓				There is a mature tree belt along the southern and a large part of the northern boundary of the Parcel. To the east of the Parcel there is a very gappy boundary, with only scattered trees to the rear of an area of allotments. The boundary with residential properties to the west of the Parcel is generally formed by garden fences with little vegetation.
	Complexity/ Scale		✓				The Parcel consists of a large recreation ground, with some sports pitches, and a small area of allotments.
	Condition				✓		Area of strong character in a moderate condition – strong recreational character with regular management.
	Sub Total	0	2	1	1	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view					✓	There is public access throughout the majority of this Parcel, although slightly less so to the allotments. The area appears to be well used.
	Openness to private view			✓			There are houses along the south west boundary of the Parcel, some with little vegetation along the boundaries, and most of which have views into the Parcel.
	Relationship with existing urban built form		✓				The Parcel has close associations with the housing to the south and the tree belt along the northern boundary provides some enclosure. The tree belt along the southern boundary does provide a small amount of separation between the housing and the Parcel, which has value as a recreational facility for the housing.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation			✓			Development of this Land Parcel would result in the urban area of Bramley becoming closer to Hellaby. The M18 would still separate the two.

Area 3 Land Parcel No 2 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development		✓				Mitigation of development within this Parcel could involve strengthening the existing tree belts on the northern and southern boundaries, as well as increasing woodland cover to the east prior to the M18.
	Sub Total	0	2	2	0	1	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		0	4	3	1	1	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no landscape designations within the vicinity of the Parcel and landform would prevent any intervisibility from the Areas of High Landscape Value to the north and east.
	Recreational and perceptual factors				✓		The Parcel has high recreational value and appears to be well used. There are pylons running through and close to the Parcel, however, and the M18 is in close proximity.
	Sub Total	1	0	0	1	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		1	4	3	2	1	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate-low landscape sensitivity because of the influence of former mining and built features such as motorways and overhead cable, as well as the lack of woodland and hedgerows. This Parcel is not entirely typical of the Landscape Character Area, as it is predominantly a recreation ground.

Settlements

Bramley is located to the south west of the Parcel. Ravenfield Common is to the north, at a distance, and Hellaby to the east beyond the M18. Whilst Bramley and Ravenfield have historic cores, the area of Bramley closest to the Parcel is largely of 20th century origin, as is Ravenfield Common and Hellaby. There are employment land uses on the opposite side of the M18.

Overall Sensitivity

There is full public access to this Parcel and it appears to be well used as a recreation ground. The Parcel is relatively flat with overhead cables running through it. It forms part of an area of land separating Bramley, Ravenfield Common and Hellaby, with any development within this Parcel more related to Bramley. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium-low sensitivity**. There is some scope for development within the Parcel, related to residential areas in Bramley, but the Parcel is also of value in its current recreational use.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium-high

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium	Low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites does not identify the Parcel as a potential development site. There would appear to be some scope for small scale residential or employment development, although retention of formal open space uses would appear to be beneficial to local residents.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 3: Bramley and Wickersley

Land Parcel No = 3

Size = 32.49Ha

Landscape Character Area = Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 24/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis					✓	The landform within this Parcel consists of prominent and fairly steep slopes. It slopes down towards the southern boundary of the Parcel.
	Vegetation enclosure			✓			There is a mature tree belt along most of the southern boundary of the Parcel. The western boundary is fairly open and there are low hedges to the north and east. There is some vegetation along the M18, on the embankment slope, but this is fairly patchy.
	Complexity/ Scale			✓			The Parcel comprises medium sized fields of both pasture and arable.
	Condition		✓				Area of weak character in a moderate condition – hedgerows have been planted but are extensively clipped.
	Sub Total		0	1	2	0	1
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view				✓		A public right of way runs along the western boundary of the Parcel, within the Parcel, which has open views. There are also some views into the Parcel from the recreation ground to the south, particularly of the higher ground, and glimpses into the Parcel from both the M18 and Lidget Lane.
	Openness to private view			✓			There are glimpses into the Parcel from properties in Bramley, particularly of the higher ground. There are also views into the Parcel from properties at Spenwood Farm and Bramley Grange Farm.
	Relationship with existing urban built form			✓			The Parcel is currently separated from Bramley by the recreation ground and from Ravenfield by agricultural fields.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation			✓			Development of this Land Parcel would result in the urban area of Bramley becoming closer to both Hellaby and Ravenfield. The M18 would still separate Bramley and Hellaby, and landform would prevent visual links between any proposed development and Ravenfield.

Area 3 Land Parcel No 3 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development			✓			Mitigation of development within this Parcel could involve strengthening the existing tree belts on the southern boundary, as well as increasing woodland cover, strengthening the pattern of hedgerows and integrating more trees.
	Sub Total	0	0	4	1	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		0	1	6	1	1	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no landscape designations within the vicinity of the Parcel and settlement would prevent any intervisibility from the Areas of High Landscape Value to the north and east.
	Recreational and perceptual factors	✓					The Parcel currently has limited recreational value, with only one footpath through the eastern part of the Parcel. Tranquility and scenic value are also limited due to its close proximity to the M18.
	Sub Total	2	0	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		2	1	6	1	1	

Commentary**Overall Landscape Quality**

This Parcel falls within the Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate-low landscape sensitivity because of the influence of former mining and built features such as motorways and overhead cable, as well as the lack of woodland and hedgerows. This Parcel is not entirely typical of the Landscape Character Area, as hedgerows have been reintroduced to this Parcel and there is a mixture of arable farmland and pasture.

Settlements

Bramley is located to the south west of the Parcel. Ravenfield Common is to the north, at a distance, and Hellaby to the east beyond the M18. Whilst Bramley and Ravenfield have historic cores, the area of Bramley closest to the Parcel is largely of 20th century origin, as is Ravenfield Common and Hellaby. There are employment land uses on the opposite side of the M18.

Overall Sensitivity

There is limited public access to this Parcel and few rights of way in the vicinity. The Parcel slopes down to the south and forms part of an area of land separating Bramley, Ravenfield Common and Hellaby, with any development within this Parcel more related to Bramley. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is some scope for development within the Parcel, related to residential areas in Bramley, but development would reduce separation between Bramley and Ravenfield Common.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites does not identify the Parcel as a potential development site. There would appear to be some scope for small scale residential or employment development, although this would be a large-scale extension to Bramley.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 3: Bramley and Wickersley

Land Parcel No = 4

Size = 11.51Ha

Landscape Character Area = Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 24/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis					✓	The Parcel is located on the top of a minor ridgeline. The landform itself is relatively flat.
	Vegetation enclosure				✓		There are low clipped hedgerows to the north and south of the Parcel, both with some gaps. There is also a gappy clipped hedgerow to the east of the Parcel, containing some hedgerow trees. There are evergreen conifers around part of Spenwood Farm.
	Complexity/ Scale			✓			The Parcel comprises of medium sized pastoral fields and horse paddocks. It also contains large farm buildings.
	Condition	✓					The Parcel has a weak character and is in poor condition. Hedgerows have been removed and farm buildings dominate the Parcel.
	Sub Total	1	0	1	1	1	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view			✓			There are no public rights of way through the Parcel. There are some glimpses into the Parcel from Lidget Lane to the north and the Recreation Ground to the south.
	Openness to private view			✓			The landform reduces views into the Parcel from the north and the south. Properties at Spenwood Farm are located within the Parcel and would have open views of any proposed development.
	Relationship with existing urban built form					✓	Any proposed development within this Parcel would be isolated from existing urban areas.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation				✓		Although any proposed development within this Parcel would not abut either Bramley or Ravenfield, it would be visible from both settlements. Any proposed development would therefore significantly compromise the separation between the two.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development			✓			The ridgeline location of the Parcel would make mitigation of any proposed development more difficult. Woodland blocks could help to mitigate any proposed development.

Area 3 Land Parcel No 4 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
	Sub Total	0	0	3	1	1	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		1	0	4	2	2	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no landscape designations within the vicinity of the Parcel and settlement would prevent any intervisibility from the Areas of High Landscape Value to the north and east.
	Recreational and perceptual factors		✓				There are no rights of way through the Parcel but some of the fields are horse paddocks.
	Sub Total	1	1	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		2	1	4	2	2	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate-low landscape sensitivity because of the influence of former mining and built features such as motorways and overhead cable, as well as the lack of woodland and hedgerows. This Parcel is not entirely typical of the Landscape Character Area, as it is predominantly pasture and horse paddocks.

Settlements

Bramley is located to the south west of the Parcel. Ravenfield Common is to the north and Hellaby to the east beyond the M18. Whilst Bramley and Ravenfield have historic cores, the area of Bramley closest to the Parcel is largely of 20th century origin, as is Ravenfield Common and Hellaby. There are employment land uses on the opposite side of the M18.

Overall Sensitivity

There is limited public access to this Parcel and few rights of way in the vicinity. The Parcel is located on a ridgeline and forms part of an area of land separating Bramley, Ravenfield Common and Hellaby. Any development within this Parcel would be isolated from all three settlements. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is some scope for development within the Parcel, but development would reduce separation between Bramley and Ravenfield Common.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

Appendix B

NB. The LDF database of potential sites does not identify the Parcel as a potential development site. There would appear to be some scope for small scale residential development, although it would be preferable if other development were to occur in the vicinity to form a more cohesive development.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 3: Bramley and Wickersley

Land Parcel No = 5

Size = 28.47Ha

Landscape Character Area = Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 24/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis					✓	The landform in this Parcel slopes prominently towards Ravenfield Common, which is located to the north of the Parcel.
	Vegetation enclosure				✓		The eastern boundary of the Parcel is a poor gappy hedgerow. Along the southern boundary, adjacent to Lidget Lane, there is a taller hedgerow, but this also has gaps in it. Along the eastern boundary of the Parcel there is a low clipped hedgerow. The northern boundary is shared with the rear gardens of properties in Ravenfield Common and consists of a combination of tree, hedgerows, shrubs and fences.
	Complexity/ Scale		✓				The majority of this Parcel is a single large arable field. A small portion of the Parcel is the farmyard for Gorsefield Farm.
	Condition	✓					The Parcel has a weak character and is in poor condition. Most hedgerows have been removed and farm buildings dominate the Parcel.
	Sub Total	1	1	0	1	1	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view				✓		There are no public rights of way through the Parcel. There are some glimpses into the Parcel from Lidget Lane to the south and an area of informal recreation to the north.
	Openness to private view			✓			The house at Gorsefield Farm has views into this Parcel. Some properties in Ravenfield Common also have views into the Parcel, particularly from upper floor windows.
	Relationship with existing urban built form		✓				Any proposed development within this Parcel would relate to the residential properties in Ravenfield Common. Development of the whole of the Parcel would be larger in scale than the existing settlement.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation				✓		Development within this Parcel would bring the edge of Ravenfield Common much closer to Bramley.

Area 3 Land Parcel No 5 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development			✓			The Parcel is relatively large, allowing some scope to incorporate mitigation into any proposed development. This could be achieved by incorporating woodland blocks.
	Sub Total	0	1	2	2	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		1	2	2	3	1	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no landscape designations within the vicinity of the Parcel and settlement would prevent any intervisibility from the Areas of High Landscape Value to the north and east.
	Recreational and perceptual factors	✓					There are no rights of way through the Parcel and nothing of recreational value within it.
	Sub Total	2	0	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		3	2	2	3	1	

Commentary**Overall Landscape Quality**

This Parcel falls within the Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate-low landscape sensitivity because of the influence of former mining and built features such as motorways and overhead cable, as well as the lack of woodland and hedgerows. This Parcel is fairly typical of the Landscape Character Area, as it is predominantly a large arable field with poor hedgerows.

Settlements

Ravenfield Common is located to the north of the Parcel. Bramley is to the south west and Hellaby to the east beyond the M18. Whilst Bramley and Ravenfield have historic cores, the area of Bramley closest to the Parcel is largely of 20th century origin, as is Ravenfield Common and Hellaby. There are employment land uses on the opposite side of the M18.

Overall Sensitivity

There is limited public access to this Parcel and few rights of way in the vicinity. The Parcel slopes down towards Ravenfield Common and forms part of an area of land separating Bramley, Ravenfield Common and Hellaby. Any development within this Parcel would relate most to Ravenfield Common. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium-high sensitivity**. There is limited scope for development within the Parcel, as development would reduce separation between Bramley and Ravenfield Common and would be larger in scale than the existing development.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium-low

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-low	Medium-low	Low
Employment – offices	Low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as part of a potential residential development site. There would appear to be limited scope for small residential development, as the separation between Ravenfield Common and Bramley would need to be carefully considered, as well as integration with the existing settlement.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 3: Bramley and Wickersley

Land Parcel No = 6

Size = 28.02Ha

Landscape Character Area = Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 24/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis					✓	A ridgeline runs through this Parcel from west to east. The slopes on the southern side of the ridge are steeper than those to the north.
	Vegetation enclosure				✓		There is a low clipped hedgerow along the eastern boundary of the Parcel, which is shared with Land Parcel 5. There is also a low clipped hedgerow along the western boundary. There are taller garden hedgerows and occasional trees along the northern boundary. There is an intermittent hedgerow along the southern boundary, with open areas and occasional trees.
	Complexity/ Scale		✓				The Parcel comprises large arable fields.
	Condition	✓					The Parcel has a weak character and is in poor condition. Most hedgerows have been removed and the remaining hedgerows are poor.
	Sub Total	1	1	0	1	1	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view				✓		There are no public rights of way through the Parcel. There are some glimpses into the Parcel from Lidget Lane to the south and Moor Lane South to the west.
	Openness to private view				✓		There are glimpses into the Parcel from houses to the north, through vegetation. There are more open views from properties to the west and some views from properties to the south.
	Relationship with existing urban built form		✓				Development within this Parcel would provide infill type development between Bramley and Ravenfield Common.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation					✓	Development of this Parcel would cause complete coalescence of Bramley and Ravenfield Common.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development		✓				Any proposed development within this Parcel could be mitigated by increasing vegetation along the eastern boundary of the Parcel. This would not overcome coalescence issues.
	Sub Total	0	2	0	2	1	

Area 3 Land Parcel No 6 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		1	3	0	3	2	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no landscape designations within the vicinity of the Parcel and settlement would prevent any intervisibility from the Areas of High Landscape Value to the north and east.
	Recreational and perceptual factors	✓					There are no rights of way through the Parcel and nothing of recreational value within it.
	Sub Total	2	0	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		3	3	0	3	2	

Commentary**Overall Landscape Quality**

This Parcel falls within the Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate-low landscape sensitivity because of the influence of former mining and built features such as motorways and overhead cable, as well as the lack of woodland and hedgerows. This Parcel is fairly typical of the Landscape Character Area, as it is predominantly a large arable field with poor hedgerows.

Settlements

Ravenfield Common is located to the north of the Parcel. Bramley is to the south and west, and Hellaby to the east, at a distance and beyond the M18. Whilst Bramley and Ravenfield have historic cores, the area of Bramley closest to the Parcel is largely of 20th century origin, as is Ravenfield Common and Hellaby. There are employment land uses at Hellaby.

Overall Sensitivity

There is limited public access to this Parcel and few rights of way in the vicinity. The Parcel slopes down towards Ravenfield Common and Bramley, and forms part of an area of land separating Bramley, Ravenfield Common and Hellaby. Any development within this Parcel could relate to both Ravenfield Common and Bramley. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium-low sensitivity**. There is some scope for development within the Parcel, but development would reduce separation between Bramley and Ravenfield Common and would be a large scale extension to the existing settlements.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium-high

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-high	Medium	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as part of a potential residential development site. There would appear to be some scope for small to medium scale residential development, although the separation between Ravenfield Common and Bramley would need to be carefully considered, as well as integration with the existing settlement.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 3: Bramley and Wickersley

Land Parcel No = 7

Size = 2.17Ha

Landscape Character Area = Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 24/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis					✓	This Parcel is located on a ridgeline that drops from west to east. The Parcel itself is relatively flat.
	Vegetation enclosure			✓			There is a gappy hedgerow to the east of this Parcel. There are taller tree belts to the north and south. Along the western boundary there is a hedgerow with tree groups within it.
	Complexity/ Scale			✓			The Parcel consists of a medium scale arable field.
	Condition		✓				The Parcel has a weak character and is in moderate condition. There are still hedgerows with some trees within them around the Parcel.
	Sub Total	0	1	2	0	1	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view		✓				There are no public rights of way through the Parcel. There are some glimpses into the Parcel from Moor Lane South to the west. There are no views into the Parcel from Lidget Lane to the south.
	Openness to private view		✓				There are glimpses into the Parcel from houses to the west and some views from properties to the south.
	Relationship with existing urban built form			✓			Any proposed development within this Parcel could relate to existing properties along Moor Lane South.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation		✓				Any development within this Parcel would have a slight impact on the separation between Bramley and Ravenfield Common. The Parcel is already generally well contained.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development		✓				There is already some strong containment of this Parcel. Any proposed development could be mitigated by increasing vegetation along the existing boundaries.
	Sub Total	0	4	1	0	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		0	5	3	0	1	

Area 3 Land Parcel No 7 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no landscape designations within the vicinity of the Parcel and settlement would prevent any intervisibility from the Areas of High Landscape Value to the north and east.
	Recreational and perceptual factors	✓					There are no rights of way through the Parcel and nothing of recreational value within it.
	Sub Total	2	0	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		2	5	3	0	1	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate-low landscape sensitivity because of the influence of former mining and built features such as motorways and overhead cable, as well as the lack of woodland and hedgerows. This Parcel is less typical of the Landscape Character Area, as it is predominantly enclosed by hedgerows and tree belts.

Settlements

Ravenfield Common is located to the north of the Parcel. Bramley is to the south and west, and Hellaby to the east, at a distance and beyond the M18. Whilst Bramley and Ravenfield have historic cores, the area of Bramley closest to the Parcel is largely of 20th century origin, as is Ravenfield Common and Hellaby. There are employment land uses at Hellaby.

Overall Sensitivity

There is no public access to this Parcel and few rights of way in the vicinity. The Parcel is located on a ridgeline between Ravenfield Common and Bramley, and forms part of an area of land separating Bramley, Ravenfield Common and Hellaby. Any development within this Parcel would relate most to Bramley. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium-low sensitivity**. There is some scope for development within the Parcel, which is already relatively well enclosed, but the small scale of the Parcel will limit development options.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium-high

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-high	Low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as part of a potential residential development site. There would appear to be some scope for small scale residential development, although the separation between Ravenfield Common and Bramley would need to be carefully considered.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 3: Bramley and Wickersley

Land Parcel No = 8

Size = 2.21Ha

Landscape Character Area = Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 24/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis					✓	This Parcel is located on prominent and fairly steep slopes. The Parcels slopes down towards a drain on the southern boundary.
	Vegetation enclosure			✓			The Parcel is relatively open to the east. There is a clipped hedgerow along most, but not all, of the northern boundary. There are also trees to the west of Bramley Grange Farm, which is located within the Parcel, as well as trees and a hedgerow to the rear of properties to the south of the Parcel.
	Complexity/ Scale				✓		The Parcel comprises small scale fields of both pasture and rough grass, as well as the farm buildings and associated yard.
	Condition	✓					The Parcel has a weak character and is in poor condition. Hedgerows are in poor conditions and the farm buildings are poorly integrated into their surroundings.
	Sub Total	1	0	1	1	1	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view			✓			There is a public footpath to the east of the Parcel, beyond the boundary, which has open views into the Parcel in places. There are also some glimpses into the Parcel from Lidget Lane to the north and from the recreation ground to the south.
	Openness to private view		✓				There are glimpsed views into the Parcel from properties along Moor Lane South and from the properties to the south. Properties within Bramley Grange Farm are within the Parcel and would have views of any proposed development if the farm was retained.
	Relationship with existing urban built form			✓			Any proposed development within this Parcel could relate to existing properties to the south.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation		✓				Any development within this Parcel would have a slight impact on the separation between Bramley and Ravenfield Common. The Parcel already contains built development.

Area 3 Land Parcel No 8 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development				✓		The Parcel is relatively small with limited space to mitigate any proposed development.
	Sub Total	0	2	2	1	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		1	2	3	2	1	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no landscape designations within the vicinity of the Parcel and settlement would prevent any intervisibility from the Areas of High Landscape Value to the north and east.
	Recreational and perceptual factors	✓					There are no rights of way through the Parcel and nothing of recreational value within it.
	Sub Total	2	0	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		3	2	3	2	1	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate-low landscape sensitivity because of the influence of former mining and built features such as motorways and overhead cable, as well as the lack of woodland and hedgerows. This Parcel is predominantly a farmyard, which are features throughout the Landscape Character Area.

Settlements

Ravenfield Common is located to the north of the Parcel. Bramley is to the south and west, and Hellaby to the east, at a distance and beyond the M18. Whilst Bramley and Ravenfield have historic cores, the area of Bramley closest to the Parcel is largely of 20th century origin, as is Ravenfield Common and Hellaby. There are employment land uses at Hellaby.

Overall Sensitivity

There is no public access to this Parcel and few rights of way in the vicinity. The Parcel is located on a sloping site on the edge of Bramley, and forms part of an area of land separating Bramley, Ravenfield Common and Hellaby. Any development within this Parcel would relate to Bramley. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium-low sensitivity**. There is some scope for development within the Parcel, which already contains some development, but the small scale of the Parcel will limit development options.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium-high

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-high	Low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites does not identify the Parcel as part of a potential development site. There would appear to be some scope for small scale residential development, although the small scale of the Parcel will limit development options.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 3: Bramley and Wickersley

Land Parcel No = 9

Size = 1.42Ha

Landscape Character Area = Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 24/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis				✓		This Parcel slopes gently towards Hellaby Brook, which is on the southern boundary of the Parcel. It forms part of the lower valley slopes.
	Vegetation enclosure			✓			There are tree and shrub belts within the Parcel, adjacent to the northern, southern and western boundaries. Garden fences of the adjacent residential properties form the eastern boundary of the Parcel.
	Complexity/ Scale				✓		The Parcel is a small scale informal open space. It consists of rough grass, scrub, trees and shrub belts.
	Condition			✓			The Parcel exhibits a moderate strength of character and is in moderate condition.
	Sub Total	0	0	2	2	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view					✓	There is informal access throughout the Parcel.
	Openness to private view				✓		There are residential properties on three sides of the Parcel, which would particularly have views from upper stories. Some properties to the east are three stories in height.
	Relationship with existing urban built form		✓				Development of this Parcel would be infill development. However, the Parcel also appears to perform an open space role for Ravenfield Common.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation	✓					Development within this Parcel would have no impact on the separation between Ravenfield Common and Bramley.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development	✓					Development within this Parcel could be mitigated by strengthening the vegetation on the southern boundary, although this would not overcome the loss of open space.
	Sub Total	2	1	0	1	1	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		2	1	2	3	1	

Area 3 Land Parcel No 9 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no landscape designations within the vicinity of the Parcel and settlement would prevent any intervisibility from the Areas of High Landscape Value to the north and east.
	Recreational and perceptual factors				✓		There is informal access throughout the Parcel at present, allowing a range of recreational uses.
	Sub Total	1	0	0	1	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		3	1	2	4	1	

Commentary**Overall Landscape Quality**

This Parcel falls within the Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate-low landscape sensitivity because of the influence of former mining and built features such as motorways and overhead cable, as well as the lack of woodland and hedgerows. This Parcel is predominantly a recreational open space, with informal access, which is not typical of the Landscape Character Area.

Settlements

Ravenfield Common is located to the north of the Parcel. Bramley is to the south and west, and Hellaby to the east, at a distance and beyond the M18. Whilst Bramley and Ravenfield have historic cores, the area of Bramley closest to the Parcel is largely of 20th century origin, as is Ravenfield Common and Hellaby. There are employment land uses at Hellaby.

Overall Sensitivity

There is public access throughout this Parcel, which appears to be well used. The Parcel is located within the built up area of Ravenfield Common, and does not form part of the land separating Bramley, Ravenfield Common and Hellaby. Any development within this Parcel would relate to Ravenfield Common. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium-high sensitivity**. There is limited scope for development within the Parcel, which is used as for recreation and overlooked by residential properties.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium-low**Development Type Landscape Capacity**

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment – offices	Low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites does not identify the Parcel as part of a potential development site. There would appear to be limited scope for small scale residential development, as this would result in the loss of open space.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 3: Bramley and Wickersley

Land Parcel No = 10

Size = 10.69Ha

Landscape Character Area = Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 24/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis					✓	This Parcel is located on a ridgeline that drops from west to east. The Parcel itself is relatively flat.
	Vegetation enclosure				✓		There is a poor gappy hedgerow along the western boundary, which is shared with Parcels 3 and 4. There is patchy vegetation along the M18, to the south and west. To the north, the Parcel is fairly open with occasional trees.
	Complexity/ Scale		✓				The Parcel comprises a large arable field.
	Condition	✓					The Parcel has a weak character and is in poor condition. Hedgerows are in poor condition and the M18 is intrusive.
	Sub Total		1	1	0	1	1
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view				✓		There are no rights of way through this Parcel. There are some views into the Parcel from the M18 to the east and Lidget Lane to the north west. There are also some views from the recreation ground to the south.
	Openness to private view		✓				The only private property in the immediate vicinity of the Parcel is Hellaby Park Farm. This property will have some views of any proposed development.
	Relationship with existing urban built form					✓	Any development within this Parcel would be entirely isolated from any existing urban areas.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation			✓			Development within this Parcel would begin to draw together the three settlements of Bramley, Hellaby and Ravenfield Common.
	2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development			✓		
	Sub Total	0	1	2	1	1	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		1	2	2	2	2	

Area 3 Land Parcel No 10 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no landscape designations within the vicinity of the Parcel and settlement would prevent any intervisibility from the Areas of High Landscape Value to the north and east.
	Recreational and perceptual factors	✓					There are no rights of way through the Parcel and nothing of recreational value within it.
	Sub Total	2	0	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		3	2	2	2	2	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate-low landscape sensitivity because of the influence of former mining and built features such as motorways and overhead cable, as well as the lack of woodland and hedgerows. This Parcel is fairly typical of the Landscape Character Area, as it is predominantly arable farmland and disturbed by the M18.

Settlements

Bramley is located to the south west of the Parcel. Ravenfield Common is to the north west and Hellaby to the east beyond the M18. Whilst Bramley and Ravenfield have historic cores, the area of Bramley closest to the Parcel is largely of 20th century origin, as is Ravenfield Common and Hellaby. There are employment land uses on the opposite side of the M18.

Overall Sensitivity

There is limited public access to this Parcel and few rights of way in the vicinity. The Parcel is located adjacent to the M18 and forms part of an area of land separating Bramley, Ravenfield Common and Hellaby. Any development within this Parcel would be isolated from all three settlements. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is some scope for development within the Parcel, but development would reduce separation between Bramley and Ravenfield Common and be remote from other development.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites does not identify the Parcel as a potential development site. There would appear to be limited scope for small scale residential development, although it would be preferable if other development were to occur in the vicinity to form a more cohesive development.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 4: Waverley

Land Parcel No = 1

Size = 63.02Ha

Landscape Character Area = Adjacent to Rother Valley Floor

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 3/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis	✓					This Parcel is located predominantly on a plateau area, although the plateau is largely manmade and a result of mining in the area.
	Vegetation enclosure			✓			There is a substantial but relatively young woodland belt in the north and north west of the Parcel, adjacent to the A630 Sheffield Parkway. There is a narrower woodland belt to the south west along a railway line. The eastern edge of the Parcel is more open.
	Complexity/ Scale		✓				The Parcel is predominantly a large scale area of industrial and commercial units, with additional land cleared ready for further units to be erected. There are also substantial woodland belts.
	Condition	✓					The character of the Parcel is currently weak and the condition poor, predominantly because it is a young landscape in the process of being restored.
Sub Total		2	1	1	0	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view				✓		There are open views into the Parcel from High Field Spring, the road along the eastern boundary of the Parcel. There are also minor roads through the Parcel to access the business units and glimpses into the Parcel from the A630 to the west and Poplar Way to the north, as well as more distant views from the east.
	Openness to private view		✓				There are relatively few residential properties in the vicinity of the Parcel at present. There are distant views from several directions.
	Relationship with existing urban built form	✓					Further development within this Parcel would be a natural extension of the existing business park.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation			✓			Fuller development of this Parcel would reduce the separation between Rotherham and Sheffield, although the existing development has already done that to a certain extent.

Area 4 Land Parcel No 1 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development		✓				There is already substantial potential screening to the north, west and south of the Parcel, which will continue to grow and provide further screening. There is little space to the east of the Parcel to provide mitigation, with any mitigation measures from this direction needing to be provided outside of the Parcel.
	Sub Total	1	2	1	1	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		3	3	2	1	0	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no landscape designations within the vicinity of the Parcel and settlement would prevent any intervisibility from the Areas of High Landscape Value to the north and east.
	Recreational and perceptual factors	✓					There are no rights of way through the Parcel and nothing of recreational value within it.
	Sub Total	2	0	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		5	3	2	1	0	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel is close to the Rother Valley Floor Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the influence of former mining and the ongoing restoration work that is occurring. This Parcel is fairly typical of the Landscape Character Area, in that it is an area of restored mineral workings.

Settlements

Rotherham is located to the north of the Parcel. The village of Treeton is to the east, beyond the River Rother and a railway line. The outskirts of Sheffield are to the west. Although Treeton has an historic core, the area of the village closest to the Parcel is largely of 20th century origin, as are the closest areas of Rotherham and Sheffield. There are employment land uses within the Parcel at present and to the north east, although there is a limited supply of land available for further development.

Overall Sensitivity

Much of this Parcel has already been developed and the remainder has been prepared to accept further development, with access roads and lighting largely provided. Overall this is considered to be an area of **low sensitivity**. There is scope for development within the Parcel, in keeping with the surrounding land uses.

Overall Landscape Capacity = High

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment – offices	High	Medium-high	Low
Employment - warehouse	High	Medium-high	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential site for industry and business. There would appear to be scope for small to medium scale employment development, although the extent will be limited by the availability of undeveloped land.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 4: Waverley

Land Parcel No = 2

Size = 226.56Ha

Landscape Character Area = Partly within Rother Valley Floor

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 3/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis				✓		This Parcel gently slopes towards the River Rother along the eastern and part of the southern boundary of the Parcel. This is a largely restored landform, and includes a large mound close to the western boundary of the Parcel.
	Vegetation enclosure			✓			There are tree belts associated with much of the course of the River Rother, particularly to the east of the Parcel. There is also a woodland belt to the south west along a railway line. There is young planting along the southern boundary of the Parcel but the north west boundary is largely open.
	Complexity/ Scale	✓					The Parcel is part of a large scale reclaimed landscape.
	Condition	✓					The character of the Parcel is currently weak and the condition poor, predominantly because it is a young landscape in the process of being restored.
Sub Total		2	0	1	1	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view				✓		There are open views into the Parcel from High Field Spring, the road along the north west boundary of the Parcel. There are also glimpses into the Parcel from the A630 to the west and Poplar Way and Orgreave Road to the north, as well as more distant views from the south and east.
	Openness to private view				✓		There are residential properties along the southern boundary of the parcel, which have views into it. There are also more distant views from several directions.
	Relationship with existing urban built form		✓				Any proposed development within this Parcel could relate to the Business Park to the north west, as well as residential areas to the south and the industrial development across the railway line to the west. However, the Parcel is substantially larger than these areas.

Area 4 Land Parcel No 2 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
	Safeguarding of settlement separation			✓			Development of this Parcel would reduce the separation between Rotherham and Sheffield, although the existing development to the north west has already done that to a certain extent.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development		✓				There is already substantial potential screening to the north, west and south of the Parcel, which will continue to grow and provide further screening. There is little space to the east of the Parcel to provide mitigation, with any mitigation measures from this direction needing to be provided outside of the Parcel.
	Sub Total	0	2	1	2	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		2	2	2	3	0	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no landscape designations within the vicinity of the Parcel and settlement would prevent any intervisibility from the Areas of High Landscape Value to the north and east.
	Recreational and perceptual factors	✓					There are limited rights of way through the Parcel due to the restoration process and nothing of recreational value within it at present.
	Sub Total	2	0	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		4	2	2	3	0	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel partly falls within the Rother Valley Floor Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the influence of former mining and the ongoing restoration work that is occurring. This Parcel is fairly typical of the Landscape Character Area, in that it is an area of former mineral workings that is still in the process of being restored.

Settlements

Rotherham is located to the north of the Parcel. The village of Treeton is to the east, beyond the River Rother and a railway line. The outskirts of Sheffield are to the west. Although Treeton has an historic core, the area of the village closest to the Parcel is largely of 20th century origin, as are the closest areas of Rotherham and Sheffield. There are employment land uses to the north, north west and south west of the Parcel at present.

Overall Sensitivity

The Parcel is currently being restored with a view to future development of the Parcel. Given the restored nature of the Parcel, this is considered to be an area of **medium-low sensitivity**. There is scope for development within the Parcel, although surrounding land uses should be considered.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium-high

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-high	Medium-high	Medium-low
Employment – offices	Medium-high	Medium-high	Medium
Employment - warehouse	Medium-high	Medium-high	Medium

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential site for mixed use development. There would appear to be scope for small to large scale development, although there are a number of constraints to development, including the River Rother and surrounding employment uses. Any large scale development of this Parcel will need to incorporate open space and green infrastructure of an appropriate scale.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 5: Wales and Kiveton Park

Land Parcel No = 1

Size = 42.98Ha

Landscape Character Area = Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 24/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis					✓	This Parcel is located on a prominent landform. The eastern portion of the Parcel is almost a plateau. The landform then slopes down to a stream on the western boundary of the Parcel.
	Vegetation enclosure					✓	This Parcel is largely open with a low clipped hedgerow along the southern boundary. This becomes more gappy further to the west, but occasional trees are also present within these sections of the hedgerow. There are small woodland blocks around a fishing lake on the eastern boundary and in the north east corner. The western and northern boundaries of the Parcel, particularly when the boundaries coincide with a small stream, are low gappy hedgerows with occasional trees. The eastern boundary of the Parcel is a low stone wall.
	Complexity/ Scale	✓					The Parcel largely consists of a single large arable field. There is a small allotment area in the south west corner of the Parcel and a small fishing lake on the eastern boundary.
	Condition		✓				The Parcel has moderate character, predominantly through the strong landform. It is in poor condition, however, with very limited and poor quality hedgerows.
	Sub Total	1	1	0	0	2	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view				✓		A public footpath runs through the south east corner of the Parcel and has open views. There is also a public footpath around the north west boundary of the Parcel, also with open views of the Parcel. There are also views into the Parcel from Kiveton Lane beyond the eastern boundary and at a distance from public areas to the west of the Parcel, beyond the railway line.

Area 5 Land Parcel No 1 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
	Openness to private view				✓		Properties on the northern edge of Kiveton Park, to the south of the Parcel, have open views into the Parcel above the boundary hedgerow. There are also some views from the southern edge of Todwick, to the north of the Parcel, and more distant views from properties in Wales to the west.
	Relationship with existing urban built form		✓				Development within this Parcel could form a good relationship to the existing housing in Kiveton Park. This would be more appropriate in the southern part of the site, adjacent to the existing urban edge.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation				✓		Development within this Parcel would significantly narrow the existing separation between Kiveton Park and Todwick. It could also impact on the separation between Kiveton Park and Wales.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development				✓		The prominent sloping nature of the Parcel would make mitigation of the proposals, in keeping with the landscape pattern, relatively difficult. Small woodland blocks and increased hedgerow cover could help to soften any proposals.
	Sub Total	0	1	0	4	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		1	2	0	4	2	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no Areas of High Landscape Value in the immediate vicinity of the Parcel. The closest areas of designated landscape are to the north west of the Parcel, with vegetation and a junction of the M1 likely to interrupt views, and to the east with vegetation and built form interrupting views.
	Recreational and perceptual factors			✓			There are rights of way and a fishing lake within the Parcel at present, as well as an area of allotments, giving the Parcel some recreational value. There are also long distance views from the Parcel.
	Sub Total	1	0	1	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		2	2	1	4	2	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate-low landscape sensitivity because of the influence of former mining and built features such as motorways and overhead cable, as well as the lack of woodland and hedgerows. This Parcel is fairly typical of the Landscape Character Area, as it is predominantly arable farmland and has almost no hedgerows associated with it.

Settlements

Kiveton Park is located to the south of the Parcel and Todwick to the north. The village of Wales is slightly more remote to the south west, beyond a railway line. Although Wales has an historic area, the area of the village closest to the Parcel is largely of 20th century origin, as are Kiveton Park and Todwick. There are very few employment land uses in the vicinity.

Overall Sensitivity

There is limited public access through this Parcel and in the vicinity. The Parcel is located on the northern edge of Kiveton Park and forms part of the land separating Kiveton Park and Todwick. Any development within this Parcel would relate to Kiveton Park, but would be highly visible from the surrounding area. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium-high sensitivity**. There is limited scope for development within the Parcel due to its prominent location.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium-low

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-low	Medium-low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Medium-low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Medium-low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential site for mixed use development. There would appear to be limited scope for small to medium scale development, due to the visibility of the Parcel.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 5: Wales and Kiveton Park

Land Parcel No = 2

Size = 9.17Ha

Landscape Character Area = Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 24/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis				✓		The landform within this Parcel slopes gently down to the south west.
	Vegetation enclosure		✓				There are tall hedgerows along the boundaries of this Parcel other than the western boundary, which is more clipped. There are also tall hedgerows, including occasional hedgerow trees, and some scrub within the Parcel, dividing it into smaller fields.
	Complexity/ Scale				✓		The Parcel comprises small scale fields with a variety of landuses. These include a single arable field, paddocks, rough grass and scrub.
	Condition	✓					The Parcel currently has a weak character and is in poor condition.
	Sub Total	1	1	0	2	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view				✓		There is currently informal public access through most of the Parcel.
	Openness to private view			✓			There are views into the Parcel from the upper stories of properties to the north and east of the Parcel. Properties along Church Street/ Stockwell Lane, to the west of the Parcel, also have views into the Parcel. None of these properties front onto the Parcel.
	Relationship with existing urban built form		✓				Development within this Parcel could relate well to the existing urban area of Wales, particularly to new development along Longlands Avenue and Stockwell Avenue.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation		✓				Development within this Parcel would extend the built edge of Wales slightly closer to Hart Hill.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development		✓				There would be good scope to mitigate any potential development within this Land Parcel. This could be achieved by retaining and strengthening some of the existing hedgerows associated with the Parcel and by retaining some of the Parcel as open space.
	Sub Total	0	3	1	1	0	

Area 5 Land Parcel No 2 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		1	4	1	3	0	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no Areas of High Landscape Value in the immediate vicinity of the Parcel. The closest area of designated landscape is to the east of the Parcel, with the restored Kiveton Park Country Park preventing intervisibility of the two areas.
	Recreational and perceptual factors			✓			There is informal access throughout the Parcel at present, allowing a range of recreational uses. The tranquility of the Parcel is relatively low, however, due to noise intrusion from traffic on the motorway.
	Sub Total	1	0	1	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		2	4	2	3	0	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate-low landscape sensitivity because of the influence of former mining and built features such as motorways and overhead cables, as well as the lack of woodland and hedgerows. This Parcel is less typical of the Landscape Character Area, as it is smaller scale rough grassland with many hedgerows.

Settlements

The village of Wales is located to the north west and Kiveton Park is slightly more remote to the north east. The historic area of Wales village is located to the north west of the Parcel, but the area of the village closest to the Parcel is of 20th century origin, as is Kiveton Park. There are very few employment land uses in the vicinity.

Overall Sensitivity

There is public access throughout this Parcel. The Parcel is located on the southern edge of Wales and is part of an area of land enclosed by vegetation along the line of a former canal. Any development within this Parcel would relate to recent development in Wales, but would result in the loss of informal open space. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium-low sensitivity**. There is some scope for development within the Parcel due to its enclosed nature.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium-high

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-high	Medium-low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

Appendix B

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential site for residential development. There would appear to be some scope for small scale development, due to the small scale of the Parcel, but this would result in the loss of informal open space.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 5: Wales and Kiveton Park

Land Parcel No = 3

Size = 3.05Ha

Landscape Character Area = Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 24/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis				✓		The landform within this Parcel slopes gently down to the south, towards a disused railway line along the southern boundary.
	Vegetation enclosure		✓				Vegetation along the dismantled railway line consists of a mature belt of trees. There are also tall hedgerows with occasional gaps along the other three boundaries of the Parcel. The surrounding landform does allow views over the hedgerows, however, so enclosure by vegetation is not complete.
	Complexity/ Scale				✓		The Parcel comprises a single small to medium scale arable field.
	Condition			✓			The Parcel has a moderate character and is in moderate condition.
	Sub Total	0	1	1	2	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view		✓				There are distant views into the Parcel from the M1 to the west. There are also more immediate views from the footpath along the eastern boundary of the Parcel.
	Openness to private view	✓					Vegetation around the perimeter of the Parcel prevents views from all the properties in the surrounding area. There may be some very distant views from properties in Norwood, beyond the M1.
	Relationship with existing urban built form				✓		The Parcel is separated from the existing built edge of Wales by a narrow arable field. If surrounding Land Parcels were not developed, development within this Parcel would be isolated.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation		✓				Development within this Parcel would extend the built edge of Wales slightly closer to Hart Hill and towards Norwood beyond the M1.
	2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development	✓				
	Sub Total	2	2	0	1	0	

Area 5 Land Parcel No 3 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		2	3	1	3	0	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no Areas of High Landscape Value in the immediate vicinity of the Parcel. The closest area of designated landscape is to the east of the Parcel, with the restored Kiveton Park Country Park preventing intervisibility of the two areas.
	Recreational and perceptual factors	✓					There is access limited through the Parcel at present. The tranquility of the Parcel is also relatively low due to noise intrusion from traffic on the motorway.
	Sub Total	2	0	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		4	3	1	3	0	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate-low landscape sensitivity because of the influence of former mining and built features such as motorways and overhead cables, as well as the lack of woodland and hedgerows. This Parcel is less typical of the Landscape Character Area, as it is smaller scale arable farmland with good hedgerows.

Settlements

The village of Wales is located to the north and Kiveton Park is slightly more remote to the north east. The historic area of Wales village is located to the north west of the Parcel, but the area of the village closest to the Parcel is of 20th century origin, as is Kiveton Park. There are very few employment land uses in the vicinity.

Overall Sensitivity

There are public footpaths along some boundaries of this Parcel. The Parcel is located close to the southern edge of Wales and is part of an area of land enclosed by vegetation along the line of a former canal. Any development within this Parcel would relate to recent development in Wales, but would be slightly isolated from the urban edge if adjacent Parcels were not developed. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium-low sensitivity**. There is some scope for development within the Parcel due to its enclosed nature.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium-high

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-high	Medium-low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

Appendix B

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential site for residential development. There would appear to be some scope for small scale development, due to the small scale of the Parcel, but this would be isolated if adjacent Parcels are not developed.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 5: Wales and Kiveton Park

Land Parcel No = 4

Size = 4.86Ha

Landscape Character Area = Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 24/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis				✓		The landform within this Parcel slopes gently down to the south east, towards a disused railway line along the southern boundary.
	Vegetation enclosure			✓			Vegetation along the dismantled railway line consists of a mature belt of trees. There are also tall hedgerows with occasional gaps along the northern and eastern boundaries of the Parcel. The western boundary of the parcel is open and there are poor hedgerows or fence lines within the Parcel.
	Complexity/ Scale				✓		The fields within this Parcel are of a small to medium scale. The land uses are either pastoral farmland or horse paddocks.
	Condition	✓					The Parcel currently has a weak character and is in poor condition.
	Sub Total	1	0	1	2	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view				✓		A bridleway runs along the western boundary of the Parcel and has open views into the Parcel. There are some views into parts of the Parcel from the M1 to the west. Vegetation limits views from the informal access land to the north of the Parcel.
	Openness to private view		✓				There are few properties in the vicinity of the Parcel. The only property that would have views into the Parcel at present is located just beyond the south west corner of the Parcel.
	Relationship with existing urban built form				✓		The Parcel is separated from the existing built edge of Wales by several fields. If surrounding Land Parcels were not developed, development within this Parcel would be isolated.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation		✓				Development within this Parcel would extend the built edge of Wales slightly closer to Hart Hill and also towards Norwood beyond the M1.

Area 5 Land Parcel No 4 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development		✓				Any potential development within this Parcel could be mitigated in the medium term by strengthening the existing hedgerow boundaries and increasing tree cover within the boundaries, in keeping with the existing landscape pattern.
	Sub Total	0	3	0	2	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		1	3	1	4	0	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no Areas of High Landscape Value in the immediate vicinity of the Parcel. The closest area of designated landscape is to the east of the Parcel, with the restored Kiveton Park Country Park preventing intervisibility of the two areas.
	Recreational and perceptual factors		✓				Much of the Parcel is horse paddocks at present, which could be considered a recreational use. There is also the bridleway along the western boundary of the Parcel. The tranquility of the Parcel is relatively low, however, due to noise intrusion from traffic on the motorway.
	Sub Total	1	1	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		2	4	1	4	0	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate-low landscape sensitivity because of the influence of former mining and built features such as motorways and overhead cable, as well as the lack of woodland and hedgerows. This Parcel is less typical of the Landscape Character Area, as it is smaller scale and contains pasture and paddocks.

Settlements

The village of Wales is located to the north and Kiveton Park is slightly more remote to the north east. The historic area of Wales village is located to the north west of the Parcel, but the area of the village closest to the Parcel is of 20th century origin, as is Kiveton Park. There are very few employment land uses in the vicinity.

Overall Sensitivity

There are public footpaths along some boundaries of this Parcel. The Parcel is close to the southern edge of Wales and is part of an area of land enclosed by vegetation along the line of a former canal. Any development within this Parcel would relate to recent development in Wales, but would be slightly isolated from the urban edge if adjacent Parcels are not developed. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium-low sensitivity**. There is some scope for development within the Parcel due to its enclosed nature.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium-high

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-high	Medium-low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential site for residential development. There would appear to be some scope for small scale development, due to the small scale of the Parcel, but this would be isolated if adjacent Parcels are not developed.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 6: Dinnington East and West

Land Parcel No = 1

Size = 33.47Ha

Landscape Character Area = Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 23/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis				✓		This Parcel slopes gently down towards Anston Brook on the north east boundary of the Parcel.
	Vegetation enclosure			✓			There are tall hedgerows along both the A57 (south west boundary) and Lead Hill (part of north west boundary). There is very little vegetation along Aston Brook. There is a tall hedgerow along the access track to Burne Farm, part of the south east boundary of the Parcel, and more intermittent trees and hedgerow along the remainder of this boundary. The north west boundary of the Parcel has hedgerows and trees associated with the property 'Greendale', but then an unvegetated fence line for the remainder.
	Complexity/ Scale		✓				The Parcel is a relatively large arable field, with fewer subdivisions than shown on OS mapping. The presence of fence lines along some boundaries also makes the Parcel appear larger.
	Condition		✓				The Parcel and its wider context exhibit a moderate character that is influenced by views towards the spire of St James' church in South Anston. Condition of the landscape within this Parcel is poor, with hedgerows having been removed.
	Sub Total	0	2	1	1	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view			✓			There are no rights of way through this Parcel. The tall hedgerows along the adjacent roads limit views of motorists into the Parcel. A footpath and bridleway runs along Axle Lane to the south of the Parcel. This runs along the edge of a ridgeline and would have views into the Parcel.

Area 6 Land Parcel No 1 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
	Openness to private view			✓			Properties along Lead Hill/Todwick Road have glimpsed views into this Parcel. There are also properties on the western edge of South Anston and the northern edge of Todwick that have more distant views towards the Parcel.
	Relationship with existing urban built form				✓		Any development within this Parcel would be more associated with Todwick than any of the other surrounding settlements. The A57 would act as a barrier between any proposed development and Todwick, with The Red Lion Inn and Side Farm Nursery/Garden Centre also being closer to the Parcel than any residential properties.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation			✓			Development within this Parcel would reduce the separation between Todwick and both North and South Anston.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development			✓			Planting of woodland blocks and vegetation along both Anston and Cramfit Brooks could help to mitigate any proposed development but would not be fully in keeping with the characteristics of the surrounding landscape.
	Sub Total	0	0	4	1	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		0	2	5	2	0	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no Areas of High Landscape Value in the immediate vicinity of the Parcel. There are designated landscapes to the east and west of the Parcel but combinations of landform, vegetation and settlement prevent intervisibility with these areas.
	Recreational and perceptual factors	✓					There are no rights of way through this Parcel or other recreational uses. There is some scenic value to the Parcel, but tranquility is limited due to the close proximity to the A57.
	Sub Total	2	0	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		2	2	5	2	0	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate-low landscape sensitivity because of the influence of former mining and built features such as motorways and overhead cables, as well as the lack of woodland and hedgerows. This Parcel is fairly typical of the Landscape Character Area, as it comprises relatively large arable fields with poor hedgerows.

Settlements

The village of Todwick is located to the south of the Parcel, with Dinnington and North Anston to the east, at a distance. Todwick is a village of relatively modern origin, and although Dinnington and North Anston have historic cores the parts of the settlements closest to this Parcel are also of more modern origin. There is a large industrial and commercial Trading Estate to the north east of the Parcel.

Overall Sensitivity

There are no public footpaths through or close to this Parcel. The Parcel is close to the northern edge of Todwick and is part of an area of farmland separating Todwick from Dinnington and North Anston. Any development within this Parcel would relate to a narrow strip of development along the road which extends from the northern part of Todwick. Development within this Parcel would be of a similar scale to the existing Todwick village. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is some scope for development within the Parcel, with limited visibility from the surrounding area but slightly remote from other settlement.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium	Medium	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential site for mixed use development. There would appear to be some scope for small to medium scale development, but this would be slightly isolated if adjacent Parcels are not developed.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 6: Dinnington East and West

Land Parcel No = 2

Size = 15.18Ha

Landscape Character Area = Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 23/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis				✓		This Parcel slopes gently down towards Anston Brook through the centre of the Parcel and Cranfit Brook to the south east of the Parcel.
	Vegetation enclosure			✓			The Parcel is well enclosed around residential properties that are accessed from Todwick Road. There are also tall hedgerows with trees along Todwick Road. To the south east of the Parcel, the aspect is more open. Boundaries are generally formed by fence lines along this boundary.
	Complexity/ Scale				✓		The Parcel is formed of small to medium scale pockets of paddock, pasture and the gardens of residential properties.
	Condition			✓			The Parcel and its wider context exhibit a moderate character that is influenced by views towards the spire of St James' church in South Anston. Condition of the landscape within this Parcel is moderate, although fences are found in locations where hedgerows could be located.
Sub Total		0	0	2	2	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view		✓				The Parcel generally well contained from public views. There are some views into the Parcel from the south east, but these are generally more distant.
	Openness to private view			✓			There are a small number of residential properties contained within the Parcel. These will have some views of parts of the Parcel. There are very limited views from other residential properties.
	Relationship with existing urban built form				✓		At present there is not a very strong relationship between this Parcel and any other urban areas, although there is small scale development within the Parcel.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation				✓		Development of this Parcel would significantly reduce the separation between North Anston, Dinnington and Todwick.

Area 6 Land Parcel No 2 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development		✓				There would be good scope to provide mitigation for any proposed development within this Parcel, in the medium term, by strengthening existing vegetation and replacing fence lines with vegetation.
	Sub Total	0	2	1	2	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		0	2	3	4	0	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no Areas of High Landscape Value in the immediate vicinity of the Parcel. There are designated landscapes to the east and west of the Parcel but combinations of landform, vegetation and settlement prevent intervisibility with these areas.
	Recreational and perceptual factors	✓					There are no rights of way through this Parcel or other recreational uses. There is some scenic value to the Parcel, but tranquility is limited due to the close proximity to the A57.
	Sub Total	2	0	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		2	2	3	4	0	

Commentary**Overall Landscape Quality**

This Parcel falls within the Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate-low landscape sensitivity because of the influence of former mining and built features such as motorways and overhead cables, as well as the lack of woodland and hedgerows. This Parcel is less typical of the Landscape Character Area, as it comprises small paddocks and areas of rough grassland.

Settlements

The village of Todwick is located to the south of the Parcel, with Dinnington and North Anston to the east, at a distance. Todwick is a village of relatively modern origin, and although Dinnington and North Anston have historic cores the parts of the settlements closest to this Parcel are also of more modern origin. There is a large industrial and commercial Trading Estate to the north east of the Parcel.

Overall Sensitivity

There are no public footpaths through or close to this Parcel. The Parcel is isolated from all three of the surrounding settlements, but is closest to the North Anston Trading Estate. Any development within this Parcel would be isolated from most existing development, although the Parcel does contain a small number of residential properties. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium-high sensitivity**. There is limited scope for development within the Parcel due to its small scale nature.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium-low

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment – offices	Low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as part of a potential site for mixed use development. There would appear to be limited scope for small scale development, but this would be in the context of existing small scaled development in the Parcel.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 6: Dinnington East and West

Land Parcel No = 3

Size = 20.10Ha

Landscape Character Area = Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 23/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis				✓		This Parcel slopes gently towards Anston Brook on the south west boundary and Cramfit Brook on the south east boundary.
	Vegetation enclosure				✓		There is relatively little vegetation enclosing this Parcel. Most of the boundaries are formed by fences or the Brooks, with little vegetation along them. There is a copse of ash and conifers around a pond on the north east boundary.
	Complexity/ Scale		✓				The Parcel is formed of large scale arable fields, with the poor field boundaries suggesting larger fields.
	Condition		✓				The Parcel is of moderate character but is generally in a poor condition, with few hedgerows.
	Sub Total	0	2	0	2	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view		✓				There are no rights of way through the Parcel. There are some glimpsed views from the roads in the vicinity of the Parcel and distant views from rights of way on higher ground to the south of the Parcel.
	Openness to private view			✓			There are some views from properties along Todwick Road and Common Road to the north east and north west of the Parcel. There are some distant views from properties on the western edges of North Anston and South Anston.
	Relationship with existing urban built form				✓		The Parcel does not relate to any urban areas at present, other than the industrial and commercial properties in the North Anston Trading Estate and the isolated properties along Todwick Road and Common Road.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation			✓			Any development within this Parcel will start to reduce the separation between Todwick, Laughton Common and North Anston.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development		✓				There would be scope to mitigate any proposed development within this Parcel by increasing vegetation along the two brooks and along the other boundaries of the Parcel.
	Sub Total	0	2	2	1	0	

Area 6 Land Parcel No 3 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		0	4	2	3	0	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no Areas of High Landscape Value in the immediate vicinity of the Parcel. There are designated landscapes to the east and west of the Parcel but combinations of landform, vegetation and settlement prevent intervisibility with these areas.
	Recreational and perceptual factors	✓					There are no rights of way through this Parcel or other recreational uses. There is some scenic value to the Parcel, but tranquility is limited due to the close proximity to the A57.
	Sub Total	2	0	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		2	4	2	3	0	

Commentary**Overall Landscape Quality**

This Parcel falls within the Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate-low landscape sensitivity because of the influence of former mining and built features such as motorways and overhead cables, as well as the lack of woodland and hedgerows. This Parcel is fairly typical of the Landscape Character Area, as it comprises relatively large arable fields with poor hedgerows.

Settlements

The village of Todwick is located at a slight distance to the south of the Parcel, with Dinnington and North Anston to the east. Todwick is a village of relatively modern origin, and although Dinnington and North Anston have historic cores the parts of the settlements closest to this Parcel are also of more modern origin. There is a large industrial and commercial Trading Estate adjacent and to the north east of the Parcel.

Overall Sensitivity

There are no public footpaths through or close to this Parcel and limited views from the close proximity. The Parcel is isolated from all three of the surrounding settlements, but is closest to the North Anston Trading Estate. Any development within this Parcel would be isolated from most existing development. Development within this Parcel would be of a similar scale to the existing Todwick village. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium-low sensitivity**. There is some scope for development within the Parcel, with limited visibility from the surrounding area but slightly remote from other settlement.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium-high

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-high	Medium	Low
Employment – offices	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium	Medium-low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential site for mixed use development. There would appear to be some scope for small to medium scale development, but this would be slightly isolated if adjacent Parcels are not developed.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 6: Dinnington East and West

Land Parcel No = 4

Size = 28.78Ha

Landscape Character Area = Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 23/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis					✓	The landform within this Parcel forms a small hill at the centre of the Parcel.
	Vegetation enclosure			✓			The eastern boundary of this Parcel is formed by a railway line with little vegetation along it. There is also a dismantled railway line on the north east boundary of the Parcel, although this is well vegetated. There is little vegetation along the western boundary of the Parcel, but New Road, a track along part of the southern boundary of the Parcel, has tall hedgerows and tree belts along it.
	Complexity/ Scale	✓					The Parcel comprises two large arable fields.
	Condition			✓			The Parcel is of moderate character and is in moderate condition, with most field boundaries still intact.
	Sub Total	1	0	2	0	1	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view			✓			There are no rights of way through the Parcel. There are some views into it from the railway line to the east of the Parcel and from Cramfit Road beyond that.
	Openness to private view				✓		There are a limited number of views from residential properties in North Anston.
	Relationship with existing urban built form				✓		The Parcel does abut the North Anston Trading Estate, but mature vegetation would form a barrier between the two. The railway line would form a barrier between any development within this Parcel and the existing urban area of North Anston.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation			✓			Any development within this Parcel will start to reduce the separation between Todwick, Laughton Common and North Anston.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development			✓			There would be scope to mitigate any proposed development within this Parcel by increasing vegetation along Cramfit Brook, along the railway line and along the other boundaries of the Parcel.
	Sub Total	0	0	3	2	0	

Area 6 Land Parcel No 4 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		1	0	5	2	1	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no Areas of High Landscape Value in the immediate vicinity of the Parcel. There are designated landscapes to the east and west of the Parcel but combinations of landform, vegetation and settlement prevent intervisibility with these areas.
	Recreational and perceptual factors	✓					There are no rights of way through this Parcel or other recreational uses. There is some scenic value to the Parcel, but tranquility is limited due to the close proximity to the A57.
	Sub Total	2	0	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		3	0	5	2	1	

Commentary**Overall Landscape Quality**

This Parcel falls within the Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate-low landscape sensitivity because of the influence of former mining and built features such as motorways and overhead cables, as well as the lack of woodland and hedgerows. This Parcel is fairly typical of the Landscape Character Area, as it comprises relatively large arable fields with poor hedgerows.

Settlements

The village of Todwick is located at a slight distance to the south west of the Parcel, with Dinnington and North Anston to the east. Todwick is a village of relatively modern origin, and although Dinnington and North Anston have historic cores the parts of the settlements closest to this Parcel are also of more modern origin. There is a large industrial and commercial Trading Estate adjacent and to the north of the Parcel.

Overall Sensitivity

There are no public footpaths through or close to this Parcel and limited views from the close proximity. The Parcel is slightly isolated from all three of the surrounding settlements, but is closest to the North Anston Trading Estate and separated from North Anston by a railway and paddocks. Development within this Parcel would be of a similar scale to the existing Todwick village. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is some scope for development within the Parcel, with limited visibility from the surrounding area and less remote than other surrounding Parcels.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium	Medium	Low
Employment – offices	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium	Medium-low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential site for mixed use development. There would appear to be some scope for small to medium scale development, but this would be slightly isolated if adjacent Parcels are not developed.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 6: Dinnington East and West

Land Parcel No = 5

Size = 27.30Ha

Landscape Character Area = Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 23/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis				✓		This Parcel slopes gently towards Anston Brook, which flows towards North Anston along the southern boundary of the Parcel.
	Vegetation enclosure		✓				There are mature trees, including willows and poplars, along Anston Brook and the southern boundary of the Parcel. There is also mature vegetation along New Road and the rest of the northern boundary of the Parcel. The western boundary is more open, but there are blocks of poplar trees outside the eastern boundary.
	Complexity/ Scale		✓				The Parcel comprises two large arable fields.
	Condition			✓			The Parcel is of moderate character and is in moderate condition, with most field boundaries still intact.
	Sub Total	0	2	1	1	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view		✓				There are no rights of way through the Parcel. There are some views into it from the railway line to the east of the Parcel and from roads in North Anston beyond that.
	Openness to private view		✓				There are limited views into the Parcel from residential properties in North Anston to the east.
	Relationship with existing urban built form				✓		This Parcel is relatively isolated. The railway line would form a barrier between any development within this Parcel and the existing urban area of North Anston.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation				✓		Any development within this Parcel would retain separation from existing settlements but would still reduce the separation between Todwick, Laughton Common and North Anston.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development		✓				There would be good scope to mitigate any proposed development within this Parcel by increasing the existing vegetation along Anston Brook and New Road, as well as increasing woodland blocks within the Parcel.
	Sub Total	0	3	0	2	0	

Area 6 Land Parcel No 5 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		0	5	1	3	0	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no Areas of High Landscape Value in the immediate vicinity of the Parcel. There are designated landscapes to the east and west of the Parcel but combinations of landform, vegetation and settlement prevent intervisibility with these areas.
	Recreational and perceptual factors	✓					There are no rights of way through this Parcel or other recreational uses. There is some scenic value to the Parcel, but tranquility is limited due to the close proximity to the A57.
	Sub Total	2	0	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		2	5	1	3	0	

Commentary**Overall Landscape Quality**

This Parcel falls within the Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate-low landscape sensitivity because of the influence of former mining and built features such as motorways and overhead cables, as well as the lack of woodland and hedgerows. This Parcel is fairly typical of the Landscape Character Area, as it comprises relatively large arable fields with poor hedgerows.

Settlements

The village of Todwick is located at a slight distance to the south west of the Parcel, with Dinnington and North Anston to the east. Todwick is a village of relatively modern origin, and although Dinnington and North Anston have historic cores the parts of the settlements closest to this Parcel are also of more modern origin. There is a large industrial and commercial Trading Estate to the north of the Parcel.

Overall Sensitivity

There are no public footpaths through or close to this Parcel and limited views from the close proximity. The Parcel is slightly isolated from all three of the surrounding settlements, but is closest to the North Anston Trading Estate and separated from North Anston by a railway and paddocks. Development within this Parcel would be of a similar scale to the existing Trading Estate. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium-low sensitivity**. There is some scope for development within the Parcel, with limited visibility from the surrounding area and less remote than other surrounding Parcels.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium-high

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-high	Medium	Low
Employment – offices	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium	Medium-low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential site for mixed use development. There would appear to be some scope for small to medium scale development, but this would be slightly isolated if adjacent Parcels are not developed.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 6: Dinnington East and West

Land Parcel No = 6

Size = 12.36Ha

Landscape Character Area = Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 23/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis				✓		This Parcel slopes gently towards Anston Brook, which flows towards North Anston along the southern boundary of the Parcel.
	Vegetation enclosure		✓				There are blocks of Lombardy Poplars within the Parcel. There are also tall tree belts and hedgerows along Anston Brook, the railway line to the east of the Parcel and a drain along the western boundary of the Parcel.
	Complexity/ Scale				✓		The Parcel is divided into small scale fields. These have a variety of land uses including woodland, pasture and rough grassland.
	Condition	✓					The character of this Parcel is weak and its condition is poor. The poplars are not typical of tree species within the wider Landscape Character Area and the typical arable land use is being eroded by the introduction of paddocks.
	Sub Total	1	1	0	2	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view			✓			The poplars within the Parcel are prominent in views towards the Parcel, particularly from the A57. Otherwise, views into the Parcel from public locations are relatively limited.
	Openness to private view		✓				Vegetation along Anston Brook prevents views from properties to the south and south west. There are some limited views from properties in North Anston.
	Relationship with existing urban built form			✓			The railway line would form a barrier between any development within this Parcel and the existing urban area of North Anston.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation		✓				Any proposed development within this Parcel would have a slight impact on the separation between North Anston and Todwick, although the existing vegetation around the Parcel already creates a strong enclosure to the Parcel.

Area 6 Land Parcel No 6 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development		✓				There would be good scope to mitigate any proposed development within this Parcel by increasing the existing vegetation along Anston Brook and the railway line.
	Sub Total	0	3	2	0	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		1	4	2	2	0	
3.Landscape Value	Designations	✓					There are no Areas of High Landscape Value in the immediate vicinity of the Parcel. There are designated landscapes to the east and west of the Parcel but combinations of landform, vegetation and settlement prevent intervisibility with these areas.
	Recreational and perceptual factors		✓				Much of the Parcel is horse paddocks at present, which could be considered a recreational use. There are no rights of way through the Parcel.
	Sub Total	1	1	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		2	5	4	2	0	

Commentary**Overall Landscape Quality**

This Parcel falls within the Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate-low landscape sensitivity because of the influence of former mining and built features such as motorways and overhead cables, as well as the lack of woodland and hedgerows. This Parcel is less typical of the Landscape Character Area, as it comprises a combination of paddocks and poplar plantation.

Settlements

The village of Todwick is located at a slight distance to the west of the Parcel, with Dinnington and North Anston to the east. Todwick is a village of relatively modern origin, and although Dinnington and North Anston have historic cores the parts of the settlements closest to this Parcel are also of more modern origin. There is a large industrial and commercial Trading Estate to the north of the Parcel.

Overall Sensitivity

There are no public footpaths through or close to this Parcel, although the poplar plantations are a distinctive feature from the surrounding area. The Parcel is separated from North Anston by a railway line. Development within this Parcel would potentially require the removal of much of the poplar plantations. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium-low sensitivity**. There is some scope for development within the Parcel, but isolated from North Anston because of the railway line.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium-high

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-high	Medium	Low
Employment – offices	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium	Medium-low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential site for mixed use development. There would appear to be some scope for small scale development, but this would be slightly isolated from North Anston as a result of the railway line.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 6: Dinnington East and West

Land Parcel No = 7

Size = 4.98Ha

Landscape Character Area = East Rotherham Limestone Plateau

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 23/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis				✓		The landform within this Parcel is gently sloping. The Parcel is just beyond the edge of a plateau area, with North Anston at a slightly higher level than the Parcel.
	Vegetation enclosure					✓	The Parcel is predominantly a woodland block. Although this does provide enclosure to the Parcel, the level of woodland cover is such that development could not occur without much of the woodland being removed. There is also limited vegetation around the rear gardens that back onto the northern and eastern boundaries of the Parcel.
	Complexity/ Scale				✓		The Parcel is relatively small scale with woodland blocks and a small recreation ground area.
	Condition			✓			The Parcel is of moderate character and is in moderate condition, with woodland blocks being distinctive of the wider Landscape Character Area.
Sub Total		0	0	1	2	1	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view					✓	The Parcel is widely publically accessible, with access to the recreation ground as well throughout the woodland.
	Openness to private view		✓				There are some views into the Parcel from properties that back onto the northern and eastern boundaries of the Parcel. These views are over fences or hedgerows and as such are likely to be only from upper storey windows.
	Relationship with existing urban built form	✓					The Parcel has a good relationship with the existing urban edge of North Anston, with the settlement already protruding along and beyond the boundaries of the Parcel, to the north and south.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation	✓					Development within this Parcel would have little impact on settlement separation, as the settlement already protrudes along and beyond the boundaries of the Parcel, to the north and south.

Area 6 Land Parcel No 7 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development					✓	Mitigation of any proposed development within this Parcel would be difficult. For any development to occur much of the woodland would need to be removed, which could not then be replaced.
	Sub Total	2	1	0	0	2	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		2	1	1	2	3	
3.Landscape Value	Designations		✓				The eastern edge of the woodland block would just be visible from the AHLV to the east of Dinnington.
	Recreational and perceptual factors					✓	The Parcel is well used for recreation, with the recreation ground used for sports and children's play, as well as public access to the woodland.
	Sub Total	0	1	0	0	1	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		2	2	1	2	4	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the East Rotherham Limestone Plateau Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the presence of woodland and copses in the arable landscape, as well as incised river valleys. This Parcel is representative of a key characteristic of the Landscape Character Area, as it predominantly a small woodland block.

Settlements

North Anston is located to the west and south west of the Parcel, with Dinnington to the north and north west. Although Dinnington and North Anston have historic cores the parts of the settlements closest to this Parcel are also of more modern origin. There are very few employment land uses in the vicinity.

Overall Sensitivity

There is public access throughout this Parcel, including both the recreation ground and the woodland. The Parcel abuts the urban edge of North Anston and appears to be well used by local residents. Development within this Parcel would potentially require the removal of much of the woodland. Overall this is considered to be an area of **high sensitivity**. There is very little scope for development within the Parcel, which would require the removal of woodland and the loss of open space.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Low

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Low	Low	Low
Employment – offices	Low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as part of several potential sites for residential development. There would appear to be very little scope for any form of development without the removal of a large proportion of the woodland and it would appear to be preferable to retain the woodland and recreational uses.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 6: Dinnington East and West

Land Parcel No = 8

Size = 8.10Ha

Landscape Character Area = East Rotherham Limestone Plateau

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 23/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis				✓		The landform within this Parcel is gently sloping. The Parcel is just beyond the edge of a plateau area, with North Anston at a slightly higher level than the Parcel.
	Vegetation enclosure		✓				There is a good hedgerow along Woodsetts Road, to the south of the Parcel, although it requires an improved understorey in places. The Parcel also abuts the woodland block in Parcel 7 to the west and there is woodland around the Tropical Butterfly House in the north east corner of the Parcel. Part of the eastern boundary of the Parcel is entirely open.
	Complexity/ Scale			✓			The Parcel comprises of a medium sized arable field, along with the Tropical Butterfly House and the woodland and landscape associated with it.
	Condition			✓			The Parcel is of moderate character and is in moderate condition, with woodland blocks being distinctive of the wider Landscape Character Area.
	Sub Total	0	1	2	1	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view			✓			There are few views into the Parcel from surrounding roads. There are open views from the access road to the Tropical Butterfly House and glimpsed views from a bridleway along the northern boundary of the Parcel.
	Openness to private view	✓					There are few private properties within the vicinity of the Parcel and none with views into it.
	Relationship with existing urban built form		✓				The Parcel has some links to the eastern edge of North Anston, although the closest residential properties are on the opposite side of Woodsetts Road.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation		✓				Development within this Parcel would slightly extend the urban edge of North Anston towards Woodsetts to the east.

Area 6 Land Parcel No 8 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development		✓				Any proposed development within this Parcel could be mitigated in the short to medium term by increasing woodland to the east of the Parcel and along the access track to the Tropical Butterfly House. Increasing the understorey of the hedgerow along Woodsetts Road would also assist.
	Sub Total	1	3	1	0	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		1	4	3	1	0	
3.Landscape Value	Designations			✓			There would be some intervisibility between this Parcel and the AHLV to the east of Dinnington.
	Recreational and perceptual factors			✓			The Tropical Butterfly House is a tourist attraction in its own right, which attracts visitors to this Land Parcel. There are no public rights of way through the Parcel, however, only a bridleway along the northern boundary.
	Sub Total	0	0	1	1	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		1	4	5	1	0	

Commentary**Overall Landscape Quality**

This Parcel falls within the East Rotherham Limestone Plateau Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the presence of woodland and copses in the arable landscape, as well as incised river valleys. This Parcel is relatively representative of the Landscape Character Area, as it arable farmland and adjacent to woodland blocks, but it is not associated with any incised valleys.

Settlements

North Anston is located to the west and south west of the Parcel, with Dinnington to the north. Although Dinnington and North Anston have historic cores the parts of the settlements closest to this Parcel are also of more modern origin. There are very few employment land uses in the vicinity.

Overall Sensitivity

The Parcel contains a recognized tourist attraction and some small areas of woodland. There is additional public access close to this Parcel. The Parcel is located across Woodsetts Road from the closest residential area and is separated from a further area of North Anston by Parcel 7. Development within this Parcel would be partially enclosed by vegetation and could relate to North Anston. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium-low sensitivity**. There is scope for development within the Parcel, but the Parcel by itself would be a small scale development.

Overall Landscape Capacity = medium-high

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-high	Medium	Low
Employment – offices	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium	Medium-low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as part of a potential site for residential development. There would appear to be some scope for small to medium scale development related to North Anston.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 6: Dinnington East and West

Land Parcel No = 9

Size = 33.47Ha

Landscape Character Area = East Rotherham Limestone Plateau

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 23/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis					✓	This Parcel falls noticeably to the east.
	Vegetation enclosure		✓				There is a good hedgerow to the south west of the Parcel, along Woodsetts Road. There is also an unclipped hedgerow along the south east boundary. Swinston Hill Wood forms the north east boundary and there is a hedgerow with occasional trees along the northern boundary. Part of the western boundary of the Parcel, shared with Parcel 8, is open with the remainder formed by mature trees around the Butterfly House.
	Complexity/ Scale			✓			The Parcel comprises medium to large fields, some of which are arable and some rough grass. Part of the Parcel is used for flying model aircraft.
	Condition		✓				The character of this Parcel is weak in comparison to other parts of the surrounding Landscape Character Area, but the condition is moderate.
	Sub Total	0	2	1	0	1	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view				✓		There is a public footpath along the south east boundary of the Parcel and a bridleway to the north. There is also public access throughout the adjacent woodland.
	Openness to private view		✓				There are very few residential properties within the vicinity that would have views into this Parcel.
	Relationship with existing urban built form				✓		Development of this Parcel would be relatively isolated from the urban edge of North Anston and Dinnington at present.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation			✓			Development within this Parcel would extend the urban edge of North Anston towards Woodsetts to the east.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development		✓				Any proposed development within this Parcel could be mitigated in the short to medium term by increasing woodland to the south east and along the access track to the Butterfly House.
	Sub Total	0	2	1	2	0	

Area 6 Land Parcel No 9 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		0	4	2	2	1	
3.Landscape Value	Designations				✓		This Parcel is adjacent to an Area of High Landscape Value, which is located to the east of the Parcel.
	Recreational and perceptual factors			✓			Part of the Parcel is used for flying model aircraft. There is also a public footpath and a bridleway along the boundaries of the Parcel and woodland with public access to the north east.
	Sub Total	0	0	1	1	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		0	4	3	3	1	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the East Rotherham Limestone Plateau Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the presence of woodland and copses in the arable landscape, as well as incised river valleys. This Parcel is relatively representative of the Landscape Character Area, as it is arable farmland and adjacent to woodland blocks, but it is not associated with any incised valleys.

Settlements

North Anston is located to the west of the Parcel, with Dinnington to the north west. Although Dinnington and North Anston have historic cores the parts of the settlements closest to this Parcel are also of more modern origin. Woodsetts is also located to the south east of the Parcel, at a distance. There are very few employment land uses in the vicinity.

Overall Sensitivity

Part of the Parcel is currently used as a recreational facility for flying model aircraft. There are public rights of way along the boundaries of this Parcel and other accessible land in the surrounding area. The Parcel is isolated from both North Anston and Dinnington. Development within this Parcel would reduce separation between North Anston/Dinnington and Woodsetts and also be visible from the nearby Area of High Landscape Value. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is some scope for development within the Parcel, but any development would be isolated from North Anston and Dinnington.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

Appendix B

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as part of a potential site for residential development. There would appear to be some scope for small to medium scale development, but this would be slightly isolated from both North Anston and Dinnington if other surrounding Parcels were not developed.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 6: Dinnington East and West

Land Parcel No = 10

Size = 46.56Ha

Landscape Character Area = East Rotherham Limestone Plateau

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 23/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis					✓	This Parcel is located on the edge of a plateau area with localized undulations.
	Vegetation enclosure			✓			There is woodland to both the south east and the south west of the Parcel, adjacent to its boundaries. There is also a hedgerow along the southern boundary, with occasional trees, and a combination of hedgerows and tree belts along the north east boundary of the Parcel, particularly close to housing. Some parts of the western boundary of the Parcel are open, particularly along Lakeland Drive.
	Complexity/ Scale	✓					The Parcel is formed by one large arable field.
	Condition		✓				The character of this Parcel is weak in comparison to other parts of the surrounding Landscape Character Area, but the condition is moderate.
	Sub Total	1	1	1	0	1	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view				✓		There are open views into the Parcel from Lakeland Drive to the west. There is also a bridleway along the southern boundary of the Parcel, and public access to Windmill Plantation in the south west corner of the Parcel, Swinston Hill Wood to the south east and to an area of rough grass to the north.
	Openness to private view			✓			There are fairly open views into the Parcel from the west, but limited views from houses to the north.
	Relationship with existing urban built form		✓				The Parcel abuts existing residential areas to the west and north.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation			✓			Development within this Parcel would further join together the existing settlements of Dinnington and North Anston. It would also extend the urban edge of both settlements towards Woodsetts to the east.

Area 6 Land Parcel No 10 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development			✓			There would be some scope to mitigate any development within this Parcel by introducing more woodland in the eastern part of the Parcel. This could not overcome problems of coalescence.
	Sub Total	0	1	3	1	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		1	2	4	1	1	
3.Landscape Value	Designations				✓		This Parcel is adjacent to an Area of High Landscape Value, which is located to the east of the Parcel.
	Recreational and perceptual factors		✓				There is a bridleway along the southern boundary of the Parcel and woodland/grassland with public access on most other boundaries.
	Sub Total	0	1	0	1	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		1	3	4	2	1	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the East Rotherham Limestone Plateau Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the presence of woodland and copses in the arable landscape, as well as incised river valleys. This Parcel is less representative of the Landscape Character Area, as although it is arable farmland there are few hedgerows and it is not associated with any incised valleys.

Settlements

North Anston is located to the west and south west of the Parcel, with Dinnington to the north west. Although Dinnington and North Anston have historic cores the parts of the settlements closest to this Parcel are also of more modern origin. There are very few employment land uses in the vicinity.

Overall Sensitivity

This Parcel is very large and is approximately half the size of the existing settlement of North Anston. There are some public rights of way and areas of accessible land close to this Parcel, although the majority of the Parcel is a single arable field with no access. The Parcel abuts the urban edge of both North Anston and Dinnington. Development within this Parcel could be related to either or both settlements. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is scope for development within the Parcel, but careful consideration of the identities of North Anston and Dinnington would be required.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium	Medium	Medium-low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as part of a potential site for residential development, with a small area of 'other' development on the western boundary. There would appear to be some scope for small to medium scale residential development, but this could further erode the separate identities of North Anston and Dinnington.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 6: Dinnington East and West

Land Parcel No = 11

Size = 8.88Ha

Landscape Character Area = East Rotherham Limestone Plateau

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 23/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis	✓					This Parcel is located on a fairly flat plateau area.
	Vegetation enclosure		✓				There are good hedgerows along the southern boundary of the Parcel, although there are occasional gaps. There are also tree belts to the south west of the Parcel. The northern and western boundaries of the Parcel are shared with the rear gardens of residential properties, where there is generally less vegetation.
	Complexity/ Scale				✓		The Parcel is formed of several small scale fields, some of which are paddocks and some informal open space.
	Condition	✓					The character of this Parcel is weak in comparison to other parts of the surrounding Landscape Character Area and the condition is poor.
	Sub Total	2	1	0	1	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view				✓		Much of the Parcel is currently publically accessible, apart from the paddocks in the eastern portion of the Parcel.
	Openness to private view			✓			There are some views into the Parcel from residential properties along the northern and western boundaries. These are generally upper storey views and properties where the gardens contain vegetation have more restricted views.
	Relationship with existing urban built form		✓				Development within this Parcel would relate to existing residential properties to the north and west.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation		✓				Any proposed development within this Parcel would have a slight impact on the separation between Dinnington and North Anston, which are currently effectively joined.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development		✓				There would be good scope to mitigate any proposed development within this Parcel by increasing vegetation along the southern and eastern boundaries.
	Sub Total	0	3	1	1	0	

Area 6 Land Parcel No 11 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		2	4	1	2	0	
3.Landscape Value	Designations		✓				There are some glimpses of this Parcel and its boundary vegetation from the Area of High Landscape Value to the east.
	Recreational and perceptual factors				✓		There is open public access to much of this Parcel and the remainder is used as paddocks.
	Sub Total	0	1	0	1	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		2	5	1	3	0	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the East Rotherham Limestone Plateau Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the presence of woodland and copses in the arable landscape, as well as incised river valleys. This Parcel is less representative of the Landscape Character Area, as it is not arable farmland, there are no woodland blocks and the Parcel is not associated with any incised valleys.

Settlements

North Anston is located to the south west of the Parcel, with Dinnington to the north. Although Dinnington and North Anston have historic cores the parts of the settlements closest to this Parcel are also of more modern origin. There are very few employment land uses in the vicinity.

Overall Sensitivity

There is open public access to much of this Parcel. The Parcel abuts the urban edge of Dinnington and provides recreational open space for surrounding residential areas. Development within this Parcel would need to relate to Dinnington. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium-low sensitivity**. There is some scope for development within the Parcel, but this could result in the loss of informal open space.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium-high

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-high	Medium-low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential site for residential development. There would appear to be some scope for small to medium scale development associated with the edge of Dinnington.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 6: Dinnington East and West

Land Parcel No = 12

Size = 33.47Ha

Landscape Character Area = East Rotherham Limestone Plateau

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 23/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis					✓	This Parcel slopes significantly down to the east.
	Vegetation enclosure			✓			There is a hedgerow with occasional gaps along Swinton Hill Road to the west of the Parcel. There is also a good hedgerow with occasional trees along Brand's Lane, a track and footpath to the north east of the Parcel. Bradshaw Wood forms the southern boundary of the Parcel. The eastern boundary of the Parcel is open and is not delineated on the ground.
	Complexity/ Scale	✓					The Parcel forms part of an extensive arable field.
	Condition			✓			The Parcel has moderate landscape character and is in moderate condition, with good hedgerows and woodland blocks on most boundaries.
	Sub Total	1	0	2	0	1	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view				✓		There is a bridleway through the Parcel and a footpath along the northern boundary with views into the Parcel. There are also some glimpsed views into the Parcel from Swinton Hill Road.
	Openness to private view		✓				There are glimpsed views into the Parcel from White Walls Farm and Lodge Farm to the north. There are also occasional glimpses from properties in Dinnington and North Anston to the south and west.
	Relationship with existing urban built form			✓			The western most corner of the parcel is adjacent to the edge of Dinnington.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation			✓			Development within this Parcel would extend the urban edge of Dinnington/North Anston towards Woodsetts.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development			✓			Any proposed development within this Parcel could be partially mitigated by increasing woodland cover to the east of the Parcel, in order to create some enclosure.
	Sub Total	0	1	3	1	0	

Area 6 Land Parcel No 12 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		1	1	5	1	1	
3.Landscape Value	Designations					✓	The eastern portion of this Parcel falls within an Area of High Landscape Value.
	Recreational and perceptual factors			✓			There is a bridleway through the Parcel and a footpath along the northern boundary with views into the Parcel.
	Sub Total	0	0	1	0	1	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		1	1	6	1	2	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the East Rotherham Limestone Plateau Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the presence of woodland and copses in the arable landscape, as well as incised river valleys. This Parcel is less representative of the Landscape Character Area, as although it is arable farmland, there are no woodland blocks, few hedgerows and the Parcel is not associated with any incised valleys.

Settlements

North Anston is located to the south west of the Parcel, at a distance, with Dinnington to the north west. Although Dinnington and North Anston have historic cores the parts of the settlements closest to this Parcel are also of more modern origin. Woodsetts is also located to the south east of the Parcel, at a distance. There are very few employment land uses in the vicinity.

Overall Sensitivity

This Parcel is large and would form a significant extension to the existing settlement of Dinnington. There are some public rights of way and areas of accessible land close to and through this Parcel, although the majority of the Parcel is a single arable field with no access. The Parcel abuts the urban edge of Dinnington in one corner. Development within this Parcel could be slightly related to Dinnington. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is scope for development within the Parcel, but this would extend Dinnington towards Woodsetts and into the Area of High Landscape Value.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites does not identify the Parcel as part of a potential site for development. There would appear to be some scope for small scale development, but this would be slightly isolated from existing settlement and would partly fall within an Area of High Landscape Value.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 6: Dinnington East and West

Land Parcel No = 13

Size = 72.40Ha

Landscape Character Area = East Rotherham Limestone Plateau

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 23/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis					✓	This Parcel slopes significantly down towards the south east.
	Vegetation enclosure				✓		There is a clipped hedgerow along the southern boundary of this Parcel, along Brand's Lane. There is also a tall hedgerow with occasional gaps along Lodge Lane to the north of the Parcel. The eastern boundary of the Parcel is formed by a track without any vegetation for much of its length, although there are some mature trees around Lodge Farm and an avenue of trees along the access track to the farm. Where the Parcel abuts the urban edge, to the west, there is little vegetation.
	Complexity/ Scale	✓					The Parcel is formed by one very large arable field.
	Condition		✓				The Parcel has moderate landscape character and is in poor condition, with very few hedgerows.
	Sub Total	1	1	0	1	1	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view				✓		There is a recreation ground to the west of the Parcel, which has open views into the Parcel. There are also bridleways to the south and south east of the Parcel.
	Openness to private view				✓		Housing along the western boundary of the Parcel has some views into the Parcel. There are also views from High Top House on the eastern boundary of the Parcel, although not from Lodge Farm.
	Relationship with existing urban built form			✓			The Parcel abuts the eastern edge of Dinnington, but would constitute a substantial extension to the existing urban area.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation			✓			Any proposed development within this Parcel would extend Dinnington towards Gildingwell, Letwell and Woodsetts.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development			✓			Any proposed development within this Parcel could be partially mitigated by increasing woodland cover to the north and east of the Parcel, in order to create enclosure.
	Sub Total	0	0	3	2	0	

Area 6 Land Parcel No 13 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		1	1	3	3	1	
3.Landscape Value	Designations					✓	The eastern portion of this Parcel falls within an Area of High Landscape Value.
	Recreational and perceptual factors		✓				There are bridleways on the edges of the Parcel and a recreation ground adjacent to it.
	Sub Total	0	1	0	0	1	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		1	2	3	3	2	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the East Rotherham Limestone Plateau Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the presence of woodland and copses in the arable landscape, as well as incised river valleys. This Parcel is less representative of the Landscape Character Area, as although it is arable farmland, there are no woodland blocks, few hedgerows and the Parcel is not associated with any incised valleys.

Settlements

North Anston is located to the south west of the Parcel, at a distance, with Dinnington to the west. Although Dinnington and North Anston have historic cores the parts of the settlements closest to this Parcel are also of more modern origin. Woodsetts is also located to the south east of the Parcel, at a distance, and Gildingwells to the east. There are very few employment land uses in the vicinity.

Overall Sensitivity

This Parcel is very large and would form a significant extension to the existing settlement of Dinnington that would be of a similar size to the existing settlement of North Anston. There are some public rights of way and areas of accessible land close to and through this Parcel, although the majority of the Parcel is a single arable field with no access. The Parcel abuts the urban edge of Dinnington. Development within this Parcel could be related to Dinnington. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is scope for development within the Parcel, but this would extend Dinnington towards Woodsetts and Gildingwells, and into the Area of High Landscape Value.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium	Medium	Medium-low
Employment – offices	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium	Medium-low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies much of the Parcel as a potential site for residential development. There would appear to be some scope for small to medium scale development, but this would be a very large extension to the existing settlement and would partly fall within an Area of High Landscape Value.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 6: Dinnington East and West

Land Parcel No = 14

Size = 33.47Ha

Landscape Character Area = East Rotherham Limestone Plateau

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 23/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis	✓					This Parcel is located on a plateau area on the edge of Dinnington.
	Vegetation enclosure			✓			The Parcel is open to the east, apart from a dilapidated bow top fence. There is a hedgerow along Lodge Lane to the north and a row of alders around the recreation ground in the southern part of the Parcel. There is also an area of scrub in the western part of the Parcel.
	Complexity/ Scale				✓		The Parcel comprises small scale plots of land. Part of the Parcel is a recreation ground that is also occasionally used by a fairground. There is a small park with children's play equipment in the north west corner of the Parcel. There is also a disused area of scrub in the western part of the Parcel.
	Condition		✓				The Parcel has moderate landscape character and is in poor condition, with fences in poor repair and disused areas.
Sub Total		1	1	1	1	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view					✓	There is public access throughout this Parcel.
	Openness to private view		✓				Some properties to the south of the Parcel have views into the Parcel, with some of these being only glimpses. There are also some views from High Top House to the east.
	Relationship with existing urban built form	✓					Development within this Parcel would form a natural extension to Dinnington. However, the Parcel does have some value as a recreational facility.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation	✓					The Parcel is already partially developed and would not significantly extend the urban edge of Dinnington.
	2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development		✓			
Sub Total		2	2	0	0	1	

Area 6 Land Parcel No 14 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		3	3	1	1	1	
3.Landscape Value	Designations			✓			There would be some intervisibility between this Parcel and the AHLV to the east of Dinnington.
	Recreational and perceptual factors				✓		The Parcel has a high recreational value, with recreational uses throughout, and has relative tranquility.
	Sub Total	0	0	1	1	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		3	3	2	2	1	

Commentary**Overall Landscape Quality**

This Parcel falls within the East Rotherham Limestone Plateau Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the presence of woodland and copses in the arable landscape, as well as incised river valleys. This Parcel is less representative of the Landscape Character Area, as it is not arable farmland, there are no woodland blocks and the Parcel is not associated with any incised valleys.

Settlements

Dinnington is located to the south and west of the Parcel, with North Anston beyond that to the south. Although Dinnington and North Anston have historic cores the parts of the settlements closest to this Parcel are also of more modern origin. There are very few employment land uses in the vicinity.

Overall Sensitivity

There is open public access to the majority of this Parcel. The Parcel abuts the urban edge of Dinnington and provides recreational open space for surrounding residential areas. Development within this Parcel would need to relate to Dinnington. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium-low sensitivity**. There is some scope for development within the Parcel, but this could result in the loss of open space and would be limited by the size of the Parcel.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium-high**Development Type Landscape Capacity**

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-high	Medium-low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel partly as a potential site for residential development and partly not to be developed. There would appear to be some scope for small scale development associated with the edge of Dinnington.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 6: Dinnington East and West

Land Parcel No = 15

Size = 11.41Ha

Landscape Character Area = East Rotherham Limestone Plateau

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 23/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis				✓		This Parcel gently slopes down to the north east.
	Vegetation enclosure		✓				The western part of the Parcel is predominantly scrub and young tree and shrub planting, with a tall hedgerow around it. There is a good hedgerow along the eastern boundary and a clipped hedgerow along Lodge Lane to the south. There is also a tall hedgerow along the northern boundary of the Parcel.
	Complexity/ Scale				✓		The Parcel is a mixture of small to medium sized plots. These include scrub areas, rear gardens, and rugby pitches with associated car park.
	Condition	✓					The Parcel has a weak landscape character, which is not consistent with the surrounding Landscape Character Area. It is also in poor condition, with hedgerows being removed and areas becoming overgrown.
	Sub Total	1	1	0	2	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view		✓				There are no rights of way through the Parcel. The Parcel is also relatively well enclosed, although there are some more distant glimpsed views. There are some glimpses of the rugby pitches from Lodge Lane to the south and Leys Lane to the north.
	Openness to private view		✓				There is a residential property within the Parcel, as well as glimpses into the Parcel from High Top House. Visitors to the Rugby Club also have views of the rugby pitches.
	Relationship with existing urban built form			✓			The Parcel is currently separated from the edge of Dinnington by roads. The part of the Parcel closest to Dinnington is also the most densely vegetated and therefore least suitable for development.

Area 6 Land Parcel No 15 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
	Safeguarding of settlement separation		✓				Any proposed development within this Parcel would slightly extend Dinnington towards Gildingwells and Letwell.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development		✓				Any proposed development within this Parcel could be mitigated to a certain extent by increasing enclosure by vegetation on the northern and eastern boundaries.
	Sub Total	0	4	1	0	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		2	5	1	1	0	
3.Landscape Value	Designations				✓		This Parcel is adjacent to an Area of High Landscape Value, which is located to the north and east of the Parcel.
	Recreational and perceptual factors			✓			A large proportion of the Parcel is currently used as a Rugby Club.
	Sub Total	0	0	1	1	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		2	5	2	2	0	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the East Rotherham Limestone Plateau Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the presence of woodland and copses in the arable landscape, as well as incised river valleys. This Parcel is less representative of the Landscape Character Area, as it is not arable farmland, there is only young scrubby woodland and the Parcel is not associated with any incised valleys.

Settlements

Dinnington is located to the south west of the Parcel, with North Anston beyond that. Although Dinnington and North Anston have historic cores the parts of the settlements closest to this Parcel are also of more modern origin. Gildingwells and Letwell are at a distance to the east. There are very few employment land uses in the vicinity.

Overall Sensitivity

A proportion of the Parcel is currently used as a Rugby Club. The Parcel abuts the urban edge of Dinnington in one corner and could be regarded as a private recreational open space. Development within this Parcel would need to relate to Dinnington. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium-low sensitivity**. There is some scope for development within the Parcel, but this would not be a natural extension of the settlement.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium-high

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-high	Medium-low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites does not identify the Parcel as part of a potential site for development. There would appear to be some scope for small scale development associated with the edge of Dinnington.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 6: Dinnington East and West

Land Parcel No = 16

Size = 12.79Ha

Landscape Character Area = East Rotherham Limestone Plateau

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 23/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis	✓					The Parcel is largely located on a man-made plateau area.
	Vegetation enclosure				✓		There are semi-mature trees between sports pitches within the Parcel and a small woodland block to the east of the Parcel. The remainder of the eastern boundary is largely open. The boundaries with the school that the pitches are associated with, to the south and west, are largely open. There is a poor hedgerow along the northern boundary.
	Complexity/ Scale				✓		The Parcel comprises sports pitches of Dinnington Comprehensive School. The pitches are used for football and rugby, and are of a small to medium scale.
	Condition		✓				The Parcel has a weak landscape character, which is not consistent with the surrounding Landscape Character Area. It is in moderate condition, with young planting and some hedgerows having been retained.
	Sub Total	1	1	0	2	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view				✓		There are views into the Parcel from the school to the south and west, from Doe Quarry Lane to the south and from Leys Lane to the east. There are also glimpses from Oldcotes Road to the north.
	Openness to private view			✓			Houses to the south of the Parcel have some views into the Parcel.
	Relationship with existing urban built form		✓				Development within this Parcel would link to residential properties to the south and the school to the west. Access into the Parcel would be difficult.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation		✓				Any proposed development within this Parcel would slightly extend the urban edge of Dinnington towards Letwell and Gildingwells.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development		✓				Any proposed development within this Parcel could be mitigated to a certain extent by increasing tree cover along the boundaries.
	Sub Total	0	3	1	1	0	

Area 6 Land Parcel No 16 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		1	4	1	3	0	
3.Landscape Value	Designations				✓		Any proposed development within this Parcel would have a relatively high visual impact on the Area of High Landscape Value to the north and east of the Parcel.
	Recreational and perceptual factors			✓			The Parcel is largely a sports pitch for the Comprehensive School, however, there is not general public access.
	Sub Total	0	0	1	1	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		1	4	2	4	0	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel falls within the East Rotherham Limestone Plateau Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the presence of woodland and copses in the arable landscape, as well as incised river valleys. This Parcel is less representative of the Landscape Character Area, as it is not arable farmland and the Parcel is not associated with any incised valleys.

Settlements

Dinnington is located to the south of the Parcel, with North Anston beyond that. Although Dinnington and North Anston have historic cores the parts of the settlements closest to this Parcel are also of more modern origin. Gildingwells and Letwell are at a distance to the east, and Laughton-en-le-Morthen is at a distance to the north west. There are very few employment land uses in the vicinity.

Overall Sensitivity

The Parcel is currently used as sports pitches for Dinnington Comprehensive School. The Parcel abuts the urban edge of Dinnington, as well as the school, and could be regarded as a private recreational open space. Development within this Parcel would relate to Dinnington. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is some scope for development within the Parcel, but this would not be a natural extension of the settlement.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites does not identify the Parcel as part of a potential site for development. There would appear to be some scope for small to medium scale development associated with the edge of Dinnington, should the school no longer require the pitches.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 6: Dinnington East and West

Land Parcel No = 17

Size = 38.93Ha

Landscape Character Area = East Rotherham Limestone Plateau

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 23/9/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis				✓		The Parcel is located on relatively gently sloping land, which slopes down to the east of the Parcel.
	Vegetation enclosure				✓		There is a gappy hedgerow along the eastern boundary of the Parcel. There is a wide verge and a scrubby hedgerow along the northern boundary of the Parcel, adjacent to Oldcotes Road. The boundaries with the Dinnington Comprehensive School sports pitches is poor, with a low clipped hedgerow on part of the boundary and a fence along another part. The western boundary is variable and partly shared with the rear gardens of residential properties.
	Complexity/ Scale		✓				The Parcel is a fairly large scale arable field.
	Condition		✓				The Parcel is moderately in character with the surrounding Landscape Character Area, but is in poor condition, with poor hedgerows.
	Sub Total	0	2	0	2	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view				✓		There are no public rights of way through the Parcel. The Parcel is open to public views from several of the surrounding minor roads.
	Openness to private view			✓			Houses adjacent to the north east corner of the Parcel overlook it. There are also some views from properties along Doe Quarry Lane to the south, over the Dinnington Comprehensive School sports pitches.
	Relationship with existing urban built form			✓			The Parcel abuts the existing urban area on its western boundary and very slightly on the southern boundary. The Dinnington Comprehensive School sports pitches would act as a barrier to any proposed development, which would be larger than the adjacent residential development.

Area 6 Land Parcel No 17 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
	Safeguarding of settlement separation			✓			Any proposed development within this Parcel would extend the urban edge of Dinnington towards Letwell, Gildingwells and Laughton-en-le-Morthen.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development		✓				Any proposed development within this Parcel could be mitigated to a certain extent by increasing tree and woodland cover along the boundaries and within the Parcel.
	Sub Total	0	1	3	1	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		0	3	3	3	0	
3.Landscape Value	Designations				✓		Any proposed development within this Parcel would have a relatively high visual impact on the adjacent Area of High Landscape Value to the north and east of the Parcel.
	Recreational and perceptual factors	✓					There are no rights of way through or close to this Parcel and no other recreational value.
	Sub Total	0	1	0	1	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		1	3	3	4	0	

Commentary**Overall Landscape Quality**

This Parcel falls within the East Rotherham Limestone Plateau Landscape Character Area, which is an area of moderate landscape sensitivity because of the presence of woodland and copses in the arable landscape, as well as incised river valleys. This Parcel is less representative of the Landscape Character Area, as it is not arable farmland, there is limited woodland and the Parcel is not associated with any incised valleys.

Settlements

Dinnington is located to the south west of the Parcel, with North Anston beyond that. Although Dinnington and North Anston have historic cores the parts of the settlements closest to this Parcel are also of more modern origin. Gildingwells and Letwell are at a distance to the east, and Laughton-en-le-Morthen is to the north west. There are very few employment land uses in the vicinity.

Overall Sensitivity

The Parcel is currently large scale arable farmland. The Parcel abuts the urban edge of Dinnington in two locations, but is largely separated from the settlement by the sports pitches of Dinnington Comprehensive School. Development within this Parcel would relate to Dinnington but would extend it slightly more towards Laughton-en-le-Morthen. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is some scope for development within the Parcel, but this would only be partially related to the existing settlement.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential site for residential development. There would appear to be some scope for small to medium scale development associated with the edge of Dinnington, although careful treatment of the edge of the development would be required.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 7: Thorpe Hesley

Land Parcel No = 1

Size = 8.03Ha

Landscape Character Area = Adjacent to Wentworth Parklands - Core

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 04/12/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis				✓		This Parcel is located on gently sloping land. The Parcel slopes down towards the north east corner of the Parcel.
	Vegetation enclosure		✓				The western boundary of the Parcel is open alongside Brook Hill, with no vegetation along it. The remainder of this boundary consists of vegetation and fence lines associated with the rear gardens of properties off Upper Wortley Road. There is a tall hedgerow with trees along the north east boundary of the Parcel and along a track that forms part of the south east boundary of the Parcel. The north west boundary of the Parcel is formed by the rear garden boundaries of properties on New Street in Thorpe Hesley. Clipped hedges form most of this boundary.
	Complexity/ Scale				✓		The Parcel is relatively small in scale and is formed from two separate areas joined by a narrow strip of land. It is predominantly a recreation ground or area of public open space in both the northern and southern sectors.
	Condition			✓			The Parcel is of Moderate character and condition. It is predominantly mown grass and scrub.
	Sub Total	0	1	1	2	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view					✓	There are public rights of way along the north east and south east boundaries of the Parcel. The remainder of the Parcel is generally open to public access.
	Openness to private view				✓		Several properties along Brook Hill, to the west of the Parcel, have open views into the Parcel. There are also views from the rear of properties along New Street to the north of the Parcel and from the rear of properties off Upper Wortley Road.

Area 7 Land Parcel No 1 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
	Relationship with existing urban built form		✓				Any proposed development within this Parcel would have a good relationship to existing properties within Thorpe Hesley. However, the Parcel does have some value as a recreational space.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation		✓				Development within this Parcel would have a slight impact on settlement separation. The urban area of Thorpe Hesley would extend very slightly towards Scholes.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development	✓					There is good existing vegetation to the east and south of this Parcel, as well as within the Parcel, which would help to mitigate any development.
	Sub Total	1	2	0	1	1	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		1	3	1	3	1	
3.Landscape Value	Designations		✓				Although there is not an Area of High Landscape Value in the immediate vicinity of the Parcel, there would be some limited intervisibility between any proposed development in this Parcel and the Wentworth Area of High Landscape Value to the east of the Parcel.
	Recreational and perceptual factors				✓		There is currently recreational access throughout this Parcel.
	Sub Total	0	1	0	1	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		1	4	1	4	1	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel is close to, but not within, the Wentworth Parklands – Core Landscape Character Area. It is an area of land that is not currently allocated as green belt and as such has been excluded from the Landscape Character Assessment. The Wentworth Parklands – Core Landscape Character Area is an area of high landscape sensitivity because of the intact historic landscape present. This Parcel would not be typical of the Landscape Character Area, as it is predominantly public open space.

Settlements

Thorpe Hesley is located to the north and west of the Parcel and the hamlet of Scholes is located to the east, at a distance. Both Thorpe Hesley and Scholes have Conservation Areas, with the whole village and surrounding fields allocated at Scholes and houses to the north of the Parcel allocated in Thorpe Hesley. Properties to the west of the Parcel are more modern in origin. There are very few employment land uses in the vicinity.

Overall Sensitivity

There is public access throughout this Parcel and other rights of way and accessible land close to the boundaries. The Parcel is a combination of formal and informal open space. The Parcel forms part of an area of land separating Thorpe Hesley and Scholes, with any development within this Parcel more related to Thorpe Hesley. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is scope for some development, which could relate to existing urban areas but would result in the loss of open space.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential mixed use development site. There would appear to be some scope for small scale residential development, but retention of open space uses may be more beneficial to local residents.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 7: Thorpe Hesley

Land Parcel No = 2

Size = 20.75Ha

Landscape Character Area = Adjacent to Wentworth Parklands - Core

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 04/12/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis					✓	This Parcel is located on prominent slopes overlooking Thorpe Hesley.
	Vegetation enclosure		✓				There are hawthorn hedgerows and belts of trees along the majority of the boundaries of this Parcel. There are also blocks of woodland and scrub in the northern part of the Parcel, and all but the western most field of the Parcel contain young tree planting as well.
	Complexity/ Scale			✓			The Parcel consists of small to medium scale fields of rough grassland and woodland/scrub. The fields are broken up by the routes of informal footpaths.
	Condition			✓			The Parcel is of moderate character and condition, with new tree planting present throughout.
	Sub Total	0	1	2	0	1	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view					✓	There are several public rights of way through this Parcel, as well as numerous permissive routes and informal access throughout the Parcel.
	Openness to private view					✓	Many properties within Thorpe Hesley have views of at least parts of this Parcel.
	Relationship with existing urban built form		✓				Any proposed development within this Parcel would relate well to existing properties in Thorpe Hesley. The size of the Parcel would allow a development that would be a substantial extension to Thorpe Hesley.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation			✓			Development within this Parcel would encroach on the separation between Thorpe Hesley and Scholes.
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development				✓		Given the sloping nature of the Parcel, mitigation of any proposed development would be difficult in views from Thorpe Hesley.
	Sub Total	0	1	1	1	2	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		0	2	3	1	3	

Area 7 Land Parcel No 2 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
3.Landscape Value	Designations			✓			There is likely to be some intervisibility between any proposed development within this Parcel and the Wentworth Area of High Landscape Value to the east of the Parcel.
	Recreational and perceptual factors				✓		There is currently recreational access throughout this Parcel.
	Sub Total	0	0	1	1	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		0	2	4	2	3	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel is close to, but not within, the Wentworth Parklands – Core Landscape Character Area. It is an area of land that is not currently allocated as green belt and as such has been excluded from the Landscape Character Assessment. The Wentworth Parklands – Core Landscape Character Area is an area of high landscape sensitivity because of the intact historic landscape present. This Parcel would be more typical of the Landscape Character Area, as it contains woodland, but the woodland is relatively young.

Settlements

Thorpe Hesley is located to the north and west of the Parcel and the hamlet of Scholes is located to the south east, at a distance. Both Thorpe Hesley and Scholes have Conservation Areas, with the whole village and surrounding fields allocated at Scholes and houses to the north west of the Parcel allocated in Thorpe Hesley. Properties to the west of the Parcel are more modern in origin. There are very few employment land uses in the vicinity.

Overall Sensitivity

There is public access through much of this Parcel and other rights of way and accessible land close to the boundaries. The Parcel is a combination of informal open space and woodland. The Parcel forms part of an area of land separating Thorpe Hesley and Scholes, with any development within this Parcel more related to Thorpe Hesley. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is scope for some development, which could relate to existing urban areas but would result in the loss of open space.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential mixed use development site. There would appear to be some scope for small scale residential development, but larger scale development would reduce the separation between Thorpe Hesley and Scholes.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 7: Thorpe Hesley

Land Parcel No = 3

Size = 2.19Ha

Landscape Character Area = Adjacent to Wentworth Parklands - Core

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 04/12/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis				✓		The landform within this Parcel slopes gently to the south east, away from Thorpe Hesley.
	Vegetation enclosure		✓				The Parcel is well enclosed by existing vegetation, with tall hedgerows and tree belts located on all boundaries except the frontage onto Wentworth Road to the north of the Parcel. There are also additional tall hedgerows within the Parcel.
	Complexity/ Scale				✓		The Parcel comprises of a number of small to medium sized fields, which are predominantly used as pony paddocks.
	Condition		✓				The character of this Parcel is relatively weak but the condition is moderate. It is not typical of the wider Wentworth parklands Landscape Character Area.
	Sub Total	0	2	0	2	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view			✓			There are some views into this Parcel from Wentworth Road to the north and from higher ground with public access to the south.
	Openness to private view		✓				Views from private properties into the Parcel are more limited, due to the extensive vegetation on most boundaries. There may be some glimpses from properties along Wentworth Road and to the west of the Parcel.
	Relationship with existing urban built form	✓					The Parcel has a strong relationship to the existing urban area of Thorpe Hesley and already has some development along its northern boundary. The southern boundary of the Parcel would continue the southern boundary of Thorpe Hesley.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation		✓				Development within this parcel would extend Thorpe Hesley towards Scholes slightly, although this would be in keeping with the existing form of the settlement and any development would be enclosed by existing vegetation.

Area 7 Land Parcel No 3 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development	✓					There would be good scope to mitigate any proposed development within this Parcel, as existing boundary vegetation is already good.
	Sub Total	2	2	1	0	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		2	4	1	2	0	
3.Landscape Value	Designations		✓				There would be some limited intervisibility between any proposed development in this Parcel and the Wentworth Area of High Landscape Value to the east of the Parcel.
	Recreational and perceptual factors			✓			There is limited public recreational access to this Parcel, but the Parcel is used as paddocks.
	Sub Total	0	1	1	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		2	5	2	2	0	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel is close to, but not within, the Wentworth Parklands – Core Landscape Character Area. It is an area of land that is not currently allocated as green belt and as such has been excluded from the Landscape Character Assessment. The Wentworth Parklands – Core Landscape Character Area is an area of high landscape sensitivity because of the intact historic landscape present. This Parcel would not be typical of the Landscape Character Area, as it is small scale paddocks.

Settlements

Thorpe Hesley is located to the north and west of the Parcel and the hamlet of Scholes is located to the south east, at a distance. Both Thorpe Hesley and Scholes have Conservation Areas, with the whole village and surrounding fields allocated at Scholes and houses at the centre of the village allocated in Thorpe Hesley. Properties to the north and west of the Parcel are more modern in origin. There are very few employment land uses in the vicinity.

Overall Sensitivity

There is no public access through this Parcel but there is accessible land close to the boundaries. The Parcel is a combination of paddocks and hedgerows/tree belts. The Parcel is an enclosed, undeveloped area of land on the edge of Thorpe Hesley, with any development in this Parcel likely to join the edge of Thorpe Hesley to a group of properties beyond the eastern boundary of the settlement. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium-low sensitivity**. There is scope for some development, which would be relatively enclosed and have minimal impact on surrounding designations and settlement separation.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium-high

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-high	Low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential residential development site. There would appear to be some scope for small scale residential development, but this would be limited by the size of the Parcel.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 7: Thorpe Hesley

Land Parcel No = 4

Size = 11.29Ha

Landscape Character Area = Adjacent to Wentworth Parklands - Core

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 04/12/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis					✓	This Parcel is located on a localized ridgeline and slopes down to the east and to the west. There are also undulations within the Parcel.
	Vegetation enclosure			✓			There are tall hedgerows along most of the northern and southern boundaries of this Parcel. These have become over mature in places and allow some views through them, whilst other lengths of these boundaries are entirely open. There is also a tall hedgerow or tree belt along a track on the western boundary of the Parcel and a scrubby area of trees to the east.
	Complexity/ Scale		✓				The Parcel consists of medium to large scale arable fields.
	Condition			✓			The Parcel is of Moderate character and condition. It is predominantly arable farmland but does have hedgerows of varying quality along its boundaries.
	Sub Total		0	1	2	0	1
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view			✓			There are very few views into this Parcel from surrounding roads. There is a bridleway through the Parcel and public footpaths to the east and west.
	Openness to private view		✓				There are relatively few private properties that would have views into this Parcel. There are some properties to the south, along Upper Wortley Road, that may have glimpses into the Parcel and there will be occasional more distant views from Thorpe Hesley.
	Relationship with existing urban built form				✓		Although development within this Parcel would abut residential properties off Upper Wortley Road, any proposed development would be largely isolated from existing urban areas.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation			✓			Development within this Parcel would encroach on the separation between Thorpe Hesley and Scholes, as well as the separation between Thorpe Hesley and the residential area at Keppel's Column.

Area 7 Land Parcel No 4 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development			✓			There are currently good field margins and some hedgerows associated with this Parcel. These could be used as a starting point for mitigating any proposed development.
	Sub Total	0	1	3	1	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		0	2	5	1	1	
3.Landscape Value	Designations		✓				There would be some limited intervisibility between any proposed development in this Parcel and the Wentworth Area of High Landscape Value to the east of the Parcel.
	Recreational and perceptual factors		✓				There are rights of way within and adjacent to the Parcel but limited other recreational value.
	Sub Total	0	2	0	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		0	4	5	1	1	

Commentary**Overall Landscape Quality**

This Parcel is close to, but not within, the Wentworth Parklands – Core Landscape Character Area. It is an area of land that is not currently allocated as green belt and as such has been excluded from the Landscape Character Assessment. The Wentworth Parklands – Core Landscape Character Area is an area of high landscape sensitivity because of the intact historic landscape present. This Parcel would be more typical of the Landscape Character Area, as it contains arable farmland divided by hedgerows.

Settlements

Thorpe Hesley is located to the north and north west of the Parcel and the hamlet of Scholes is located to the east, at a distance. Both Thorpe Hesley and Scholes have Conservation Areas, with the whole village and surrounding fields allocated at Scholes and houses to the north west of the Parcel allocated in Thorpe Hesley. Properties to the west of the Parcel are more modern in origin. There are very few employment land uses in the vicinity.

Overall Sensitivity

There is public access through some of this Parcel and other rights of way and accessible land close to the boundaries. The Parcel is arable farmland with rights of way through it. The Parcel forms part of an area of land separating Thorpe Hesley and Scholes, with any development within this Parcel more related to Thorpe Hesley, although separated from the urban edge by open space. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is scope for some development, which could relate to existing urban areas but would reduce separation between Thorpe Hesley and Scholes.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential mixed use development site. There would appear to be some scope for small scale residential development, but larger scale development would reduce the separation between Thorpe Hesley and Scholes.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 7: Thorpe Hesley

Land Parcel No = 5

Size = 12.56Ha

Landscape Character Area = Adjacent to Wentworth Parklands - Core

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 04/12/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis					✓	This Parcel is located on a localized ridgeline and slopes down to the east and to the west. There are also undulations within the Parcel.
	Vegetation enclosure		✓				There are tall hedgerows along most of the northern and southern boundaries of this Parcel. These have become over mature in places and allow some views through them, whilst other lengths of these boundaries are entirely open. There is a scrubby woodland area towards the middle of the southern boundary of the Parcel. The eastern boundary of the Parcel is not defined on the ground.
	Complexity/ Scale			✓			The Parcel consists of medium scale arable fields, set-a-side land and small woodland blocks.
	Condition		✓				The Parcel is of Moderate character but in poor condition. It is predominantly arable farmland but also has set-a-side land and areas subject to fly tipping.
	Sub Total	0	2	1	0	1	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view				✓		There are public rights of way along the northern and western boundaries of the Parcel, as well as running north-south through the middle of it. There are also some views into the Parcel from surrounding roads.
	Openness to private view			✓			There are some slightly distant views into the Parcel from Thorpe Hesley to the north and Scholes to the east. There are no properties that have close views of the Parcel.
	Relationship with existing urban built form					✓	Any development within this Parcel would be isolated from any existing urban areas.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation				✓		Development within this Parcel would significantly reduce the separation between Thorpe Hesley and Scholes.

Area 7 Land Parcel No 5 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development				✓		The elevation of this Parcel and its visibility from surrounding settlement would reduce the ability to mitigate the impacts of any development in the short to medium term.
	Sub Total	0	0	1	3	1	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		0	2	2	3	2	
3.Landscape Value	Designations			✓			There is likely to be some intervisibility between any proposed development within this Parcel and the Wentworth Area of High Landscape Value to the east of the Parcel.
	Recreational and perceptual factors			✓			There are a number of public rights of way through this Parcel, giving it a level of recreational value.
	Sub Total	0	0	2	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		0	2	4	3	2	

Commentary**Overall Landscape Quality**

This Parcel is close to, but not within, the Wentworth Parklands – Core Landscape Character Area. It is an area of land that is not currently allocated as green belt and as such has been excluded from the Landscape Character Assessment. The Wentworth Parklands – Core Landscape Character Area is an area of high landscape sensitivity because of the intact historic landscape present. This Parcel would be more typical of the Landscape Character Area, as it contains woodland and arable farmland.

Settlements

Thorpe Hesley is located to the north and west of the Parcel and the hamlet of Scholes is located to the east, at a distance. Both Thorpe Hesley and Scholes have Conservation Areas, with the whole village and surrounding fields allocated at Scholes and houses to the north west of the Parcel allocated in Thorpe Hesley. Properties to the west of the Parcel are more modern in origin. There are very few employment land uses in the vicinity.

Overall Sensitivity

There is some public access through this Parcel and other rights of way and accessible land close to the boundaries. The Parcel is predominantly arable land with small woodland blocks. The Parcel forms part of an area of land separating Thorpe Hesley and Scholes, with any development within this Parcel slightly isolated from both settlements. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium sensitivity**. There is scope for some development, which be slightly isolated from existing urban areas and would result in the loss of open space.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium	Medium-low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential mixed use development site. There would appear to be some scope for small scale residential development, but larger scale development would reduce the separation between Thorpe Hesley and Scholes.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 7: Thorpe Hesley

Land Parcel No = 6

Size = 13.63Ha

Landscape Character Area = Adjacent to Wentworth Parklands - Core

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 04/12/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis					✓	This Parcel is located on a prominent slope that faces towards Thorpe Hesley. The Parcel slopes down to the north.
	Vegetation enclosure			✓			There is a hedgerow with mature trees and a woodland block along the northern boundary of the Parcel. There is also a hedgerow with mature trees along the southern and eastern boundaries of the Parcel. There is a gap in the hedgerow in the north east corner of the Parcel. The western boundary has a hedgerow for a short section and then becomes more open, with a transition between arable land and rough grass with tree planting forming the boundary.
	Complexity/ Scale		✓				The Parcel comprises medium to large scale arable fields.
	Condition			✓			The Parcel is of moderate character and condition. The hedgerows are well maintained and there is young tree planting adjacent to the Parcel.
	Sub Total	0	1	2	0	1	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view		✓				The Parcel is generally well contained from public views. There are public rights of way along the northern and part of the western boundaries, as well as informally accessible land to the west. There are few views from the surrounding roads.
	Openness to private view			✓			There are some slightly distant views into the Parcel from Thorpe Hesley to the north and Scholes to the east. There are no properties that have close views of the Parcel.
	Relationship with existing urban built form					✓	Any development within this Parcel would be isolated from any existing urban areas.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation				✓		Development within this Parcel would significantly reduce the separation between Thorpe Hesley and Scholes.

Area 7 Land Parcel No 6 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development				✓		The elevation of this Parcel and its visibility from surrounding settlement would reduce the ability to mitigate the impacts of any development in the short to medium term.
	Sub Total	0	1	1	2	1	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		0	2	3	2	2	
3.Landscape Value	Designations				✓		Any proposed development within this Parcel would be located adjacent to the Wentworth Area of High Landscape Value.
	Recreational and perceptual factors		✓				There are rights of way within and adjacent to the Parcel but limited other recreational value.
	Sub Total	0	1	0	1	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		0	3	3	3	2	

Commentary

Overall Landscape Quality

This Parcel is close to, but not within, the Wentworth Parklands – Core Landscape Character Area. It is an area of land that is not currently allocated as green belt and as such has been excluded from the Landscape Character Assessment. The Wentworth Parklands – Core Landscape Character Area is an area of high landscape sensitivity because of the intact historic landscape present. This Parcel would be more typical of the Landscape Character Area, as it contains arable farmland and is adjacent to woodland belts.

Settlements

Thorpe Hesley is located to the north west of the Parcel and the hamlet of Scholes is located to the south east, at a distance. Both Thorpe Hesley and Scholes have Conservation Areas, with the whole village and surrounding fields allocated at Scholes and houses to the north west of the Parcel allocated in Thorpe Hesley. Properties to the west of the Parcel are more modern in origin. There are very few employment land uses in the vicinity.

Overall Sensitivity

There are public rights of way through some of the Parcel and accessible land close to the boundaries. The Parcel is predominantly arable farmland. The Parcel forms part of an area of land separating Thorpe Hesley and Scholes, with any development within this Parcel slightly isolated from both settlements. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium-high sensitivity**. There is limited scope for development, which would be isolated and impact on surrounding designations.

Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium-low

Development Type Landscape Capacity

Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment – offices	Low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as a potential mixed use development site. There would appear to be limited scope for small scale residential development, with larger scale development likely to reduce the separation between Thorpe Hesley and Scholes, as well as impact on designated sites.

Rotherham MBC Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity - Land Parcel Profile

Potential Urban Extension Area – Area 7: Thorpe Hesley

Land Parcel No = 7

Size = 3.42Ha

Landscape Character Area = Adjacent to Wentworth Parklands - Core

Surveyors = RS/MR

Date surveyed = 04/12/09

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
1.Landscape Character Features	Slope analysis				✓		The landform within this Parcel slopes gently to the north east, away from Thorpe Hesley.
	Vegetation enclosure		✓				There is a hedgerow along Wentworth Road forming the northern boundary of the Parcel. There is also a hedgerow along parts of the eastern boundary, although the remaining length of this boundary is open. There is scrubby vegetation along the south west boundary and a substantial woodland block through the centre of the Parcel.
	Complexity/ Scale				✓		The Parcel is made up of relatively small scale areas of paddock and woodland.
	Condition		✓				The character of this Parcel is relatively weak but the condition is moderate. It is not typical of the wider Wentworth Parklands Landscape Character Area.
	Sub Total	0	2	0	2	0	
2a.Visual Factors	Openness to public view		✓				There are no rights of way through the Parcel, although there is a bridleway to the west. There are only occasional glimpsed views from Wentworth Road into the Parcel.
	Openness to private view	✓					There are no properties within the vicinity of the Parcel that would have views into it. Any properties close to the Parcel do not have views in the direction of the Parcel.
	Relationship with existing urban built form		✓				The Parcel fronts onto Wentworth Road and any development within the Parcel could therefore relate to the residential areas of Thorpe Hesley to the north of Wentworth Road.
	Safeguarding of settlement separation		✓				Development within this parcel would extend Thorpe Hesley towards Scholes slightly, although this would be in keeping with the existing form of the settlement and any development would be enclosed by existing vegetation.

Area 7 Land Parcel No 7 (cont.)

Criteria Group	Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	Comments
2b.Potential Landscape Features	Scope to mitigate development		✓				There would be good scope to mitigate any proposed development within this Parcel, as existing boundary vegetation is already good. However, some of the vegetation would need to be removed for development to occur within the Parcel.
	Sub Total	1	4	0	0	0	
Landscape Sensitivity Profile (1+2a & 2b)		1	6	0	2	0	
3.Landscape Value	Designations		✓				There would be some limited intervisibility between any proposed development in this Parcel and the Wentworth Area of High Landscape Value to the east of the Parcel.
	Recreational and perceptual factors			✓			There is limited public recreational access to this Parcel, but the Parcel is used as paddocks.
	Sub Total	0	1	1	0	0	
Overall Capacity Profile (1+2a, 2b & 3)		1	7	1	2	0	

Commentary**Overall Landscape Quality**

This Parcel is close to, but not within, the Wentworth Parklands – Core Landscape Character Area. It is an area of land that is not currently allocated as green belt and as such has been excluded from the Landscape Character Assessment. The Wentworth Parklands – Core Landscape Character Area is an area of high landscape sensitivity because of the intact historic landscape present. This Parcel would not be typical of the Landscape Character Area, as it is small scale and contains pasture, although there is woodland present.

Settlements

Thorpe Hesley is located to the north and west of the Parcel and the hamlet of Scholes is located to the south east, at a distance. Both Thorpe Hesley and Scholes have Conservation Areas, with the whole village and surrounding fields allocated at Scholes and houses to the north west of the Parcel allocated in Thorpe Hesley. Properties to the west of the Parcel are more modern in origin. There are very few employment land uses in the vicinity.

Overall Sensitivity

There is no public access through this Parcel but there is accessible land close to the boundaries. The Parcel is a combination of paddocks and woodland blocks. The Parcel is an enclosed, undeveloped area of land on the edge of Thorpe Hesley, with any development in this Parcel more related to Thorpe Hesley than Scholes to the south east. Overall this is considered to be an area of **medium-low sensitivity**. There is scope for some development, which would be relatively enclosed and have minimal impact on surrounding designations and settlement separation.

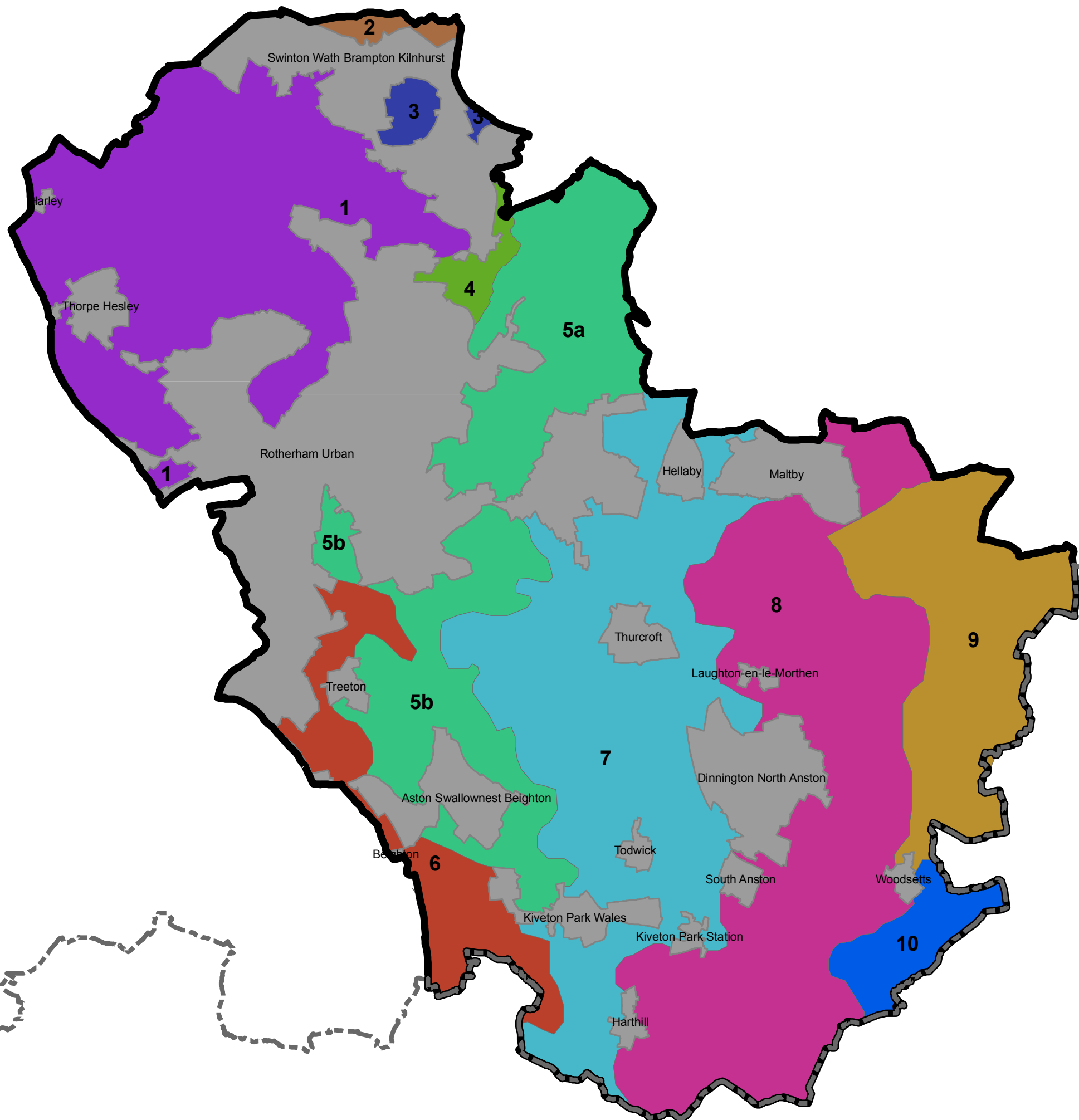
Overall Landscape Capacity = Medium-high

Development Type Landscape Capacity




Development Type	Scale		
	Small	Medium	Large
Residential	Medium-high	Low	Low
Employment – offices	Medium-low	Low	Low
Employment - warehouse	Medium-low	Low	Low

NB. The LDF database of potential sites identifies the Parcel as part of a potential mixed use development site, as well as part of a candidate wildlife site. There would appear to be some scope for small scale residential development, but this would be limited by the size of the Parcel.

Appendix C



Key

-  South Yorkshire Region Boundary
-  Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
-  Settlement

Rotherham Landscape Character Areas

-  1. Wentworth Estates
-  2. Dearne Valley Floor
-  3. Wath and Swinton Coalfield Farmlands
-  4. Don Valley North
-  5. Thrybergh and Treeton Tributary Valleys
-  6. Rother Valley
-  7. Thurcroft Plains
-  8. Dinnington Limestone Plateau
-  9. Sandbeck Estates
-  10. River Ryton Limestone Farmlands

Rotherham MBC B09024
Landscape Character and Capacity Study

Drawing 09024/01

Draft Landscape Character Areas

Scale NTS

September 2009



Drawn: RS

Checked: PW



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Rotherham Landscape Character Assessment – Stakeholder Consultation Form

Name.....Date

Organisation.....Tel.....Email.....

Please complete the sections in the questionnaire that are of interest to you and return by Monday 28 September 2009 to: **The Landscape Partnership, Greenwood House, 15a St Cuthbert’s Street, Bedford, MK40 3JG**
Tel:01234 261315, email: ruth.sismey@bedford.tlp.uk.com

Introduction

Each part of England is different; it has a particular sense of place. Landscape Character Assessment is an established and systematic method of identifying the local characteristics of an area and proposing ways that local distinctiveness can be reinforced and managed to maintain or improve diversity and quality within the landscape. Over recent years the Landscape Character Assessment approach has been used throughout much of England to provide planning guidance through a consistent framework. A study has been commissioned by Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council to provide a Landscape Character Assessment of the rural part of the authority to provide part of the evidence base for the emerging Local Development Framework.

The initial aim of the study is to build up a picture of the local landscape within a geographical framework of landscape character areas. Following initial work by the Council’s consultants (The Landscape Partnership) Draft landscape character areas have been proposed for the rural areas of the authority. Defining these areas has involved a combination of desk study (covering aspects such as geology, soils, land use, ecology and historic environment) and field work (to test the desk study and also to identify other important visual, perceptual and aesthetic characteristics).

The attached sheets and plan have been produced at this interim stage in the development of the Landscape Character Assessment for Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council, when the views of a wide range of Stakeholders are sought. We would value any comments or information that you have to guide the development of the Landscape Character Assessment descriptions and to thereby enrich the study. We appreciate that there is wealth of information available through local stakeholders. Please feel free to add comments to reflect your local and detailed knowledge of the areas.

The value of the landscape to the local population is an important aspect of the study. We would therefore like to know what you value about the rural landscape near to you, why you value it and which parts of it you value most. The findings will provide direct input to the study, which should be completed in October 2009. The general questions on the following pages give you the opportunity to contribute to protecting and enhancing the authority’s landscape. The assessment covers the following types of features and aspects.

- | | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| WOODLAND | PEACE AND TRANQUILLITY | VIEWS |
| PARKS AND GARDENS | FIELDS AND HEDGEROWS | LOCAL LANDMARKS |
| RECREATION | HISTORIC FEATURES | HISTORIC ASSOCIATIONS |
| RIVERS AND STREAMS | BIODIVERSITY | SPACE AND SKY |
| WETLAND AREAS | ECOLOGICAL CORRIDOR | FOOTPATHS & RIGHTS OF WAY |

Question 8 for each landscape character area also provides the opportunity to provide a measure of value to each character area within the context of the wider Rotherham environment. For the purposes of this study a 5 point scale has been used as follows: Significantly below average, below average, average, above average & significantly above average. Please indicate a value for the character area as a whole rather than reflecting any single features within it and if possible give reasons for the value you have given.

Where there is insufficient space on the sheets please provide additional comments on additional paper.

General Questions

Draft Landscape Character Areas

G1. With reference to the attached Landscape Character Area map do you think that the main landscape areas have been correctly identified within the study area? Are there any more areas or potential sub divisions? (NB It should be noted that the boundaries between character areas may sometimes be reasonably clear whereas in other locations they may be a zone of more gradual transition).

Specific Places in Rotherham Metropolitan Borough

G2. Using the blank map provided, could you please draw boundaries around any distinctive areas of landscape that you know. These areas may be as large or small as you like and do not need to be precise. They may include hills, rivers, woodland, etc.

PLEASE ANSWER QUESTIONS G3 AND G4 IF YOU HAVE IDENTIFIED ANY DISTINCTIVE AREAS OF LANDSCAPE. IF NOT THEN PLEASE GO TO G5

G3. We are interested in finding out what names people give to different areas of landscape in their local area. Looking at the areas you have drawn around on the map, could you please write in below the names by which you know them. It would be very useful if you could mark letters in the areas you have marked on the map so that we know which name refers to each area. Don't worry if you do not know the names of each area – simply write in any names that you may know and move on to the next question.

<i>Area</i>	<i>Name of area</i>
A	
B	
C	
D	

PLEASE USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS OF PAPER IF YOU WISH TO CONTINUE

G4. In general, do you feel that the areas of landscape you have marked on the map have improved, become worse or stayed about the same over the last five years?

PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY

- | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Have improved | <input type="checkbox"/> | Have stayed about the same | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Have become worse | <input type="checkbox"/> | Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> |

What are the reasons for your opinion?

Favourite Landscape Area in Rotherham Metropolitan Borough

G5. Now thinking about Rotherham Metropolitan Borough as a whole, including the urban areas do you have one particular favourite landscape area or location, or not?

PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Yes, one particular favourite area/location | <input type="checkbox"/> | No, don't like any area/location | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| No, like lots of areas/locations equally | <input type="checkbox"/> | Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> |

ANSWER IF HAVE FAVOURITE AREA/LOCATION

IF HAVE NO FAVOURITE AREA/LOCATION THEN PLEASE GO TO G8

G6. What is the name of this area or location?

PLEASE WRITE IN THE NAME THAT YOU USE FOR THIS AREA/LOCATION

G7. What, if anything, do you particularly like about your favourite area or location?

PLEASE TICK ALL THAT APPLY

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| The views in/from the area | <input type="checkbox"/> | The facilities/amenities in the area | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The area is picturesque | <input type="checkbox"/> | (PLEASE WRITE IN TYPES OF FACILITIES) | |
| The area is peaceful/tranquil | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| The area is easy to get to | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (PLEASE TICK BOX AND WRITE IN) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The wildlife of the area | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| The history/heritage of the area | <input type="checkbox"/> | Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> |

G8. Again looking at the map, what, if any, local customs, historic events or cultural/arts associations are you aware of within the borough? PLEASE WRITE IN

G9. Can you think of any ways that the rural landscape within the Borough could be managed to protect or enhance its local character? PLEASE WRITE IN

1. Character Area 1 – Wentworth Estates

Key Characteristics

- Gently undulating landscape with large woodland blocks
- Heavily influenced by Wentworth Estate
- Predominantly large scale arable fields
- Many sunken roads with wide verges
- Larger settlements outside of Character Area appear on high ground/ridges
- Apparent absence of mining influence

Distinctive Features

- Wentworth Woodhouse and associated deer park
- Hooper Stand
- Kepple's Column
- Wentworth Church (new)
- Thorpe Hesley Church
- West Melton Electricity Substation

1. Do you have any comments on the suggested boundaries or name of the area?

2. Do you have any comments on the key characteristics identified for the area? (mark list above or add below)

3. Do you consider that there are any other important distinctive features in the area? (mark list above or add below)

4. What are the important natural features of the area? (including, hydrology, geology & wildlife)

5. What are the important cultural/historic features of the area? (including, field patterns, people & places)

6. What are the main recreational and accessibility features of the area? Are there any gaps?

7. What are the important perceptual or aesthetic factors of the area (e.g. visual impact of development, tranquillity, noise)

8. What relative value would you give the specific character area in the context of all the surrounding landscape around Rotherham? (Circle one)
 Significantly below average Below average Average Above average Significantly above average
 What aspects contribute to the value you have given?

9. What do you think have been the main changes in the landscape character area in recent years and what forces for change do you anticipate in the future?

10. What specific guidelines would you suggest to guide the management/enhancement and or development of the area?

2. Character Area 2 – Dearne Valley Floor

Key Characteristics

- Reclaimed landscape
- Large waterbodies
- Young woodland
- Recreation based
- Flat landform
- Heavily influenced by built development

Distinctive Features

- Dearne Valley
- Manvers Lake

1. Do you have any comments on the suggested boundaries or name of the area?

2. Do you have any comments on the key characteristics identified for the area? (mark list above or add below)

3. Do you consider that there are any other important distinctive features in the area? (mark list above or add below)

4. What are the important natural features of the area? (including, hydrology, geology & wildlife)

5. What are the important cultural/historic features of the area? (including, field patterns, people & places)

6. What are the main recreational and accessibility features of the area? Are there any gaps?

7. What are the important perceptual or aesthetic factors of the area (e.g. visual impact of development, tranquillity, noise)

8. What relative value would you give the specific character area in the context of all the surrounding landscape around Rotherham? (Circle one)
 Significantly below average Below average Average Above average Significantly above average
 What aspects contribute to the value you have given?

9. What do you think have been the main changes in the landscape character area in recent years and what forces for change do you anticipate in the future?

10. What specific guidelines would you suggest to guide the management/enhancement and or development of the area?

3. Character Area 3 – Wath and Swinton Coalfield Farmlands

Key Characteristics

- Predominantly arable farmland
- Allotments and other open space secondary landuse
- Heavily influenced by urban areas and transport corridors
- Poor hedgerows
- Gently sloping landform

Distinctive Features

- Disused racecourse
- Disused railway lines

1. Do you have any comments on the suggested boundaries or name of the area?

2. Do you have any comments on the key characteristics identified for the area? (mark list above or add below)

3. Do you consider that there are any other important distinctive features in the area? (mark list above or add below)

4. What are the important natural features of the area? (including, hydrology, geology & wildlife)

5. What are the important cultural/historic features of the area? (including, field patterns, people & places)

6. What are the main recreational and accessibility features of the area? Are there any gaps?

7. What are the important perceptual or aesthetic factors of the area (e.g. visual impact of development, tranquillity, noise)

8. What relative value would you give the specific character area in the context of all the surrounding landscape around Rotherham? (Circle one)
 Significantly below average Below average Average Above average Significantly above average
 What aspects contribute to the value you have given?

9. What do you think have been the main changes in the landscape character area in recent years and what forces for change do you anticipate in the future?

10. What specific guidelines would you suggest to guide the management/enhancement and or development of the area?

4. Character Area 4 – Don Valley North

Key Characteristics

- Small section of a longer, more urbanised corridor
- Meandering mainly naturalistic channel of River Don
- Canalised and engineered channel of Kilnhurst Cut
- Flat, broad valley floor
- Large areas of flood meadow
- Extensive areas of disturbed land/former works

Distinctive Features

- River Don
- Kilnhurst Bridge
- Kilnhurst Ings Local Wildlife Site

1. Do you have any comments on the suggested boundaries or name of the area?

2. Do you have any comments on the key characteristics identified for the area? (mark list above or add below)

3. Do you consider that there are any other important distinctive features in the area? (mark list above or add below)

4. What are the important natural features of the area? (including, hydrology, geology & wildlife)

5. What are the important cultural/historic features of the area? (including, field patterns, people & places)

6. What are the main recreational and accessibility features of the area? Are there any gaps?

7. What are the important perceptual or aesthetic factors of the area (e.g. visual impact of development, tranquillity, noise)

8. What relative value would you give the specific character area in the context of all the surrounding landscape around Rotherham? (Circle one)
 Significantly below average Below average Average Above average Significantly above average
 What aspects contribute to the value you have given?

9. What do you think have been the main changes in the landscape character area in recent years and what forces for change do you anticipate in the future?

10. What specific guidelines would you suggest to guide the management/enhancement and or development of the area?

5. Character Area 5 – Thrybergh and Treeton Tributary Valleys

Key Characteristics

- Predominantly treed arable farmland with fragmented woodland blocks
- Undulating landform with narrow valleys to the north and wide valleys to the south
- Large reservoirs found within the valleys
- Settlement on surrounding higher ground very visually prominent

Distinctive Features

- Thrybergh Reservoir and Country Park
- Ulley Reservoir and Country Park
- Ravenfield Park
- Hooten Roberts Church and Mill Buildings
- Treeton Wood

1. Do you have any comments on the suggested boundaries or name of the area?
2. Do you have any comments on the key characteristics identified for the area? (mark list above or add below)
3. Do you consider that there are any other important distinctive features in the area? (mark list above or add below)
4. What are the important natural features of the area? (including, hydrology, geology & wildlife)
5. What are the important cultural/historic features of the area? (including, field patterns, people & places)
6. What are the main recreational and accessibility features of the area? Are there any gaps?
7. What are the important perceptual or aesthetic factors of the area (e.g. visual impact of development, tranquillity, noise)
8. What relative value would you give the specific character area in the context of all the surrounding landscape around Rotherham? (Circle one)
Significantly below average Below average Average Above average Significantly above average
What aspects contribute to the value you have given?
9. What do you think have been the main changes in the landscape character area in recent years and what forces for change do you anticipate in the future?
10. What specific guidelines would you suggest to guide the management/enhancement and or development of the area?

6. Character Area 6 – Rother Valley

Key Characteristics

- Broad, flat valley bottom
- Meandering course of River Rother, canalised in places to allow for mining operations
- Heavily influenced by opencast mining – in process of being restored
- Immature woodland planting
- Major recreation and wildlife corridor
- Bisected by M1 motorway

Distinctive Features

- Rother Valley Country Park
- Catcliffe Flash
- Treeton Dyke
- Former Orgreave Open Cast Mine

1. Do you have any comments on the suggested boundaries or name of the area?

2. Do you have any comments on the key characteristics identified for the area? (mark list above or add below)

3. Do you consider that there are any other important distinctive features in the area? (mark list above or add below)

4. What are the important natural features of the area? (including, hydrology, geology & wildlife)

5. What are the important cultural/historic features of the area? (including, field patterns, people & places)

6. What are the main recreational and accessibility features of the area? Are there any gaps?

7. What are the important perceptual or aesthetic factors of the area (e.g. visual impact of development, tranquillity, noise)

8. What relative value would you give the specific character area in the context of all the surrounding landscape around Rotherham? (Circle one)
 Significantly below average Below average Average Above average Significantly above average
 What aspects contribute to the value you have given?

9. What do you think have been the main changes in the landscape character area in recent years and what forces for change do you anticipate in the future?

10. What specific guidelines would you suggest to guide the management/enhancement and or development of the area?

7. Character Area 7 – Thurcroft Plains

Key Characteristics

- Gently undulating landform
- Large scale arable landscape, with smaller fields around settlements
- Very limited woodland cover
- Most settlement based on mining villages
- Numerous former opencast mines, most now reclaimed
- Motorway corridors generally in cutting and not a prominent feature

Distinctive Features

- Kiveton Community Woodland
- Thurcroft Electricity Substation
- Chesterfield Canal
- Numerous small fishing lakes
- Brampton-en-le-Morthen village
- Harthill Reservoir

1. Do you have any comments on the suggested boundaries or name of the area?

2. Do you have any comments on the key characteristics identified for the area? (mark list above or add below)

3. Do you consider that there are any other important distinctive features in the area? (mark list above or add below)

4. What are the important natural features of the area? (including, hydrology, geology & wildlife)

5. What are the important cultural/historic features of the area? (including, field patterns, people & places)

6. What are the main recreational and accessibility features of the area? Are there any gaps?

7. What are the important perceptual or aesthetic factors of the area (e.g. visual impact of development, tranquillity, noise)

8. What relative value would you give the specific character area in the context of all the surrounding landscape around Rotherham? (Circle one)
 Significantly below average Below average Average Above average Significantly above average
 What aspects contribute to the value you have given?

9. What do you think have been the main changes in the landscape character area in recent years and what forces for change do you anticipate in the future?

10. What specific guidelines would you suggest to guide the management/enhancement and or development of the area?

8. Character Area 8 – Dinnington Limestone Plateau

Key Characteristics

- Gently undulating landform with localised incised valleys
- Vegetated valley sides
- Large scale arable landscape
- Several disused railway lines associated with former mines
- Several small stone-built villages in addition to larger mining towns and villages

Distinctive Features

- Laughton-en-le-Morthen church
- Maltby Colliery and Stainton Quarter
- Dinnington Community Woodland
- Thorpe Salvin Hall and Church
- Netherthorpe airfield
- King's Wood

1. Do you have any comments on the suggested boundaries or name of the area?
2. Do you have any comments on the key characteristics identified for the area? (mark list above or add below)
3. Do you consider that there are any other important distinctive features in the area? (mark list above or add below)
4. What are the important natural features of the area? (including, hydrology, geology & wildlife)
5. What are the important cultural/historic features of the area? (including, field patterns, people & places)
6. What are the main recreational and accessibility features of the area? Are there any gaps?
7. What are the important perceptual or aesthetic factors of the area (e.g. visual impact of development, tranquillity, noise)
8. What relative value would you give the specific character area in the context of all the surrounding landscape around Rotherham? (Circle one)

Significantly below average Below average Average Above average Significantly above average

What aspects contribute to the value you have given?

9. What do you think have been the main changes in the landscape character area in recent years and what forces for change do you anticipate in the future?

10. What specific guidelines would you suggest to guide the management/enhancement and or development of the area?

9. Character Area 9 – Sandbeck Estates

Key Characteristics

- Parkland core associated with Sandbeck (and to a lesser extent Firbeck Hall)
- Main halls private and not visible from public roads or rights of way
- Large woodland blocks
- Gently undulating with isolated small hills
- Shallow stream valleys
- Presence of farm courts

Distinctive Features

- Roche Abbey
- Sandbeck Park
- Firbeck Hall
- Rough Park/Jubilee Plantation

1. Do you have any comments on the suggested boundaries or name of the area?

2. Do you have any comments on the key characteristics identified for the area? (mark list above or add below)

3. Do you consider that there are any other important distinctive features in the area? (mark list above or add below)

4. What are the important natural features of the area? (including, hydrology, geology & wildlife)

5. What are the important cultural/historic features of the area? (including, field patterns, people & places)

6. What are the main recreational and accessibility features of the area? Are there any gaps?

7. What are the important perceptual or aesthetic factors of the area (e.g. visual impact of development, tranquillity, noise)

8. What relative value would you give the specific character area in the context of all the surrounding landscape around Rotherham? (Circle one)
 Significantly below average Below average Average Above average Significantly above average
 What aspects contribute to the value you have given?

9. What do you think have been the main changes in the landscape character area in recent years and what forces for change do you anticipate in the future?

10. What specific guidelines would you suggest to guide the management/enhancement and or development of the area?

10. Character Area 10 – River Ryton Limestone Farmlands

Key Characteristics

- Flat floodplain of River Ryton
- Numerous small disused quarries
- Small discrete woodland blocks
- Medium scale arable farmland with poor hedgerows
- Settlement generally isolated properties and small hamlets
- Railway line between Worksop and Sheffield passes through area

Distinctive Features

- Lindrick Common and Golf Course
- Chesterfield Canal
- Turnerwood

1. Do you have any comments on the suggested boundaries or name of the area?

2. Do you have any comments on the key characteristics identified for the area? (mark list above or add below)

3. Do you consider that there are any other important distinctive features in the area? (mark list above or add below)

4. What are the important natural features of the area? (including, hydrology, geology & wildlife)

5. What are the important cultural/historic features of the area? (including, field patterns, people & places)

6. What are the main recreational and accessibility features of the area? Are there any gaps?

7. What are the important perceptual or aesthetic factors of the area (e.g. visual impact of development, tranquillity, noise)

8. What relative value would you give the specific character area in the context of all the surrounding landscape around Rotherham? (Circle one)
 Significantly below average Below average Average Above average Significantly above average
 What aspects contribute to the value you have given?

9. What do you think have been the main changes in the landscape character area in recent years and what forces for change do you anticipate in the future?

10. What specific guidelines would you suggest to guide the management/enhancement and or development of the area?

Appendix D

Rotherham Landscape Character Assessment – Stakeholder Workshop Attendees

Afternoon Session

Date 15 September 2009

Attendees

Group 1 (Led by Jonathan Billingsley, TLP)

David Anson (Thorpe Hesley Community Forum)
Alan Bamforth (RMBC)
Chris Tinker (DMBC)
Andrew Burton (RMBC)
Anthony Barber Lomax (Fitzwilliam (Wentworth) Estates)
Graham Prior (Landscape Agency)
Caroline Hutchinson (RMBC Landscape)
Krys Craik (SYF Partnership)
Rachel Overfield (RMBC)

Group 2 (Led by Ruth Sismey)

Mark Rogers (TLP)
Sue Ellis (Wickersby Parish Council)
Peter Thirlwall (Ward 20 Councillor)
Geoff Outram (Ravenfield Parish Council)
John King (CPRE)
Ryan Shepherd (RMBC)
Matt Edwards (RMBC/Student at University of Sheffield)
Helen Sleigh (RMBC)
Maggie Peart (Hellaby Residents Group)

Group 3 (Led by Phill Wray)

Jim McNeil (South Yorkshire Archaeology Service)
Chris Cammoile (Dinnington and North Aston)
Jim Lomas (DLP Planning)
Carolyn Barber (RMBC Ecology)
Stephen Dobson (RMBC)
Simon Tweed (Dinnington Councillor)
Peter Thornborrow (RMBC Conservation)
David Edwards (RMBC)

Evening Session

Date 15 September 2009

Attendees

Group 1 (Led by Jonathan Billingsley, TLP)

Geraint Coles (Chesterfield Canal Partnership)
Lorraine Tingle (Save our Green Belt – North Anston)
Kathryn Ward (Ravenfield Parish Council)
Chris Ward (Ravenfield Parish Council)
Alan Scholes (Ravenfield Parish Council)
Margaret Johnson (Ravenfield Parish Council)
Robin Stonebridge (Chesterfield Canal Trust)
Simon Collett (Save our Green Belt – Greasborough)
Jack Walker (Greasborough)
Kath Sims (Rotherham West Ward Councillor)
Ruth Sismey (TLP)

Group 2 (Led by Phill Wray, TLP)

Colin Holm (Natural England)
Anthony Barber Lomax (Fitzwilliam (Wentworth) Estates)
Tony Mannion (Sitwell Ward Councillor)
John Gilding (Sitwell Ward Councillor)
Ted Kelsey (Bramley Parish Council)
Pauline Lynskey (Wickersley)
Rachel Overfield (RMBC)
David Edwards (RMBC)

Appendix E

Rotherham Landscape Character Assessment – Summary of Consultation Responses

The summary below includes responses received through two stakeholder events held on 15 September 2009. These responses were noted during group discussions held as part of these events by facilitators from The Landscape Partnership and Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council. Subsequent responses were also received, via e-mail, post and telephone, which have also been added to the relevant sections below.

General Questions

Draft Landscape Character Areas

G1. With reference to the attached Landscape Character Area map do you think that the main landscape areas have been correctly identified within the study area? Are there any more areas or potential sub divisions? (NB It should be noted that the boundaries between character areas may sometimes be reasonably clear whereas in other locations they may be a zone of more gradual transition).

There is an apparent North to South nature to the boundaries (for which there may be very good geological reasons) which may not connect with the inhabitants. For example, the Area to the south of the Chesterfield-Worksop canal, show as three different areas may be regarded as one by the residents.

No. Landscape character assessment should reflect both geology and landforms. The current boundaries around Maltby mean that the Valley of Maltby Dike (a significant, cohesive and extraordinarily attractive landscape feature running broadly NW to SE) falls into three of your landscape zones. From both wildlife corridor and historical perspectives, boundaries of zones are also inappropriate. The SSSIs Wood Lee, Roche Abbey Woodlands together with Maltby Low Common and Maltby Commons' Local Nature Reserve also have close historical and cultural links and cannot adequately be considered in the context of your framework.

Having initially viewed the two presentations about RLCA which are published on the RMBC website, I found that, in order to grasp the full implications of the proposals, I needed a paper copy of the landscape areas. I printed out drawing 09024/01 onto an A4 landscape sheet. I also printed out an enlarged version centred on Thurcroft, Hellaby and Maltby to help me in my efforts to apply the Landscape Area Boundaries onto my own 1:50,000 and 1:25,000 maps. Even though I was helped by drawing 09024/02 (pt 2), which was supplied in digital format by Mr Edwards and through which I was able to tie up the relevant section of Borough Boundary, I was still unable to define all but the most obvious boundaries between the draft Landscape Areas. In response to my request (made on 02.10.09) for an OS base map overprinted with the area boundaries, Mr Edwards obtained and furnished me with paper copies of what appears to a greatly reduced (and faint) OS 1:25,000 map overprinted, in dense base-map-obscuring block colour, with the landscape areas. Whilst this has clearly furnished additional and not unhelpful information, the format is less clear than it ought to be and I have struggled and largely failed to define and transfer exact boundaries to my own maps. I have had to work hard to ensure that (to misquote Yogi Bear) 'my bad boundaries are better than the average bad boundaries!' (I suspect that very few people who wish to respond will have gone to such trouble.)

The provision information which is easy to understand and interpret is fundamental to efficient and useful public consultation. The material generally available to the public, in this case, has failed in that regard. Even the more detailed information, with which I have been provided on request, is still less than satisfactory. If the boundary of the Borough can be defined by a black line superimposed on a clearly visible reduced OS base, then there is surely no excuse for the indication of draft Landscape Character Area boundaries in any less user-friendly format. As this exercise is, I understand, intended to be an important contribution to the Local Development Framework, then surely clarity of definition is essential in the engagement and establishment of public trust. Where a series of proposals imply a substantial change to the Authority's perspective regarding its rural landscape then it is indefensible to resort to asuch a fudge as this. All the comments I make below are set in this unsatisfactory context.

We feel that Letwell should get a mention. It is one of the 2 outstanding villages in the Borough (along with Wentworth) and has a medieval touch to it.

We feel that the boundary of Area 9 should be extended west so that the farmland and ridge stretching from Throapham towards Letwell is included. The settlement forms a natural boundary between the housing estates of Dinnington and the undeveloped countryside which extends many miles to the east. The view from the ridge – which is beside the B6463 – is outstanding and stretches to the edge of Lincolnshire 30 miles away without interruption.

I think the landscape in the Rotherham area is too diverse to split into 10 areas only. Each of the areas contain too many different types of landscapes within them to adequately describe them in such large sections.

Some General Observations on Rotherham's Magnesian Limestone Landscape.

In response to this consultation, my husband and I have undertaken two field trips in an attempt to understand the consultants' division of this area into 8, 9 and 10. I offer the following general comments. It may be useful to add that I view and love the area with the zeal of a convert. I have only lived in Maltby since 1978 so regard myself as a foreigner!

- *My perception has always been of a cohesive magnesian limestone landscape which is strikingly different from anything else in the Borough and which defies the piecemeal approach which appears to be advocated by this LCA. It has more in common with Tickhill, Braithwell, Brodsworth, Marr and Campsall (Doncaster MBC) and with Steetley, Cresswell Crag and the land east of Bolsover (Derbyshire) than it does with Wentworth or Rotherham. When travelling from the west (ie Rotherham town centre) one greets the limestone with delight and warms to its eastern lightness. One joy is to follow a deeply incised valley, punctuated by crags, which cuts across the longitudinal narrowness of the limestone band. Another is to climb up atop a Crag or ridge to look out. To the east is the generally low-lying landscape of North Nottinghamshire and over that are panoramic views towards the cooling towers of the Trent Valley with hints of Lincoln Edge beyond.*
- *Settlements which are little touched by twentieth century colliery development like Hooton Levitt, Stone, Slade Hooton, Brookhouse Laughton-en-le-Morthen and Firbeck retain their rural feel and encourage one seek out the pre-colliery and pre-commuter limestone village cores of the more developed urban areas of Maltby, Dinnington and North and South Anston.*
- *Architecturally distinguished halls still survive as elegant full stops in a landscape which was historically managed in large units and which was (and to some extent still is) dominated by large houses. Surviving halls at Hellaby, Slade Hooton, Thurcroft, Dinnington, Firbeck and Sandbeck recall the earlier dominance of landed estates both great and small. Such halls at, for example, Kiveton, Maltby, Hooton Levitt and Park Hill have long since been demolished but all leave traces in terms of estate walls, studied plantations and associated pan-tiled roofed farm and mill buildings of Roche limestone. One perspective is to view the eastern-most great houses of Rotherham as a logical northern extension of the Dukeries, an idea which is reinforced by a history of cross-county boundary land tenure, by many a local family pedigree and by historically important east-west trade routes.*
- *Beneath the estate layer in the landscape palimpsest lie more subtle hints of medieval land management associated with Roche Abbey, its manors and granges and the secular manorial landscape beyond. My published research into the long history of water-powered sites in the greater Maltby Area and with regard to the changing layers of its medieval parks and post-medieval park-related landscapes casts light on a subtle richness which is easily overlooked by the unwary. (See particularly 'Aspects of Rotherham' and 'Aspects of Rotherham 3'. It should come as no surprise that this still largely unrecognised landscape wealth is reflected in the biodiversity Maltby Crag (designated as Wood Lee Common SSSI for its geological importance) and the Roche Woodlands SSSI as well as at Maltby Low Common SSSI and the associated 96 acres of Local Nature Reserve where wild orchids 'rule. It also means that other, less celebrated, examples of relict ancient woodland (eg the remnants of Maltby Wood which surround Maltby Colliery) are invariably rewarding to the naturalist.*
- *The impressive Perpendicular spire of Laughton All Saints keeps on showing itself to the local traveller and sets the standard by which the area's ancient churches need to be judged. The Saxon/Norman overlap tower of St Bartholomew's Maltby is one of the architectural gems of the Borough and its late medieval tower top and spire of finest Roche ashlar invite comparison with Laughton and South Anston. Laughton St John's and Letwell churches are more modest and seem to creep up unawares. The ostentation of Firbeck St Martin's tower brings to mind the wealth of its latter-day patron. Once observed, sunlight on a Roche limestone church is not readily forgotten.*
- *The limestone gradually gives way to a softer lowland landscape which has more in common with Sherwood Forest than with South Yorkshire. (Where is the boundary? There is no obvious boundary so why try to impose one between 8 and 9 or 8 and 10!) Such is the quality of the local limestone that it escapes, as a building stone, both to the east and the west. Aston Hall and the top of Treeton Church tower are good western examples but it is at Bawtry and in the North Nottinghamshire churches of Blyth, Scrooby, Misson, Babworth and East and West Retford that its regional cultural influence is well demonstrated.*

Specific Places in Rotherham Metropolitan Borough

G2. Using the blank map provided, could you please draw boundaries around any distinctive areas of landscape that you know. These areas may be as large or small as you like and do not need to be precise. They may include hills, rivers, woodland, etc.

PLEASE ANSWER QUESTIONS G3 AND G4 IF YOU HAVE IDENTIFIED ANY DISTINCTIVE AREAS OF LANDSCAPE. IF NOT THEN PLEASE GO TO G5

G3. We are interested in finding out what names people give to different areas of landscape in their local area. Looking at the areas you have drawn around on the map, could you please write in below the names by which you know them. It would be very useful if you could mark letters in the areas you have marked on the map so that we know which name refers to each area. Don't worry if you do not know the names of each area – simply write in any names that you may know and move on to the next question.

Area	Name of area
A 7	Motorways Corridor ?
B 8	Eastern Ridge & Plateau ?
C 9	Eastern Vale ?
D 10	

PLEASE USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS OF PAPER IF YOU WISH TO CONTINUE

LDF 358 – Land off Quarry Field Lane

LDF 361 – Land to the west of Quarry Field Lane

Yew bridge – tranquil spot which carries the footpath across the stream feeding Langold Lake to the east of Letwell

Leger Field – site of the original St Leger horse race which straddles the bridleway between Letwell and Firbeck

Letwell dovecot – a remarkable octagonal listed building to the south of the main village street

Miller Lands – boggy farmland crossed by a beautiful footpath south of Letwell

G4. In general, do you feel that the areas of landscape you have marked on the map have improved, become worse or stayed about the same over the last five years?

PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY

Have improved Have stayed about the same **X**
 Have become worse Don't know

What are the reasons for your opinion?

Improved - WOODLAND AND ACCESS PATHS ARE WELL MAINTAINED IN GENERAL AND FLY-TIPPING IS DEALT WITH RAPIDLY

Stayed the same – valuable agricultural land

Favourite Landscape Area in Rotherham Metropolitan Borough

G5. Now thinking about Rotherham Metropolitan Borough as a whole, including the urban areas do you have one particular favourite landscape area or location, or not?

PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY

Yes, one particular favourite area/location No, don't like any area/location
 No, like lots of areas/locations equally Don't know

ANSWER IF HAVE FAVOURITE AREA/LOCATION

IF HAVE NO FAVOURITE AREA/LOCATION THEN PLEASE GO TO G8

The village of Letwell – an absolute gem that has remained largely untouched by development. The many footpaths and bridleways provide an essential escape for many people living in the urban areas of Rotherham. The landmarks of the area, which include St Peter's church (which dates back to medieval times. The tower is Norman but the rest of the church burnt down. What remained was looted in 1879) and the dovecot (which was restored by the community in 1980s) are outstanding. The peace and tranquillity of the area and the outstanding views, countryside and woodland, some of which have SSSI status, should be protected at all costs.

- G6. What is the name of this area or location?
PLEASE WRITE IN THE NAME THAT YOU USE FOR THIS AREA/LOCATION

East Dinnington & Anston Ridge to the Gildingwells Vale

The area bounded by Dinnington, Letwell, Gildingwells, Woodsetts, Anston with the A57 to the South.
The limestone plateau running from Anston to beyond Laughton-en-le-Morthen

The countryside around Maltby, Laughton, Dinnington and Firbeck bounded on the north by Doncaster MBC and on the east by Nottinghamshire.

Sandy Flat Lane and Quarry Field Lane both lead to an area commonly known as 'Pinchmill'

The countryside and ancient woodland to the east of North Anston and Anston Stones

Letwell

- G7. What, if anything, do you particularly like about your favourite area or location?
PLEASE TICK ALL THAT APPLY

The views in/from the area	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The facilities/amenities in the area	<input type="checkbox"/>
The area is picturesque	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(PLEASE WRITE IN TYPES OF FACILITIES)	
The area is peaceful/tranquil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
The area is easy to get to	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other (PLEASE TICK BOX AND WRITE IN)	<input type="checkbox"/>
The wildlife of the area	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
The history/heritage of the area	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/>

The natural beauty of the area, from the high point of the Anston Ridge (roughly North along of the bridle path where the Tropical Butterfly House is situated), with its unbroken views over 25-30 miles East over medieval villages and arable land to the vale of the Trent is spectacular.

WE HAVE DOZENS OF FOOT/BRIDAL PATHS ALL INTERCONNECTING, ALL ARE EXTREMELY POPULAR WITH ALL AGES

Numerous country pursuits

Footpaths, recreation grounds

All apply

- G8. Again looking at the map, what, if any, local customs, historic events or cultural/arts associations are you aware of within the borough? PLEASE WRITE IN

THIS AREA IS ESPECIALLY POPULAR WITH RAMBLER CLUBS, CYCLISTS AND BIRD WATCHERS AS WELL AS THE TRADITIONAL MINING AREA PASTIME OF 'OUTWIT THE GAME KEEPER'

Letwell summer fair – an annual event where medieval themed events attract large crowds each year.

- G9. Can you think of any ways that the rural landscape within the Borough could be managed to protect or enhance its local character? PLEASE WRITE IN

Better protection, and even regeneration, could be given to hedgerows and field margins to prevent their removal in the creation of ever larger arable fields (accepting that ever larger farm machinery has to gain access). The destruction of the field margins has obvious impact upon flora, fauna and general landscape character but, in modern times, facilitates ease of fly-tipping, which is a blight in certain parts of the area.

The rural landscapes in the Borough could be managed through a range of measures:

- Environmental Stewardship is an agri-environment scheme that provides funding to farmers and other land managers in England who deliver effective environmental management on their land;

such as incorporating hedgerows or managing grassland. Further information is available from <http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/farming/funding/es/els/default.aspx>;

-Where development is appropriate, factors such location, the incorporation of suitable landscaping and screening, the provision of land through planning obligations for biodiversity enhancement, the scale and design of buildings and the management of supporting infrastructure such as roads can all significantly alter the landscape impacts of development. It will therefore be important to ensure that suitable landscape and design policies are incorporated into the Local Development Framework;

-Networks of green and blue infrastructure, including accessible green spaces such as Local Nature Reserves, green corridors and wetlands can help enhance character. It will be important that planning for green infrastructure through the Local Development Framework takes account of the findings and recommendations of the Landscape Character Assessment.

Natural England would be happy to assist Rotherham in identifying more specific ways in which measures such as those cited above can be taken forward as the writing of the Landscape Character Assessment progresses.

It all depends on the type of landscape. Farming, woodland management, management for wildlife, protection of historic buildings, protection of archaeological sites, planning constraints to ensure villages and small towns retain their character.

Do not build on green belt areas until every brownfield site has been utilized

It could be left as 'rural landscape' and not bulldozed to build ridiculous amounts of housing. It should be protected against transient, short-sighted planning policy – which will be gone in 10 years time – but the effects of the destruction of the landscape will be forever – once gone our ancient woodlands and green belt fields will be gone forever. The people of Rotherham should have the pleasure of access to countryside (of whatever nature) and the wildlife which has now and has for time immemorial enjoyed the Rotherham countryside should be left alone to carry on enjoying it. Who knows what price, in environmental terms, the destruction of our green belt and ancient woodlands will have in the long term

We would like to see parish councils given more support to enhance the landscape with tree and hedge planting programmes.

There should be a tougher stance taken to prevent large industrial barns and hugely obtrusive wind turbines scaring the rural landscape.

Note we survive on an annual budget of around £1500 – last year we managed to plant an avenue of 42 rowan trees on the main approach road to our village by encourage families to sponsor a tree. This is the only way we could move forward as we knew RMBC could not provide any finance. The scheme has since won an environmental award by Rural Action Yorkshire for enhancing the landscape.

1. Character Area 1 – Wentworth Estates

Key Characteristics

- Gently undulating agricultural landscape (dispersed farmsteads) with large deciduous woodland blocks (planted for sporting and amenity purposes)
- Heavily influenced by Wentworth Estate – Repton landscape and influences by John Carr of York (architect) – central area is actual estate possessed during the Victorian period
- Predominantly large scale arable fields – with exception of Deer Park
- Many sunken roads with wide verges
- Larger settlements outside of Character Area appear on high ground/ridges – skyline features – church towers key element of scenery
- Apparent absence of mining influence – there has been a past mining influence within Wentworth Park – mining shaped the area – created the family wealth – 60-70% of area opencast or underground mined – mineral wealth was a major contributor to the Estates economy until nationalization – remnants of 3 former pitheads with field pattern largely dictated by reinstatement after opencasting
- 18th Century parkland (Registered Park and Garden)
- Elevated character of Wentworth Park and views to and from the house
- Stone buildings with blue slate roofs
- Wentworth village predates the Victorian era

Distinctive Features

- Wentworth Woodhouse and associated deer park and Repton designed landscape with 4 serpentine lakes now used for course fishing
- Hooper Stand – should be linked with Kepple's Column due to intervisibility from a distance
- Kepple's Column - Keppel's Column (sp!)
- Wentworth New Church (new) – spire as significant on the skyline as the monuments
- Thorpe Hesley Church
- West Melton Electricity Substation
- Rockingham Mausoleum
- Rockingham Monument
- Working farm
- Craft workshops – located in former kennels, includes blacksmith, etc
- Rockingham Pottery and ponds
- Ex open cast landscape
- Preserved by wealth
- South Terrace and the Ionic Temple
- The Eye of the Needle
- Matrix of dry stone walls and hedges

1. Do you have any comments on the suggested boundaries or name of the area?

Should be expanded to include an area of existing countryside that is to be returned to green belt
Historically and culturally the Wentworth name is appropriate and gives a sense of place but the whole area is not part of the Wentworth Estate

There is some local concern over the use of Wentworth – this could be controversial
Thorpe Hesley has been excluded from the character area but informs the landscape
Electricity sub station should be removed from area

Some south west parts of the LCA are more akin to Sheffield and should be excluded

There are also sub areas within LCA1

Could be 'Wentworth Parklands'

Name relates well to the area

No concerns over name

Grange Park area should not be included

Electricity Substation should be excluded

Bassingthorpe Farm area should be excluded?

Reference to Wentworth is appropriate but the term 'Estates' should be dropped (only 70-80% still belongs to the Wentworth Estate). Struggle to associate Kilnhurst, Bassingthorpe and Thundercliffe with the title.
(Revised boundary attached)

Generally we thought the boundaries set for this area, were most appropriate. The area is characterised by ridges and slopes as the land falls away to the north from the Pennine uplands. The area has a uniformity which is characterised by Wentworth village and Wentworth House in the Park at its centre. The parkland

around the house is repeated in other open pastureland, agricultural land and woodland in the area, and for example, in the Grange Golf Course next to Kimberworth and Thorpe Hesley, facing south to Sheffield. This elevated character we consider to be unique in the Borough and therefore particularly special to be preserved. The area contains many historic and archaeological monuments and tourist attractions which other members of the seminar group pointed out to your colleague.

We have some detailed comments on the boundary around Thorpe Hesley. As part of the LDF process the Green Belt boundary around the village is to be amended to take in the whole of the currently undeveloped area. This area has a similar character to all the other undeveloped adjoining land and an archaeological study has indicated it contains a fairly **intact ditch system** which has existed since the **Bronze Age**. Your assessment boundary should be amended to take account of this. The inclusion of this land in our opinion also pre-supposes that Thorpe Common which is a narrow strip of settlement on top of a ridge should be included as purple. It is not, for example, as intensely developed as the main village or the Keppel Estate and Hesley Grange which you have excluded. It is similar to Wentworth and to Harley which also should perhaps be included. The inclusion of this area would link in the area in the **Blackburn Valley** facing Sheffield on a more complete basis. This westward facing slope has all the character of the other slopes in our view and has **Thundercliffe Grange** another large house of historic character in substantial grounds.

Many members feel the name of the area should reflect both its character and its history. The land was indeed part of the ownership of the Fitzwilliam and Wentworth families over a long period and we can see why it can be identified with them. We feel that Estates implies they are still in possession of much of it which is not now the case. We feel that a name like **The Wentworth Ridges** implies both its history and elevated character which we see as so special.

Solely relates to those areas of open landscape and that no consideration will be given to the urban fabric and townscape character which is a primary consideration in terms of the historic views and the designed landscape associated with Wentworth Woodhouse and the surrounding parkland - a full Townscape Character Assessment should also be undertaken

2. Do you have any comments on the key characteristics identified for the area? (mark list above or add below)
Views to and from area – including to Wentworth Church and into Rawmarsh
Intervisibility of follies/monuments
Wentworth is historic core including registered parkland, Wentworth Woodhouse and deer park
Villages and small clusters of properties
Fragmented pattern to edges
Limited use of Victorian red brick
Historic views associated with the registered Park and Garden and the presence of the parkland character itself.
3. Do you consider that there are any other important distinctive features in the area? (mark list above or add below)
Monuments such as Kepple's Column seen as individual assets rather than a collection complex interacting features
4. What are the important natural features of the area? (including, hydrology, geology & wildlife)
Part affected by open cast mining very close to the house (60-70%) – concrete posts remain (refer to the book 'Black Diamonds' as a resource on the history of the Fitzwilliams). Completed by 1950s, was restored but not to original levels
Natural England notes that there are significant areas of broadleaved woodland around the Wentworth Estate.
Relatively consistent geology –heavy clay subsoil – mediocre quality agricultural land
Much of area drains through the Park and its lakes
Number of heronry's and abundance of wildlife including bats and owls
5. What are the important cultural/historic features of the area? (including, field patterns, people & places)
Registered Park and Garden (Repton) – Grade II
Nether Haugh village
Roman Ridge SAM
Scholes Coppice SAM
House and deer park – largest house in England
Refer to Black Diamond book
Repton landscape
Rockingham connections
Traditional estate

A complex collection of historic assets which have a cumulative historic value not only in terms of the structures themselves but also the socio-historic background associated with their presence and the numerous and panoramic views that each afford both of the wider landscape and the more immediate views of Wentworth Woodhouse and the Parkland setting

Influence of the Estate – shaped settlements, countryside, employment and social patterns. Continuance of game shooting helped to preserve woodland. Field boundaries 2nd generation – replanted after mining – also concrete fence posts indicate mining history.

Harley village is a mining settlement, as is much of Thorpe Hesley and Elsecar (within Barnsley Borough).

6. What are the main recreational and accessibility features of the area? Are there any gaps?

Good rights of way, including the Rotherham Round Walk, which is well used

The Wentworth Estate is not keen on additional rights of way

Wentworth village is a tourist/recreational magnet

Coarse fishing is big in this area

Very popular with walkers and tourists

Not open access land

Public rights of way and some permissive routes

The follies are honeypots – Hooper Stand and the mausoleum are open in the summer

There have been annual guided walks around the follies

Road network is of B classification or lower

7. What are the important perceptual or aesthetic factors of the area (e.g. visual impact of development, tranquillity, noise)

Very rural

Largely unspoilt – avoided ingress of modern development affecting surrounding areas

Post Victorian settlements on skyline

Church spires apparent

Urban skyline is a vast contrast to the rural nature of Wentworth

8. What relative value would you give the specific character area in the context of all the surrounding landscape around Rotherham? (Circle one)

Significantly below average Below average Average Above average Significantly above average

What aspects contribute to the value you have given?

Work by Professor Melvin Jones

A 'jewel'

Important history

Follies unique

Area has sub-regional importance

Consistency of landscape character

Relatively unspoilt and unchanged

Regional and national importance that this 'jewel' within the Borough represents

Rural oasis amongst an urban sea

Continuity of ownership and consistency of traditional management and conservation of the principal settlement and surrounding farmsteads

9. What do you think have been the main changes in the landscape character area in recent years and what forces for change do you anticipate in the future?

Increased tourist numbers

Limited vandalism but some urban fringe pressures

Part removal of hedgerows

Good management of woodland by Wentworth Estates – pro active but dependant on external grants

Past mining has been large influence – reinstatement of opencast and pithead sites

10. What specific guidelines would you suggest to guide the management/enhancement and or development of the area?

Good management of woodland estates should continue

Vistas

The core area and views to and from it should be protected

Review green belt boundaries – consider areas for inclusion and exclusion

2. Character Area 2 – Dearne Valley Floor

Key Characteristics

- Reclaimed landscape
- Large waterbodies
- Young woodland
- Recreation based – part golf course
- Flat landform
- Heavily influenced by built development (including Next distribution warehouse)
- Trans Pennine Trail

Distinctive Features

- Dearne Valley
- Manvers Lake
- Brookfield Park
- Old Moor RSPB Nature Reserve (?)

1. Do you have any comments on the suggested boundaries or name of the area?
Include Brookfield Park
2. Do you have any comments on the key characteristics identified for the area? (mark list above or add below)
Containment site? Part landfill
Newly reclaimed landscape
Warehouse buildings dominate the landscape
3. Do you consider that there are any other important distinctive features in the area? (mark list above or add below)
Landfill site
4. What are the important natural features of the area? (including, hydrology, geology & wildlife)
Former marshland (next to bird reserves – Doncaster to east and Old Moor to west) – RSPB interest (vision for the Dearne Valley)
5. What are the important cultural/historic features of the area? (including, field patterns, people & places)
6. What are the main recreational and accessibility features of the area? Are there any gaps?
Trans Pennine Trail
Anti social activities
7. What are the important perceptual or aesthetic factors of the area (e.g. visual impact of development, tranquillity, noise)
8. What relative value would you give the specific character area in the context of all the surrounding landscape around Rotherham? (Circle one)
Significantly below average Below average Average Above average Significantly above average

What aspects contribute to the value you have given?

New but locally valued – was part of a colliery spoil heap/coking present

9. What do you think have been the main changes in the landscape character area in recent years and what forces for change do you anticipate in the future?
Potentially part of a Green Corridor
10. What specific guidelines would you suggest to guide the management/enhancement and or development of the area?
Future management is less certain – owned by RMBC
'String of pearls' along River Dearne

3. Character Area 3 – Wath and Swinton Coalfield Farmlands

Key Characteristics

- Predominantly arable farmland
- **Allotments** and other open space secondary landuse
- Heavily influenced by urban areas and transport corridors
- Poor hedgerows
- Gently sloping landform
- **Remains undeveloped land between Wath and Swinton**

Distinctive Features

- Disused racecourse – much already built on, remainder barely worthy of protection beyond its use as a wildlife and public access corridor
 - Disused railway lines
1. Do you have any comments on the suggested boundaries or name of the area?
Remove 'Coalfield' from the name
Should it be included?
Need to join fragmented bits together
 2. Do you have any comments on the key characteristics identified for the area? (mark list above or add below)
Visually contained from wider area
Isolated area of Green Belt
The landform s bowl shaped with views over it
1 farm at centre of area
People not aware of it
Speak to Richard Jackson at RMBC Streetpride
 3. Do you consider that there are any other important distinctive features in the area? (mark list above or add below)
 4. What are the important natural features of the area? (including, hydrology, geology & wildlife)
 5. What are the important cultural/historic features of the area? (including, field patterns, people & places)
Wath area
Part of area was an old racecourse
 6. What are the main recreational and accessibility features of the area? Are there any gaps?
Rights of way?
 7. What are the important perceptual or aesthetic factors of the area (e.g. visual impact of development, tranquillity, noise)
 8. What relative value would you give the specific character area in the context of all the surrounding landscape around Rotherham? (Circle one)
Significantly below average Below average 3a Average 3 Above average Significantly above average
What aspects contribute to the value you have given?
Little significance except to local people
 9. What do you think have been the main changes in the landscape character area in recent years and what forces for change do you anticipate in the future?
????
 10. What specific guidelines would you suggest to guide the management/enhancement and or development of the area?
Keep contrasts in area
Corridor

An area with the prospect of future sustainable development

4. Character Area 4 – Don Valley North

Key Characteristics

- Small section of a longer, more urbanised corridor
- Meandering mainly naturalistic channel of River Don
- Canalised and engineered channel of Kilnhurst Cut
- Flat, broad valley floor
- Large areas of flood meadow
- Extensive areas of disturbed land/former works

Distinctive Features

- River Don
- Kilnhurst Bridge
- Kilnhurst Ings Local Wildlife Site

1. Do you have any comments on the suggested boundaries or name of the area?
Remove 'North' from the name
Extend area into the town/include steel works
2. Do you have any comments on the key characteristics identified for the area? (mark list above or add below)
Provides a contrast to the landform/levels in areas 4 and 5

3. Do you consider that there are any other important distinctive features in the area? (mark list above or add below)

Thrybergh Tip – valued for bird watching

Part of Kilnhurst Colliery

River channelized in Town Centre

4. What are the important natural features of the area? (including, hydrology, geology & wildlife)
5. What are the important cultural/historic features of the area? (including, field patterns, people & places)
6. What are the main recreational and accessibility features of the area? Are there any gaps?
Fishing is big in this area
7. What are the important perceptual or aesthetic factors of the area (e.g. visual impact of development, tranquillity, noise)
Views to Corus site in area 1
8. What relative value would you give the specific character area in the context of all the surrounding landscape around Rotherham? (Circle one)

Significantly below average Below average Average Above average Significantly above average

What aspects contribute to the value you have given?

9. What do you think have been the main changes in the landscape character area in recent years and what forces for change do you anticipate in the future?
Originally the Don was a broad river valley but now all built up at Rotherham
10. What specific guidelines would you suggest to guide the management/enhancement and or development of the area?
Green character along whole Don Corridor – look to green up where opportunities arise
Potential for flood mitigation

5. Character Area 5 – Thrybergh and Treeton Tributary Valleys

Key Characteristics

- Predominantly treed arable farmland with fragmented woodland blocks
- Undulating landform with narrow valleys to the north and wide valleys to the south
- Large reservoirs found within the valleys
- Settlement on surrounding higher ground very visually prominent

Distinctive Features

- Thrybergh Reservoir and Country Park
- Ulley Reservoir and Country Park (although well screened)
- Ravenfield Park and Hall and church (in Doomsday book)
- Hooten Roberts Church and Mill Buildings
- Treeton Wood and church (although only seen from the Sheffield side)
- Aston Hall Conservation Area
- Issues and springs

1. Do you have any comments on the suggested boundaries or name of the area?
5c Canklow Woods/Boston Castle should be a separate area
Ulley, Treeton, Whiston and Catcliffe form a an area in their own right
Ravenfield, Silver Wood and Thryburgh are also a separate area
The A631 road runs along the interfluvium between the catchments of the Don and the Rother – creating 2 separate areas
The shape of the area is not logical and maps do not have enough detail
Name seems appropriate to the boundaries – determined by the Borough boundary
2. Do you have any comments on the key characteristics identified for the area? (mark list above or add below)
5a not significantly treed beyond Thrybergh Park
Northern portion is an open undulating landscape
Settlement of Hooten Roberts and existence of former 18th Century grand houses and parkland landscapes – remnants of Estate ownership remain very evident
3. Do you consider that there are any other important distinctive features in the area? (mark list above or add below)
Aston Hall with its parkland setting (Repton?)
Whiston church
4. What are the important natural features of the area? (including, hydrology, geology & wildlife)
Drains towards the River Don
Bird sanctuary at Thrybergh Reservoir
Wildlife important at Ulley Reservoir
Lots of ancient woodland, including birch woodland with bluebells (e.g. Silver Wood)
Millstones were quarried from gritstone in the woodland areas
Whiston is within the Rother catchment – it faces the Rother Valley
There is a stone quarry near Ulley in 5b – one of the few in Rotherham that is still working – quarries local 'Rotherham Red' stone
Issues and springs from limestone
EA creating meadows
Natural England notes some significant areas of broadleaved woodland between Rotherham and Wickersley.
5. What are the important cultural/historic features of the area? (including, field patterns, people & places)
The churches at Ravenfield and Treeton are old but not necessarily visually prominent in the wider landscape
Ravenfield have produced a community/parish plan, which was funded by the Countryside Agency
Roman road
Charcoal production in woodlands
Old reservoir in the woods north of Ravenfield
Whiston is an historic area
Dalton is very heavily populated
Buildings utilise 'white stone' (limestone) hence Whiston

6. What are the main recreational and accessibility features of the area? Are there any gaps?
 The Country Park at Ulley Reservoir is well screened and hidden away
 Water sports, canoes, sailing, clay pigeon shooting and fishing at Thrybergh and Ulley Reservoirs
 Horses and bridleways popular around Ravenfield
 Thrybergh Reservoir Country Park well used and has a café, playground and campsite
 Ulley Reservoir Country Park less well used
 Fishing at Pinchmill Farm
 Extensive horse riding network
 Circle walk around Whiston
7. What are the important perceptual or aesthetic factors of the area (e.g. visual impact of development, tranquillity, noise)
 Peaceful but affected by motorway – noise but no lights
8. What relative value would you give the specific character area in the context of all the surrounding landscape around Rotherham? (Circle one)
 Significantly below average Below average Average Above average Significantly above average
- What aspects contribute to the value you have given?
 Unchanged as not mined
 Recreational value through presence of country parks
 Proximity to urban areas – no need for cars – but feels like in the countryside which is unusual around Rotherham
9. What do you think have been the main changes in the landscape character area in recent years and what forces for change do you anticipate in the future?
 M1 being built
 Small pockets of change within Character Area e.g. house building, farm conversion, urban encroachment
 Disillusion of the former Estates – excluding Hooton Roberts which remains part of the Wentworth Estates
 Mining has had a significant influence on the Dalton Magna area
10. What specific guidelines would you suggest to guide the management/enhancement and or development of the area?
 Keep the settlements separate

6. Character Area 6 – Rother Valley

Key Characteristics

- Broad, flat valley bottom floodplain
- Meandering course of River Rother, canalised in places to allow for mining operations
- Heavily influenced by opencast mining – in process of being restored
- Immature woodland planting
- Major recreation and wildlife corridor
- Bisected by M1 motorway

Distinctive Features

- Rother Valley Country Park
- Catcliffe Flash
- Treeton Dyke
- Former Orgreave Open Cast Mine – is being restored with the intention of creating a new community
- Blue Man's Bower
- Canklow Meadows
- Chesterfield Canal – former route of

1. Do you have any comments on the suggested boundaries or name of the area?
The valley floor and the slopes should remain separate areas – area east of Rother Valley Country Park shouldn't be in this area
2. Do you have any comments on the key characteristics identified for the area? (mark list above or add below)
'Hump' containment site
3. Do you consider that there are any other important distinctive features in the area? (mark list above or add below)
Woodhouse washlands
4. What are the important natural features of the area? (including, hydrology, geology & wildlife)
The river Rother provides connectivity in the landscape
Blue Man's Bower and Canklow Meadows both have flood gates
Balancing ponds for Orgreave new community will store water which will feed slowly into the River Rother from 'Lake Number 3'
5. What are the important cultural/historic features of the area? (including, field patterns, people & places)
Part of former 'Pit House West' colliery
6. What are the main recreational and accessibility features of the area? Are there any gaps?
Future location for 'YES' extreme sports centre
7. What are the important perceptual or aesthetic factors of the area (e.g. visual impact of development, tranquillity, noise)
8. What relative value would you give the specific character area in the context of all the surrounding landscape around Rotherham? (Circle one)

Significantly below average Below average Average Above average Significantly above average

What aspects contribute to the value you have given?

9. What do you think have been the main changes in the landscape character area in recent years and what forces for change do you anticipate in the future?
Outline planning permission for the 'YES' project leisure complex
10. What specific guidelines would you suggest to guide the management/enhancement and or development of the area?

7. Character Area 7 – Thurcroft Plains

Key Characteristics

- Gently undulating landform
- Large scale arable landscape, with smaller fields around settlements
- Very limited woodland cover – queried - Wickersley Wood, Wickersley and Listerdale Wood
- Most settlement based on mining villages (apart from Todwick which is a dormitory village)
- Numerous former opencast mines, most now reclaimed - Thurcroft was a **deep mine in the concealed coalfield**. Its spoil-heaps are now being exploited for mineral recovery and (controversially) as a special waste burial site. It is not and never has been an opencast mine. Likewise Dinnington whose site is within the Laughton Common/Dinnington/Anston urban blob (which begs the question whether that relates to LCA 7 or 8.) Kiveton Pit was also a deep mine. Its spoil heap was/is being landscaped with mineral recovery. Silverwood was also a deep mine and it is predominantly in area LCA 5a not area 7. (More to the point, to which landscape area does the Bramley/ Sunnyside/Wickersley/ Flanderwell/ Ravenfield urban area belong?) Treeton is outside the area. **Thurcroft, Kiveton, possibly Dinnington and possibly a fraction of Silverwood former deep mines cannot justifiably be described as 'numerous opencast mines'**. ('Numerous' implies more than can be counted on the fingers of one hand!) The consultants would have been well advised to consult Alan Hill's 'The South Yorkshire Coalfield' (Tempus 2001) together with the Cassini Historical Map Popular Edition 1923-25 (1"map thoughtfully and photographically scaled up to 1:50,000 to match OS Landranger 111) before making (what should have been) less ill-informed comment!!!)
- Motorway corridors generally in cutting and not a prominent feature (except from in extreme south) – junction of M1 and M18 is prominent
- Stone quarries present around Wickersley
- Magnificent, rare, panoramic, wide-angled views of unobstructed natural beauty – to the south west horizon in Sheffield

Distinctive Features

- Kiveton Community Woodland
- Thurcroft Electricity Substation (I used to work in Thurcroft but I can't place this as a distinctive feature. I am mildly visually impaired but doubt I would have missed it.)
- Chesterfield Canal – killed off by mining – some parts removed or blocked up, including Norwood flight and tunnel
- Numerous small fishing lakes
- Brampton-en-le-Morthen village – important as village of farms
- Harthill Reservoir
- Wickersley Wood and Wickersley Gorse
- Monk's Trail near Wickersley
- Hellaby Hall
- Harthill village and church
- St Albans church?
- Woodland, (Wickersley Woods & Gorse, Listerdale Woods)
- Public footpaths & bridleways throughout Thurcroft Plains, (Wickersley footpaths & bridleways/rights of way used for Round Rotherham Walk)
- Newly opened Wintrop park and teashop in Wickersley
- Agricultural land providing produce for the local community along with spectacular views, peace and tranquillity
- Agricultural land providing sanctuary for wildlife, flora & fauna
- Wickersley Cricket Club

1. Do you have any comments on the suggested boundaries or name of the area?

Name Thurcroft is too specific

'Central Rotherham Plains'?

How have the boundaries been decided? I believe that Wickersley carries the largest population and would like to see the name Wickersley in the character area name

Inappropriate name. Neither 'Thurcroft' nor 'Plains' fit the bill. 'Eastern Coal-measure Sandstones and Shales with huge area of drained wet former common' might be a starting point. 'Plains' brings to mind something much bigger and more cohesive than this area.

2. Do you have any comments on the key characteristics identified for the area? (mark list above or add below)

The area contains a number of distinct settlements, with their own distinct features, with only small gaps between them

Panoramic views – Wickersley is reported to be the highest point in Rotherham with views towards Sheffield and Derbyshire beyond

Stone quarrying around Wickersley

I think the agricultural land that borders Wickersley towards Whiston forms a distinctive natural landscape of gorse & agriculture.

I have made a small number of additions to your list. The area has much open countryside which should be preserved for all to enjoy now and in the future. There are vast areas of South Yorkshire which are very beautiful with blots on the landscape made only by man. Building on new tracts of land should not be undertaken lightly and certainly greenbelt land and land of high landscape value should be left unspoiled.

Simplistic view presented. Most former mining villages are based on earlier (often ancient) settlements. In this respect it is Thurcroft which is not typical. (See Cassini map above and Domesday Book). Thurcroft was a small outlier in the ancient ecclesiastical parish of Laughton-en-le Morthen (in origin it is a field name) and its site continues as Thurcroft Hall which I think you have included in area 8. Thurcroft pit village was built to the west of Thurcroft Hall in the fields on the boundary of the above parish and the ancient ecclesiastical parish of Treeton which included Ulley. Apologies for the lesson in Local History! By the way 'The Terrace' woodland to the N of Thurcroft Hall is a remnant of its 18th century estate landscaping. This and the remnants of limestone quarries behind it logically belongs in my wider unified magnesian limestone landscape.

3. Do you consider that there are any other important distinctive features in the area? (mark list above or add below)

The agricultural land & gorse area to the s. west of Wickersley through Pinchmill towards Whiston with panoramic views to the Pennines are a distinctive feature of the area.

4. What are the important natural features of the area? (including, hydrology, geology & wildlife)

Wildlife – open farmland good for overwintering birds

Restored collieries have features for wildlife e.g. plovers, owls, Great Crested Newts

Heavy soils

The reclaimed pit top and surrounding area has become important for wildlife regeneration: Short-eared owl, wheatear, yellow wagtail now nesting on pit top.

The natural wildlife & plants in the areas mentioned above & the unspoiled beauty of the area.

The upper reaches of Maltby Dike and the springs and streams which feed it are a unifying feature.

Many species of birds and wildlife

Some areas hoolows or dips – fields slope down towards them – prone to flooding in prolonged periods of heavy rain

5. What are the important cultural/historic features of the area? (including, field patterns, people & places)

Thurcroft is a mining village

Hellaby Hall

The field patterns & natural landscape enjoyed by local people as well as visitors to the area.

The landscape provides an unchanging feature of Wickersley, (with seasonal changes only). We also benefit from historic houses, (Wickersley Grange), St Albans Church and, indeed, a significant proportion of Morthen Road is made up of homes that have stood for many years. Wickersley is fortunate to have a newly built Resource Centre which provides private function facilities, good restaurants, popular pubs and a good selection of quality shops

Archives and Local Studies at Rotherham Central Library could furnish more ideas than I have time to but the former Roche Abbey Granges of Bramley, New Hall, Todwick etc are very significant. Also don't miss Hellaby Hall (now a hotel). Late 17th century house in Dutch Colonial Style built by a Barbados sugar planter (who was also, doubtless, a slave owner but I don't have the evidence to prove that!)

Pattern of fields, hedgerows, lanes and brideways

6. What are the main recreational and accessibility features of the area? Are there any gaps?

Bridleways and footpaths are actively used, particularly around settlements

Sailing and fishing on Harthill Reservoir

Dinnington to Thurcroft disused railway line – now cycle route

Good rights of way network

Horse riding

Bridle & public footpaths with panoramic views towards the Pennines are enjoyed daily by members of the public all through the year.
 Eating out, socialising in local pubs, shopping, evening classes provided at the Comprehensive School and also at the Resource Centre, Cricket, (in season), bowls, tennis, (courts in the village of Wickersley)
 Dinnington Pool is much missed! 20th century colliery housing was always provided with sports' pitches and bowling greens which continue to be well used. Footpath and cycle ways.
 People come from near and far to enjoy the beautiful walks and scenery – some areas comparable to country parks
 All types of visitors – horse riders, ramblers, runners, dog walkers, bird watchers, ornithologists, fruit pickers

7. What are the important perceptual or aesthetic factors of the area (e.g. visual impact of development, tranquillity, noise)

The area to the s.west of Wickersley provides panoramic views over beautiful countryside towards the Pennines. It is a pleasant quiet area where people can listen to the sounds of the countryside.
 Much of the area has the benefit of beautiful countryside. Wickersley in particular has the benefit of panoramic views of the Derbyshire hills/Pennines viewed from the South West of the village. The village itself has an abundance of good housing, shops, restaurants and schools all within easy reach of beautiful, open countryside and woodland where peace, tranquillity and relaxation can be found away from the busy dual carriageway which cuts through the village. Development has been significant in the village in previous years. The area would require heavy investment in its infrastructure, schools and industry if the population was to significantly increase.
 Depends where you are.

8. What relative value would you give the specific character area in the context of all the surrounding landscape around Rotherham? (Circle one)

Significantly below average Below average Average Above average Significantly above average

What aspects contribute to the value you have given?

The unspoiled landscape & panoramic views which are beautiful throughout the changing seasons of the year.
 The habitat it provides for the flora & fauna of this lovely part of the world.
 Depends where you are. Good in parts.

9. What do you think have been the main changes in the landscape character area in recent years and what forces for change do you anticipate in the future?

Pressure for increased development creating merged settlements
 Restored landscape that is still maturing and changing
 Potential development threat
 Motorway has had an impact on the area
 I anticipate more pressure to build on agricultural land & green belt areas
 The M1 motorway dissects the distant landscape. This can be seen and heard from the south west area of Wickersley, and other areas within the Thurcroft Plain. I wonder if the road networks around Rotherham may require further development in time because of additional car ownership.
 Closure of collieries.
 New housing developments within the pale blue encircled urban centres

10. What specific guidelines would you suggest to guide the management/enhancement and or development of the area?

We should resist development on prime agricultural land & protect our green belt
 Use brownfield sites wherever possible. Resist releasing greenbelt land and land of high landscape value.
Please note: Having lived all my life within the Rotherham area, (character areas 7 & 8), and having been privileged to have enjoyed the peace and tranquillity of open countryside I hope that future generations will be able to enjoy what I have enjoyed. The peace and sanctity offered by open countryside provides immeasurable benefit to all who care to use it.

Please leave our open space open.

Depends which bit you are thinking of. I do not perceive this blue bit as a cohesive landscape area.

8. Character Area 8 – Dinnington Limestone Plateau

Key Characteristics

- Gently undulating landform with localised incised valleys - Why 'localised'?
- Vegetated valley sides - Describe the vegetation!
- Large scale arable landscape - with surviving evidence of 'Estate' management.
- Several disused railway lines associated with former mines – some also still in use – only 1 disused but whether used or disused is irrelevant (also association with mines not too relevant) - and with Maltby Colliery which is still in production.
- Several small stone-built villages and hamlets in addition to larger mining towns and villages - most with earlier limestone village cores
- Blue Distances. Unbroken views to the Trent – 25 miles East to Gainsborough, 40 Miles North East to Thorne and South over the Dukeries.
- Big Skies.
- Clear Stars in Winter.
- Spectacular dawns.

Distinctive Features

- Laughton-en-le-Morthen church
- Maltby Colliery and Stainton Quarter
- Dinnington Community Woodland – outside study area
- Thorpe Salvin Hall and Church
- Netherthorpe airfield
- King's Wood and others - This forms a part of the Roche Abbey Woodlands SSSI and it is an integral part of the wider landscape closely associated with the gloriously beautiful valley of Maltby Dike, and with Roche Abbey and the Sandbeck Estate. (It has been in the estate for many generations.)
- Harthill church (on border of LCA)
- Anston Stones SSSI (limestone crags. Stone used for Houses of Parliament) there have been past discussions about extending the Cresswell Crags Heritage Site to include Anston Stones
- Chesterfield Canal corridor
- St John's/ James' church in South Anston
- Maltby Crags – containing caves and exposed magnesian limestone geology
- Tropical Butterfly House (now a conservation centre for butterfly, insect and reptile).
- Rolling landscape off the ridge through the vale over arable fields and woods by small villages and ex-coal mining areas.
- There is a small stand of trees just off the road from Hooton Levitt to Slade Hooton which punches above its weight because it is so clearly visible from miles around. There are many other relatively small holts and coverts of (often ancient) woodland which contribute similarly because they form such visible islands amid the seas of corn potatoes and oil-seed rape.

1. Do you have any comments on the suggested boundaries or name of the area?

Should be Dinnington and Maltby?

East Rotherham Limestone Plateau?

Concern over land east of Maltby being identified with Dinnington

Dinnington Limestone Wooded Farmlands?

Make reference to John Carr?

North south divide

The parish villages of Letwell CP and Gildingwells CP should be brought into the Area and separated from Area 9 (Sandbeck). The B6463 running eastward from Dinnington to the border with Nottinghamshire forms a natural northward line to this part of the area – northward of it the land drops down, in some places sharply, to the villages of Firbeck and Stone which most would recognise as the southern limit of Area 9.

The area between Maltby Wood and Stainton, to the North, should be removed from Area 8 and added to Sandbeck Estates, Area 9.

Don't like boundaries. It would be more logical to consider areas 8 9 and 10 as a single unit. Suggest that, if this area must be kept it is given a name like Maltby Crags – Thorpe Salvin zone and that King's Wood and all of the valley of Maltby Dike is placed more appropriately into area 9.

The area is too large to describe in general terms such as 'large scale arable landscape' – the area is diverse in its landscape character

Yes – we feel the boundaries should be moved closer to Dinnington – so that the line is drawn after the settlement of Throapham – with the resulting area to the east being placed in area 9. This would mean the

very identifiable open landscape and views stretching all way to Lincolnshire are enclosed within 1 specific area and not split up as is being suggested.

2. Do you have any comments on the key characteristics identified for the area? (mark list above or add below)
 - Large woodland blocks and relic woodlands
 - Importance of historic villages e.g. Laughton-en-le-Morthen
 - The northern part of the area is rolling farmland with very little population, dips and rises, woodland and light soils
 - Similarities with Area 9
 - Why include King's Wood in isolation when it is now a part of the much wider and more logical 'Roche Woodlands SSSI'?
 - Anston Stones

3. Do you consider that there are any other important distinctive features in the area? (mark list above or add below)
 - Harry Crofts quarry
 - You make no reference to the Magnesian Limestone villages and village cores which have distinctive ancient churches. See also General Comment .Dinnington Hall and Thurcroft Hall also merit specific mention.

4. What are the important natural features of the area? (including, hydrology, geology & wildlife)
 - Refer to Cresswell Limestone Ridge Project
 - Limestone geology e.g. Anston Stones
 - Limestone streams
 - Woodlands – often local wildlife sites because they are calcareous woodlands
 - Large arable fields important for over wintering birds e.g. plovers and lapwings
 - Harry Croft quarry (limestone)
 - Lighter soils
 - Ancient woodland in valleys
 - Abundant flora and fauna.
 - Song and Mistle thrush. Over-wintering Fieldfare and Redwing.
 - Great, Blue, Long-tailed, Coal and Willow tit.
 - Bull, Green, Gold & Chaffinch.
 - Lapwing & Ring Plover. Over-wintering flocks of Golden Plover.
 - Green & Great Spotted Woodpeckers. Nuthatch and Treecreeper.
 - Swallow and Marten.
 - Skylark & Meadow pipet.
 - Snipe. Woodcock. Pheasant. Grey and Red-legged partridge.
 - Tawny, Little and Barn owls.
 - Pied, Yellow and Grey wagtails.
 - Cuckoo.
 - Blackcap, Linnet, Whitethroat, Reed Bunting, Wood and Reed Warbler, Dunnock, Wren, Goldcrest, Spotted Flycatcher, Robin. Over-wintering Siskin.
 - Rook, Jackdaw, Magpie, Jay and carrion Crow.
 - Abundance of arable land with meadow flowers and plant life.
 - Variety of old and young trees.
 - Orchids in field & woods.
 - Butterflies - Speckled Wood. Comma. Skipper. Tortoiseshell. Peacock. Red Admiral. Copper. Meadow Brown. Wall Brown. Gatekeeper. Blue. Brimstone. Painted Lady. Orange Tip. Marbled White. Large and Small Whites.
 - Too many moths to list, including various Hawkmoths (Privet, Laurel and Hummingbird).
 - Too many insects to list, including various Bees, Wasps, Longhorns.
 - Various small ponds with attendant pond life including newts.
 - Various species of Bat frequent the area of the ridge especially around the woodland margins and around the Butterfly House.
 - Natural England notes a good network of woodland and calcareous grassland to the South and East of Anston, including Anston Stones Wood SSSI and Lindrick Common.
 - Ancient woodland, Wood Lee SSSI (geological designation) Maltby Crag and Crag Meadow and many more. Anston Stones Gorge, Woodland and individual trees within Dinnington/N Anston formerly associated with Dinnington Hall. Woodland and landscaping associated with site of Maltby Hall (Now Maltby Comp and Lilly Hall campus) with associated protected and unprotected woodland

Bats in North Anston, Anston Stones, Ancient Woodland

5. What are the important cultural/historic features of the area? (including, field patterns, people & places)
- Capability Brown links with area
 - Monastic landscape (see sytimescape site)
 - Dinnington Comprehensive School was designed by Basil Spence
 - Anston Stones very important - Stone from Anston Stones used for Houses of Parliament
 - Laughton-en-le-Morthen is particularly important historically – early medieval land division, fine church, motte and bailey, old hall, medieval brick kiln
 - Brampton Hall, Slade Hooton and other 18th century houses
 - History of charcoal burning
 - Dinnington and North Aston are very different and 2 separate villages – Dinnington was built as a mining village, where as North Aston relates to farming and is a more rural village
 - Buildings by John Carr
 - Ancient churches, Patterns of settlement and lots of archaeology. Roche Abbey influence on the wider landscape
 - Dead Man’s Cave – located at Anston Stones
 - The open countryside provides a peaceful backdrop to busy Sheffield
6. What are the main recreational and accessibility features of the area? Are there any gaps?
- Lots of public footpaths - walking
 - Off-road cycling
 - Canal boats on lakes and canal
 - Horse riding – lots of existing and past stables (e.g. Retford Gallops?)
 - Butterfly Farm
 - There are less recreational routes in the northern part of the area
 - There are proposals for a recreational/archaeological route through the area – the ‘Limestone Way’ or the ‘Archaeology Way’?
 - RMBC run annual events – these walks contain information on the woodlands
 - Horse riding
 - Whitwell Wood
 - NOT QUITE CLEAR WHAT YOU ARE LOOKING FOR! This is a huge question.
 - Anston Stones
 - Various recreation grounds and parks
7. What are the important perceptual or aesthetic factors of the area (e.g. visual impact of development, tranquillity, noise)
- Openness
 - Rotherham’s ‘Little Cotswolds’
 - Depends where you are within it. Views of the spire of Laughton Church are a unifying feature.
 - The noise level in the east of North Anston where I live is low – I can hear the peacocks in the Butterfly House in the morning. It’s a peaceful and tranquil area
8. What relative value would you give the specific character area in the context of all the surrounding landscape around Rotherham? (Circle one)
- Significantly below average Below average Average Above average Significantly above average
- What aspects contribute to the value you have given?
- The villages and hamlets
 - The openness south of the canal
 - History, Archaeology, Landforms, Building Stones, Historic Landscapes
 - The quiet peaceful and scenic nature of the fields and the uniqueness of Anston Stones and the ancient woodlands to the east of North Anston
9. What do you think have been the main changes in the landscape character area in recent years and what forces for change do you anticipate in the future?
- Little change in the area
 - More accessible due to footpath improvements and the canal
 - Potential housing pressure – Is RSS Principal Town - urban fringe pressures

Loss of hedgerows for agricultural purposes

I fear that as the area to the East of the ridge is largely unspoilt to date, with developments being mainly along the main A road ribbons, the pressure to build housing on "blank canvass/clean sheets" may be too tempting.

Closure of collieries. In the medium term Maltby colliery will inevitably close as well but we don't know when.

That could modify the northern section of the bigger area of 8, 9 and 10 which I am asking you to consider as a single unit.

The village of North Anston was enlarged significantly approximately 40 years ago – although there may be pressure to develop on this scale again in future years I think to do so would change the character of North Anston in a detrimental way

10. What specific guidelines would you suggest to guide the management/enhancement and or development of the area?

Do not allow the rural character of the area to be destroyed.

Do not permit housing development along the skyline of the Eastern ridge.

Protect the bird, animal and plant life

Have regard to the knock-on effect of any developments on the sites of specific natural beauty (like the Stones) and value (like the Butterfly House).

Regenerate the field boundaries and hedgerows.

Prevent the area developing beyond the ability of the transport and utilities infrastructure to cope.

Prevent the area becoming a vast dormitory town.

Protect the wide open arable lands.

Resist the temptation for continuous erosion of the Green Belt land.

RESPECT! Planners need to do their 'homework' and read up what is already published about the area.

I would suggest to keep Lakeland Drive as a clear border for where the green belt starts to the east of North Anston

9. Character Area 9 – Sandbeck Estates

Key Characteristics

- **Parkland** core associated with Sandbeck (and to a lesser extent Firbeck Hall)
- Main halls private and not visible from public roads or rights of way - This statement is sweeping and needs to be reconsidered. Sandbeck House and the area around it can be viewed from Lamb Lane just N of its junction with the B6463
- Large woodland blocks - Extensive woodlands set within high quality agricultural land would be a better description
- Gently undulating ~~with isolated small hills~~
- Shallow stream valleys - OK, so it isn't the Grand Canyon but 'shallow' in relation to what?
- Presence of farm courts/model farms (common farm courts – with associated commons – often converted now) - Obvious tenant farm houses and buildings associated /previously associated with local estates

Distinctive Features

- Roche Abbey
- Sandbeck Park
- Firbeck Hall
- Rough Park/Jubilee Plantation

1. Do you have any comments on the suggested boundaries or name of the area?

Sandbeck Park?

Amend boundary to concentrate on Sandbeck, with remainder linked to Area 8

Expand to include larger woodland blocks and valley

The parish villages of Letwell CP and Gildingwells CP should be separated from Area 9 (Sandbeck) into Area 8.

The B6463 running eastward from Dinnington to the border with Nottinghamshire forms a natural northward line to this part of the area – northward of it the land drops down, in some places sharply, to the villages of Firbeck and Stone which most would recognise as the southern limit of Area 9.

The area between Maltby Wood and Stainton, to the N, should be removed from Area 8 and added to Area 9.

Needs to be changed. Eastern Estates??? The whole concept needs to be challenged as the parkland landscape is now largely arable. The name is too easily confused with 'Sandbeck Estate' and would, in any case be more sensibly included in a wider landscape area. Why don't you recognise and laud the unifying features of the magnesian limestone landscape? Grrrrrrrrrr!!!!!!

Yes – we feel the boundaries should be moved closer to Dinnington – so that the line is drawn after the settlement of Throapham – with the resulting area to the east being placed in area 9. This would mean the very identifiable open landscape and views stretching all way to Lincolnshire are enclosed within 1 specific area and not split up as is being suggested.

2. Do you have any comments on the key characteristics identified for the area? (mark list above or add below)

Planned landscape (Capability Brown)

Stripped from its wider historical and cultural context. The 'Estate' landscape is much wider than 9.

The largely untouched medieval village of Letwell with its listed dovecot and historic parish church.

Site of the original St Leger – oldest classic horse race in world

Wide network of footpath and bridleway – one of which formed the original parkhorse route from Retford to Sheffield. Traces of the original stone cobbles still exist in part of the route leading from Letwell church towards Dinnington

3. Do you consider that there are any other important distinctive features in the area? (mark list above or add below)

Stone villages

If I could make sense of the detail of your boundaries, I might be able to help here! You have messed up my favourite valley with nonsensical subdivision!

As above

4. What are the important natural features of the area? (including, hydrology, geology & wildlife)

Maltby Crags on border of 8 and 9

There is a good network of broadleaved woodland to the South of Maltby and close to Sandbeck Hall, including Maltby Common, Maltby Wood and Rough Park.

Wildlife, agriculture, estate villages

Notable wildlife with regular sightings of rare birds, butterflies and wildflowers.
 Sightings this summer of painted lady butterflies from Morocco and other rare species.
 Vast numbers of birds including skylarks, yellow wagtails, buzzards, yellow hammers and hobbies.
 Parish of Letwell includes SSSI woodland to the east of village

5. What are the important cultural/historic features of the area? (including, field patterns, people & places)
 Monastic landscape
 Part survival of racecourse near Firbeck (Langold) – first St Leger race held there
 The Sandbeck Estate is not a single entity any more, financial difficulties led to the splitting up of the estate
 Legion.
 Listed village hall. Site of regular music and social events

6. What are the main recreational and accessibility features of the area? Are there any gaps?
 Limited public rights of way in park
 Good path Maltby to Hooton Levitt
 Off road cycling
 Walking - Walkers to Roche Abbey
 Horse riding – old stables
 Walking and horse riding

7. What are the important perceptual or aesthetic factors of the area (e.g. visual impact of development, tranquillity, noise)
 The tranquillity attracts many visitors each week

8. What relative value would you give the specific character area in the context of all the surrounding landscape around Rotherham? (Circle one)

Significantly below average Below average Average Above average Significantly above average

What aspects contribute to the value you have given?

Little change in past
 No major development changes but agricultural changes e.g. reduction in hedgerows
 High landscape value. Significant rolling agricultural area. Important listed buildings, Roche Abbey
 The open nature of the countryside and views, with wooded copses here and there, and streams running east towards Langold Lake. The village itself has not yet been ruined by development.

9. What do you think have been the main changes in the landscape character area in recent years and what forces for change do you anticipate in the future?
 God help Firbeck Hall!
 We remain at risk – as yet the landscape not been damaged, but housing developments could destroy the open landscape should RMBC choose to allow building on the green belt as threatened.

10. What specific guidelines would you suggest to guide the management/enhancement and or development of the area?
 Suggest you talk to the landowners.
 A determined approach by RMBC to protect the green belt from housing development is desperately needed.
 The parish council would like to see the few green areas which are untouched in the borough protected.
 Housing development should be carefully sited to avoid ruining the landscape forever.
 Some financial support should be offered to help Parish Council's enhance the landscape.

10. Character Area 10 – River Ryton Limestone Farmlands

Key Characteristics

- Flat floodplain of River Ryton
- Numerous small disused quarries
- Small discrete woodland blocks
- Medium scale arable farmland with poor hedgerows
- Settlement generally isolated properties and small hamlets
- Railway line between Worksop and Sheffield passes through area, **as does Chesterfield Canal**
- **Areas of heathland, particularly around the golf course**

Distinctive Features

- Lindrick Common and Golf Course
- Chesterfield Canal – **very good feature – defined the activities that were undertaken historically in this area – built by Geordie navvies**
This feature only makes local sense in the context of the Duke of Leeds's association with it. (D of L held Kiveton Park a BIG HOUSE probably by Talman but which was (sadly) demolished) It was used to export the very famous Anston stone (which was almost as good as that from the Roche Abbey Quarries. Roche stone, which had been much admired by Christopher Wren, was less easy to export because there was no canal nearby) Canals and great estates tend to go together as it was the substantial landowners who could get the best credit to support such ventures.
- Turnerwood
- **Anston Brook (important gorge)**

1. Do you have any comments on the suggested boundaries or name of the area?
Ryton and Anston farmlands?
Not the most helpful name. Little logic in designating this as an area distinct from 8 and 9 above.
2. Do you have any comments on the key characteristics identified for the area? (mark list above or add below)
Catchment area of river
Area and river not well known other than locally
3. Do you consider that there are any other important distinctive features in the area? (mark list above or add below)
Lindrick Dale with limestone cliffs
'The Moat' – glacial feature (drumlin) also known as Moses Seat
4. What are the important natural features of the area? (including, hydrology, geology & wildlife)
Lots of streams/valleys
Chesterfield Canal feeder around Moat
Anston Stones??
Woodland with good walks
5. What are the important cultural/historic features of the area? (including, field patterns, people & places)
Anston Grange – old farmstead
Chesterfield Canal
Golf course (challenging and was a Ryder Cup course)
6. What are the main recreational and accessibility features of the area? Are there any gaps?
Golf, fishing, sailing, canoeing on canal, horse riding
7. What are the important perceptual or aesthetic factors of the area (e.g. visual impact of development, tranquillity, noise)
Near A57 – a noise source
8. What relative value would you give the specific character area in the context of all the surrounding landscape around Rotherham? (Circle one)

Significantly below average Below average Average Above average Significantly above average

What aspects contribute to the value you have given?

Canal. Lindrick Dale. Golf course

9. What do you think have been the main changes in the landscape character area in recent years and what forces for change do you anticipate in the future?

Growth in traffic on A57

No real development pressure in future

Restoration of Chesterfield Canal.

10. What specific guidelines would you suggest to guide the management/enhancement and or development of the area?

Appendix F

Extracts from Topic Paper 6

Figure 1(a) below is taken from Topic Paper 6 and highlights the factors that are considered in order to derive Overall Landscape Sensitivity.

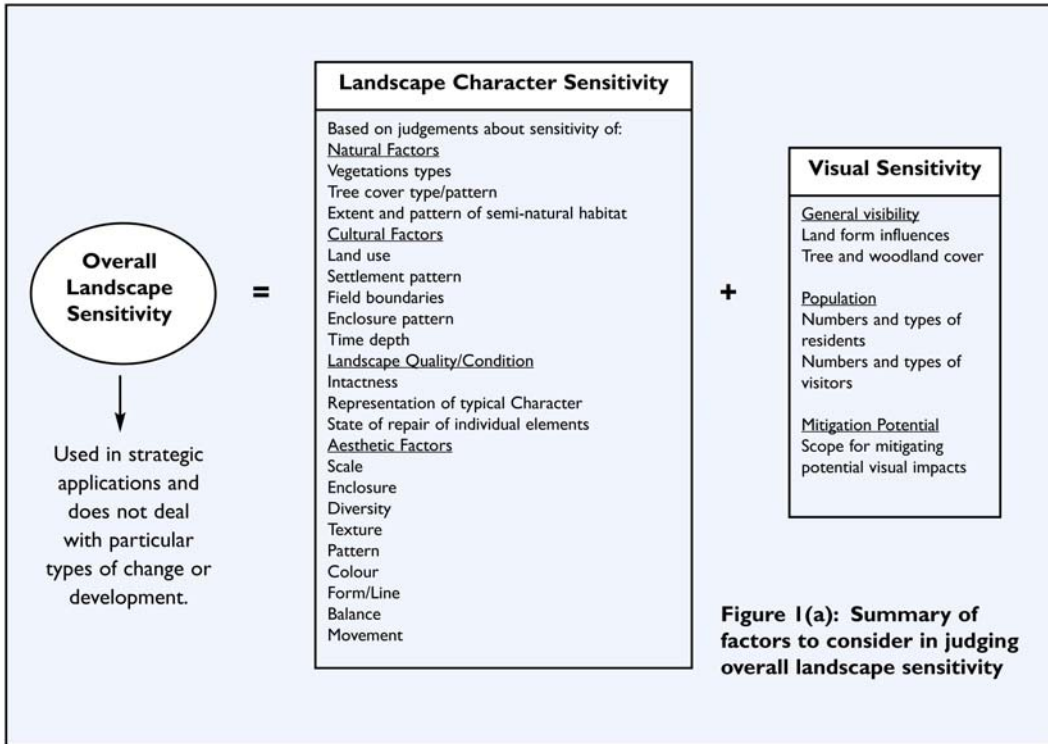
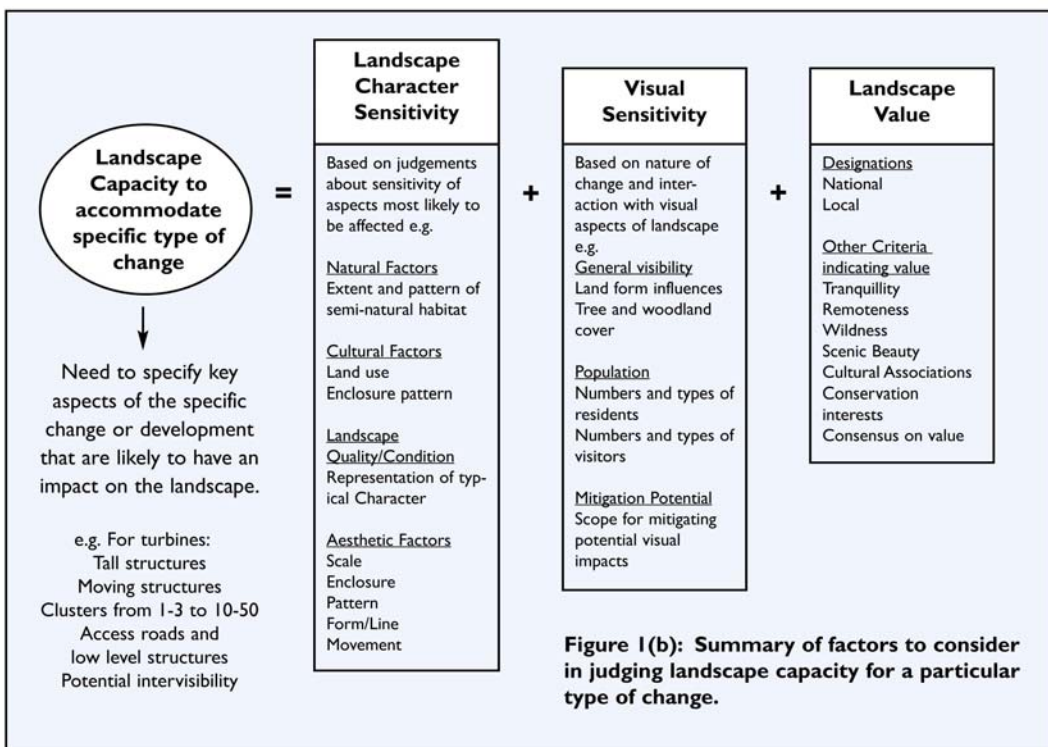


Figure 1(b) below is taken from Topic Paper 6 and highlights the factors that are considered in order to derive Landscape Capacity.



Appendix G

Rotherham Landscape Character Assessment – Examples of Criteria Based Policies**Ashford Borough Council - Tenterden and Rural Sites DPD Regulation 27 Publication Version – June 2009****Landscape Character and Design**

7.71 Large parts of Ashford Borough provide a rich variety of landscapes and different geologies stretching from the North Downs to the Romney Marsh with the Greensand Ridge, the Stour river valleys and extensive areas of the Weald between. This provides a key recreational resource for residents and visitors alike, as well as forming the attractive setting for the towns and villages that make the Borough a special place to live.

7.72 A significant proportion of this area is comprised of parts of two Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), which are afforded a separate and highest level of protection in national guidance in PPS7 and the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. Paragraph 6.33 of the Core Strategy sets out the Council's approach to development in the AONBs where the conservation of the landscape's beauty will be the priority. As a matter of principle, all of the countryside is protected for its own sake under PPS7, an approach endorsed in paragraphs 6.28-6.37 of the Core Strategy. Should PPS coverage change in the future, then the Council will review the extent of the policy coverage within this DPD.

7.73 However, PPS7 encourages more specific guidance to be given for areas of the countryside which are considered to have distinctive local character, and advocates a criteria-based approach in Local Development Documents to inform development decisions in these areas.

7.74 Landscape Character assessments are a useful tool in providing evidence to support a criteria-based policy approach. In 2009, the Council commissioned consultants to produce a landscape character assessment of the Borough to identify the key types of landscapes and the important characteristics and features of each.

7.75 The 2009 assessment covered the Borough's countryside outside the Ashford urban area and built-up part of Tenterden 3 . The parts of the Kent Downs and High Weald AONBs that fall within the Borough were not included within this recent landscape assessment work as they have previously been extensively surveyed through the relevant AONB management plans.

7.76 Other policies in this DPD set out when new development will be acceptable in the countryside, notably policies TRS2, TRS3 and TRS10. Where development is considered appropriate in principle it will be required to be designed in a way which complements the particular type of landscape in which it is located, and its key characteristics and features. These include the following factors:-

a) Landform, topography and natural patterns of drainage

7.77 The way in which development fits within the landscape can be determined by its relationship with the natural topography of the area. Particular landform features that contribute to the character of the landscape in that area (and their setting) should be protected. Views into and from a site will be a relevant factor in assessing the impact of a proposal. Developments should be planned around natural patterns of drainage and minimise the need to divert or block these.

b) The pattern and composition of trees and woodlands

7.78 Trees and woodlands often constitute valuable features in a landscape by giving it definition and legibility. These features should normally be retained and protected. Similarly, the nature of the woodland may be a relevant factor, for example, whether it is deciduous, evergreen or mixed, in assessing the impact of a development on the character of the landscape.

c) The type and composition of wildlife habitats

7.79 The presence of wildlife itself within a landscape area can often contribute towards its attractiveness and its character by giving it activity and vibrancy. The identification and protection of habitat should be part of development proposals in the countryside.

d) The pattern and composition of field boundaries

7.80 The size and definition of field boundaries may be a significant factor in giving a landscape its character. In particular, the pattern and species of hedgerows can provide a rich 'mosaic' that contributes greatly to the character of the countryside. Development proposals should retain existing hedgerows and

Rotherham Landscape Character Assessment – Examples of Criteria Based Policies

maintain the prevailing pattern of field boundaries and where appropriate, the Council shall seek the repair or replanting of damaged field boundaries.

e) The pattern and distribution of settlements, roads and footpaths

7.81 The form and pattern of built development within the landscape provides the contrast with the natural countryside which, together, creates the overall character of the area. This may have evolved over many years or may be more recent but in either case, should be considered as a relevant factor in assessing the impact of development proposals.

f) The presence and pattern of historic landscape features

7.82 Historic landscape features are likely to play an important role in defining the character of the landscape. These features and their setting should be protected from new development that would adversely affect their integrity or views to or from them.

g) The setting, scale, layout, design and detailing of vernacular buildings and other traditional man-made features

7.83 The landscape character can also be defined in part by the local character of individual or groups of rural buildings. These can play a critical role in defining the characteristics of an area, for example, oast houses associated with hop growing in Kent. Where such buildings play an important role in the identification of landscape character, new development should take account of their scale, design and detailing when new buildings or alterations to existing buildings are proposed.

7.84 The Council will produce a more detailed Landscape Character SPD based on the Landscape Character Assessment work produced in 2005 and 2009 that will set out clearly the key elements of each character area and how developments should respond in order to ensure that the character of those areas is not compromised or damaged. This will ensure that well-designed proposals that can contribute towards enhancing the character of each landscape area may come forward.

7.85 Development proposals near to the boundary of an identified landscape character area should also take account of any relevant landscape features or characteristics of that adjacent landscape character area in order to ensure that there would be no adverse impacts on the character of that area.

Policy TRS 17

Landscape Character and Design

Development in the rural areas shall be designed in a way which complements and enhances the particular landscape character area within which it is located, and, where relevant, any adjacent landscape character area. Proposals shall have particular regard to the following:-

- i) Landform, topography and natural patterns of drainage**
- ii) The pattern and composition of trees and woodlands**
- ii) The type and composition of wildlife habitats**
- iv) The pattern and composition of field boundaries**
- v) The pattern and distribution of settlements, roads and footpaths**
- vi) The presence and pattern of historic landscape features**
- vii) The setting, scale, layout, design and detailing of vernacular buildings and other traditional man made features**
- viii) Any relevant guidance given in an AONB Management Plan or in a Landscape Character SPD**

Existing features that are important to the local landscape character shall be retained and incorporated into the proposed development.

For the purpose of this policy, the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty are to be treated as landscape character areas.

Rotherham Landscape Character Assessment – Examples of Criteria Based Policies**HART DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN (Replacement) 1996-2006****Landscape Character Areas****GEN 3**

WITHIN THE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS, AS INDICATED BELOW AND SHOWN ON THE PROPOSALS MAP, DEVELOPMENT WILL BE PERMITTED IF IT DOES NOT ADVERSELY AFFECT THE PARTICULAR CHARACTER OF THE LANDSCAPE, AND IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH OTHER POLICIES OF THIS PLAN.

1. Wellington 2. Tylney 3. Bartley 4. Whitewater Valley 5. Blackwater Valley 6. Firgrove 7. Bramshill 8. Hazeley / West Green 9. Winchfield 10. Dogmersfield 11. Hart Valley 12. Minley 13. Tweseldown 14. Redlands 15. Hart Downs

A detailed landscape appraisal of Hart District has been carried out and published in the Hart District Landscape Assessment, April 1997. The Landscape Character Areas above have been identified as a result of this work. The six built up areas of Fleet/Church Crookham, Yateley, Blackwater, Hartley Wintney, Hook and Odiham are not included within these areas, because they are not within the open countryside. The countryside is protected for its own sake, under policies RUR 2 and RUR 3 of this plan, and the advice within PPG7 on the Countryside and Rural Economy. This policy is not intended to prevent appropriate development from taking place in the countryside. Where development is permitted under other policies of the plan however, it is important that it respects the landscape character of the surrounding countryside and that is the purpose of this policy. The identification of specific landscape character areas, and the description of the character, potential threats to this character, and future management needs included as part of the appraisal, will guide planning decisions across all of the countryside within Hart District. The Blackwater Valley (Landscape Character Area 5) also has additional policies specifically concerning its recreational and open gap functions. The results of the landscape appraisal are summarised within the introductory sections of this plan (Section 3.3) For the purposes of appraising proposed developments, reference should be made to "Hart District Landscape Assessment" (Hart District Council, 1997).

3.3 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS OF THE PLAN AREA

3.3.1 Further details of the Landscape Types / Landscape Character Areas in Hart can be found in "Hart District Landscape Assessment April 1997", available from Hart District Council Landscape Section. This is a supporting document to the Replacement Local Plan. The report was commissioned to fulfil the following objectives:

- to provide a characterisation of the District's landscape based upon the landscape types already identified by Hampshire County Council and the approach recommended by the Countryside Agency in their guidance document on landscape assessment;
- to analyse and describe the elements (landscape, visual, ecological and historical) that contribute to the distinctiveness of areas of different character;
- to evaluate landscape quality across the District with a view to the identification of areas of special landscape quality;
- to identify land use and management issues and to provide broad management guidelines which highlight priority areas for landscape conservation, restoration or enhancement.

Detailed Landscape Character Areas

3.3.2 No formal landscape designations are made for Hart District by the structure plan but the attractive and varied countryside of the district is an asset, which the plan intends should be conserved. To assist in this the Hart District Landscape Assessment was carried out, which has identified the 15 landscape character areas described below. These are not intended to impose additional restraints on development. The policies of the plan permit development for various purposes to take place outside the urban areas of the district. It is nevertheless considered important that development should respect the character of the surrounding countryside. The identification of the landscape character areas and definition of the essential elements of their character act as a guide to those proposing development.

Rotherham Landscape Character Assessment – Examples of Criteria Based Policies

3.3.3 The pattern of landscape types provides a detailed impression of the range of character variation within the District and it also provides the basis for defining areas with a coherent character and particular sense of place. A total of fifteen character areas have been identified within Hart District and these are shown on the Proposals Map. The small scale and large number of these areas generally reflects the complexity of the study area landscape and the purpose for which the assessment is to be used; it is broadly consistent with the scale of other landscape characterisations within Hampshire.

3.3.4 In broad terms, the character areas define areas of chalk landscape (Hart Downs); the main river valleys (Blackwater, Whitewater and Hart); the main areas of forest and heath (Bramshill, Hazeley, Bartley, Tweseldown and Minley); and the more mixed landscapes of farmland, woodland and parkland (Dogmersfield, Wellington, Firgrove, Redlands, West Green, Winchfield and Tylney). The essential distinguishing characteristics of the individual character areas are outlined briefly below.

(NB. Example of one area only. All areas covered within Local Plan)

1. Wellington

This character area lies to the extreme north-west of the District and is bounded to the north and west by the District boundary (although the character extends beyond) and to the east by the Whitewater Valley. Its southern boundary marks a discernible change in vegetation character. Its main distinguishing characteristics are:

- the formal, historic parkland and well-managed estate character of Stratfield Saye Park with its avenues, parkland trees (including the distinctive Wellingtonias), and the prominent Wellington monument;
- well-wooded character, with extensive broad-leaved and mixed woodlands, forming the setting for the Wellington Country Park;
- a patchwork of fields (mainly under pasture) set within a woodland structure;
- a distinctively heath-like character to the vegetation within woods, hedges and roadside verges (including pine, oak, birch, gorse, bracken and broom) reflecting former heathland and underlying acidic soils;
- subtle land-form falling gently and almost imperceptibly to the east and west into the valleys of the Whitewater and Lyde rivers;
- a dispersed and sparse settlement pattern of individual farm buildings and houses with no major settlements.

Rotherham Landscape Character Assessment – Examples of Criteria Based Policies

HIGH PEAK LOCAL PLAN – March 2005

- 4.19 Government advice in PPG7 The Countryside - Environmental Quality and Economic and Social Development 1997 required that existing landscape designations be reassessed and replaced with a character appraisal approach. This is based on the Countryside Agency's Character of England Regional Character Areas. It was recognised that these areas were too broad to assist policy formulation and in 2000 Derbyshire County Council began a more detailed landscape character assessment of the whole of Derbyshire (with the exception of Derby City and other urban areas) in conjunction with the District Councils. This has been carried out following guidelines issued by the Countryside Agency and published in Landscape Assessment Guidance 1993 (CCP423). It gives a consistent categorisation which goes beyond administrative boundaries within Derbyshire and also takes account of adjoining landscape types in other counties.
- 4.20 The 9 landscape character types identified in High Peak Plan area by the Derbyshire Landscape Character Assessment are split between the Regional Character Areas, the White Peak and Dark Peak (including Southwest Peak and Manchester Pennine Fringe). They are:
- **White Peak**
 - Plateau Pastures
 - Limestone Dales
 - Limestone Moorland
 - **Dark Peak**
 - Open Moors
 - Enclosed Moor and Heath
 - Moorland Fringe
 - Settled Valley Pastures
 - Wooded Upland Valleys
 - Riverside Meadows
- 4.21 Development which is considered to be appropriate in the countryside as defined in Policies OC1, OC2 and OC3, will be required to be designed in a way which complements and relates to the particular type of landscape in which it is located. Many of the landscape types cut across local authority boundaries. As resources permit Supplementary Planning Guidance on each of the landscape types will be written to indicate the design principles that are appropriate to each one. This will include such things as characteristics building materials, local building styles and details, grouping and siting of buildings, enclosure and other landscaping details.

OC4 - LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AND DESIGN

PLANNING PERMISSION WILL BE GRANTED FOR DEVELOPMENT CONSIDERED APPROPRIATE IN THE COUNTRYSIDE PROVIDED THAT ITS DESIGN IS APPROPRIATE TO THE CHARACTER OF THE LANDSCAPE

APPROPRIATE DESIGN OF DEVELOPMENT SHALL ACCORD WITH THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE TYPE OF LANDSCAPE WITHIN WHICH IT IS LOCATED INCLUDING HAVING REGARD TO AND CONSERVING:

- THE LANDFORM AND NATURAL PATTERNS OF DRAINAGE;
- THE PATTERN AND COMPOSITION OF TREES AND WOODLAND;
- THE TYPE AND DISTRIBUTION OF WILDLIFE HABITATS;
- THE PATTERN AND COMPOSITION OF FIELD BOUNDARIES;
- THE PATTERN AND DISTRIBUTION OF SETTLEMENTS AND ROADS;
- THE PRESENCE AND PATTERN OF HISTORIC LANDSCAPE FEATURES;

Rotherham Landscape Character Assessment – Examples of Criteria Based Policies

- THE SCALE, LAYOUT, DESIGN AND DETAILING OF VERNACULAR BUILDINGS AND OTHER TRADITIONAL MAN MADE FEATURES.

EXISTING FEATURES WHICH ARE IMPORTANT TO THE LOCAL LANDSCAPE CHARACTER, SHALL BE RETAINED, INCORPORATED INTO THE DEVELOPMENT AND PROTECTED DURING CONSTRUCTION WORK.

WHERE APPROPRIATE THE LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY WILL IMPOSE PLANNING CONDITIONS AND/OR SEEK TO ENTER INTO A PLANNING OBLIGATION UNDER SECTION 106 OF THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990.

DERBYSHIRE DALES AND HIGH PEAK JOINT CORE STRATEGY - Issues and Options – March 2009

Issue ENV 1

Landscape and Townscape Protection and Management.

8.25 The high quality natural and historic landscape is one of the key reasons why Derbyshire Dales and High Peak attract people to live in the area. It also drives a thriving tourist economy and is a key asset for attracting economic investment to the area.

8.26 The landscape is valued for its scenic beauty, its wildlife and its historic interest. It contributes to a high quality of life, it is a resource for recreation and education and is important for attracting tourism. Yet it is also subject to demands for housing, industry and commerce, transport, water, energy and food production. As a result the landscape is continually changing but it is important to recognise where it may be fragile or vulnerable to damage and to protect it from neglect and inappropriate development.

8.27 Urban environments within the Core Strategy area are equally important in terms of the quality of life for those who live in, work in and visit them. These are the areas where most development will take place and where many parks and open spaces are located.

8.28 Undue harm arising from development must be avoided to protect this important resource, although the quality of the landscape must not prevent new development from occurring where there is a proven need for it.

Option ENV 1a

Pursue a landscape character based approach to managing development in the countryside.

8.29 This approach would put landscape character at the forefront of the relevant considerations for managing development in the countryside. Development would be allowed in the countryside as long as there was a proven need for it and as long as it contributed to the wider strategic objectives of the Core Strategy. It would improve the flexibility of planning in rural areas and would ensure that new development responded to local landscapes by protecting, restoring or even enhancing the quality of the character of the landscape. Such an approach would be supported by the preparation of a more detailed Landscape Character Supplementary Planning Document which would guide the design of new development in individual landscape character areas. This approach could also be applied within the built up area boundaries of the local settlements.

How Sustainable is this Option?

8.30 A landscape character approach to development in the countryside would help to ensure sympathetic integration of any development with its surroundings. By enabling appropriate development, this approach gives some flexibility and offers the opportunity to provide positive impacts for employment, tourism and housing in the countryside. The interim sustainability appraisal identifies some potential negative impacts against renewable energy development and impacts on noise and air quality.

Rotherham Landscape Character Assessment – Examples of Criteria Based Policies

BATH & NORTH EAST SOMERSET – Bath & North East Somerset Local Plan including minerals & waste policies – Adopted October 2007

C2.6 Landscape contributes significantly to the identity of an area, forming the setting for day to day life, in village, town, city and countryside. It is a resource for recreation, a reservoir of historical evidence and an environment for plants and animals. National guidance and the JRSP strongly promote the recognition of the distinctiveness of local landscape character as reflected in the local topography, pattern of tree cover, field size, nature of boundaries, form of settlement and building design and materials.

C2.7 With its complicated geology and topography, Bath & North East Somerset has a particularly diverse range of landscapes. The District's rural landscapes are described in 'Rural Landscapes of Bath & North East Somerset: A Landscape Character Assessment' published in April 2003, which forms Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) to Policy NE.1. The Landscape character areas in Bath & North East Somerset are shown on Diagram 9.

C2.8 The Council seeks conservation and enhancement of landscape character whilst sustaining economic and social vitality to provide for *balanced communities*. The Council seeks to limit development of greenfield sites and directs limited development to rural settlements, concentrating on those which already act as a focus for provision of local services. This embodies national guidance that the countryside is an asset in its own right and building in the open countryside, away from existing settlement, should be strictly controlled.

C2.9 The landscape setting of Bath is one of the city's most important assets and makes an important contribution to its status as a World Heritage site. It embodies the spring, from which the city first developed, and the river. It includes its hillside setting, the many designed and open spaces that lie within the built-up areas and the countryside, much of which lies within the Cotswolds AONB, which surrounds and penetrates deep within the city. A number of prominent, green hillsides within the built-up area, namely Stirtingale Farm, Twerton Farm, The Tumps, Twerton Round Hill, Beechen Cliff, Lyncombe and Mount Beacon, are also vital to the city's landscape setting and character as well as being important for wildlife. For Bath, Policy NE.1 is supplemented by the landscape strategy, entitled 'Cherishing Outdoor Places'.

C2.10 The character of Keynsham, Norton-Radstock and the villages are enriched and partly defined by the landscapes which surround and in some cases penetrate the built up areas. For Radstock the convergence of five valleys contributes to its unique character. It is surrounded and penetrated by prominent hillsides, including those around Midsomer Norton, which make a fundamental contribution to the town's character and adjoining areas.

C2.11 The aim of Policy NE.1 is to retain and where appropriate, enhance local landscape character in both urban and rural areas. Development will need to meet high standards of design, be sensitively related to existing settlements and conserve historic, wildlife and landscape resources. The Landscape Character Assessment SPG will be used to assess the effect of proposals on landscape character and local distinctiveness when applying Policy NE.1 to particular proposals.

POLICY NE.1

Development which does not either conserve or enhance the character and local distinctiveness of the landscape will not be permitted.

Important Hillsides

C2.18 Within Bath, there are large tracts of open hillsides which are important in giving Bath its green and rural setting. Many are protected by Green Belt designation but others such as at Stirtingale Farm, Twerton Farm, The Tumps, Twerton Round Hill, Beechen Cliff, Lyncombe and Mount Beacon are not. Prominent, green hillsides like these within the built-up area are vital to the City's landscape setting and character. Many of the hillsides are also important for wildlife.

C2.19 Similarly Radstock's location at the convergence of five valleys contributes to its unique character. It is surrounded and penetrated by prominent hillsides, including those around Midsomer Norton, which make a fundamental contribution to the town's character and adjoining areas.

C2.20 Where these hillsides make a contribution to local character, they are protected under Policy NE.3.

Rotherham Landscape Character Assessment – Examples of Criteria Based Policies

POLICY NE.3

Development that would adversely affect the contribution that hillsides make to the character and landscape setting of Bath and Norton-Radstock, will not be permitted.

BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET CORE STRATEGY, Spatial Options Consultation - October 2009

Landscape

Proposed Policy Framework

Main policy elements to include:

- Protect, promote and enhance the distinctive qualities and features of the local landscape character
- Support review of the local landscape character areas and preparation of new landscape character assessments
- Support the preparation of a landscape strategy and action plan
- Identify priority areas (i.e. those sensitive or subject to change) and through management plans, promote the active conservation, enhancement and/or restoration of these areas, address climate change (mitigation and adaptation)
- Safeguard and where possible enhance important views (e.g. this would include views to historically or culturally significant aspects of the urban and rural landscape and other popular viewpoints)
- Promote effective landscape management measures
- Protect and enhance the settings and separate identities of settlements

Draft Policy Explanation

2.100 Landscape policy in Bath & North East Somerset will seek to follow principles contained in the European Landscape Convention (ELC) which came into effect in the UK in March 2007. The ELC defines landscape as 'An area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors'. Landscape contributes significantly to the identity of an area, forming the setting for day to day life, in village, town, city and countryside. It is a resource for recreation, a reservoir of historical evidence and an environment for plants and animals. National guidance and the RSS strongly promote the recognition of the distinctiveness of local landscape character as reflected in the local topography, pattern of tree cover, field size, nature of boundaries, form of settlement and building design and materials.

Our sensitive landscapes include:

- Two Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty
- City of Bath World Heritage Site and its setting
- Parks and Gardens of National Historic Importance
- Parks and Gardens of local importance
- Important hillsides and skylines
- Visually important open spaces
- Conservation Areas and historic landscapes
- Country lanes
- Tranquil areas and other sensitive landscapes such as the Chew Valley

2.101 Bath & North East Somerset has a rich and diverse range of landscapes which are described in 'Rural Landscapes of Bath & North East Somerset: A Landscape Character Assessment' and the 'Bath Citywide Character Appraisal'. There are modern landscapes constantly changing with the needs of the local population and those where the fields, hedges and lanes have remained the same since before the Norman

Rotherham Landscape Character Assessment – Examples of Criteria Based Policies

Conquest – most landscapes are a combination of old and new. The Council is keen to encourage community involvement in review of the landscape character areas and in the preparation of new landscape character assessments and a landscape strategy/plan.

2.102 All of the landscapes of the area are cherished – both urban and rural. Some like the Cotswolds and Mendip Hills are recognised as being of national importance and are granted the status of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Bath is a World Heritage Site and there are a number of Historic Parks and Gardens within the District. Others though they lack this status and protection are no less important. Each landscape is closely related to the evolution of agriculture, communications, industry and settlement. All are living working landscapes and as such they change and develop according to the demands placed upon them.

2.103 The District's high quality landscape is fundamental to local distinctiveness. It can add to the quality of life of residents, attract visitors, businesses and people locating to the area, contribute to the prosperity of the area in terms of tourism and can deliver a wide range of direct and indirect benefits to people including health and general well-being, local food production and climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Rotherham Landscape Character Assessment – Examples of Criteria Based Policies

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE LOCAL PLAN – Adopted January 2006

Landscape Protection and Enhancement

Policy L1

IN ORDER THAT THE CHARACTER, DISTINCTIVENESS, QUALITY AND AMENITY OF THE LANDSCAPES OF SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE ARE CONSERVED AND ENHANCED, NEW DEVELOPMENT WILL BE PERMITTED ONLY WHERE:

A. THOSE ATTRIBUTES OF THE LANDSCAPE WHICH MAKE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE CHARACTER OF THE LANDSCAPE ARE CONSERVED AND WHERE POSSIBLE ENHANCED; AND

B. THOSE FEATURES IN OR OF THE LANDSCAPE WHICH MAKE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE CHARACTER OR DISTINCTIVENESS OF THE LOCALITY ARE RETAINED, PROTECTED AND MANAGED IN A MANNER WHICH ENSURES THEIR LONG-TERM VIABILITY; AND

C. THE AMENITY OF THE LANDSCAPE IS CONSERVED AND WHERE POSSIBLE ENHANCED.

THE COUNCIL WILL SEEK TO NEGOTIATE THE PROVISION OF WORKS TO RESTORE, MAINTAIN AND WHERE POSSIBLE ENHANCE THE LANDSCAPE IN A MANNER WHICH CONTRIBUTES TO THE CHARACTER, QUALITY, DISTINCTIVENESS AND AMENITY OF THE LOCALITY WITHIN WHICH THE DEVELOPMENT IS LOCATED.

IN THE CONTEXT OF A DEGRADED LANDSCAPE, OR ONE WHERE THE CHARACTER HAS BEEN ERODED, THE COUNCIL WILL EXPECT THE DEVELOPMENT TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE REGENERATION AND RESTORATION OF LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AND DISTINCTIVENESS AS WELL AS VISUAL AMENITY.

4.10 South Gloucestershire Council endorses the following Countryside Agency definition:

"The term landscape refers primarily to the visual appearance of the land, including its shape, form and colours. It also reflects the way in which these various components combine to create specific patterns and pictures that are distinctive to particular localities. However, the landscape is not a purely visual phenomenon, because its character relies closely on its physiography and its history. Hence, in addition to the scenic or visual dimension of the landscape there are whole ranges of other dimensions, including geology, topography, soils, ecology, archaeology, landscape history, land use, architecture, and cultural associations. All of these factors have influenced the formation of the landscape, and continue to affect the way in which it is experienced and valued." (Landscape Assessment Guidance, CCP3 423 1993).

4.11 In the context of this policy "attributes" of the landscape are defined as being the inherent characteristics of the locality including for example, openness or enclosure, key views or vistas, landform and patterns in the landscape such as those defined by historic land uses, roads and lanes, buildings, hedgerows or water courses.

4.12 "Features" include those constituent parts of the landscape that either in their own right, or in combination with landscape attributes, give the locality its particular character and distinctiveness including for example, trees, hedges, ponds, geological or geomorphological features, rights of way, streams and rhines, ponds and aspects of the built environment including structures such as gate posts, walls, railings as well as the buildings themselves. Landscape character arises from a combination of landscape attributes and features, while distinctiveness is determined by the particular combination of attributes and features which makes one locality different from another.

4.13 Amenity is defined as the value of a particular area. This includes those functions listed in PPG17 (Annex: para 3) such as defining and separating settlement, providing green space close to where people live, providing recreational opportunities, nature conservation functions, a venue for community events, as well as visual amenity. "Visual amenity" is the value of a particular area in terms of what is seen.

4.14 PPS 1: Delivering Sustainable Development and PPS 7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas advocate an all embracing character approach to landscape based on the principle that the countryside should be safeguarded for its own sake. They emphasize that each area exhibits characteristics of local distinctiveness and that natural resources should be afforded protection.

Rotherham Landscape Character Assessment – Examples of Criteria Based Policies

4.15 The character and quality of the landscape will be taken into account when assessing the impact of development in order to ensure that such development is appropriate and in keeping with both the local and wider landscape context (see also PPS1). The "quality" of a landscape is defined as being based on judgements about the physical state of the landscape and about its intactness, from visual, functional and ecological perspectives. It also reflects the state of repair of individual features and elements that make up the character in any one place.

4.16 The Countryside Agency through its Countryside Character Approach, together with English Nature through the Natural Areas Programme, have defined 181 different character and natural areas within England. Four such diverse and contrasting areas make up the landscape of South Gloucestershire:

Bristol, Avon Valleys and Ridges

Cotswolds

Severn and Avon Vale

Severn Estuary

(Countryside Commission and English Nature: The Character of England,

Landscape, Wildlife & Natural Features 1996)

4.17 A Landscape Character Assessment has been produced for South Gloucestershire and was adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) in August 2005 following public consultation. This assessment provides a more detailed breakdown of the areas defined in the national characterisation. It identifies 21 individual landscape character areas, each with its own particular identity. Key attributes and features that make a particular contribution to the character of each area and are of importance to the distinctiveness of the locality are also identified. A Landscape Strategy is also being prepared which will provide guidance as to the future evolution of each area in order to ensure the conservation and enhancement of their unique character. The Strategy will supplement the Landscape Character Assessment and will also be subject to public consultation and adopted as SPD. These documents will be used when assessing the appropriateness and/or impact of proposals for development. They provide the broad context for development proposals.

4.18 The Landscape Character Assessment and Landscape Strategy cannot identify every individual landscape feature (e.g. tree or gatepost) and attribute (e.g. a particular view) in each character area and so developers will still need to carry out their own more detailed landscape and visual assessments. These must be at an appropriate scale and level of detail to show both the actual area of, and the context to, their particular site. This will include details of the attributes and features that make a significant contribution to local character and distinctiveness, and also an assessment of the amenity of the site within its landscape setting. Developers should support proposals for development with information demonstrating how such proposals conserve and enhance the character, distinctiveness and diversity of the local landscape. Methodologies for assessing landscape and visual impact assessment are set out in "Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment" (Second Edition) 2002 produced by the Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment.

4.19 South Gloucestershire Council and others are in the process of carrying out a range of other landscape analysis/characterisation initiatives which will inform and/or supplement the Landscape Character Assessment and Landscape Strategy and the development control process. These bring together all aspects of the environment which make up the character of particular areas, i.e. natural and cultural features, and place that locality within the wider landscape context. Initiatives include the Historic Landscape Survey, the Forest of Avon Plan, Village Design Statements, Conservation Area Appraisals, Local Biodiversity Action Plans and Local Sites of Nature Conservation Interest.

4.20 The Landscape Character Assessment and Landscape Strategy will draw on and add to the considerable body of knowledge and information already available in this field, some of which has been adopted by South Gloucestershire Council as supplementary planning guidance. These documents will be reviewed, together with appropriate new initiatives and adopted as appropriate by the Council as planning guidance. Developers should also refer to the landscape assessments and management plans prepared by others for the Cotswolds (Cotswolds Landscape CCP294) and the Forest of Avon (Forest of Avon Plan).

Rotherham Landscape Character Assessment – Examples of Criteria Based Policies

4.21 In assessing proposals for development, consideration will be given to the contribution which the various attributes and features associated with a site make to the local and wider environment. For example, a mixed woodland may contribute to biodiversity, be an essential part of the landscape pattern, contribute to visual amenity and be of use for recreation, but it may also be the site of a key local historic or other cultural event and also serve as a carbon sink. Thus each feature may provide a broad range of services including landscape, nature conservation, heritage, cultural or amenity as well as contributing to the conservation of water resources and air quality. Developers will therefore be expected to undertake an evaluation of the attributes and features associated with a site in both the local and wider context, and to fully justify any proposals which will impact upon them or result in their loss. This evaluation will also have a direct bearing on decisions regarding their management and retention. This approach is in line with the Quality of Life Capital approach being promoted jointly by English Heritage, The Environment Agency, The Countryside Agency and English Nature.

4.22 Where landscape attributes or features of value are to be incorporated within development sites, the Council will impose conditions and/or seek to negotiate agreements requiring appropriate measures to be taken to secure their protection during development operations, as well as their short and long term management, maintenance and, where appropriate enhancement.

4.23 Where there are existing woodlands, trees and/or hedges on development sites, the Council will require the developer to carry out a vegetation survey, to include their positioning, species, size and condition. The information provided by the survey should inform the site planning and design of the development. The Council will require the retention of existing woodland, trees or hedgerows within new development unless their removal can be fully justified in the interests of good silvicultural or arboricultural practice, (arising from the vegetation survey) or in order to benefit the character or appearance of the area. An approved scheme of management will be required for the retained vegetation. The Council will review its Supplementary Planning Guidance on Trees on Development Sites.

4.24 In appropriate cases the Council will seek to protect trees and woodlands for their amenity value through the making of Tree Preservation Orders. Developers should also have regard to the Hedgerow Regulations 1997.

4.25 The contribution of features of archaeological, historic or nature conservation importance to the character, distinctiveness, quality or amenity of the environment may be indicated by national, regional or local designations. Government guidance on the treatment of such features is given in PPG 9, PPG15 and PPG 16. Article 10 of the EEC Habitats Directive encourages the "management of features of the landscape which are of major importance for wild fauna and flora" (92/43/EEC). For consideration of the significance of features in landscape terms, reference should be made to the landscape character assessment process (Paras. 4.17-4.20).

Implementation and Monitoring:

Through Development Control, Landscape Character Assessment, review of existing Supplementary Planning Guidance and publication of new planning guidance. Also South Gloucestershire's sponsorship of and participation in partnerships to achieve environmental improvement projects and management plans.

Rotherham Landscape Character Assessment – Examples of Criteria Based Policies**WEST SUSSEX STRUCTURE PLAN 2001-2016**

Character

Introduction

293. Protecting the distinctive character of the towns and villages, countryside and coast of West Sussex is one of the three aims of this Plan. This chapter sets out policies which reflect this aim and the specific objectives identified in the Background Chapter. These include protecting and reinforcing the distinctiveness of the main natural character areas; safeguarding the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty; protecting woodlands and forests; protecting rivers, waterways and the coast; retaining the separate identities of towns and villages; and protecting and enhancing towns and villages and the historic heritage of the County.

294. West Sussex has an exceptional character. More than half of it is designated as Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and despite urbanising pressures for over a century, significant portions of the coastline remain undeveloped. It also has a rich urban legacy. Arundel and Chichester are two historic towns of national importance. Most of the population lives in the coastal area and in the towns in the north east of the County. The settlement pattern is one of mainly small to medium-sized towns and villages. The rest of the County is largely rural and tranquil. Nowhere in the County does the countryside seem far away.

295. The character of West Sussex is cherished by people living in and visiting the County and many factors have shaped the distinctive character of different parts. These include the underlying geology and successive weathering climates which have determined the form of the land and the vegetation which covers it, human activity, and the exploitation of its resources. This character continues to evolve. The priority of this Plan is to maintain and reinforce the distinctiveness of the main natural character areas and of more local areas. It is important to protect those features and elements which contribute to distinctiveness. Policy CH1 sets out the general policy framework on character for the whole of the County, town and country alike, and other policies of this Plan cover specific elements.

Targets

- To ensure that new development protects and, where possible, reinforces the character of the area.
- To ensure that new development safeguards the natural beauty, distinctive character and remote and tranquil nature of the AONB.
- To ensure that there is no development within strategic gaps which undermines their fundamental integrity and purpose.
- To ensure that new development protects and, where possible, enhances the character of towns and villages.
- To ensure that new development protects and, where possible, enhances historic heritage.

Policy CH1

(a) Development should not be permitted unless it maintains and, where possible, enhances the character, distinctiveness and sense of place of the settlements and different areas and features of the County, including the woodlands, forests, rivers, waterways, wetlands, and the coast, and that it reflects and, where possible, reinforces the character of the main natural character areas of the County - the South Coast Plain, the South Downs, the Wealden Fringe, the Low Weald, and the High Weald.

(b) Local plans will include policies to:

(1) maintain and, where possible, enhance the cohesive and distinctive character and sense of place of the settlements (including specific areas or neighbourhoods) and different areas and features of the County, including the woodlands, forests, rivers, waterways, wetlands, and the

coast; and

(2) ensure that development within built-up areas and the countryside reflects and, where possible, reinforces the distinctiveness and sense of place of the main natural character areas (including the retention of important features or characteristics) taking into account the various elements which contribute to their distinctiveness such as geology and landform, habitats, scenic quality, tranquillity, settlement patterns, historic heritage, local vernacular, and land use.

Rotherham Landscape Character Assessment – Examples of Criteria Based Policies

296. It is important to appreciate, as a whole, the character of different parts of the County. Policy CH1 lists the five main natural character areas of West Sussex (identified in the County Council's Landscape Strategy). These range from the predominantly flat South Coast Plain, the grand sweep of the South Downs, the intricate escarpments and valleys of the Wealden Fringe, to the intimate landscapes of the Low Weald, and the wooded hills and valleys of the High Weald. Each has a unique configuration of geology and soils, biodiversity, appearance, settlement patterns, locally distinctive architecture, patterns of land use and economy, visible and perceived history, and degree of tranquillity which help distinguish one from another.

297. These five main natural character areas are broken down further into about forty character areas, representing a high level of local detail. No judgement is made about the relative worth of either the main or the smaller character areas. The main areas match closely the broad areas of cohesive character identified nationally by the Countryside Agency, English Nature and English Heritage.

298. The areas derive from the interaction of physical and ecological features (including geology, landform, soil and wildlife) with land use and other human activity such as farming patterns, settlement pattern and forms, building design and vernacular. Cohesiveness is described in terms of landscape character, sense of place, local distinctiveness, tranquillity, characteristic wildlife and natural features, and the nature of change within the area.

299. The towns and villages of the County have their own distinctive character which derives partly from the buildings and open space within them and the relationship between them, the local vernacular, and the mix of land uses and activities. Treescapes are also a cherished part of the urban scene, including specimen trees, sometimes ancient and historic, decorative planting and providing a backdrop to development. It also derives from the relationship between the settlements and the open areas and countryside around them, including the historic heritage, nature conservation or recreational value of the countryside.

300. The towns and villages of West Sussex include the historic towns of national importance such as Chichester and Arundel, market towns of greatly varied character such as Billingshurst, Midhurst and Petworth, and larger places like Horsham and Haywards Heath which grew in the heyday of the railways. Together with the coastal towns and seaside resorts, Crawley new town and a host of villages, these settlements contribute to the wider character of the five main natural character areas and of West Sussex as a whole.

301. The environment and character of settlements will continue to evolve as they grow and adapt to social and economic needs. This must be weighed with the need to protect historic aspects of the environment. Conservation itself can play a part in promoting economic prosperity by ensuring that an area offers attractive living and working conditions.

302. Making better use of previously-developed land within towns and villages can play an important part in protecting and enhancing the character of settlements although care is needed to ensure that important features or characteristics are not lost, for example, public open space. Opportunities should be taken to improve the appearance of settlements as seen from open countryside. Change affecting towns and villages of special historic character, the listed buildings, and valuable historic features will need to be handled with great sensitivity.

303. It is also important to protect the settings of towns and villages. Land adjoining settlements will benefit from management and actions to improve it. Such land may also provide locations for activities, including certain kinds of recreation, which maintain or actually improve the setting of the settlements nearby. District planning authorities should consider allocating land for uses which maintain or enhance the setting of the settlements, which may include woodlands, waterways, and informal open space, but which do not involve substantial buildings or large areas of hardstanding.

304. The coast of West Sussex varies in character from east to west. From Shoreham to the Witterings, the coast is largely built-up including the seaports of Littlehampton and Shoreham and the main seaside resorts of Worthing, Littlehampton, Bognor Regis and Selsey. The main river estuaries are of the Adur and the Arun. Between the coastal towns and villages, there are a number of important areas of undeveloped land, some of which extend to the coastline, including Pagham Harbour and the sand dunes at Climping. Further coalescence of the coastal towns is prevented under Policy CH3. From the Witterings to the Hampshire border, the coast is predominately undeveloped with a small number of villages around Chichester Harbour.

Rotherham Landscape Character Assessment – Examples of Criteria Based Policies

305. West Sussex is one of the most heavily wooded counties in England. Woodland covers slightly more land than all the urban areas put together, and is second in area only to farmland. Together with the extensive hedgerow network, woodland is a major element in the character of West Sussex as well as an economic, recreation, environmental and biodiversity resource (see Policy ERA2). Therefore, protection and enhancement are important. The semi-natural and ancient woodlands in particular are important for nature conservation and many are protected by designation for that reason. Of the ancient woodlands, few large ones have survived. The remainder are small and scattered, other than in the extensive woodlands in some of the hilly parts of the County.

306. Woodlands and forests determine character strongly along the sandy hills of the Wealden fringe and especially so in the well-wooded High Weald. A mixture of hedgerow, copse and woods characterise the Low Weald. Notable are the woodland swathes ('shaws') remaining from when the land either side was cleared for agriculture. The downland east of the Arun valley is mainly open, but the western downs are heavily wooded in some places, ranging from large plantations to the 'hangers' on the downland edge. On the exposed coastal plain, remnant woodland is of special importance in the low-lying landscape. Re-plantings and new plantations are a more recent feature of West Sussex, especially on the western downland and in the High Weald.

307. Although the County is well-wooded, there is a continuing deterioration in the quality of some woodlands. The problem of quality must be addressed by a wide range of interests and partners, if woodland is to continue as an essential element of the West Sussex scene. The proper management of woodlands is very important. Moreover, the character of the West Sussex countryside and parts of some urban areas are coming under increasing threat from the planting of non-native tree and shrub species, particularly cypresses, which soon become dominant in open landscapes. However, national forestry policy in the last ten years has emphasised the planting of native trees and incorporating biodiversity measures including open spaces within the woods.

308. The rivers, waterways and wetlands of West Sussex carry and distribute water and, in so doing, have shaped the landscape and character of the County. They are also important resources for recreation, transport, and nature conservation. Therefore, the Plan seeks to protect and enhance them, where possible.

309. The river system centres on the extensive catchments of the Arun and Adur. These drain the entire Low Weald and much of the rest of the County. The River Ouse drains most of the High Weald in West Sussex, running to the sea via Lewes in East Sussex. The Mole and Eden have their headwaters in the High Weald. Where the Arun and Adur meander through the Downs as tidal rivers, they have created broad floodplains characterised by flat water meadows known as "wild brooks". The River Rother forms a western arm of the broad Arun catchment. The Ouse is the dominant High Weald river. Many downland valleys are normally dry for much of the year including the Lavant, through Chichester.

310. In accommodating change, development must respect and enhance the distinctive local character of the land and the built environment. Where land needs to be allocated to meet the development requirements of this Plan and local plans, the development should respect the character of the settlement and, where appropriate, its setting (see Policy DEV6). The descriptions and natural profiles in the County Council's Landscape Strategy for each character area provide guidance and information to assist in the implementation of the policy.

311. Much has already been done to assess the character of the County, at least in its constituent parts. Comprehensive knowledge about the biodiversity and geology of the County is available, channelled through the County Council's Nature Conservation Strategy and the Sussex Biodiversity Action Plan. Also published by the County Council, the Archaeological and Landscape Strategies for West Sussex give access to a very detailed picture of the archaeological record and the nature of the landscape. The Landscape Strategy also contains landscape management guidelines for each area, for the use of local authorities, developers and landowners.

312. Local plan policies should seek to maintain and reinforce the cohesiveness, distinctiveness and sense of place of character areas. Where necessary, additional guidance should be prepared. District planning authorities should:

- assess the character of towns and villages, including their landscape setting, and identify areas or neighbourhoods which have a coherent or recognisable character, identity or sense of place;

Rotherham Landscape Character Assessment – Examples of Criteria Based Policies

- assess the character and sense of place of the countryside outside built-up area boundaries and identify character areas within the main natural character areas which have a coherent or recognisable character, identity or sense of place;
- identify the important features or characteristics which contribute to local distinctiveness;
- assess the need for the creation of new or the extension of existing woodland and forest habitats, particularly in areas of degraded landscape or where significant tree loss has occurred or is expected
- assess the whole-catchment of rivers, waterways and wetlands and identify important features and characteristics; and
- where necessary, prepare supplementary planning guidance which will help to maintain and reinforce local distinctiveness, including the cohesive and distinctive character of towns and villages.

Rotherham Landscape Character Assessment – Examples of Criteria Based Policies

The South East Plan - Regional Spatial Strategy for the South East -

Landscape and Countryside Management

POLICY C4: LANDSCAPE AND COUNTRYSIDE MANAGEMENT

Outside nationally designated landscapes, positive and high quality management of the region's open countryside will be encouraged and supported by local authorities and other organisations, agencies, land managers, the private sector and local communities, through a combination of planning policies, grant aid and other measures.

In particular, planning authorities and other agencies in their plans and programmes should recognise, and aim to protect and enhance, the diversity and local distinctiveness of the region's landscape, informed by landscape character assessment.

Positive land management is particularly needed around the edge of London and in other areas subject to most growth and change. In such areas long-term goals for landscape conservation and renewal and habitat improvement should be set, and full advantage taken of agri-environmental funding and other management tools.

Local authorities should develop criteria-based policies to ensure that all development respects and enhances local landscape character, securing appropriate mitigation where damage to local landscape character cannot be avoided.

11.11 The Government's overall aim is to promote a multi-purpose, inclusive and thriving countryside which respects local distinctiveness and protects our valued landscapes. The very high quality of the South East's countryside, coupled with its accessibility and productivity mean that a careful approach to landscape management is vital to its future protection and success. In practice this will mean developing two key areas of understanding:

a. why the South East's landscapes are unique, and how future changes can support their environmental, cultural and economic value. Key to help develop this are an understanding of the capacity of the landscape to provide the ecosystem services required to support growth and the use of Landscape Character Assessment.

b. how planning policy, land management practices and funding initiatives can best be used in unison to achieve the objectives of this Plan. In particular, given that the landscape character in the south east is to a large extent determined by farming practices, how the agricultural sector can continue to manage the countryside in a way that supports farming enterprise whilst preserving the unique character of local landscapes. Agricultural practices also offer potential to help combat climate change. Further policy is set out in Policies NRM5 and NRM15. Policy RE3 also offers policy to support farm enterprise. A key tool in achieving this is the Environmental Stewardship Scheme, managed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), which is designed to provide subsidy from CAP for environmental management. Defra's Rural Development Programme for England also provides a framework for distributing funds from CAP, with the new programme covering both environmental stewardship and socio-economic issues. Natural England, the Forestry Commission and the South East of England Development Agency remain key delivery agents for this programme.

Rotherham Landscape Character Assessment – Examples of Criteria Based Policies**Central Bedfordshire Former Mid Bedfordshire area Local Development Framework Core Strategy and Development Management Policies, Adopted December 2009****8.4 CS16: Landscape and Woodland**

8.4.1 The countryside outside settlements is a highly valued resource for agriculture, recreation, landscape and wildlife. The Council will protect the countryside for its own sake safeguarding it from the increasing pressures of development. It will also work with partners to enhance its recreational, landscape and wildlife value.

8.4.2 The Chilterns AONB forms a prominent chalk scarp located along parts of the southern boundary of the district. The Chilterns Conservation Board which came into force as an organisation by Parliamentary Order in 2004, produces a management plan which provides a framework within which the local authorities, government bodies and the Board itself operates. The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 significantly raised the profile of AONBs, however, as their landscape qualities are equivalent to those for National Parks they should be protected and managed in the same manner. The Council works in partnership with the Board to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the landscape and will continue to protect it from inappropriate development. The extent of the AONB in the district is set out on the Proposals Map.

8.4.3 All landscapes are valuable and Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) is the nationally recognised tool used to help protect the essential character of defined types of landscape and enhance landscapes of lesser quality. Its purpose is to ensure that change does not undermine whatever is characteristic or valued about a particular place and that ways of improving the character of a place can be considered. This makes it a useful tool to aid the planning, design and management of landscapes. The Mid Bedfordshire Landscape Character Assessment provides a comprehensive landscape evidence base to help underpin planning and management decisions in the district. It also addresses the requirements of the landscape policy (ENV2) in the East of England Plan.

8.4.4 The contribution that trees, whether as woodland or individual specimens, and hedgerows make to the landscape is significant. Bedfordshire has relatively low woodland cover compared to the national average. The district has the highest percentage coverage in the County. Although parts of the district, particularly the Greensand Ridge are relatively well-wooded, however, other areas have declined in terms of the number of trees and hedgerows through modern farming practices and the impact of Dutch Elm disease.

8.4.5 The district also contains the major part of the Forest of Marston Vale (FOMV) Community Forest. The Forest of Marston Vale's national designation recognises the need to regenerate the environmentally damaged landscape of the Marston Vale through woodland creation in line with ENV1 and ENV5 of the East of England Plan and Government targets for 30% woodland cover in the Forest area by 2030.

8.4.6 The district also has a wide variety of woodland habitats which provide a wealth of benefits for people, wildlife and importantly, directly contribute to reducing the causes of climate change. The protection and planting of trees, hedgerows and woodland is largely assisted by the Biodiversity Action Plan system. The Bedfordshire and Luton Biodiversity Action Plan (BLBAP) was endorsed by the Council in 2002 and is continually updated through the work of 'BedsLife', the Bedfordshire and Luton Biodiversity Forum, of which the Council is a partner. Specific actions in the BLBAP will help to achieve an increase in planting. In certain locations, in particular within the FOMV area, new development may contribute to tree planting through landscape schemes associated with the development, or through financial contributions to aid strategic planting in the vicinity.

8.4.7 Contributions either on site or off site may be required for planting associated with new development. Further guidance will be set out in Supplementary Planning Documents.

Policy CS16: Landscape and Woodland

The Council will:

- Protect, conserve and enhance the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty;
- Conserve and enhance the varied countryside character and local distinctiveness in accordance with the findings of the Mid Bedfordshire Landscape Character Assessment;
- Resist development where it will have an adverse effect on important landscape features or highly sensitive landscapes;
- Require development to enhance landscapes of lesser quality in accordance with the Landscape Character Assessment;

Rotherham Landscape Character Assessment – Examples of Criteria Based Policies

- Continue to support the creation of the Forest of Marston Vale recognising the need to regenerate the environmentally damaged landscape through woodland creation to achieve the target of 30% woodland cover in the Forest area by 2030;
- Conserve woodlands including ancient and semi-natural woodland, hedgerows and veteran trees; and
- Promote an increase in tree cover outside of the Forest of Marston Vale, where it would not threaten other valuable habitats.

Rotherham Landscape Character Assessment – Examples of Criteria Based Policies**Mole Valley Local Development Framework Core Strategy DPD - Adopted October 2009****6.4 A Continuing High Quality Environment
Landscape Character**

6.4.1 The landscape of Mole Valley is one of its greatest assets, appreciated by residents and visitors alike and the source of inspiration for writers, composers and artists throughout history. Safeguarding and enhancing the highly attractive and diverse environment is therefore a key objective of both the LDF (including Sustainability Appraisal) and the Mole Valley Community Plan and is strongly supported by the community as a whole.

6.4.2 The District has four main landscape character areas:

Thames Basin Lowlands

North Downs

Wealden Greensand

Low Weald

6.4.3 These are then further divided into more local character areas as set out in the Landscape Character Assessment. Particular features include the chalk hills of the North Downs which cross the District from Abinger in the west to Buckland in the east. The distinctive profile and scarp face of the Downs dominate and influence much of the landscape of the District. The Downs are paralleled to the south by the undulating sandy, acid soils of the Greensand Hills rising to Leith Hill south-west of Dorking. There are several small villages and hamlets in the area but generally it is sparsely populated and undeveloped, dominated by open countryside and extensive attractive views punctuated by woodlands and hedgerows. Further south the landscape is open and undulating Weald set against the back drop of the North Downs and Greensand Hills to the north. It contains large numbers of small woodland blocks, ancient or semi-natural in nature, and is actively farmed. To the north of the Downs the landscape is gently undulating and the River Mole valley broadens out.

6.4.4 The Surrey Hills is a landscape of national importance. It is designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and therefore has the highest level of protection in relation to landscape and scenic beauty. Planning Policy Statement 7 (2004) states that '*The conservation of the natural beauty of the landscape and countryside should therefore be given great weight in planning policies and development control decisions in these areas. The conservation of wildlife and the cultural heritage are important considerations in all these areas.*' The area is covered by the Surrey Hills AONB Management Plan which guides the future management and enhancement of the area. It is also a consideration in the determination of planning applications in and around that area.

6.4.5 There are also areas of landscape outside the nationally designated areas that are particularly highly valued. In the Surrey context the Area of Great Landscape Value (AGLV) has been a long standing policy designation used to identify land of particularly high landscape quality outside of, but adjoining, the AONB. The policy approach to the protection and enhancement of the landscape in Mole Valley is to provide the highest level of protection to the AONB, supported by the continuing designation of the AGLV (most of which is considered to have the same level of landscape quality as the AONB) which in itself is an area of high quality landscape. In the AONB and the AGLV, protection of the landscape is a priority when considering development. The AGLV designation is based on a comprehensive robust assessment and review of the landscape across a number of Surrey Authorities.

6.4.6 In the remaining areas of the District development will be required to respect or enhance the landscape character area in which it is proposed as set out in the Landscape Character Assessment.

**Policy CS 13
Landscape Character**

1. All new development must respect and, where appropriate, enhance the character and distinctiveness of the landscape character area in which it is proposed. Landscape enhancement works may be required to avoid adverse impacts associated with new developments.
2. The Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is of national significance, and as such, the conservation of the natural beauty of the landscape will be a priority in this area. The AONB will be protected in accordance with the objectives in Planning Policy Statement 7 (Sustainable Development in Rural Areas) and the Surrey Hills Management Plan, with particular focus on the impact of development on ridgelines, significant views, peace, tranquillity and levels of artificial light.

Rotherham Landscape Character Assessment – Examples of Criteria Based Policies

3. The AGLV (Area of Great Landscape Value) will be retained until such time as there has been a review of the AONB boundary. Development in the AGLV area will be required to be supported by evidence to demonstrate that it would not result in harm to the AONB, particularly views from and into the AONB and the key features identified in point 2 above.

4. Small scale development for the reasonable needs of the rural economy, outdoor recreation as well as that for the local community in the AONB or AGLV will be supported subject to meeting other relevant criteria within the LDF.

Delivery of Policy / Monitoring

The policy will be delivered through:

Preparation of the Mole Valley Landscape Character Assessment in order to assist applicants in identifying key landscape features.

Working with partners to secure a review of the AONB boundary by Natural England. In order to monitor the policy the Council will work with the Surrey Hills AONB Office to implement the AONB Management Plan and will review the results of their annual monitoring of that Plan.

Key Pieces of Evidence

Mole Valley Landscape Character Assessment (ongoing): There has been extensive work undertaken by a variety of organisations on assessing the landscape character of Mole Valley. The Mole Valley Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) will draw all of this together to provide a basis from which to make judgements on the impact of a proposal on the landscape. The LCA has identified 14 separate character areas, highlighting the variety that exists within the District. This study will be completed in 2009.

Surrey Hills AGLV Review, 2007, Chris Burnett Associates: This work compares the AGLV with the characteristics of the Surrey Hills AONB in order to identify areas with identical characteristics, some shared characteristics or no shared characteristics. Within Mole Valley the AGLV was generally felt to have identical characteristics to the AONB. The study recommends that an urgent review of the AONB boundary take place and that the AGLV should be retained until this has happened. It also recommends that the majority of the AGLV within Mole Valley is capable of inclusion within the AONB without further assessment.

Sources of Further Information

Surrey Hills AGLV Review, 2007, Chris Burnett Associates - www.molevalley.gov.uk/ldf (See Evidence Base page)

Surrey Hills AONB Management Plan - www.surreyhills.org.uk

Rotherham Landscape Character Assessment – Examples of Criteria Based Policies

North Norfolk Local Development Framework Core Strategy Incorporating Development Control Policies, Adopted September 2008

Protection and Enhancement of Landscape and Settlement Character

3.3.6 The visual character of North Norfolk's landscapes, seascapes, townscapes, and the separation of settlements, both within and outside of designated areas, is highly valued by residents and visitors. High priority is given to the protection, conservation and enhancement of this landscape character and new development should be well-designed and help sustain and/or create landscapes and townscapes with a strong sense of place and local identity.

3.3.7 A Landscape Character Assessment has been prepared which identifies and describes distinctive Landscape Character Areas and Types throughout North Norfolk and incorporates details on biodiversity and historic landscape features. This information should be used, along with other studies that provide part of the evidence base about landscape and the character of towns and villages in the District, to ensure that development proposals reflect the distinctive character, qualities and sensitivities of the area. Other such studies include historic landscape characterisations, Urban Archaeological Surveys, Conservation Area Appraisals, Town/Village Design Statements and Parish Plans prepared by local communities.

3.3.8 The setting of, and views from, designated areas are protected by policy, however a particular designation is made around Sheringham Park where the setting has particular importance. In many other historic parks and gardens, such as Felbrigg Hall, the settings are such that woodland or topography limits views to the surrounding area, and therefore development in the surrounding landscape has limited impact on the park itself. In contrast, however, Sheringham Park estate is quite modest in size and its design relies upon important views into the surrounding countryside and seascape for much of its beauty. Sheringham Park is particularly susceptible to development pressure in the surrounding area of Sheringham and therefore an area of influence has been defined on the Proposals Map. Development proposals within the defined setting of Sheringham Park must have particular regard to their impact on the surrounding landscape and long views from the Park.

Policy EN 2

Protection and Enhancement of Landscape and Settlement Character

Proposals for development should be informed by, and be sympathetic to, the distinctive character areas identified in the North Norfolk Landscape Character Assessment and features identified in relevant settlement character studies.

Development proposals should demonstrate that their location, scale, design and materials will protect, conserve and, where possible, enhance:

the special qualities and local distinctiveness of the area (including its historical, biodiversity and cultural character)

gaps between settlements, and their landscape setting

distinctive settlement character

the pattern of distinctive landscape features, such as watercourses, woodland, trees and field boundaries, and their function as ecological corridors for dispersal of wildlife

visually sensitive skylines, hillsides, seascapes, valley sides and geological features

nocturnal character

the setting of, and views from, **Conservation Areas** and **Historic Parks and Gardens**.

the defined **Setting of Sheringham Park**, as shown on the Proposals Map.

Appendix H

Glossary

Area of High Landscape Value (AHLV) – The name given to Local Landscape Designations by Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council (RMBC). These are currently identified in the Unitary Development Plan as areas of the Borough within which the quality of the landscape is of overriding significance.

*Conservation Area** – Areas of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance.

*Core Strategy** – A Development Plan Document setting out the spatial vision and strategic objectives of the planning framework for an area, having regard to the Community Strategy.

Geographic Information System (GIS) - integrated hardware, software, and data for capturing, managing, analyzing, and displaying all forms of geographically referenced information.

*Landscape Capacity*** – The degree to which a particular landscape character type or area is able to accommodate change without unacceptable adverse effects on its character. Capacity is likely to vary according to the type and nature of change being proposed.

*Landscape Character*** – The distinct and recognizable pattern of elements that occurs consistently in a particular type of landscape, and how this is perceived by people. It reflects particular combinations of geology, landform, soils, vegetation, land use and human settlement. It creates the particular sense of place of different areas of the landscape.

Landscape Character Area – A unique geographic area with a consistent character and identity, defined by geology, landform, soils, vegetation, landuse, settlement and field pattern.

*Landscape Character Assessment**** – An umbrella term for description, classification and analysis of landscape.

*Landscape Character Type*** – A landscape type will have broadly similar patterns of geology, landform, soils, vegetation, landuse, settlement and field pattern discernable in maps and field survey records.

Landscape Description Unit – LDUs are relatively homogenous units of land, each defined using a series of definitive attributes including landform, structural geology, rock type, soils, land use, tree cover, settlement, farm type.

*Landscape Quality*** – About the physical state of the landscape and its intactness, from visual, functional and ecological perspectives. It also reflects the state of repair of individual features and elements which make up the character in any one place.

*Landscape Sensitivity*** – The extent to which a landscape can accept change of a particular type and scale without adverse effects on its character.

*Landscape Value*** – The relative value or importance attached to a landscape (often as a basis for designation or recognition), which expresses national or local consensus, because of its quality, special qualities including perceptual aspects such as scenic beauty, tranquillity or wilderness, cultural associations or other conservation issues.

*Listed Building** – A building of special architectural or historic interest. Listed buildings are graded I, II* or II with grade I being the highest. Listing includes the interior as well as the exterior of the building, and any buildings or permanent structures (e.g. wells within its curtilage). English Heritage is responsible for designating buildings for listing in England.

Local Authority - an administrative body in local government (Oxford English Dictionary definition)

*Local Development Documents (LDDs)** – These include Development Plan Documents (which form part of the statutory development plan) and Supplementary Planning Documents (which do not form part of the statutory development plan). LDDs collectively deliver the spatial planning strategy for the local planning authority's area.

*Local Development Framework (LDF)** – The Local Development Framework (LDF) is a non-statutory term used to describe a folder of documents, which includes all the local planning authority's local development documents.

*Local Landscape Designation (LLD)** - Non-statutory and locally designated areas outside the national landscape designations, which are considered by the local planning authority to be of particular landscape value to the local area.

*Local Planning Authority (LPA)** – The local authority or council that is empowered by law to exercise planning functions. Often the local borough or district council. National Parks and the Broads Authority are also considered to be local planning authorities. County Councils are the authority for waste and minerals matters.

*Mitigation*** – Measures, including any process, activity or design to avoid, reduce, remedy or compensate for adverse landscape and visual impacts of a development project.

National (Landscape) Typology – A national classification of landscapes, undertaken by Natural England, derived by map analysis of the main physical, biological and cultural factors that determine landscape character.

*Planning Policy Statement (PPS)** – Issued by central government to replace the existing Planning Policy Guidance (PPG) notes in order to provide greater clarity and to remove from national policy advice on practical implementation, which is better expressed as guidance rather than policy.

Revised/Preferred Options – The alternative proposals and policy choices devised for meeting a particular aim or objective. Preferred Options papers are published for public consultation before a Council decides on which strategy and policy approaches to take on different planning issues.

*Registered Park and Garden** – A park or garden of special historic interest. Graded I (highest quality), II* or II. Designated by English Heritage.

Rotherham Local Green Belt Plan (RGBP) – Historic planning document Adopted in 1990 by RMBC, following a review of the green belt in the Borough.

*Scheduled (Ancient) Monument (SAM)** – Nationally important monuments usually archaeological remains, that enjoy greater protection against inappropriate development through the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979.

*Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)** – A site identified under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000) as an area of special interest by reason of any of its flora, fauna, geological or physiographical features

*Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)** - A Supplementary Planning Document is a Local Development Document that may cover a range of issues, thematic or site specific, and provides further detail of policies and proposals in a 'parent' Development Plan Document.

*Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG)** - Supplementary Planning Guidance may cover a range of issues, both thematic and site specific and provide further detail of policies and proposals in a development plan.

*Unitary Development Plan (UDP)** - An old-style development plan prepared by a metropolitan district and some unitary local authorities, which contains policies equivalent to those in both a Structure Plan and Local plan. These Plans will continue to operate for a time after the commencement of the new development plan system, by virtue of specific transitional provisions.

* = as defined in the Glossary of Planning Terms on the Planning Portal website (<http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/england/public/planning/glossary/>)

** = as defined in the Glossary section of Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment 2nd edition, The Landscape Institute and Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment, 2002

Appendix I

Recommendations for Core Strategy policy wording and supporting justification

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council have produced an early draft of a policy relating to Heritage and Environment for inclusion in the emerging Core Strategy. Below are suggested changes (in italics and underlined) to the elements of the draft policy relating to Landscape Character, in light of the Landscape Character Assessment work undertaken to date and research undertaken in relation to current Adopted LDF policies.

Policy SC3/NRCC1 - Heritage and Environment

A number of historic buildings, conservation areas, scheduled ancient monuments, archaeological remains and historic landscapes contribute to the local distinctiveness, historic heritage and character of the Borough. Distinctive landscapes and geological features, and the habitats and biodiversity which they support, contribute to the wider natural environment.

Rotherham's heritage and environment will be protected and enhanced. In all parts of the Borough, new development, based upon the latest and most up to date information (as supported where necessary by additional survey work), will:

protect, *and where appropriate enhance*, local character and distinctiveness (taking into account local building traditions and the *key characteristics of the 11 different* landscape character areas ~~across the Borough~~ as identified in the Borough's Landscape *Character* Assessment), *with particular need to* and enhance ~~degraded~~ low quality landscapes, especially on the urban fringe; ~~any more detail for on-site landscape considerations??~~

protect and, where appropriate, enhance the character, identity and setting of the Borough's historic assets, including its conservation areas, listed buildings, scheduled ancient monuments, others sites of local historic, archaeological, cultural or architectural importance, the historic houses, parks and gardens of Wentworth and Sandbeck Estates as well as the wider historic landscape; also industrial heritage??

protect and enhance the Borough's geological, geomorphological and biological diversity, including Sites of Special Scientific Interest, the locally designated Regionally Important Geological Sites and Local Wildlife Sites, tree cover, ancient woodland and veteran trees and the priority habitats and species identified in the United Kingdom and Rotherham Biodiversity Action Plans;

contribute to the connection of existing natural heritage sites through the Green Infrastructure Policy XX (...x ref policy) and habitat enhancement opportunity areas, whilst anticipating the potential effects of climate change on species dispersal and migration.

Where development would result in damage to or the loss of interest, and it can be demonstrated that the development cannot be reasonably located on any alternative site, appropriate mitigation and compensation measures will be required to combat any potential direct and/or indirect adverse impacts of development, recognising there may be limits to particular heritage assets accepting further development without irreversible damage. All new development will maximise the opportunities for enhancement of heritage and environmental features preferably on-site but, if not, through off-site contributions.

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council have also indicated that there may be scope to include further detail on Landscape Character within the Allocations DPD. An indication of draft wording for a more detailed policy is provided below.

Landscape Character

Around 70% of Rotherham Metropolitan Borough is currently open countryside. Protecting, and managing the diverse environment is therefore a key objective of the LDF and is strongly supported by the community as a whole.

The District has eleven main landscape character areas:

1. *Wentworth Parklands*
2. *Dearne Valley Floor*
3. *Wath and Swinton Farmlands*
4. *Don Valley Floor*
5. *Coalfield Tributary Valleys*

6. *Rother Valley Floor*
7. *Rother Valley Reclaimed Woodland*
8. *Central Rotherham Coalfield Farmland*
9. *East Rotherham Limestone Plateau*
10. *Sandbeck Parklands*
11. *Ryton Farmlands*

These are then further divided into sub areas as set out in the Landscape Character Assessment. Particular features include the relatively intact areas of historic parkland at Wentworth in the west of the Borough and Sandbeck in the east. The landscape within the east of the Borough is heavily influenced by the underlying limestone geology, which is replaced by a coalfield landscape in the western half of the Borough. The Rivers Rother, Don and Dearne also locally influence the landscape.

Historically parts of the Borough have been designated as Areas of High Landscape Value (AHLVs), which has been a long standing policy designation used to identify land of particularly high landscape quality. The policy approach to the protection and enhancement of the landscape in Rotherham Metropolitan Borough is to continue to provide the highest level of protection to the AHLVs until such a time as a comprehensive Landscape Character Assessment has been prepared for the whole Borough.

In the areas of the Borough beyond the AHLVs, and the whole Borough once Landscape Character Assessment work is completed, development will be required to respect or enhance the landscape character area in which it is proposed as set out in the Landscape Character Assessment.

Policy

Landscape Character

1. All new development must respect and, where appropriate, enhance the character and distinctiveness of the landscape character area in which it is proposed. Landscape enhancement works may be required to avoid adverse impacts associated with new developments.
2. The AHLVs (Areas of High Landscape Value) will be retained until such time as a comprehensive Landscape Character Assessment has been prepared for the whole Borough. Current AHLV policy should apply until this designation is replaced.

Key Pieces of Evidence

Rotherham Landscape Character Assessment (ongoing): Ongoing work is being undertaken on assessing the landscape character of Rotherham Borough. The Rotherham Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) will provide a basis from which to make judgements on the impact of a proposal on the landscape.