

Appendix B

Glossary

Table B.1: Glossary

Term	Definition
Aesthetic	Concerning the visual appeal of an feature or landscape.
Amenity	A feature that increases attractiveness or value.
AOD	Above Ordnance Datum (sea level).
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty – a statutory national landscape designation.
Ancient woodland	Woods that are believed to have been continuous woodland cover since at least 1600 AD.
Alluvium	Loose soil or sediments, which has been eroded, reshaped by water in some form, and redeposited in a non-marine setting.
Arable	The growing of crops.
Assart	The informal enclosure of private farmland by encroachment into woodland or heath / areas of medieval woodland clearance.
Assets	A feature that has value. A heritage asset might be a building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest.
Attributes (valued)	Positive features and characteristics that are important to landscape character.
Biodiversity	The measure of the variety of organisms present in different ecosystems.
Bronze Age	A time period characterised by the use of bronze, proto-writing, and other early features of urban civilization.
Built form	The characteristic nature of built development.
Carbon sequestration	The capturing, removal and storage of carbon dioxide (CO ₂) from the earth's atmosphere.
CHEGD fungi	Certain grasslands (typically unimproved or ancient) support fungi groups, including Clavarioids, Hygrocybe, Entoloma, Geoglossum, and Dermoloma.
Characteristic	A distinctive element of the landscape that contributes to landscape character for instance a particular hedgerow pattern or sense of tranquillity.
Clayey	Clay soils.
Condition	A judgement on the intactness and condition of the elements of the landscape.
Coniferous woodland	Woodland comprised of coniferous trees often having needle like leaves. They are usually evergreen.

Term	Definition
Common land	Common land is land that is owned by one party over which another party has certain rights. The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 extends public rights of access to all registered common land in England and Wales.
Copse(s)	A small group of trees.
Craggy slopes	Uneven or rough slopes.
Deciduous woodland	Woodland where the majority of tree lose their leaves at the end of the growing season.
Ecology	The study of organisms and how they interact with the environment around them.
Ecosystem	A biological community of interacting organisms and their physical environment.
Ecosystem services	The direct and indirect contributions ecosystems (known as natural capital) provide for human wellbeing and quality of life. This can be in a practical sense, providing food and water and regulating the climate, as well as cultural aspects such as reducing stress and anxiety.
Enclosure	The placing in private hands of land to which there was previously common rights; the merging of strip fields to form a block surrounded by hedges.
Floodplain	The area that would naturally be affected by flooding if a river rises above its banks, or high tides and stormy seas cause flooding in coastal areas.
Fluvial erosion	The detachment of material of the river bed and the sides.
Forces for change	These are both positive and negative factors that are known to or have potential to act on the landscape, including agricultural management issues, policy and development pressures.
Geodiversity	The variety of rocks, minerals, fossils, landforms, sediments and soils in an area, together with natural processes, such as erosion and landslips, that may still be active.
Geology	The study of the structure, evolution and dynamics of the Earth and its natural mineral and energy resources.
GIS	Geographic Information System.
Glacial till drift	The name for all material of glacial origin found anywhere on land or at sea, including sediment and large rocks.
Glacial processes	The way that glaciers shape the land through processes of weathering, erosion, transportation, and deposition.
Green belt	An area of open land around a city, on which building is restricted.
Habitat	The natural home or environment of an animal, plant, or other organism.
Heathland	A shrubland habitat found mainly on free-draining infertile, acidic soils, characterised by open, low-growing woody vegetation.
Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC)	HLC can be used to help secure good quality, well designed and sustainable places. It is a method of identification and interpretation of the varying historic character within an area that looks beyond individual heritage assets as it brings understanding of the whole landscape and townscape into repeating HLC Types.

Term	Definition
Horsiculture	Development of farmland for horses and equestrianism.
Hydrology	The science dealing with the occurrence, circulation, distribution, and properties of the waters of the earth and its atmosphere.
Intact/ Intactness	Not changed or diminished.
Land cover	The surface cover of the land, usually expresses in terms of vegetation cover or lack of it.
Landform	The shape and form of the land surface which has resulted from combinations of geology, geomorphology, slope, elevation and physical processes.
Landscape	The European Landscape Convention (a Council of Europe not EU instrument) defines landscapes as: <i>‘an area perceived by people whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors’</i> Refers primarily to the visual appearance of the land, including its shape, form, and colours, also encompassing a range of other dimensions including geology, topography, soils, ecology, archaeology, landscape history, land use, architecture, and cultural associations.
Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments (LVIA)	A tool to help identify and assess the significance of and the effects of changes that a proposed development would make on the landscape and on people’s visual amenity or views they enjoy. LVIA applies to projects that require an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) under the EIA Regulations.
Landscape and visual appraisals (LVA)	A tool to help identify and assess the changes that a proposed development would make on the landscape and on people’s visual amenity or views they enjoy. Similar to an LVIA but there is no requirement to make judgements on significance.
Landscape character	The distinct, recognisable and consistent pattern of elements that occurs consistently in a particular landscape and how these are perceived. It reflects particular combinations of geology, landform, soils, vegetation, land use and human settlement.
Landscape Character Assessment (LCA)	The process of identifying and describing variation in the character of the landscape. It seeks to identify and explain the unique combination of elements and landscape features.
Landscape character areas (LCA)	Single unique areas that are the discrete geographical area of a particular landscape type.
Landscape character types (LCT)	Distinct types of landscape that are relatively homogenous in character. They are generic in nature in that they may occur in different areas in different parts of the country, but share broadly similar combinations of geology, topography, drainage patterns, vegetation, historic land use and settlement pattern.
Landscape Sensitivity Assessment	a process that assesses the robustness of landscape character and the visual resource to a defined change, or change, normally a form of development.
Landscape value	The relative value that is attached to different landscapes. In a policy context the usual basis for recognising certain highly valued landscapes is through the application of a local or national landscape designation. Yet a landscape may be valued by different communities of interest for many different reasons without any formal designation, recognising, for example, perceptual aspects such as scenic beauty, tranquillity or wildness; special cultural associations; the influence and presence of

Term	Definition
	other conservation interests; or the existence of a consensus about importance, either nationally or locally.
Landmark	An object or feature of a landscape or town that is easily seen and recognized from a distance, especially one that enables someone to establish their location.
Loamy	Soil composed mostly of sand and silt, and a smaller amount of clay.
Local Plan	A development plan prepared by local planning authorities.
Medieval	Relating to the Middle Ages.
Millstone Grit	The name given to any of a number of coarse-grained sandstones of Carboniferous age.
Mitigation	Measures which are proposed to prevent, reduce or offset adverse effects.
Muirburn	Heather burning. The 'traditional' practice of burning vegetation (usually to promote new growth) and is mainly associated with managing land for grouse shooting, deer management or for sheep farming.
Naturalness	The quality or state of being natural.
National Character Area (NCA)	National Character Area – defined within the <i>National Character Area Study, Natural England (2013)</i> - NCAs divide England into 159 distinct natural areas. Each is defined by a unique combination of landscape, biodiversity, geodiversity, history, and cultural and economic activity.
Open Access Land	The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CROW Act) normally gives a public right of access to land mapped as 'open country' (mountain, moor, heath and down) or registered common land. These areas are known as 'open access land'.
OS	Ordnance Survey.
Outcrop	A rock formation that is visible on the surface.
Parish	A small administrative district typically having its own church and a priest or pastor.
Pastoral/ pasture	Land used for keeping or grazing sheep or cattle.
Peaty	A mossy accumulation of compressed decaying plant material.
Perceptual	The ability to interpret or become aware of something through the senses.
Plateau	An area of fairly level high ground.
Poaching	The damage caused to grass turf or sward by the feet of livestock.
Prehistoric	The period before written records.
Protect	Strategy where the emphasis is conservation of existing character and of particular features that contribute to this character.
Remnant	A part or quantity left after the greater part has been used, removed, or destroyed.
Rocky outcrops	Visible exposures of bedrock or other geological formations at the surface of the Earth / large areas of rock sticking out of the ground.
Rural	Relating to or characteristic of the countryside.

Term	Definition
Scheduled Monument	Nationally important archaeological sites or historic buildings, given protection against unauthorised change.
Sense of Place	A person's perception of a location's indigenous characteristics, based on the mix of uses, appearance and context that makes a place memorable.
Sensitivity	A judgement of how sensitive or vulnerable a landscape component is to change.
Settlement pattern	The shape or pattern of settlement such as nucleated, linear or dispersed.
Skyline	The outline of something such as a range of hills, ridge or group of buildings seen against the sky.
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest.
Strength of character	A judgement on how distinctive and recognisable the pattern is that defines the character of the landscape. This includes the combination of physical and cultural attributes and the sense of place that they evoke.
Superficial deposits	Geological deposit from the Quaternary age, may include stream channel and floodplain deposits. All pre quaternary deposits are known as bedrock.
Time depth	The time period expressed in the landscape, or the extent to which the landscape reflects a certain time period (a landscape with greater time depth will comprise older elements than a landscape with lesser time depth).
Topography	The arrangement of the natural and artificial physical features of an area or forms and features of land surfaces.
Valued attributes	Positive features and characteristics that are important to landscape character.
Visually prominent	Conspicuous or readily noticeable.