

Principles Applying to Open Landscape within Urban Areas

3.2 Within the urban area of the City of Bradford there are open landscapes which have been preserved from development for various reasons. These landscapes are important in separating different localities; maintaining the identity of historic villages or hamlets which have been absorbed into the urban area; and providing a range of health and well-being benefits to local residents.

3.3 These large areas should be treated as potentially valuable areas of distinct landscape character in their own right. Their character is not of lesser value due to being surrounded by built form. The LCAs within LCT H: Urban Edge Wooded Valleys and Slopes have key qualities in common with these swathes of open landscape albeit the swathes within the urban area are entirely landlocked by urban development. LCT H comprises a series of valleys which extend into the urban area of Bradford and are often largely surrounded by development, providing easy access to substantial open green space. Their open character should be respected and factored into conservation, management and development decisions.

Open Landscape in Urban Area Example: Idle Hill, Wrose Hill and Gaisby Hill

3.4 An example of a large swathe of open landscape within the city of Bradford is the wider area around Idle Hill, Wrose Hill and Gaisby Hill. Forming part of the southern valley side of the Airedale Valley, this area consists of a mix of steep slopes, belts of deciduous woodland and a field pattern of surveyed and piecemeal enclosure. It provides a recreational asset to the surrounding residential area and breaks up the wider urban form. It is prominent in views from the northern side of the Airedale Valley.

Figure 3.201: Example photos from Idle Hill, Wrose Hill and Gaisby Hill



Pylons and mast at Idle Hill.



Network of PRoW across the wooded slopes.



Elevated views towards urban form of Bradford.



Some vernacular properties enhance the rural qualities.