

# Yorkshire Green Energy Enablement (GREEN) Project

Volume 5

Document 5.3.6E ES Chapter 6 Appendix 6E - Landscape Character Sensitivity Assessment

Final Issue A

November 2022

Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN020024

Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 Regulation 5(2)(a)

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Date	Version	Status	Description / change
01/11/2022	A	FINAL	First Issue

# 1. Landscape Character Sensitivity Assessment

**Table 6E.1 - Landscape Sensitivity Assessment for Vale Farmland with Plantation Woodland and Heathland Regional Landscape Character Area**

## Relevant figures

**Figures 6.2 to 6.7, 6.16 and 6.19, Volume 5, Document 5.4.6.** Photoviewpoints 5, 6, 9, 13. **Note:** the area assessed is part of the Landscape Character Areas (LCA) within City of York administrative area only and does not overlap with extant landscape character assessments in adjoining districts.

Value criteria	Commentary	Value
Landscape designations	There are no national or local landscape designations within the LCA and study area.	Medium
Landscape condition and intactness	The LCA is defined by a “patchwork of low lying predominately arable fields delineated by mature hedgerows” <sup>1</sup> with patches of woodlands. There is a “strong sense of openness” throughout the area. Towns villages and farmsteads are scattered across the area, including the villages of Nether Poppleton, Upper Poppleton and Skelton. The assessment notes “Despite the presence of villages and towns, there is a sense that this is a predominately rural landscape”. Within the part of the LCA in the study area there is network of main roads including A19, A59 and B1363, the East Coast Mainline (ECML) Railway and overhead transmission lines. The extant assessment identifies that management of the area should focus on restoring the landscape “through enhancing and replacing lost hedgerows, planting trees, protecting and enhancing broadleaf woodland” <sup>1</sup> .	Medium
Scenic quality	Within the LVIA study area much of the LCA consists of a rural landscape of ordinary aesthetic appeal, which typically has an open level of enclosure. Small patches of woodland are scattered across the landscape, which provide a sense of intimacy and enclosure in places. The assessment advises the conservation of “open views along and	Medium

<sup>1</sup> Chris Bradford Associates on behalf of North Yorkshire County Council. (2011). North Yorkshire and York Landscape Characterisation Project. (Online) Available at: <https://www.cravendc.gov.uk/media/8643/north-yorkshire-and-york-landscape-character-assessment.pdf> (Accessed 22 September 2022)

	<i>across the river floodplains towards adjacent Landscape Character Types”<sup>1</sup>. The overall scenic quality is detracted by the A19, A59 and B1363 and the ECML railway.</i>	
Rarity and representativeness	This is not considered to be a particularly important example of a lowland intensively farmed arable landscape. Rare landscape features are not a key characteristic of the landscape.	Low
Conservation interest and associations	Within the LVIA study area there are a number of conservation interests. There is a single Grade 1 listed building in Skelton (Church of St Giles), and several Grade 2 listed properties in Nether Poppleton, Upper Poppleton and Hessay. There are conservation areas within Nether Poppleton and Upper Poppleton around the historic cores of the villages. With regard to nature conservation there is the Moorlands Woodland Nature Reserve west of Wigginton. There are no Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), Special Protected Area (SPAs), Special Area of Conservation (SACs) or Ramsar sites within the LCA and LVIA study area.	Medium
Recreation value	National Cycle Route (NCR) 65 and the York & Selby long distance footpath are routed through the LCA and study area and there is a local Public Right of Way (PRoW) network that connects villages to the wider countryside. The larger villages have small public parks including Millennium Green in Nether Poppleton and the Forest of Galtres and Skelton Park Golf Clubs are also located in this LCA.	High
Perceptual aspects	Whilst there is local variation, the arable farmland typically has moderate levels of remoteness and tranquillity, reduced near settlement edges and where it is crossed by major transport corridors including the A19, A59 and B1363 and the ECML railway , where the audible influence of road traffic and trains, regular movement and background noise is typically localised in extent.	Medium
Overall value	The landscape is undesignated, and criteria range from ‘High’ (recreation value) ‘Medium’ (conservation interests, associations, designations, condition, scenic quality and perceptual aspects), to ‘Low’ (in terms of rarity and representativeness). The overall value is therefore assessed as Medium.	Medium

Susceptibility criteria	Commentary	Susceptibility
Physical characteristics	<p>This is a “<i>low-lying, gently undulating vale landscape</i>”<sup>1</sup>, there are several settlements and scattered pattern of villages and farmsteads. The scale of the landscape is typically medium to large. Major transport routes and energy infrastructure include the A19, A59 and B1363 and the ECML railway and transmission lines cross the landscape. Beyond settlements and the aforementioned infrastructure, the rural landscape features are arranged around scattered farmsteads with a simple, pattern of arable fields with typically regular boundaries and occasional drainage ditches.</p>	Low
Visual characteristics	<p>The assessment notes a “<i>strong sense of openness</i>”<sup>1</sup>, afforded by “<i>Large areas of modern improved fields which have seen a large degree of boundary loss</i>”<sup>1</sup>. Some areas have an intermediate level of enclosure afforded by patches and blocks of woodland, built form within settlements, and field boundary vegetation that foreshortens some views. The field survey noted the skyline is broken by existing overhead transmission lines and stanchions of the ECML railway. In consideration of these factors, the LCA is best summarised as an open to partially enclosed landscape offering some visual containment and filtering of views and moderate levels of intervisibility to surrounding landscapes. Regular trains along the ECML railway and traffic along the road network, in particular the busy A19 and A59 contribute to localised man-made influences within the wider character area.</p>	Medium
Perceptual characteristics	<p>Field survey observations made whilst obtaining viewpoint photography note the localised influence of the A19 and ECML railway, which pass through this part of the LCA. The proximity to settlements, roads and influence of human activity results in an LCA which displays moderate - low levels of remoteness and naturalness is heavily influenced by modern arable farming methods which have reduced semi-natural habitats.</p>	Medium
<b>Overall Susceptibility</b>	<p>The physical, visual and perceptual characteristics indicate a ‘Medium’ overall <b>Medium</b> susceptibility.</p>	

## Overall Sensitivity

Value:	Susceptibility:		
	High	Medium	Low
High	High	High to Medium	Medium
Medium	High to Medium	Medium	Medium to Low
Low	Medium	Medium to Low	Low

### Overall Sensitivity to the Project:

The overall value of this LCA is 'Medium' and the overall susceptibility is judged to be 'Medium'. Combining overall susceptibility and overall value indicates a '**Medium**' overall sensitivity.

**Table 6E.2 - Landscape Sensitivity Assessment for River Floodplain Regional Landscape Character Type**

**Relevant figures**

**Figures 6.2 to 6.7 and 6.16 and Photoviewpoint 2, 4 and 18, Volume 5, Document 5.4.6.** Note: the area assessed is the part of the LCA within the City of York administrative area only and does not overlap with extant landscape character assessments in adjoining districts.

<b>Value criteria</b>	<b>Commentary</b>	<b>Value</b>
Landscape designations	This ' <i>narrow flood plain landscape</i> ' <sup>1</sup> . contains no national or local landscape designations within the study area.	Medium
Landscape condition and intactness	The river corridor is a meandering channel, typically ~50m wide and flanked by narrow and intermittent strips of riparian planting with frequent willow trees. Overton Wood is a c.50 hectare mixed woodland plantation just to the north of the River Ouse, and elsewhere there is a simple pattern of arable and pastoral fields divided by intermittent clipped hedgerows and hedgerow trees. Engineered berms to minimise flooding of farmland are present, particularly along the north-eastern edge of the river corridor. The extant assessment identifies at Table 5.43 that " <i>Potential for landscape enhancements includes widening of riparian strips to provide the foundation of a green network in this area</i> " <sup>1</sup> . Frequent flooding is noted with " <i>an increased need to construct, maintain and repair flood defences along the riverside</i> " <sup>1</sup> .	Medium
Scenic quality	The landscape is very flat with a " <i>sense of exposure</i> " <sup>1</sup> . The landscape typically lacks intimacy and high voltage powerlines cross the River Ouse north-west of Overton, with low voltage powerlines on wooden poles passing underneath and running parallel to the river (see Viewpoint 4). Settlement is limited but the LCA includes the villages of Overton and Beningbrough and there are occasional scattered farmsteads, but more frequently on slightly higher ground in adjoining character areas.	Medium
Rarity and representativeness	This is not a rare landscape type or considered to be a particularly important example of a lowland river corridor (Beningbrough Hall parkland within the Ouse Floodplain LCA is assessed separately). Rare landscape features are not a key characteristic of the landscape.	Low
Conservation interest and associations	There are several listed buildings and structures within the settlements of Overton and Red House and a moated Scheduled Monument north-west of Red House. With regard to nature conservation, there are no SSSIs, SPAs, SACs or Ramsar sites within the LCA	Medium

	and LVIA study area. The historic ‘Ings’ (water meadows) have largely been lost to intensive arable agriculture.	
Recreation value	PRoWs are routed along the length on the river corridor on both banks and short spurs of these routes are well connected to nearby settlements and minor roads. The River Ouse also accommodates fishing and is part of a Ripon to York paddling trail promoted by British Canoeing <sup>2</sup> . Other recreational water uses may occur.	High
Perceptual aspects	Further from the ECML railway and larger villages at the western edge of the LCA, the landscape is increasingly tranquil with no aural or visual disturbance from major roads. High voltage pylons and lower voltage lines on wooden poles are highly visible and the engineered bank of the River Ouse and high intensity arable agriculture all combine to reduce the sense of naturalness.	Medium
Overall value	The landscape is undesignated, and criteria range from ‘High’ (recreation value), to ‘Medium’ (designations, condition, intactness, conservation interests, associations and perceptual aspects) to ‘Low’ (in terms of rarity and representativeness). The overall value is therefore assessed as Medium.	Medium
Susceptibility criteria	Commentary	Susceptibility
Physical characteristics	This is a very flat, low lying landscape with an open to intermediate level of enclosure afforded by typically gappy hedgerows with occasional trees. The scale of the landscape is medium, reducing in scale closer to settlements including Beningbrough and Overton where field sizes are reduced in size and landcover is more typically permanent grassland. A 275kV overhead line crosses the River Ouse north-west of Overton. There is a simple, pattern of arable fields with engineered berms close to the river to minimise flooding of farmland and field boundaries are typically rectilinear with drainage ditches running perpendicular to the river.	Low
Visual characteristics	The skyline character is described in the published assessment as a “ <i>flat horizon, interrupted by mature tree cover.</i> ” <sup>1</sup> The existing 275kV pylon lines to the north-west of Overton break the skyline and lower voltage lines on wooden poles contribute, to a lesser extent, to the impact of vertical man-made infrastructure on the LCA. It is noted that whilst there are some open views are varying length, the very flat topography and character of the meandering River Ouse with intermittent bankside tree cover, results in	Medium

<sup>2</sup> British Canoeing (undated). Paddling Trail: River Ure & Ouse: Ripon to York, Multiday Trail. (online) (Accessed 22 September 2022).

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	views that are frequently interrupted and curtailed. Field boundary hedgerow trees and Overton Wood restrict intervisibility with the adjoining LCA's (i.e. Huby and Shipton Vale Farmland LCA, Scagglethorpe Moor Mixed Farmland LCA and the River Floodplain LCA).
Perceptual characteristics	Field survey observations made whilst obtaining viewpoint photography note the localised adverse influence on tranquillity of the ECML railway at the eastern end of the LCA and activity associated with the larger villages of Nether and Upper Poppleton that adjoin the LCA to the south. High voltage overhead power lines cross the River Ouse and lower voltage lines on wooden poles are also present.
<b>Overall Susceptibility</b>	The physical, visual and perceptual characteristics combined indicate a 'Medium' overall <b>Medium</b> susceptibility.

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### Overall Sensitivity

Value:	Susceptibility:		
	High	Medium	Low
High	High	High to Medium	Medium
Medium	High to Medium	Medium	Medium to Low
Low	Medium	Medium to Low	Low

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### Overall Sensitivity to the Project:

The overall value of this LCA is 'Medium' and the overall susceptibility is judged to be 'Medium'. Combining overall susceptibility and overall value indicates a '**Medium**' sensitivity.

**Table 6E.3 – Landscape Sensitivity Assessment for Huby and Shipton Vale LCA including Landscape Character Sub-type 5b: intensively farmed lowland – intermediate enclosure and Sub-type 5c: intensively farmed lowland – open enclosure**

### Relevant Figures

Figures 6.2 to 6.7 and 6.19 and Photoviewpoints 1, 7, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, Volume 5, Document 5.4.6

<b>Value criteria</b>	<b>Commentary</b>	<b>Value</b>
Landscape designations	There are no national or local landscape designations.	Medium
Landscape condition and intactness	This is a “ <i>simple, open</i> ” <sup>3</sup> landscape and the predominant intensive arable landcover includes “ <i>gappy and sparse</i> ” hedgerows with “ <i>some field trees</i> ” <sup>3</sup> and limited woodland cover. Overton Wood is a c.50-hectare mixed woodland plantation located south-west of Shipton and elsewhere woodland is typically restricted to smaller copses and belts. The extant assessment identifies at 5.254 that “ <i>The focus should be on restoring landscape structure through new woodland and hedgerow planting to reinforce character and enhance green infrastructure</i> ” <sup>3</sup> and notes that upgrading of overheads lines “ <i>could affect landscape character</i> ” <sup>3</sup> . The rural landscape is disrupted by the A19 road corridor, ECML railway and overhead lines.	Medium
Scenic quality	This is a “ <i>simple, open</i> ” <sup>3</sup> landscape of ordinary aesthetic appeal and has an open to intermediate level of enclosure. The landscape typically lacks intimacy and locally prominent major transport corridors include the A19 and ECML railway and high voltage overhead lines.	Medium
Rarity and representativeness	This is not considered to be a particularly important example of a lowland intensively farmed arable landscape. Rare landscape features are not a key characteristic of the landscape.	Low
Conservation interest and associations	The village of Shipton-by-Beningbrough contains a number of Grade II listed buildings. In addition, there are several scattered Grade II listed farm buildings in the landscape to the north and north-east of Shipton-by-Beningbrough. No Scheduled Monuments are present.	Medium

<sup>3</sup> LUC on behalf of Hambleton District Council. (2016). Hambleton Landscape Character Assessment and Sensitivity Study. (online) Available at: <https://www.hambleton.gov.uk/downloads/download/187/hambleton-landscape-character-assessment-and-sensitivity-study> (Accessed 22 September 2022)

	There are no SSSIs, SPAs, SACs or Ramsar sites within the LCA and study area.	
Recreation value	A section of NCR 65 passes through this LCA and follows minor roads including Overton Road, Shipton Low Road, Beningbrough Lane and New Road. Beyond NCR65 there is generally a low to medium density of local Public Rights of Way (PRoWs), increasing in number closer to Shipton.	Medium
Perceptual aspects	This is an intensive arable landscape, crossed by major transport corridors including the A19 and ECML railway and well connected to the north-east edge of the York conurbation. The transport corridors together with the village of Shipton, limit the feeling of remoteness and tranquillity with the audible influence of road traffic and trains a source, albeit localised, of regular movement and background noise. Baseline light sources include traffic on the nearby A19, street lighting along the A19 within the nearby settlements of Shipton-by-Beningbrough and Skelton and occasional trains on the ECML.	Medium
Overall value	The landscape is undesignated, and criteria range from 'Medium' (conservation interests, associations, designations, condition, scenic quality, recreational and perceptual aspects), to 'Low' (in terms of rarity and representativeness). The overall value is therefore assessed as Medium.	Medium
Susceptibility Criteria	Commentary	Susceptibility
Physical characteristics	A flat, low-lying landscape with an open to intermediate level of enclosure afforded by hedgerows with frequent gaps and occasional blocks and belts of native woodland and plantation woodland. The scale of the landscape is typically medium to large, reducing to a medium scale closer to Shipton where field sizes are reduced in size. Major transport routes and energy infrastructure include the A19, the electrified ECML railway and a 400kV overhead line crosses the landscape north and north-east of Shipton. Beyond Shipton and the aforementioned infrastructure, the rural landscape features are arranged around scattered farmsteads with a simple, pattern of arable fields with typically regular boundaries and occasional drainage ditches.	Low
Visual characteristics	The skyline is described in the published assessment as " <i>generally undefined in this flat landscape and usually broken by hedgerows and scattered mature hedgerow trees</i> " <sup>3</sup> . It is noted that the existing 400kV overhead line to the north and north-east of Shipton breaks the skyline in places, although the lack of landform variation and field boundary vegetation often restricts views. It is noted that " <i>views into the area are available from</i>	Medium

*higher ground to the north*<sup>3</sup>, however the higher ground of the Howardian Hills Area of Natural Beauty (AONB) is located over 7km to the north of the LVIA study area and consequently due to intervening distance and vegetation there is a weak visual relationship with the LCA within the study area.

In consideration of these factors, the Huby and Shipton Vale Farmland LCA can be summarised as an open to partially enclosed landscape offering some visual containment and filtering of views and moderate levels of intervisibility to surrounding landscapes. Regular trains along the ECML railway and traffic along the road network, in particular the busy A19, have localised adverse impacts on the rural landscape.

Perceptual characteristics	Field survey observations made whilst obtaining viewpoint photography note the Medium localised influence of the A19 and ECML railway, which pass through the LCA. Baseline light sources include traffic on the nearby A19, street lighting along the A19 within the nearby settlements of Shipton-by-Beningbrough and Skelton and occasional trains on the ECML railway. The proximity to settlements and influence of human activity results in an LCA which displays limited levels of remoteness and naturalness and is heavily influenced by modern arable farming methods which have reduced semi-natural habitats.
<b>Overall Susceptibility</b>	The physical, visual and perceptual characteristics indicate a ‘Medium’ overall <b>Medium</b> susceptibility.

## Overall Sensitivity

Value:	Susceptibility:		
	High	Medium	Low
High	High	High to Medium	Medium
Medium	High to Medium	Medium	Medium to Low
Low	Medium	Medium to Low	Low

## Overall Sensitivity to the Project:

The overall value of this LCA is 'Medium' and the overall susceptibility is judged to be 'Medium'. Combining overall susceptibility and overall value indicates a 'Medium' overall sensitivity.

**Table 6E.4 – Landscape Sensitivity Assessment for Huby and Shipton Vale LCA including Landscape Character Sub-type: 7A: Special Interest**

### Relevant Figures

Figures 6.2 to 6.7 and 6.19 and Photoviewpoint 8, Volume 5, Document 5.4.6

Value criteria	Commentary	Value
Landscape designations	Beningbrough Hall is a Grade II Registered Park and Garden of dating from the 18 <sup>th</sup> Century or earlier and is owned by the National Trust. The parkland is bounded by a bend of the River Ouse to the west and south, farmland to the west and the village of Newton-on-Ouse and more farmland to the north.	High
Landscape condition and intactness	The parkland planting has a good time depth, with veteran parkland trees in varying states of decline and more recent tree and woodland planting. Ongoing management is undertaken by the National Trust to maintain Beningbrough Hall parkland as a visitor attraction.	High
Scenic quality	This is a landscape of high aesthetic appeal and a close relationship exists between the historic buildings and structures within the grounds and designed vistas, approaches and walks within the parkland landscape.	High
Rarity and representativeness	Beningbrough Hall, completed in 1716 is described as one of the " <i>finest Baroque houses in the region</i> " <sup>4</sup> and the evolution of the gardens over several hundred years include a walled garden, ha-ha, many mature parkland trees and Grade I listed clock and bell pylons.	High
Conservation interest and associations	The principal building of Beningbrough Hall is Grade I listed and there are several other listed buildings and structures within the grounds.	High

<sup>4</sup> Historic England. (2021). Benningbrough Hall. (Online) (Accessed 22 September 2022)

	The National Trust formed a partnership with the National Portrait Gallery in 1979 which facilitated the display of important 18 <sup>th</sup> century portraits in the Hall <sup>5</sup> , which in addition to the gardens, parkland and architecture, is a more recent association that promotes Beningbrough as a visitor attraction. With regard to nature conservation, there are no specific designations within the Landscape Character Type (LCT).	
Recreation value	Part of NCR 65 passes through the centre of Beningbrough Park and the route also passes along New Road which defines the northern and western boundary of the LCT. In addition, a public footpath follows the same route as NCR 65 through the centre of the park and additional public footpath routes follow the course of the River Ouse along the southern and western boundary of the LCT. As a National Trust owned tourist destination, it is understood that Beningbrough attracts over 150,000 paying visitors a year <sup>6</sup> .	High
Perceptual aspects	This is a tranquil and peaceful LCT, situated over 2km west of the ECML railway and distant from major road corridors. The presence of mature perimeter shelterbelts and tree cover provides a secluded character to the LCT with high levels of tranquillity.	High
Overall value	The landscape is designated as a Grade II RPG, and all criteria are assessed as 'High'. The overall value is therefore assessed as High.	High
Susceptibility criteria	Commentary	Susceptibility
Physical characteristics	This is a flat, low-lying landscape closely associated with the River Ouse. There is a modest rise in elevation to the centre of the LCT where Beningbrough Hall is located. A good level of enclosure is afforded by shelter belts and tree planting to the perimeter of the LCT. Redhouse Wood is a c.50-hectare block of woodland c.0.6km south of the LCT and as a backdrop, it indirectly contributes to the well wooded character of the LCT. The landscape varies from medium-scale parkland to smaller scale landscapes near the Hall, including the more intimate landscape of the walled garden.	High
Visual characteristics	The skyline is dominated by mature tree cover, both within and beyond the LCT, with glimpses of the agricultural landscape beyond in places, particularly in winter. The influence of modern built development and infrastructure is limited, with very restricted glimpses, in winter, of the existing XC and XCP overhead line c.1.2km south of the LCT	High to Medium

<sup>5</sup> National Trust. (2021) A Brief History of Benningbrough Hall. (Online) (Accessed 22 September 2022)

<sup>6</sup> National Trust website

(see **Photoviewpoint 8, Figure 6.37, Document 5.4.6**). The Hall has an elevated location, however surrounding mature parkland trees and belts of woodland to the site perimeter restrict ground level intervisibility with the wider landscape beyond the parkland, even in winter.

In consideration of these factors, the LCT can be summarised as an enclosed landscape offering a high degree of visual containment, even in winter, and low levels of intervisibility with surrounding landscapes as demonstrated by the baseline view (**Photoviewpoint 8**).

Perceptual characteristics	Field survey observations made whilst obtaining viewpoint photography note the relative lack of traffic on the minor roads that flank the LCT and the peaceful and tranquil character of the parkland. The small villages of Nun Monkton and Newton-on-Ouse adjacent to the LCT include older properties and post-war residential development on a linear street layout but being inward facing settlements, have limited indirect influence on the LCT and are separated from the Beningbrough parkland by mature tree cover. Vertical man-made infrastructure including street lighting columns close to the LCT are typically absent.	High
<b>Overall Susceptibility</b>	The physical, visual and perceptual characteristics combined indicate a 'High' overall susceptibility.	<b>High</b>

## Overall Sensitivity

Value:	Susceptibility:		
	High	Medium	Low
High	High	High to Medium	Medium
Medium	High to Medium	Medium	Medium to Low
Low	Medium	Medium to Low	Low

### **Overall Sensitivity to the Project:**

The overall value of this LCA is 'High' and the overall susceptibility is judged to be 'High'. Combining overall susceptibility and overall value indicates a '**High**' sensitivity.

**Table 6E.5 – Landscape Sensitivity Assessment for Ouse Floodplain LCA**

**Relevant Figures**

**Figures 6.2 to 6.7 and 6.19 and Photoviewpoints 4 and 18 (from adjacent character area), Volume 5, Document 5.4.6**

<b>Value criteria</b>	<b>Commentary</b>	<b>Value</b>
Landscape designations	There are no national or local landscape designations within the LVIA study area.	Medium
Landscape condition and intactness	This “narrow flood plain landscape” <sup>3</sup> is centred on the River Ouse, a meandering channel, typically ~50m wide and flanked by narrow and intermittent strips of riparian planting with frequent willow trees. Overton Wood is a ~50 hectare mixed woodland plantation just to the north of the River Ouse and elsewhere woodland cover is limited and the landscape is dominated by a simple pattern of arable and pastoral fields divided by intermittent clipped hedgerows and hedgerow trees. Engineered berms to minimise flooding of farmland are present, particularly along the north-eastern edge of the river corridor. The extant assessment identifies that “Potential for landscape enhancements includes widening of riparian strips to provide the foundation of a green network in this area” <sup>3</sup> . Frequent flooding is noted with ‘an increased need to construct, maintain and repair flood defences along the riverside’ <sup>3</sup> .	Medium
Scenic quality	The landscape is very flat with a “sense of exposure.” <sup>3</sup> The landscape typically lacks intimacy and high voltage powerlines cross the River Ouse north-west of Overton, with low voltage powerlines on wooden poles passing underneath and running parallel to the river (see Photoviewpoint 4, Figure 6.28, Volume 5, Document 5.4.6). Settlement is limited, although the LCA includes the villages of Overton and Beningbrough and there are occasional scattered farmsteads, but more frequently on slightly higher ground in adjoining character areas.	Medium
Rarity and representativeness	This is not a rare landscape type but representative of a typical lowland river corridor, noting that the Beningbrough Hall parkland within the Ouse Floodplain LCA is assessed separately.	Medium
Conservation interest and associations	There are several listed buildings and structures within Overton and Red House and a moated Scheduled Monument north-west of Red House. With regard to nature conservation, there are no SSSIs, SPAs, SACs or Ramsar sites within the LCA and LVIA	Medium

	study area. The historic 'Ings' (water meadows) have largely been lost to intensive arable agriculture.	
Recreation value	PRoWs are routed along the length on the river corridor on both banks and short spurs of these routes are well connected to nearby settlements and minor roads. The River Ouse also accommodates fishing and is part of a Ripon to York paddling trail promoted by British Canoeing <sup>2</sup> . Other recreational water uses may occur.	High
Perceptual aspects	Further from the ECML railway and larger villages at the western edge of the LCA the landscape is increasingly tranquil with no aural or visual disturbance from major roads. The visibility of high voltage pylon pylons and lower voltage lines on wooden poles and the engineered banks, with high intensity arable agriculture reduces the sense of naturalness.	Medium
Overall value	The landscape is undesignated, and criteria range from 'High' (recreation value), to 'Medium' (designations, condition, intactness, conservation interests, rarity and representativeness, associations and perceptual aspects). The overall value is therefore assessed as Medium.	Medium
Susceptibility criteria	Commentary	Susceptibility
Physical characteristics	This is a very flat, low lying landscape with an open to intermediate level of enclosure afforded by often gappy hedgerows with occasional trees. The scale of the landscape is typically medium, reducing in scale closer to settlements including Beningbrough and Overton where field sizes are reduced in size and landcover is often permanent grassland. The 275kV XCP overhead line crosses the River Ouse north-west of Overton. There is a simple, pattern of arable fields with engineered berms close to the river to minimise flooding of farmland and field boundaries are typically rectilinear with drainage ditches running perpendicular to the river.	Low
Visual characteristics	The skyline character is described in the published assessment as a " <i>flat horizon, interrupted by mature tree cover.</i> " <sup>3</sup> The existing 275kV XCP overhead line to the north-west of Overton break the skyline and lower voltage lines on wooden poles contribute, to a lesser extent, to the vertical man-made infrastructure that is visible. It is noted that whilst there are some open views are varying length, the very flat topography and character of the meandering River Ouse with intermittent bankside tree cover, results in views that are frequently interrupted. Field boundary hedgerow trees and Overton Wood	Medium

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	restrict intervisibility with the adjoining LCAs (i.e. Huby and Shipton Vale Farmland LCA, Scagglethorpe Moor Mixed Farmland LCA and the River Floodplain LCA).
Perceptual characteristics	Field survey observations made whilst obtaining viewpoint photography note the localised adverse influence on tranquillity of the ECML railway at the eastern end of the LCA and activity associated with the larger villages of Nether and Upper Poppleton that adjoining the LCA to the south. High voltage overhead power lines cross the River Ouse and lower voltage lines on wooden poles are also present.
<b>Overall Susceptibility</b>	The physical, visual and perceptual characteristics combined indicate a 'Medium' overall <b>Medium</b> susceptibility.

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## Overall Sensitivity

Value:	Susceptibility:		
	High	Medium	Low
High	High	High to Medium	Medium
Medium	High to Medium	Medium	Medium to Low
Low	Medium	Medium to Low	Low

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### Overall Sensitivity to the Project:

The overall value of this LCA is 'Medium' and the overall susceptibility is judged to be 'Medium'. Combining overall susceptibility and overall value indicates a '**Medium**' sensitivity.

**Table 6E.6 – Landscape Sensitivity Assessment for Scagglethorpe Moor Mixed Farmland Local Landscape Character Area**

**Relevant Figures**

**Figures 6.2 to 6.7 and 6.19, Volume 5, Document 5.4.6**

<b>Value criteria</b>	<b>Commentary</b>	<b>Value</b>
Landscape designations	Whilst the landscape is described as containing “ <i>some features of interest</i> ” <sup>7</sup> it is not covered by any national or local landscape designations.	Medium
Landscape condition and intactness	This is a simple “ <i>fairly uniform large-scale landscape</i> ” with a mix of “ <i>improved grass and arable land intensively managed for grazing, cereal production and several poultry units</i> ” <sup>7</sup> . The extant assessment states that “ <i>Fields are large and bound by stockproof fencing which is gradually replacing or reinforcing surviving fragments of hedgerow</i> ” <sup>7</sup> and notes that the neglect of hedges has resulted in their fragmentation and the loss of hedgerow trees. Woodland is typically sparse with the exception of Redhouse Wood, a 44-hectare mixed woodland plantation east of Moor Monkton. The area has no large roads running or railways running through, but overhead lines are present. The assessment details “ <i>Pylons are highly visible discordant features</i> ” <sup>7</sup> and notes the openness of the area makes electricity pylons, more prominent.	Medium
Scenic quality	This is a “ <i>uniform [and] simple</i> ” landscape of ordinary aesthetic appeal which has an open level of enclosure. The landscape typically lacks intimacy and locally prominent features including poultry sheds, other large scale farm buildings and high voltage overhead lines detract from the scenic quality.	Medium
Rarity and representativeness	This is not considered to be a particularly important example of a lowland intensively farmed arable landscape, although Redhouse Wood contains “ <i>ancient semi-natural woodland</i> ” <sup>7</sup> .	Medium
Conservation interest and associations	Within the LCA there are two Grade II listed buildings and a single Scheduled Monument within the Red House Estate, east of Redhouse Wood. There are no SSSIs, SPAs, SACs or Ramsar sites within the LCA and LVIA study area.	Medium

<sup>7</sup> Harrogate Borough Council (2004). Harrogate District Landscape Character Assessment. (online) Available at: <https://www.harrogate.gov.uk/conservation-landscape-ecology/landscape-character-assessment> (Accessed 22 September 2022)

Recreation value	There are several PRoWs distributed across the area, including routes through Rehouse Wood, that connect to the wider network and the villages of Moor Monkton and Nether Poppleton beyond the LCA.	Medium to High
Perceptual aspects	This is an intensive arable landscape, with no settlements and a low density of farmsteads scattered across the area. The large open fields and sparse built form results in a moderate feeling of remoteness and tranquillity. Detracting aspects include the existing 275kV XCP overhead line and indirect influences of traffic along the A59 to the south of the LCA.	Medium
<b>Overall value</b>	The landscape is undesignated, and criteria range from ‘Medium-High’ (recreation value) to ‘Medium’ (conservation interests, associations, condition, intactness, scenic quality, rarity, representativeness, and perceptual aspects). The overall value is therefore assessed as Medium.	<b>Medium</b>
<b>Susceptibility criteria</b>	<b>Commentary</b>	<b>Susceptibility</b>
Physical characteristics	This is a flat, low lying landscape with an open level of enclosure derived from medium to large scale fields with low clipped hedgerows, post and wire fencing and limited woodland cover. There are no major transport routes through the area. The 275kV XCP overhead line crosses east-west through the centre of the LCA. The rural landscape features are arranged around scattered farmsteads with a simple, pattern of arable fields that vary in shape. The scale of the landscape is typically large, and the openness of the area makes detractors such as electricity pylons more visible although in places, principally in the vicinity of Redhouse Wood, woodland cover reduces intervisibility.	Low
Visual characteristics	The visual characteristics in the published assessment are described as “open with extensive views” <sup>7</sup> due to the flat topography, large fields, “neglected hedgerows” <sup>7</sup> and generally sparse woodland cover, noting some enclosure is afforded by Redhouse Wood. Frequent modern agricultural buildings and poultry sheds are assimilated into the landscape with varying degrees of success, noting some structures form locally prominent buildings due to the open nature of the landscape. The 275kV XCP overhead line to the east of Moor Monkton passes through the centre of the LCA and is prominent in views from some PRoWs and minor roads.	Medium
Perceptual characteristics	Field survey observations noted the lack of settlements although the frequent scattered farmsteads and intensive nature of modern agriculture results in an LCA which only displays a moderate level of remoteness. Naturalness is heavily influenced by modern	Medium

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	large-scale farm buildings and the dominance of modern agriculture that has reduced semi-natural habitats.
<b>Overall Susceptibility</b>	The physical, visual, and perceptual characteristics combined indicate a 'Medium' <b>Medium</b> overall susceptibility.

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## Overall Sensitivity

Value:	Susceptibility:		
	High	Medium	Low
High	High	High to Medium	Medium
Medium	High to Medium	Medium	Medium to Low
Low	Medium	Medium to Low	Low

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### Overall Sensitivity to the Project:

The overall value of this LCA is 'Medium' and the overall susceptibility is judged to be 'Medium'. Combining overall susceptibility and overall value indicates a '**Medium**' sensitivity.

**Table 6E.7 – Landscape Sensitivity Assessment for Lower Nidd Grassland Local Landscape Character Area**

**Relevant Figures**

**Figures 6.2 to 6.7 and 6.19 and Photoviewpoint 29, Volume 5, Document 5.4.6**

<b>Value criteria</b>	<b>Commentary</b>	<b>Value</b>
Landscape designations	There are no national or local landscape designations within the LCA.	Medium
Landscape condition and intactness	The relatively open <i>broad, flat, floodplain</i> ' landscape includes the final section of the River Nidd before its confluence with the River Ouse. The area is a " <i>broad flat floodplain</i> " <sup>7</sup> managed as permanent grassland. Rectangular fields are described as " <i>monochrome</i> " <sup>7</sup> , noting " <i>low hedges are clipped and well-tended in contrast with the taller, often neglected, hedges</i> " <sup>7</sup> that compensate for a lack of tree cover within the fields. The river corridor close to settlements and the periphery of the villages of Moor Monkton and Nun Monkton contain frequent mature trees. The extant assessment identifies guideline for management including " <i>Maintain the regular field pattern</i> " <sup>7</sup> promoting hedgerows and hedgerow trees. The area is disrupted by the A59 road corridor to the south, and the 275kV XC overhead line passes through the south-east part of the LCA.	Medium
Scenic quality	The uniformity of the fields and lack of distinctive features lends an ordinary quality to the landscape, however closer to the river the aesthetic appeal is elevated, with the extant assessment describing parts of the landscape adjacent to the river as " <i>beautiful</i> " <sup>7</sup> . Local detractors include the A59 road corridor to the south, and the 275kV XC overhead line passes through the south-east part of the LCA. The extant assessment also states that " <i>Modern housing has detracted from vernacular and impacts upon the character of villages and their setting</i> " <sup>7</sup> around Moor Monkton and Nun Monkton.	Medium to High
Rarity and representativeness	This is not a rare landscape type or considered to be a particularly important example of a grassland floodplain.	Low
Conservation interest and associations	Within the LCA there are several scattered Grade II listed buildings located around Moor Monkton and Nun Monkton, no Scheduled Monuments are present. With regard to nature conservation, there are no SSSIs, SPAs, SACs or Ramsar sites within the LCA and LVIA study area.	Medium
Recreation value	The area is well-served by a network of public footpaths, there are routes between Moor Monkton and Nun Monkton, and through grassland adjacent the River Nidd.	Medium

Perceptual aspects	This is a floodplain grassland landscape, with two small settlements (Moor Monkton and Nun Monkton) and a number of farmsteads scattered across the area. The large open fields and sparse built form in parts result in some areas with moderate feeling of remoteness and tranquillity, in other areas these attributes are detracted by overhead lines (east), the settlements (north) and audible influence of the A59 traffic (south).	Medium
Overall value	The landscape is undesignated, and criteria range from 'Medium-High' (scenic quality), to 'Medium' (conservation interests, associations, designations, condition, recreational and perceptual aspects), and 'Low' (in terms of rarity and representativeness). The overall value is therefore assessed as Medium.	Medium
Susceptibility criteria	Commentary	Susceptibility
Physical characteristics	This is a flat, low lying, medium scale landscape with an open to intermediate level of enclosure, afforded "by poor tree cover" <sup>7</sup> , settlements of Moor Monkton and Nun Monkton and "Small to medium-sized fields" <sup>7</sup> . Major transport routes and energy infrastructure include the A59, and a 275kV overhead line crosses the landscape south-east of Moor Monkton. Beyond settlements and the aforementioned infrastructure, the rural landscape features are arranged around the River Nidd and scattered farmsteads with a simple pattern of grassland fields with typically regular boundaries and occasional drainage ditches. In consideration of these factors the susceptibility of the LCA is reduced due to the combination of flat topography, limited tree cover and the influence of man-made infrastructure including the 275kV XC overhead line and A59 corridor.	Low
Visual characteristics	It is noted that "Beyond the settlements and the river, tree cover is relatively poor and the visibility of pylons detracts from certain views" <sup>7</sup> and the A59 along the southern edge of the LCA is a busy route that is widely visible at the southern end of the LCA due to the openness of the landscape.	Medium
Perceptual characteristics	Field survey observations made whilst obtaining viewpoint photography note the localised influence of the A59 and 275kV XC overhead line. The proximity to settlements and influence of human activity results in an LCA which displays limited levels of remoteness and naturalness, away from the river corridor is heavily influenced by a regular pastoral field pattern and very limited semi-natural habitats.	Medium to High
<b>Overall Susceptibility</b>	The physical, visual and perceptual characteristics combined indicate a 'Medium' overall susceptibility.	Medium

## Overall Sensitivity

Value:	Susceptibility:		
	High	Medium	Low
High	High	High to Medium	Medium
Medium	High to Medium	Medium	Medium to Low
Low	Medium	Medium to Low	Low

### Overall Sensitivity to the Project:

The overall value of this LCA is 'Medium' and the overall susceptibility is judged to be 'Medium'. Combining overall susceptibility and overall value indicates a '**Medium**' sensitivity.

**Table 6E.8 – Landscape Sensitivity Assessment for West Selby Limestone Ridge Local Landscape Character Area**

**Relevant Figures**

**Figures 6.8 to 6.13, 6.15, 6.20 and 6.21 and Photoviewpoints 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28, Volume 5, Document 5.4.6**

<b>Value criteria</b>	<b>Commentary</b>	<b>Value</b>
Landscape designations	There are no national landscape designations, but parts of the LCA within the study area are covered by a local landscape designation i.e. the Locally Important Landscape Area (see <b>Figure 6.15, Volume 5, Document 5.4.6</b> ).	High to Medium
Landscape condition and intactness	Much of the LCA within the study area comprises “ <i>large scale rolling arable farmland</i> ” <sup>8</sup> , ranging from approximately 10m to 75m AOD. The assessment notes fields are irregularly shaped and defined by hedgerows with intermittent trees and drainage ditches. Woodland cover is typically limited in extent although more frequent in the south and south-eastern parts of the Tadcaster Area. Settlements include the villages of Stutton, Fairburn, Burton Salmon, Lumby, South Milford and the northern end of Monk Fryston are located within the LCA. There is a dense network of major transport corridors including the A1(M), A64, A162, A659 and local rail lines overlaid by several high voltage overhead lines. Limestone quarries exist in the Tadcaster Area, both smaller disused quarries and the larger Jackdaw Crag Quarry, south of the A64	Medium
Scenic quality	This is a “ <i>large scale arable farmland</i> ” <sup>8</sup> landscape with varied topography and level of enclosure, influenced by the rolling landform. The number and concentration of main roads, high voltage powerlines and other energy infrastructure including the existing Monk Fryston substation are frequent detracting elements.	Medium
Rarity and representativeness	Parts of the LCA within the Locally Important Landscape Area are generally more representative of the wider rural character, being typically less influenced by settlements, major transport corridors, and energy infrastructure. Rare landscape features within the study area are infrequent.	Medium
Conservation interest and associations	Within the Monk Fryston Substation Area, Steeton Hall Scheduled Monument is located west of South Milford and the Roman Road near Hazelwood Castle is a Scheduled Monument. The Grade I listed Church of St Wilfrid is located in Monk Fryston and the	High to Medium

<sup>8</sup> LUC on behalf of Selby District Council (2019) Selby Landscape Character Assessment. (online) Available at: <https://www.selby.gov.uk/sites/default/files/Selby%20LCA%20Report%20Combined.pdf> (Accessed 22 September 2022)

	Grade 1 listed buildings at Hazelwood Castle and Chapel of St Leonard are located in the Tadcaster Area. Additionally, there are a number of Grade II listed buildings distributed across the LCA. Regarding nature conservation there are 3 No. Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC's) in the Monk Fryston Substation Area and Stutton Ings SSSI, Tadcaster SINC are located within the Tadcaster Area.	
Recreation value	Parts of NCN 66 passes through the Tadcaster study area adjacent to the A1(M), and a section of the Ebor Way long distance footpath follows the River Wharfe between Tadcaster and Newton Kyme. There are a number of other PRoWs, including a local network between Stutton and Towton, south of the A64. The periphery of Braham Park lies to the west of the A1(M) at the edge of the Tadcaster study area. The assessment states: " <i>There are few recreational assets that would be highly sensitive</i> ". In the Monk Fryston Substation Area there are no National Cycle Routes (NCR) or Long Distance Paths (LDP) and there is a relatively low density of local PRoWs.	Low
Perceptual aspects	Although the assessment notes a " <i>rural character with a tranquil and occasionally remote feel</i> " <sup>8</sup> , it is clear from the field study that the central parts of the LCA within the study area are typically more impacted by major transport routes, high voltage overhead lines and settlements than more peripheral parts of the LCA where tranquillity and remoteness would be more elevated as described in the extant assessment.	Medium
Overall value	The LCA within the study areas is partly covered by the Locally Important Landscape Area, a non-statutory landscape designation. Criteria range from 'High to Medium' (designations, conservation interests and associations), to 'Medium' (condition, scenic quality, and perceptual aspects), to 'Low' (in terms of rarity, representativeness and recreation value). The overall value is therefore assessed as Medium.	Medium
Susceptibility criteria	Commentary	Susceptibility
Physical characteristics	The assessment notes the area may have a lower susceptibility to change, due to the undulating landscape and that " <i>new features would likely be screened by intervening topography</i> " <sup>8</sup> , the large-scale landscape and medium to large fields also reduce susceptibility. The assessment also notes that " <i>elevated locations will be more sensitive</i> " <sup>8</sup> . There are major transport routes and high voltage powerlines already present, the Monk Fryston substation, a wind turbine, rail lines and the main road corridors of the A1 (M), A162, A659, and A64.	Low

Visual characteristics	The LCA has varied visual characteristics, more elevated areas have more open views, and low-lying areas or areas in close proximity to the settlements are typically more enclosed. In the published assessment skylines are described as “wooded and undeveloped” <sup>8</sup> and “indistinct” <sup>8</sup> . The field study noted that high voltage powerlines break the skyline in many places, although prominence is strongly influenced by distance and elevation of the viewing location given the undulating nature of the landform. In consideration of these factors, the West Selby Limestone Ridge LCA is best described as having varied, visual containment, intervisibility and visual susceptibility.	Medium
Perceptual characteristics	Field survey observations noted there is a rural character resulting in some locations of the LCA which displays levels of remoteness, and tranquillity. This sense of tranquillity and remoteness is reduced by a network of major transport routes running through the area, and energy infrastructure. As perceptual characteristics are already impacted in large parts, remoteness and tranquillity are reduced and the landscape is less susceptible to new development.	Medium
<b>Overall Susceptibility</b>	The physical, visual and perceptual characteristics combined indicate a ‘Medium’ overall susceptibility.	<b>Medium</b>

## Overall Sensitivity

Value:	Susceptibility:		
	High	Medium	Low
High	High	High to Medium	Medium
Medium	High to Medium	Medium	Medium to Low
Low	Medium	Medium to Low	Low

### Overall Sensitivity to the Project:

The overall value of this LCA is ‘Medium’ and the overall susceptibility is judged to be ‘Medium’. Combining overall susceptibility and overall value indicates a ‘Medium’ sensitivity.

**Table 6E.9 – Landscape Sensitivity Assessment for Open Arable Farmland, East Bramham Landscape Character Area**

**Relevant Figures**

**Figures 6.8 to 6.10 and 6.20**

<b>Value criteria</b>	<b>Commentary</b>	<b>Value</b>
Landscape designations	There are no national or local landscape designations within the LCA.	Medium
Landscape condition and intactness	Much of the LCA is an intensively managed arable landscape, the extant assessment identifies “ <i>the field pattern as often fragmented and the scale of the landscape increased</i> ” <sup>9</sup> , by the neglect and removal of hedgerows. Throughout the LCA, woodland comprises occasional small blocks that have little connectivity. The area is crossed by the A1(M) to the south-west and is bordered by the A64 to the southeast. There are no settlements within the LCA however isolated farmsteads and arable buildings are scattered across the area.	Medium
Scenic quality	This is a “ <i>large scale arable farmland</i> ” <sup>9</sup> landscape of ordinary aesthetic appeal and has an open level of enclosure, “ <i>emphasised by the lack of hedgerow trees and woodland, which allows for long interrupted views</i> ” <sup>9</sup> . The landscape typically lacks intimacy and is relatively featureless. Modern agricultural buildings and the 275kV XD overhead line passes through the centre of the LCA.	Medium
Rarity and representativeness	This is not a rare landscape type or considered to be a particularly important example of an intensively farmed arable landscape, nor are rare landscape features a key characteristic of the landscape.	Low
Conservation interest and associations	There are four Grade II listed buildings distributed across the LCA. There are no ecological designations of note.	Low
Recreation value	NCR 66 runs through the south of the LCA adjacent to the A1(M). There are several local PROWs distributed across the area. There are no public parks or golf courses within the area.	Medium

<sup>9</sup> Landuse Consultants on behalf of Leeds City Council. (1994). Leeds Landscape Character Assessment. (online) Available at: <https://www.leeds.gov.uk/docs/1%20Parts%201-3%20reduced.pdf> (Accessed 22 September 2022)

Perceptual aspects	This is an intensive farmed arable landscape, with no settlements and a low density of farmsteads scattered across the area. This pattern of settlement together with the large-scale open fields, results in areas away from the peripheral road corridors and central 275kV XD overhead line having a moderate feeling of remoteness and tranquillity.	Medium
Overall value	The landscape is undesignated, and criteria range from ‘Medium’ (designations, condition, intactness, scenic quality, recreational and perceptual aspects), to ‘Low’ (in terms of conservation interests, associations, rarity and representativeness). The overall value is therefore assessed as Medium.	Medium
Susceptibility criteria	Commentary	Susceptibility
Physical characteristics	This is an undulating landscape with an open level of enclosure, rural landscape features are arranged around scattered farmsteads, woodlands occur in small blocks, intermittent hedgerows define “medium to large fields” <sup>9</sup> , with the “field pattern often fragmented and the scale of the landscape increased” <sup>9</sup> by the removal of these hedgerows.	Low
Visual characteristics	The area has an open level of enclosure afforded by “medium to large” <sup>9</sup> agricultural fields and by the lack of hedgerow trees and woodland, the extant assessment notes neglected and removed hedgerows have increased the scale of the landscape and allowing “long, uninterrupted views from areas of higher ground” <sup>9</sup> .  The field survey noted farm buildings, the existing 275kV XD overhead line and the A1(M) when visible are prominent visual features. In consideration of these factors, the LCA has moderate to high levels of intervisibility to surrounding landscapes.	Medium
Perceptual characteristics	Field survey observations noted there are rural influences and the lack of settlements and influence of human activity results in an LCA which displays moderate levels of remoteness and tranquillity. These characteristics are impacted by the audible influence of the A1(M) and A64 to the south and visually impacted by the 275kV XD overhead line. Additionally, the naturalness is heavily influenced by modern arable farming methods which have eliminated most semi-natural habitats.	Medium
<b>Overall Susceptibility</b>	The physical, visual and perceptual characteristics combined indicate a ‘Medium’ overall susceptibility.	Medium

## Overall Sensitivity

Value:	Susceptibility:		
	High	Medium	Low
High	High	High to Medium	Medium
Medium	High to Medium	Medium	Medium to Low
Low	Medium	Medium to Low	Low

### Overall Sensitivity to the Project:

The overall value of this LCA is 'Medium' and the overall susceptibility is judged to be 'Medium'. Combining overall susceptibility and overall value indicates a '**Medium**' sensitivity.

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