

A303 Sparkford to Ilchester Dualling Scheme TR010036

6.3 Environmental Statement Appendix 7.2 Landscape Character Areas

APFP Regulation 5(2)(a)
Planning Act 2008

Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed
Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009
July 2018



Infrastructure Planning

Planning Act 2008

**The Infrastructure Planning
(Applications: Prescribed Forms
and Procedure) Regulations
2009**

**A303 Sparkford to Ilchester Dualling
Scheme**

Development Consent Order 201[X]

**6.3 Environmental Statement
Appendix 7.2 Landscape Character Areas**

Regulation Number:	Regulation 5(2)(a)
Planning Inspectorate Scheme Reference:	TR010036
Application Document Reference:	6.3
Author:	A303 Sparkford to Ilchester Dualling Scheme Project Team, Highways England

Version	Date	Status of Version
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1 Landscape Character Areas

- 1.1.1 The Landscape Character Area (LCA) sheets are provided below, for the 7 LCAs. These support Chapter 7 Landscape, Volume 6.1.

LOCAL LANDSCAPE CHARACTER: West Camel Hill**DIRECTION OF VIEW:**

North

WEATHER:Cloudy sunny
dry**DATE:**

13/07/17

GUIDELINES: Field Survey Sheet and methodology based on *Landscape Character Assessment Guidance for England and Scotland* (Countryside Agency and Scottish Natural Heritage 2002), *Guidelines for Landscape & Visual Impact Assessment* (Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment 2013)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

This LCA is bordered by the River Cary and Dyke Brook to the north, west and east, while the existing A303 forms the southern border edge. There are predominantly arable farming practices featured within this LCA.

Isolated groups of houses and farmsteads connected with country lanes between irregular sized fields, make up the centre of this LCA, with fields bordered by hedgerows and trees. A vast area north of Downhead Manor Farm, is designated as Local Wildlife Site due to the present of nationally important species. This site also includes two designated ancient semi-natural & semi-natural broadleaved woodland and small quarry with herb rich calcareous grassland. Yarcombe Wood and Steart Wood to the east are also ancient woodlands which are designated Local Wildlife Sites. Views are generally more enclosed where woodland and field boundaries are present. However, some long distance views can be afforded within the area from high vantage points on West Camel Hill, Steart Hill and Camel Hill.

There are a small number of listed buildings present and 2 Scheduled Monuments within the LCA. The latter comprise of the following: medieval settlement remains 100 metres and 250 metres north of Downhead Manor Farm, as well as, Romano-British settlement immediately south west of Camel Hill, adjacent to the proposed scheme.

VIEWPOINT PHOTOGRAPH

Local Landscape Character Area 1:



OBJECTIVE CHECKLIST:**Landform** (√ subtle, √√ evident, √√√ conspicuous)

flat		plain		narrow valley		escarpment	√√√
rolling	√	rolling lowland		dry valley		cliffs	
undulating		plateau		man-made bunding		ridge	
gentle slopes		hills		embankments		knoll	
steep slopes	√√	broad valleys		cuttings		basin	

Landcover (√ subtle, √√ evident, √√√ conspicuous)

scattered settlements	√√	commercial/offices		road/road verge	√	coniferous wood	
small settlement/hamlet		retail		mineral working/quarry		mixed wood	
built-up area		public open space		land fill		coppice	
urban edge		private open space		arable	√√√	plantation	
urban fringe		informal open space		pasture		designed parkland	
town/village centre		recreational space		rough grazing	√	orchard	
vernacular buildings		golf course		heathland		marsh	
Victorian/Edwardian housing		allotments		peat bog/mire		river	
1930's-1950's housing		institution		moor		stream	
1960's-1990's housing	√	school		scrub		lake	
heavy industrial		churtyard		common		reservoir	
light industrial		derelict sites		deciduous wood	√√	wetland	

Landscape Elements (√ subtle, √√ evident, √√√ conspicuous)

farm buildings	√√	fences		isolated trees		footpath	√
churches		hedges		hedgerow trees	√	bridlepath	
ruins		banks		street trees		track	
monuments		field systems	√√√	river		road	
masts, poles		woodland	√√	stream		railway	
pylons		plantation		pond		hillfort	
car park		shelterbelt/avenue		canal		earthwork	
walls		tree clumps		ditch		tumuli	

Field Patterns (√ subtle, √√ evident, √√√ conspicuous)

irregular	√√√	regular		sinuous			
small		medium	√√	large			

SUBJECTIVE CHECKLIST:**Aesthetic Factors**

BALANCE:	harmonious	√	balanced		discordant		chaotic	
SCALE:	intimate		small	√	large		vast	
ENCLOSURE:	tight		enclosed	√	open	√√√	exposed	
TEXTURE:	smooth		textured	√	rough		very rough	
COLOUR:	monochrome		muted		colourful	√	garish	
DIVERSITY:	uniform		simple	√	diverse		complex	
UNITY:	unified	√	interrupted		fragmented		chaotic	
LINE:	straight		angular	√	curved		sinuous	
FORM:	vertical		sloping	√	rolling		horizontal	
PATTERN:	random		organised	√	regular		formal	
MOVEMENT:	dead		calm	√	active		busy/bustling	

Perception

TRANQUILITY	silent		peaceful	√	noisy		distracting	
SAFETY	intimate		comfortable	√	unsettling		threatening	
PLEASURE	unpleasant		ordinary	√	attractive		beautiful	
STIMULUS	bland/monotonous		uninspiring		interesting	√	dramatic	

FORCES FOR CHANGE:

Highlight condition/survival, threats/pressures, fragility/vulnerability and trends in land use, management or farming practice:

Vast areas of arable farmland, small local roads and a tranquil landscape, highly managed landscape with limited evidence of forces for change

OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESTORATION OR ENHANCEMENT

Highlight opportunities to restore or enhance individual landscape elements and features that have suffered decline and opportunities to reinforce or conserve areas or elements which have a distinctive character or contribute to a sense of place:

The existing PRoW network has fallen into disrepair in places and would benefit from formalisation and additional signage in places.

SENSITIVITY TO CHANGE: Moderate

Highlight physical, visual and perceptual sensitivity to change of landscape elements, features and overall character (i.e. capacity of the landscape to accept or accommodate the proposed changes in land use, land management, access etc.):

This landscape is sensitive to change in land use, fragmentation of established field patterns and activities that would disrupt tranquillity.

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LOCAL LANDSCAPE CHARACTER: Hazlegrove

DIRECTION OF VIEW:	South	WEATHER:	Cloudy sunny dry	DATE:	13/07/17
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GUIDELINES: Field Survey Sheet and methodology based on *Landscape Character Assessment Guidance for England and Scotland* (Countryside Agency and Scottish Natural Heritage 2002), *Guidelines for Landscape & Visual Impact Assessment* (Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment 2013)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

This LCA is characterised primarily by Hazlegrove House Registered Park and Garden (RPG), an 18th-century landscape park with a formal garden in front which now form part of a school. Hazlegrove House, Gateway and Wing Walls are Grade II listed, and located to the north of the LCA. This RPG has an assemblage of veteran trees that extend from the existing A303 north to Hazlegrove House. The RPG is also a designated Local Wildlife Site due to the presence of veteran trees and specialist invertebrate fauna.

Sparkford Hall is a Grade II Georgian large country house used for wedding and events hire, which is situated adjacent to the A303 and the RPG. A historic landfill situated between the A303 and Hazlegrove RPG is an unremarkable feature within the landscape and does not affect the overall landscape quality. Adjacent to the A303 and within the LCA there is a hummocky area within the deciduous woodland at the southern extent of Hazlegrove RPG assumed to be a former quarry.

The character area as a whole is generally rural in nature and free from major detractors due to the enclosed nature of the registered park and garden although there is a slight influence from the A303 outside of the LCA. The lack of significant modern development reinforces the historic and rural sense of place.

VIEWPOINT PHOTOGRAPH :



OBJECTIVE CHECKLIST:**Landform** (√ subtle, √√ evident, √√√ conspicuous)

flat	√	plain		narrow valley		escarpment	
rolling	√√	rolling lowland		dry valley		cliffs	
undulating		plateau	√√	man-made bunding		ridge	
gentle slopes	√	hills		embankments		knoll	
steep slopes		broad valleys		cuttings		basin	

Landcover (√ subtle, √√ evident, √√√ conspicuous)

scattered settlements		commercial/offices		road/road verge	√	coniferous wood	
small settlement/hamlet		retail		mineral working/quarry		mixed wood	
built-up area		public open space	√	land fill		coppice	
urban edge		private open space	√√	arable		plantation	
urban fringe		informal open space	√	pasture	√√	designed parkland	√√√
town/village centre		recreational space		rough grazing		orchard	
vernacular buildings		golf course		heathland		marsh	
Victorian/Edwardian housing		allotments		peat bog/mire		river	
1930's-1950's housing		institution	√√	moor		stream	
1960's-1990's housing		school	√√	scrub		lake	
heavy industrial		churchyard		common		reservoir	
light industrial		derelict sites		deciduous wood	√√√	wetland	

Landscape Elements (√ subtle, √√ evident, √√√ conspicuous)

farm buildings	√√	fences		isolated trees	√√√	footpath	√√
churches		hedges	√√	hedgerow trees		bridlepath	
ruins		banks		street trees		track	
monuments		field systems	√√	river		road	√
masts, poles		woodland	√√√	stream		railway	
pylons		plantation		pond		hillfort	
car park		shelterbelt/avenue		canal		earthwork	
walls		tree clumps	√√	ditch		tumuli	

Field Patterns (√ subtle, √√ evident, √√√ conspicuous)

irregular	√√	regular		sinuous			
small		medium		large	√√		

SUBJECTIVE CHECKLIST:**Aesthetic Factors**

BALANCE:	harmonious		balanced	√	discordant		chaotic	
SCALE:	intimate		small		large	√	vast	
ENCLOSURE:	tight		enclosed	√	open	√	exposed	
TEXTURE:	smooth		textured	√	rough		very rough	
COLOUR:	monochrome		muted		colourful	√	garish	
DIVERSITY:	uniform		simple	√	diverse		complex	
UNITY:	unified	√	interrupted		fragmented		chaotic	
LINE:	straight		angular		curved		sinuous	√
FORM:	vertical		sloping		rolling	√	horizontal	
PATTERN:	random	√	organised		regular		formal	
MOVEMENT:	dead		calm	√	active		busy/bustling	

Perception

TRANQUILITY	silent		peaceful	√	noisy		distracting	
SAFETY	intimate	√	comfortable		unsettling		threatening	
PLEASURE	unpleasant		ordinary		attractive	√	beautiful	
STIMULUS	bland/monotonous		uninspiring		interesting	√	dramatic	

FORCES FOR CHANGE:

Highlight condition/survival, threats/pressures, fragility/vulnerability and trends in land use, management or farming practice:

Development within the area of parkland would change the character significantly.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESTORATION OR ENHANCEMENT

Highlight opportunities to restore or enhance individual landscape elements and features that have suffered decline and opportunities to reinforce or conserve areas or elements which have a distinctive character or contribute to a sense of place:

Replacement of declining veteran trees within the parkland, reversion of an arable field in the south of the RPG to a parkland landscape character.

SENSITIVITY TO CHANGE : High

Highlight physical, visual and perceptual sensitivity to change of landscape elements, features and overall character (i.e. capacity of the landscape to accept or accommodate the proposed changes in land use, land management, access etc.):

The LCA is sensitive to changes in land use within the RPG and the open character of the land in this location makes it susceptible changes occurring in the adjacent areas.

LOCAL LANDSCAPE CHARACTER: Sparkford

DIRECTION OF VIEW:

West

WEATHER:

Cloudy sunny
dry

DATE:

13/07/17

GUIDELINES: Field Survey Sheet and methodology based on *Landscape Character Assessment Guidance for England and Scotland* (Countryside Agency and Scottish Natural Heritage 2002), *Guidelines for Landscape & Visual Impact Assessment* (Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment 2013)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

This LCA is intersected by the A303 to the north and bordered by the A303 western aspect to the south and west, the surrounding landscape comprises of fields. The village of Sparkford is bisected by the Wilts, Somerset and Weymouth Railway which runs north to south between the predominantly residential village to the east and the mixed industrial and residential area to the west. The village is immediately surrounded by a mixture of large arable and pastoral fields. The majority of housing to the east is from the post-World War II era, with small pockets of with additional small pockets of late 20th century and early 21st century housing having been added to the settlement. Within the LCA there are 8 listed buildings, the majority of these are along High Street and Church Road and include the Church of St Mary Magdalene within the historic core of Sparkford.

To the west of the railway line, a light industrial area containing Sparkford Storage and Haynes Publishing Group offices are at odds with the surrounding residential areas. Several PRoW run out from the village in all directions enabling connectivity to the surrounding local area. To the north of the A303, the light industrial units and the Haynes International Motor Museum extend the built-up character of the LCA within a context of surrounding fields.

Vegetation within Sparkford is limited to mature street trees within residential areas. Beyond the settlement, fields are bounded by hedgerows with intermittent trees, linear belts of trees and shrubs are present along the railway line and A303, and a larger clump immediately to the north of the A303 in the triangle between the A359, A303 and the east bound on/off slip.

VIEWPOINT PHOTOGRAPH

Local Landscape Character Area 3:



OBJECTIVE CHECKLIST:**Landform** (√ subtle, √√ evident, √√√ conspicuous)

flat	√√√	plain		narrow valley		escarpment	
rolling		rolling lowland	√	dry valley		cliffs	
undulating		plateau		man-made bunding		ridge	
gentle slopes	√	hills		embankments		knoll	
steep slopes		broad valleys		cuttings		basin	

Landcover (√ subtle, √√ evident, √√√ conspicuous)

scattered settlements		commercial/offices	√√	road/road verge	√√	coniferous wood	
small settlement/hamlet	√√√	retail		mineral working/quarry		mixed wood	
built-up area	√√	public open space	√	land fill		coppice	
urban edge		private open space		arable		plantation	
urban fringe		informal open space		pasture		designed parkland	
town/village centre	√√	recreational space	√	rough grazing		orchard	
vernacular buildings		golf course		heathland		marsh	
Victorian/Edwardian housing	√√	allotments		peat bog/mire		river	
1930's-1950's housing		institution		moor		stream	
1960's-1990's housing	√√	school		scrub		lake	
heavy industrial		churtyard	√	common		reservoir	
light industrial	√	derelict sites		deciduous wood		wetland	

Landscape Elements (√ subtle, √√ evident, √√√ conspicuous)

farm buildings		fences		isolated trees	√√	footpath	√
churches		hedges	√	hedgerow trees		bridlepath	
ruins		banks		street trees	√	track	
monuments		field systems		river		road	√√
masts, poles		woodland		stream		railway	√
pylons		plantation		pond		hillfort	
car park		shelterbelt/avenue		canal		earthwork	
walls	√√	tree clumps	√	ditch		tumuli	

Field Patterns (√ subtle, √√ evident, √√√ conspicuous)

irregular	√	regular		sinuous			
small		medium	√	large			

SUBJECTIVE CHECKLIST:**Aesthetic Factors**

BALANCE:	harmonious		balanced		discordant	√	chaotic	
SCALE:	intimate		small	√	large		vast	
ENCLOSURE:	tight		enclosed	√	open		exposed	
TEXTURE:	smooth		textured	√	rough		very rough	
COLOUR:	monochrome		muted	√	colourful		garish	
DIVERSITY:	uniform		simple		diverse	√	complex	
UNITY:	unified		interrupted	√	fragmented		chaotic	
LINE:	straight		angular	√	curved		sinuous	
FORM:	vertical		sloping	√	rolling		horizontal	
PATTERN:	random	√	organised		regular		formal	
MOVEMENT:	dead		calm		active	√	busy/bustling	

Perception

TRANQUILITY	silent		peaceful	√	noisy	√	distracting	
SAFETY	intimate		comfortable	√	unsettling		threatening	
PLEASURE	unpleasant		ordinary	√	attractive		beautiful	
STIMULUS	bland/monotonous		uninspiring	√	interesting		dramatic	

FORCES FOR CHANGE:

Highlight condition/survival, threats/pressures, fragility/vulnerability and trends in land use, management or farming practice:

Expansion of industry and further housing being added to the village.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESTORATION OR ENHANCEMENT

Highlight opportunities to restore or enhance individual landscape elements and features that have suffered decline and opportunities to reinforce or conserve areas or elements which have a distinctive character or contribute to a sense of place:

Planting of avenue trees along areas of new housing would help to merge the new housing areas with older established residential areas.

SENSITIVITY TO CHANGE: Moderate

Highlight physical, visual and perceptual sensitivity to change of landscape elements, features and overall character (i.e. capacity of the landscape to accept or accommodate the proposed changes in land use, land management, access etc.):

The established village areas are sensitive to changes in the landscape, however the areas of light industry are less sensitive to changes in land type.

LOCAL LANDSCAPE CHARACTER: Weston Bampfylde**DIRECTION OF VIEW:**

North west

WEATHER:Cloudy sunny
dry**DATE:**

13/07/17

GUIDELINES: Field Survey Sheet and methodology based on *Landscape Character Assessment Guidance for England and Scotland* (Countryside Agency and Scottish Natural Heritage 2002), *Guidelines for Landscape & Visual Impact Assessment* (Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment 2013)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

This LCA is bordered by the A303 and Sparkford to the north, to the east the steep slopes of South Cadbury Hill, the village of Queen Camel to the west and the large flat open fields of Marston Magna to the south. This LCA comprises predominantly of open farm land with small clusters of houses.

Irregular, medium sized fields are cut across by the Wilts, Somerset and Weymouth Railway which runs north to south. Single lane, local roads connect small clusters of houses and lone farmsteads. Small clusters of houses are found within Weston Bampfylde, Little Weston and Sutton Montis. The majority of the land use comprises mixed farmland although this is predominantly arable. Fields and roads are generally bordered by low hedgerows. Trees are generally found around residential properties and along rivers flowing east to west. Sparkford Hill Copse Ancient & Semi-Natural woodland to the west and trees to the north of Sparkford Bridge are the only wooded areas within the LCA. The LCA has an open nature due to the low lying land, sparse tree cover and low hedges.

There are a number of listed buildings within the LCA which are set with the villages of Weston Bampfylde, Little Weston and Sutton Montis. The Leland Trail long distance footpath cuts across the LCA from east to west with other PRoWs linking to it and connecting the isolated villages.

VIEWPOINT PHOTOGRAPH:

Local Landscape Character Area 4:



OBJECTIVE CHECKLIST:**Landform** (√ subtle, √√ evident, √√√ conspicuous)

flat	√√	plain	√√	narrow valley		escarpment	
rolling		rolling lowland	√	dry valley		cliffs	
undulating		plateau	√√	man-made bunding		ridge	
gentle slopes	√√	hills		embankments		knoll	
steep slopes		broad valleys		cuttings		basin	

Landcover (√ subtle, √√ evident, √√√ conspicuous)

scattered settlements	√√	commercial/offices		road/road verge		coniferous wood	
small settlement/hamlet	√√	retail		mineral working/quarry		mixed wood	
built-up area		public open space		land fill		coppice	
urban edge		private open space		arable	√√√	plantation	
urban fringe		informal open space		pasture	√√	designed parkland	
town/village centre		recreational space		rough grazing		orchard	
vernacular buildings		golf course		heathland		marsh	
Victorian/Edwardian housing	√	allotments		peat bog/mire		river	
1930's-1950's housing		institution		moor		stream	
1960's-1990's housing	√√	school		scrub		lake	
heavy industrial		churtyard	√	common		reservoir	
light industrial		derelict sites		deciduous wood	√	wetland	

Landscape Elements (√ subtle, √√ evident, √√√ conspicuous)

farm buildings	√√	fences		isolated trees	√	footpath	√
churches	√	hedges	√√√	hedgerow trees	√	bridlepath	
ruins	√√	banks		street trees		track	
monuments		field systems		river		road	
masts, poles		woodland		stream		railway	
pylons		plantation		pond		hillfort	√√
car park		shelterbelt/avenue		canal		earthwork	
walls	√	tree clumps		ditch		tumuli	

Field Patterns (√ subtle, √√ evident, √√√ conspicuous)

irregular	√√	regular		sinuous			
small		medium	√	large			

SUBJECTIVE CHECKLIST:**Aesthetic Factors**

BALANCE:	harmonious		balanced	√	discordant	√	chaotic	
SCALE:	intimate		small	√	large		vast	
ENCLOSURE:	tight	√	enclosed		open		exposed	
TEXTURE:	smooth		textured	√	rough		very rough	
COLOUR:	monochrome		muted	√	colourful		garish	
DIVERSITY:	uniform		simple	√	diverse		complex	
UNITY:	unified	√	interrupted		fragmented		chaotic	
LINE:	straight		angular		curved	√	sinuous	
FORM:	vertical		sloping		rolling	√	horizontal	
PATTERN:	random		organised	√	regular		formal	
MOVEMENT:	dead		calm	√	active		busy/bustling	

Perception

TRANQUILITY	silent		peaceful	√	noisy		distracting	
SAFETY	intimate		comfortable	√	unsettling		threatening	
PLEASURE	unpleasant		ordinary		attractive	√	beautiful	
STIMULUS	bland/monotonous		uninspiring		interesting	√	dramatic	

FORCES FOR CHANGE:

Highlight condition/survival, threats/pressures, fragility/vulnerability and trends in land use, management or farming practice:

Changes in farming practice may be a force for change as one large field to the south of the LCA has become a solar field.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESTORATION OR ENHANCEMENT

Highlight opportunities to restore or enhance individual landscape elements and features that have suffered decline and opportunities to reinforce or conserve areas or elements which have a distinctive character or contribute to a sense of place:

Improvements to the PRow network would aid connectivity and interaction with the Leland Trail long distance footpath.

SENSITIVITY TO CHANGE: Moderate

Highlight physical, visual and perceptual sensitivity to change of landscape elements, features and overall character (i.e. capacity of the landscape to accept or accommodate the proposed changes in land use, land management, access etc.):

Vertical development would be uncharacteristic, and additional development and movement could alter tranquillity within the LCA.

LOCAL LANDSCAPE CHARACTER: Queen Camel

DIRECTION OF VIEW:

South

WEATHER:

Cloudy sunny dry

DATE:

13/07/17

GUIDELINES: Field Survey Sheet and methodology based on *Landscape Character Assessment Guidance for England and Scotland* (Countryside Agency and Scottish Natural Heritage 2002), *Guidelines for Landscape & Visual Impact Assessment* (Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment 2013)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

This LCA is situated south of Sparkford Hill and is defined by the visually prominent village of Queen Camel partially designated as a Conservation Area, which stands out in the low surrounding landscape. The River Cam runs east to west across the north of the village and is crossed by the Wales and Camel Bridges which date from the 18th century. The Church of St Barnabas in the north east of the village dates back to the 14th Century and is designated as a Grade I listed building. There are approximately 30 listed buildings within Queen Camel all of which are contained within the Conservation Area in the core of the village.

Queen Camel is well contained and nestled at the bottom of Sparkford Hill. Vegetation contained within the rear gardens of private properties, along streets and along the River Cam to the north creates a well vegetated setting. The vernacular style of buildings reflects the locally sourced stone including sandstone and limestone.

The LCA is surrounded by rural arable and pastoral farmland. It is also bisected by the A359 running north to south and linking Yeovil to the south and Frome to the north. The Leland Trail Long Distance Footpath runs east to west across the north side of the village and links to a wider, well connected network of PRow's. The village has grown slightly in size with small residential areas being added to the east and west of the Conservation Area. The lack of large areas of recent development reinforces the historic and rural sense of place.

VIEWPOINT PHOTOGRAPH:

Local Landscape Character Area 5:



OBJECTIVE CHECKLIST:**Landform** (√ subtle, √√ evident, √√√ conspicuous)

flat	√√	plain		narrow valley		escarpment	
rolling		rolling lowland		dry valley		cliffs	
undulating		plateau		man-made bunding		ridge	
gentle slopes	√	hills		embankments		knoll	
steep slopes		broad valleys	√√	cuttings		basin	

Landcover (√ subtle, √√ evident, √√√ conspicuous)

scattered settlements		commercial/offices		road/road verge	√√	coniferous wood	
small settlement/hamlet	√√√	retail		mineral working/quarry		mixed wood	√
built-up area	√	public open space	√	land fill		coppice	
urban edge		private open space	√	arable		plantation	
urban fringe		informal open space		pasture		designed parkland	
town/village centre	√√√	recreational space		rough grazing	√	orchard	
vernacular buildings	√√√	golf course		heathland		marsh	
Victorian/Edwardian housing		allotments		peat bog/mire		river	√
1930's-1950's housing		institution		moor		stream	
1960's-1990's housing	√	school		scrub		lake	
heavy industrial		churtyard	√√	common		reservoir	
light industrial		derelect sites		deciduous wood		wetland	

Landscape Elements (√ subtle, √√ evident, √√√ conspicuous)

farm buildings		fences		isolated trees	√√	footpath	√
churches	√√	hedges		hedgerow trees		bridlepath	
ruins		banks		street trees	√	track	
monuments		field systems	√	river	√	road	√√
masts, poles		woodland		stream		railway	
pylons		plantation		pond		hillfort	
car park		shelterbelt/avenue		canal		earthwork	
walls		tree clumps	√√	ditch		tumuli	

Field Patterns (√ subtle, √√ evident, √√√ conspicuous)

irregular	√√	regular		sinuous			
small	√	medium	√√	large	√		

SUBJECTIVE CHECKLIST:**Aesthetic Factors**

BALANCE:	harmonious		balanced	√	discordant		chaotic	
SCALE:	intimate	√	small	√√	large		vast	
ENCLOSURE:	tight		enclosed	√√	open		exposed	
TEXTURE:	smooth		textured	√	rough		very rough	
COLOUR:	monochrome		muted		colourful		garish	
DIVERSITY:	uniform		simple		diverse	√	complex	
UNITY:	unified	√	interrupted	√	fragmented		chaotic	
LINE:	straight		angular		curved	√	sinuous	
FORM:	vertical		sloping		rolling		horizontal	√
PATTERN:	random	√	organised	√	regular		formal	
MOVEMENT:	dead		calm	√	active		busy/bustling	

Perception

TRANQUILITY	silent		peaceful	√	noisy		distracting	
SAFETY	intimate		comfortable	√	unsettling		threatening	
PLEASURE	unpleasant		ordinary		attractive	√	beautiful	
STIMULUS	bland/monotonous		uninspiring		interesting	√	dramatic	

FORCES FOR CHANGE:

Highlight condition/survival, threats/pressures, fragility/vulnerability and trends in land use, management or farming practice:

The threat of incremental development, increase in activity and development on the surrounding slopes.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESTORATION OR ENHANCEMENT

Highlight opportunities to restore or enhance individual landscape elements and features that have suffered decline and opportunities to reinforce or conserve areas or elements which have a distinctive character or contribute to a sense of place:

Restoration of some of the historic walls and buildings within the Conservation Area are an opportunity for enhancement.

SENSITIVITY TO CHANGE: High

Highlight physical, visual and perceptual sensitivity to change of landscape elements, features and overall character (i.e. capacity of the landscape to accept or accommodate the proposed changes in land use, land management, access etc.):

The historic style and vernacular of the buildings within the Conservation Area are particularly sensitive to changes in the building materials and the style of the village.

PROJECT: A303 Sparkford to Ilchester Dualling	LCA6: PAGE 1 OF 3
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LOCAL LANDSCAPE CHARACTER: Wales and West Camel

DIRECTION OF VIEW:	North	WEATHER:	Cloudy sunny dry	DATE:	13/07/17
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GUIDELINES: Field Survey Sheet and methodology based on *Landscape Character Assessment Guidance for England and Scotland* (Countryside Agency and Scottish Natural Heritage 2002), *Guidelines for Landscape & Visual Impact Assessment* (Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment 2013)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

This LCA is dominated by undulating farmland interspersed with farmsteads and small clusters of houses. Fields vary in size, with the majority being medium sized land pockets in arable production, and mostly delineated by native mixed species hedgerows. Tree cover within the LCA is predominantly along the River Cam, however also along a number of trees hedgerows, within and around residential areas.

The land rises to the north and is generally flatter in the south, with settled areas generally clustered along the River Cam. West Camel is the most significant settlement within the LCA and is mostly designated as a Conservation Area. Listed Buildings are present in each of the small settlements but are particularly prevalent in West Camel.

The LCA is rural in its nature with enclosed country lanes connecting villages and isolated farmstead. The A303 running east to west forms the northern boundary of the LCA, parallel to this West Camel Road forms southern edge of the LCA. The Leland Trail runs from the east to west across the LCA, through Wales and West Camel and forms the centre of a well connected and well used Public Right of Way (PRoW) network.

VIEWPOINT PHOTOGRAPH :

Local Landscape Character Area 6:



OBJECTIVE CHECKLIST:**Landform** (√ subtle, √√ evident, √√√ conspicuous)

flat		plain		narrow valley		escarpment	√√
rolling		rolling lowland		dry valley		cliffs	
undulating	√√√	plateau		man-made bunding		ridge	
gentle slopes		hills	√√√	embankments	√√	knoll	
steep slopes	√√√	broad valleys		cuttings		basin	

Landcover (√ subtle, √√ evident, √√√ conspicuous)

scattered settlements	√	commercial/offices		road/road verge	√√	coniferous wood	
small settlement/hamlet	√√	retail		mineral working/quarry		mixed wood	
built-up area		public open space		land fill		coppice	
urban edge		private open space		arable		plantation	
urban fringe		informal open space		pasture	√√√	designed parkland	
town/village centre	√√	recreational space	√	rough grazing		orchard	
vernacular buildings		golf course		heathland		marsh	
Victorian/Edwardian housing	√√	allotments		peat bog/mire		river	√
1930's-1950's housing		institution		moor		stream	
1960's-1990's housing	√	school		scrub		lake	
heavy industrial		churchyard		common		reservoir	
light industrial		derelict sites		deciduous wood	√√	wetland	

Landscape Elements (√ subtle, √√ evident, √√√ conspicuous)

farm buildings	√√	fences		isolated trees		footpath	√
churches		hedges	√√	hedgerow trees	√√	bridlepath	
ruins		banks		street trees		track	
monuments		field systems	√√√	river		road	√
masts, poles		woodland	√	stream		railway	
pylons		plantation		pond		hillfort	
car park		shelterbelt/avenue		canal		earthwork	
walls		tree clumps		ditch		tumuli	

Field Patterns (√ subtle, √√ evident, √√√ conspicuous)

irregular	√√	regular		sinuous			
small		medium	√√	large	√		

SUBJECTIVE CHECKLIST:**Aesthetic Factors**

BALANCE:	harmonious		balanced	√	discordant		chaotic	
SCALE:	intimate		small		large	√	vast	
ENCLOSURE:	tight		enclosed		open	√	exposed	
TEXTURE:	smooth		textured	√	rough		very rough	
COLOUR:	monochrome		muted		colourful	√	garish	
DIVERSITY:	uniform		simple	√	diverse		complex	
UNITY:	unified	√	interrupted		fragmented		chaotic	
LINE:	straight		angular		curved	√	sinuous	√
FORM:	vertical		sloping	√	rolling		horizontal	
PATTERN:	random		organised	√	regular		formal	
MOVEMENT:	dead		calm	√	active		busy/bustling	

Perception

TRANQUILITY	silent		peaceful	√	noisy		distracting	
SAFETY	intimate		comfortable	√	unsettling		threatening	
PLEASURE	unpleasant		ordinary		attractive	√	beautiful	
STIMULUS	bland/monotonous		uninspiring		interesting	√	dramatic	

FORCES FOR CHANGE:

Highlight condition/survival, threats/pressures, fragility/vulnerability and trends in land use, management or farming practice:

Developments on the slopes of the escarpment would overlook the LCA would have an increased influence on the LCA as a whole.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESTORATION OR ENHANCEMENT

Highlight opportunities to restore or enhance individual landscape elements and features that have suffered decline and opportunities to reinforce or conserve areas or elements which have a distinctive character or contribute to a sense of place:

Reinforcement and restoration to the hedgerow network in places would help to restore some of the landscape character.

SENSITIVITY TO CHANGE: Moderate

Highlight physical, visual and perceptual sensitivity to change of landscape elements, features and overall character (i.e. capacity of the landscape to accept or accommodate the proposed changes in land use, land management, access etc.):

The landscape is sensitive to change particularly along the escarpment ridgeline due to the elevation and prominence over the surrounding landscape.

LOCAL LANDSCAPE CHARACTER: Yeovilton

DIRECTION OF VIEW:

North west

WEATHER:

Overcast dry

DATE:

13/07/17

GUIDELINES: Field Survey Sheet and methodology based on *Landscape Character Assessment Guidance for England and Scotland* (Countryside Agency and Scottish Natural Heritage 2002), *Guidelines for Landscape & Visual Impact Assessment* (Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment 2013)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

Dominated by largely flat, mixed farmland, predominantly arable in use. Fields vary in size, with the majority being fairly large. Fields are mostly delineated by well-established native hedgerows, and a minority of these also include intermittent trees. The Royal Naval Air Station (RNAS) of Yeovilton that occupies an extensive part of the LCA and disrupts the continuity of the agricultural landscape, while also creating landscape and visual detractors.

Given the flat topography and lack of intervening woodland vegetation, long distance views are available of the rising ground of West Camel Hill to the north. However, views across RNAS Yeovilton are prohibited by the large buildings and infrastructure. The LCA is bordered by A303 to the north, and Roman Road to the west, while the River Yeo forms the boundary to the south. The villages of Yeovil to the south, Podimore to the north and isolated farmsteads are at odds to the RNAS Yeovilton, which has the greatest concentration of residences.

There are a number of listed buildings, particularly within the historic cores of Yeovilton and Podimore. Adjacent to the southwest of the LCA, there is the Ilchester Roman Town, a Schedule Monument which includes parts of the Roman small town, Anglo-Saxon burh, medieval town and ecclesiastical foundations situated on the flood plain of the River Yeo in and around the current settlement of Ilchester.

The character area as a whole is predominantly arable, however due to the very large scale and active Airfield, the LCA has a very low tranquillity.

VIEWPOINT PHOTOGRAPH:

Local Landscape Character Area 7:



OBJECTIVE CHECKLIST:**Landform** (√ subtle, √√ evident, √√√ conspicuous)

flat	√√√	plain	√√	narrow valley		escarpment	
rolling		rolling lowland		dry valley		cliffs	
undulating		plateau		man-made bunding		ridge	
gentle slopes		hills		embankments		knoll	
steep slopes		broad valleys		cuttings		basin	

Landcover (√ subtle, √√ evident, √√√ conspicuous)

scattered settlements		commercial/offices		road/road verge	√	coniferous wood	
small settlement/hamlet		retail		mineral working/quarry		mixed wood	
built-up area	√√√	public open space		land fill		coppice	
urban edge		private open space		arable	√√	plantation	
urban fringe		informal open space		pasture	√	designed parkland	
town/village centre	√√	recreational space		rough grazing		orchard	
vernacular buildings		golf course		heathland		marsh	
Victorian/Edwardian housing		allotments		peat bog/mire		river	√
1930's-1950's housing		institution	√√	moor		stream	
1960's-1990's housing		school		scrub		lake	
heavy industrial	√√	churchyard		common		reservoir	
light industrial	√	derelict sites		deciduous wood		wetland	

Landscape Elements (√ subtle, √√ evident, √√√ conspicuous)

farm buildings		fences		isolated trees	√	footpath	√
churches		hedges	√√	hedgerow trees		bridlepath	
ruins		banks		street trees		track	
monuments	√	field systems		river		road	√√
masts, poles		woodland		stream		railway	
pylons		plantation		pond		hillfort	
car park	√√	shelterbelt/avenue		canal		earthwork	
walls		tree clumps		ditch		tumuli	

Field Patterns (√ subtle, √√ evident, √√√ conspicuous)

irregular	√√	regular		sinuous			
small		medium	√	large	√√		

SUBJECTIVE CHECKLIST:**Aesthetic Factors**

BALANCE:	harmonious		balanced		discordant	√	chaotic	
SCALE:	intimate		small		large	√	vast	
ENCLOSURE:	tight		enclosed		open		exposed	√
TEXTURE:	smooth		textured		rough	√	very rough	
COLOUR:	monochrome		muted	√	colourful		garish	
DIVERSITY:	uniform		simple		diverse	√	complex	√
UNITY:	unified		interrupted		fragmented		chaotic	√
LINE:	straight		angular	√	curved	√	sinuous	
FORM:	vertical		sloping		rolling		horizontal	√
PATTERN:	random		organised	√	regular		formal	
MOVEMENT:	dead		calm		active	√	busy/bustling	

Perception

TRANQUILITY	silent		peaceful		noisy		distracting	√
SAFETY	intimate		comfortable		unsettling	√	threatening	
PLEASURE	unpleasant		ordinary	√	attractive		beautiful	
STIMULUS	bland/monotonous		uninspiring		interesting		dramatic	√

FORCES FOR CHANGE:

Highlight condition/survival, threats/pressures, fragility/vulnerability and trends in land use, management or farming practice:

Increased air traffic and expansion of RNAS Yeovilton are a future threat to the area.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESTORATION OR ENHANCEMENT

Highlight opportunities to restore or enhance individual landscape elements and features that have suffered decline and opportunities to reinforce or conserve areas or elements which have a distinctive character or contribute to a sense of place:

Hedgerows have fallen into decline due to a lack of maintenance and restocking.

SENSITIVITY TO CHANGE: Low

Highlight physical, visual and perceptual sensitivity to change of landscape elements, features and overall character (i.e. capacity of the landscape to accept or accommodate the proposed changes in land use, land management, access etc.):

Due to the existing Airfield, the character of the area has been modified resulting in the tranquillity of the area being very low, contributing to a very low sensitivity to change.