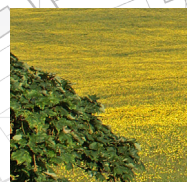
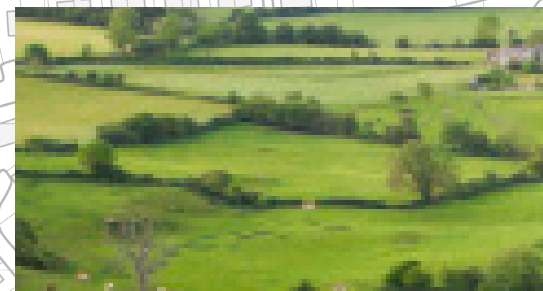
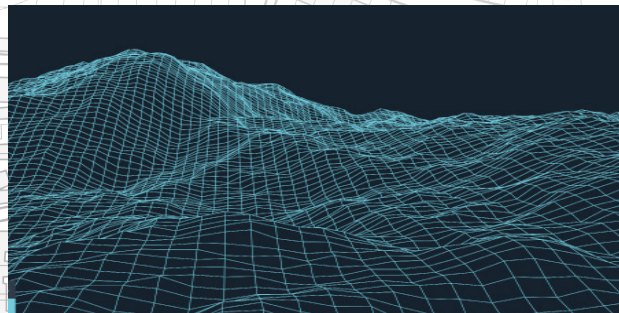


County Durham Plan

Local Landscape Designations Review

2019



Altogether better



County Durham Plan Local Landscape Designations Review

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 Scope and purpose

1.1.1 The Local Landscape Designations Review (LLDR) has been carried out to identify potential Areas of Higher Landscape Value for designation in the County Durham Plan.

1.2 Existing Landscape Designations

National Landscape Designations

1.2.1 The western part of the County forms part of the North Pennines Area of Outstanding natural Beauty (AONB) which extends westwards and northwards into the counties of Cumbria and Northumberland. This is shown on Figure 1.

Local Landscape Designations

1.2.2 Parts of the county are identified as Area of High Landscape Value (AHLV) or Areas of Landscape Value (ALV) in local plans. These are shown on Figure 1.

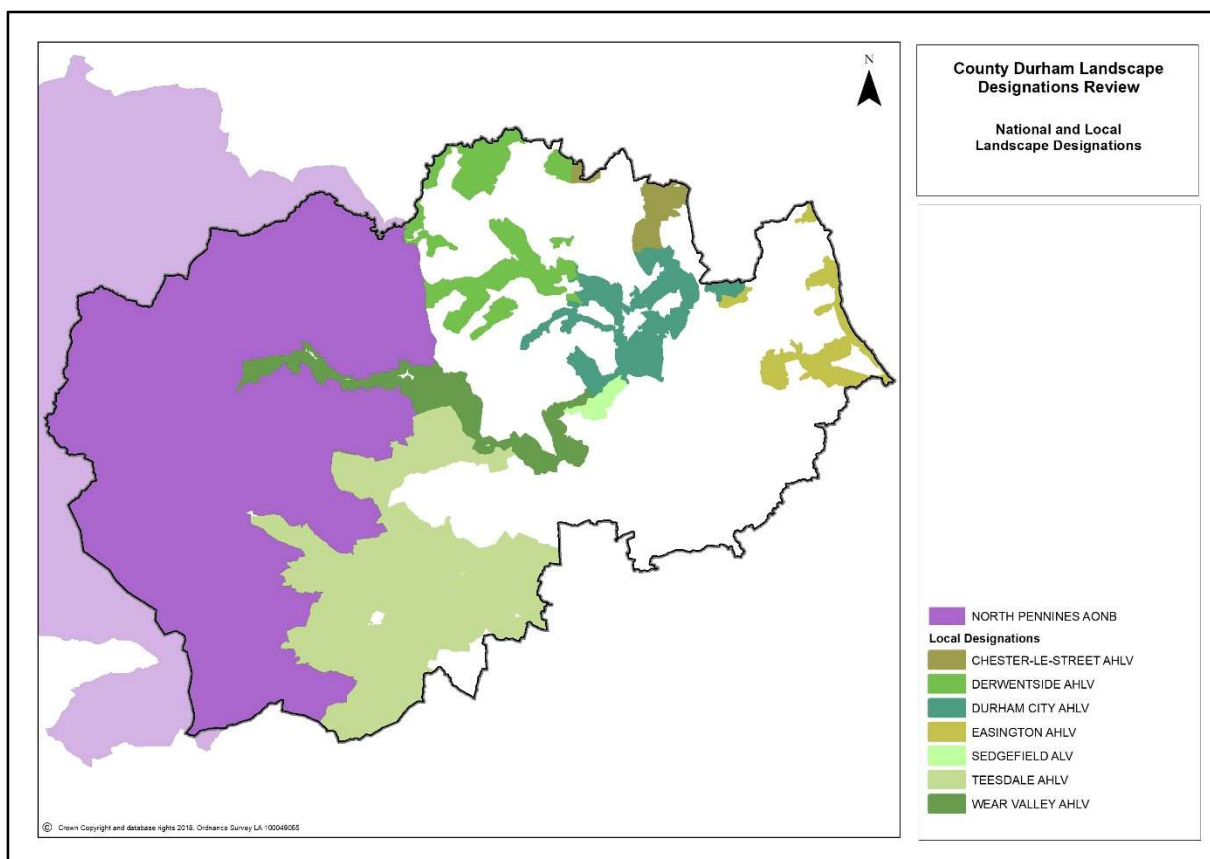


Figure 1.1: National and Local Landscape Designations

1.2.3 The development of Local Plan AHLV are described below. Local Plan Policies and the accompanying supporting text are contained in Appendix 1.

1.3 Historical development of landscape designations in Durham

Durham County Development Plan 1954

- 1.3.1 Areas in the west of the county (north of the Tees which then formed the County boundary) were identified as an *Area of Great Landscape, Historic and Scientific Value*.

Durham County Development Plan Amendment 1964

- 1.3.2 The Area of Great Landscape, Historic and Scientific Value was redefined as an *Area of Great Landscape Value (AGLV)*.

County Development Plan 1969

- 1.3.3 The western AGLV was identified, together with an area around Durham City and areas around Seaham Dene and Hawthorn and Horden denes and adjacent parts of the coast (Figure 1.2).

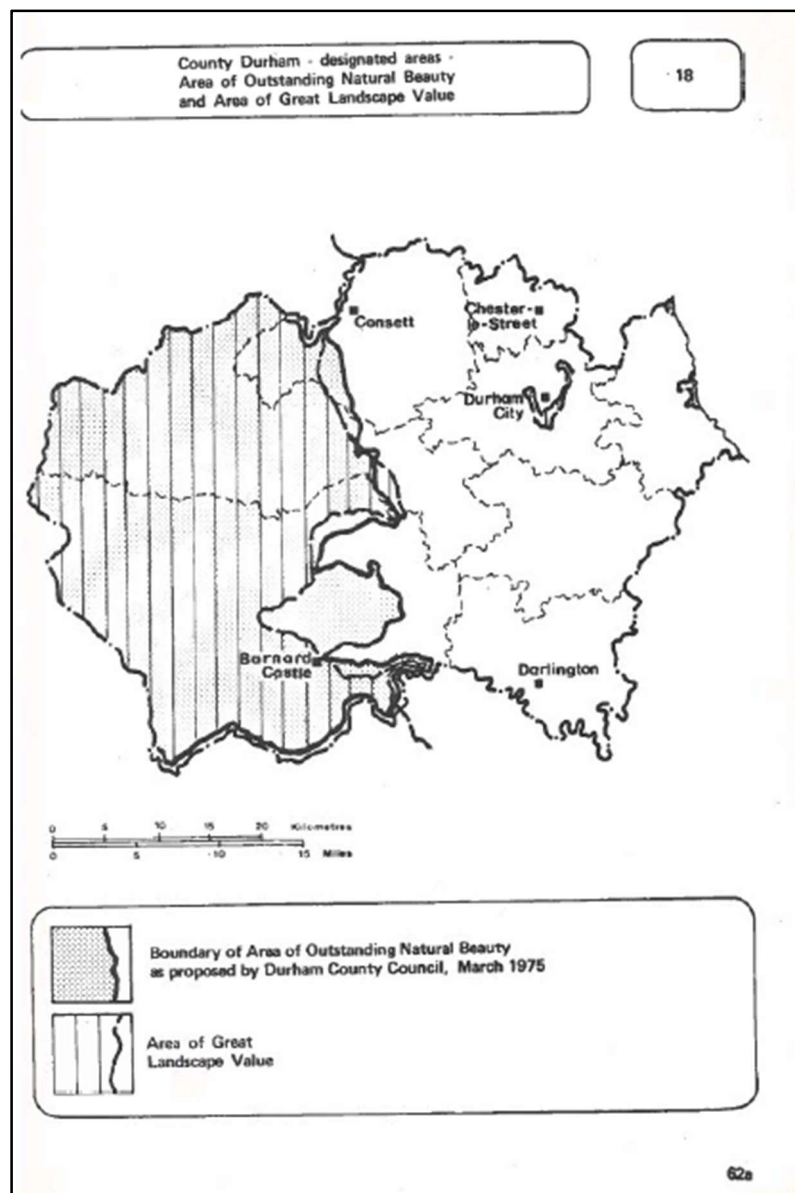


Figure 1.2: County Development Plan 1969: designated areas

Countryside Commission North Pennines AONB Working Party 1974

1.3.4 The Countryside Commission invited the three county councils covering North Pennines to prepare a preliminary boundary for a proposed North Pennines AONB. A working party was established including landscape and planning professionals from three authorities. A preliminary map was agreed in November 1974. The boundary was similar to that of the existing western AGLV in Durham, but including additional areas in the Tees Vale and the upper Gaunless and Linburn Valleys (Figure 1.2).

Durham County Council Landscape Evaluation Study 1974

1.3.5 Durham County Council carried out a landscape evaluation study in conjunction with Manchester University to inform the development of county level designations using techniques developed by the University and Countryside Commission. This was based on analysis of features mapped against a kilometre grid. Sample squares were visited and assessed and predictive values given for other squares (Figure 1.3).

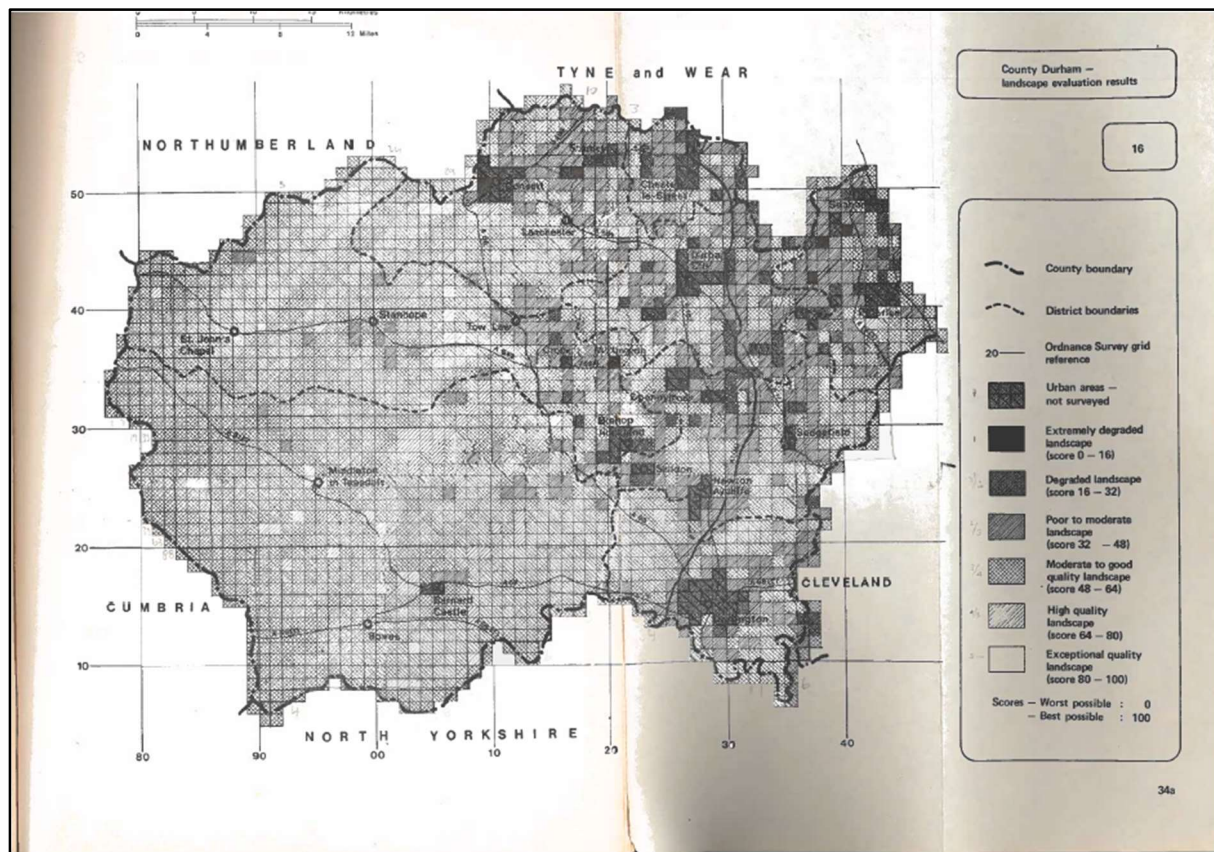


Figure 1.3: County Development Plan 1969: designated areas

AONB Designation Order 1978

1.3.6 The AONB boundary identified by the 1974 working party was considered by the Countryside Commission in 75 and revisions proposed to exclude:

- the northern slopes of the Linburn Valley which were considered to be of high quality but lacking Pennine characteristics;

- land in the upper Gaunless Valley north of the Arn Gill towards Woodland & Copely which was considered to be insufficiently distinguished in quality;
- lower Teesdale east of Whorlton & north of Rokeby and Eggleston to Barnard Castle which was considered to be of high quality but lacking Pennine characteristics;

The amended boundary was subject to public consultation in 1976 and formed the basis of the designation order in December 1978.

Durham County Structure Plan (1981)

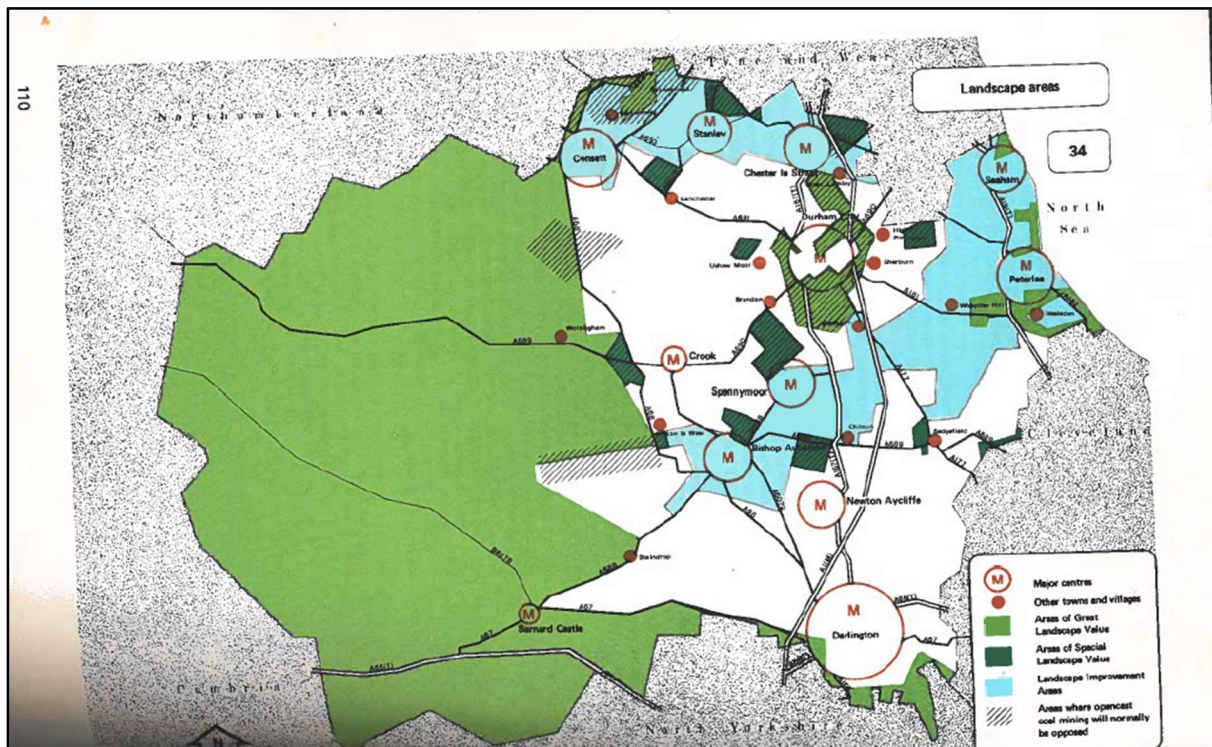


Figure 1.4: Durham County Structure Plan 1981: Landscape Areas: AGLV and ASLV

1.3.7 The DCSP identified *Areas of Great Landscape Value (AGLV)* and *Areas of Special Landscape Value (ASLV)* (Figure 1.4). The AGLV included the 1969 western AGLV together with six smaller areas:

- The middle Derwent and Pont Valleys
- The Tees Valley
- Durham City
- Ryhope and Seaham dene
- Hawthorn Dene & Littlethorpe
- Castle Eden Dene

1.3.8 Twelve areas of historic parkland were identified as ASLV. Areas of historic parkland lying within AGLV were not identified.

- Beamish
- Lambton & Lumley
- Greencroft
- Ushaw
- Elemore

- Helme & Harperley
- Witton Castle
- Auckland Castle
- Brancepeth & Whitworth
- Windlestone
- Hardwick
- Wynyard

Countryside Commission AONB boundary review 1983

1.3.9 The Secretary of State asked the Commission to look at proposed AONB boundary and advise of any changes they considered appropriate. The Commission took this as an invitation to reduce the size of the AONB and investigated the possibility of a 15% reduction in area. A new boundary was considered which omitted areas in the dales and upland fringes. The Commission informed the Secretary of State that they would not dissent if he were to propose a boundary on that basis. The Secretary of State announced his decision to hold a Public Inquiry in 1985.

Magnesian Limestone Escarpment (Minerals and Landscape Restoration) Local Plan 1986

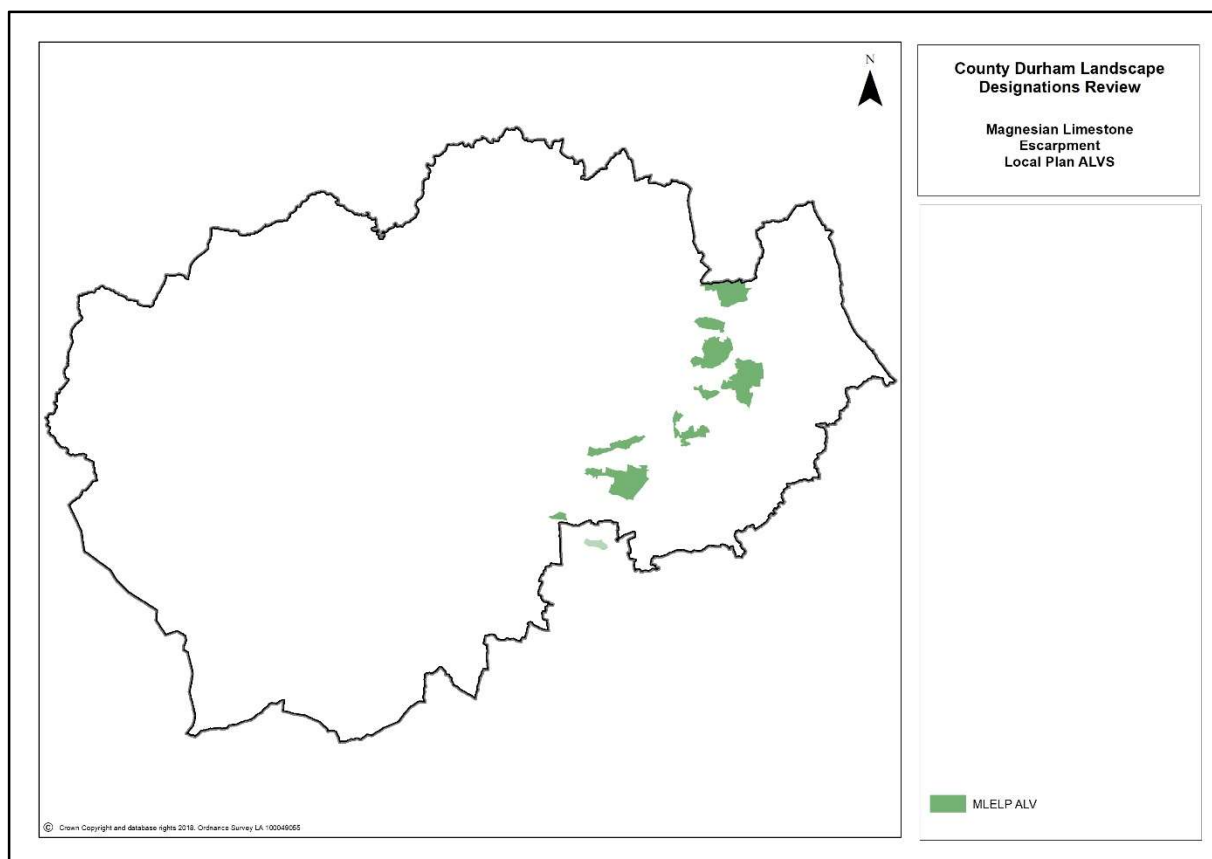


Figure 1.5: Magnesian Limestone Escarpment Local plan Areas of Landscape Value

1.3.10 The plan identified a number of Areas of Landscape Value (ALV). Some of these had previously been identified in part as AGLV or ASLV (Figure 1.5)

- ALV 1 Pittington & Elemore
- ALV2 Sherburn Hill

- ALV3 Cassop
- ALV4 Old Thornley & Wingate
- ALV5 Coxhoe Hall and Kelloe banks
- ALV6 Ferryhill Gap, Mainsforth & Thrislington Plantation
- ALV7 Westerton, Middlestone & Kirk Merrington
- ALV8 Windlestone
- ALV9 Brussleton
- ALV10 Redworth

AONB Inquiry 1988

1.3.11 The Countryside Commission discussed both boundaries at the AONB Inquiry but continued to argue the merits of the larger 1975 boundary. Following the Inspector's report a revised boundary closer to the 1983 revision and accommodating changes proposed by the Inspector was identified following a field study by local authority and Commission officers. This excluded the following areas within County Durham:

- Middle and lower Weardale;
- Hamsterley Forest & the southern Bedburn Valley;
- the upper Gaunless Valley;
- lower and middle Teesdale;
- the Greta Valley;
- the moors and moorland fringes east of, and including, The Stang;
- the Tees Vale;
- the upper Gaunless Valley.

County Durham Structure Plan 1991-2006

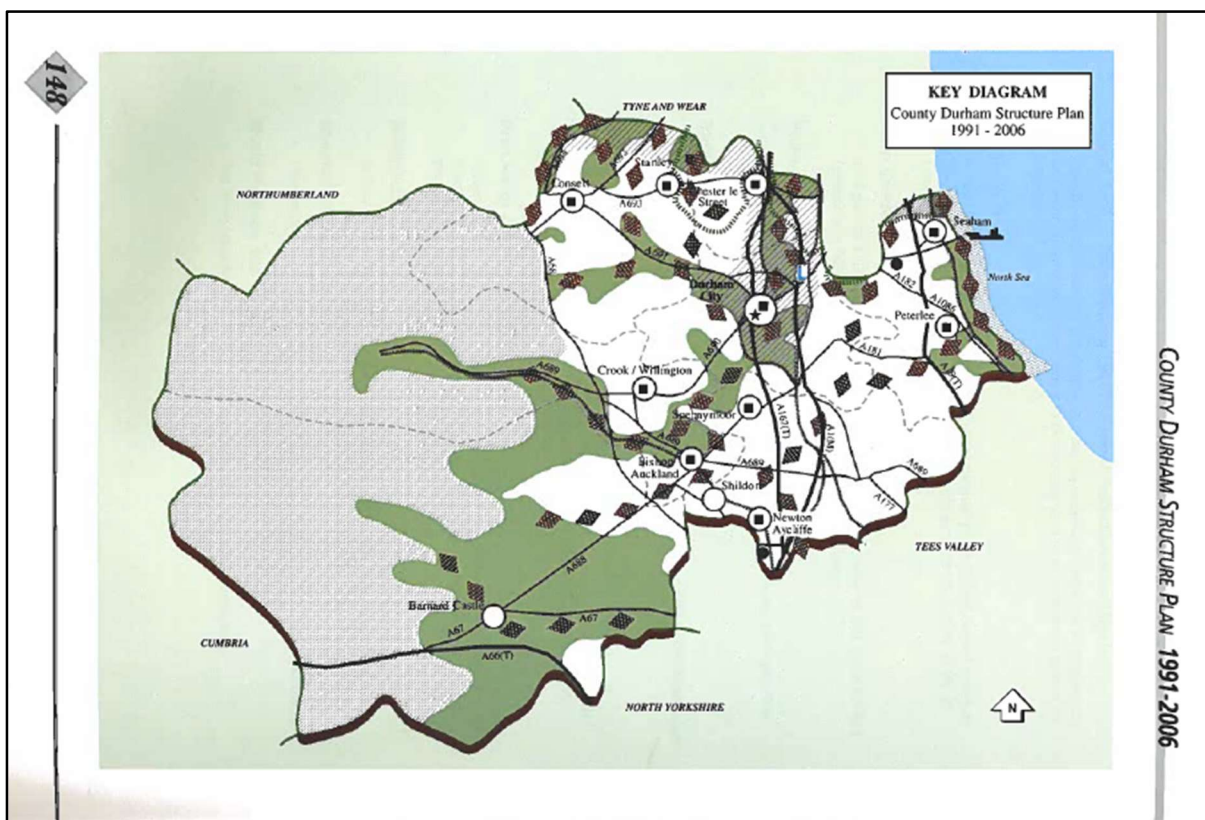


Figure 1.6: County Durham Structure Plan 1991-2006: Areas of High Landscape Value

1.3.12 A survey to reassess County level designations was carried out by DCC as part of the Structure Plan Review process. A field study was carried out by landscape professionals employed by DCC to refine existing boundaries and a number of amendments were proposed. The resulting Areas of High Landscape Value (AHLV) were identified on the Key Diagram. These included areas previously identified as AGLV together with new areas along the main valleys of the Wear and Browney and in the Tees Vale East of Barnard castle. These are shown in schematic form on the key diagram (Figure 1.6), the supporting text noting that detailed boundaries would be identified in District Local Plans. The CDSP also identified areas of parks and gardens of national importance which replaced the ASLV approach of the previous plan.

Sedgefield Borough Local Plan 1996

1.3.13 The Local Plan identified a single Area of Landscape Value (the River Wear ALV) based on the AHLV shown in the CDSP (Figure 1). The Plan also identified Historic Landscape Areas at Hardwick Park, Whitworth Park and Windlestone Park, and sought to protect the 'historic landscape character' of Bradbury, Mordon and Preston Carrs. ALV boundaries are clipped to settlement boundaries in places. The policy and supporting text relating to the AHLV and these other areas is given below in Appendix 1.

Wear Valley Local Plan 1997

1.3.14 The Local Plan River Valleys AHLV closely followed the boundaries shown in the CDSP (Figure 1). AHLV boundaries are clipped to settlement boundaries. The policy and supporting text relating to the AHLV is given below in Appendix 1.

Derwentside District Local Plan 1997

1.3.15 The Local Plan identified twelve AHLV (Figure 1), six of which corresponded to the CDSP AHLV and were identified as being of county-wide importance whilst the other six were new AHLV identified as being of district importance.

- Beggarside and Knitsley Burn Valleys
- Hedleyhope fell and Hedleyhope Burn
- Newhouse Burn
- North Langley
- Pan Burn
- Whiteside Burn

1.3.16 The Plan did not generally identify settlement boundaries: AHLV boundaries are clipped to settlement boundaries in some cases and wash over settlements in others. The policy and supporting text relating to the AHLV is given below in Appendix 1. They were described further in Appendix F (v) of the Plan which is reproduced in Appendix 1 below. The plan also identified relic landscapes and historic parks and gardens of local interest as separate features.

County Durham Minerals Local Plan 2000

1.3.17 The local plan refers to AHLV identified in the County Structure Plan and Local Plans and shows them on the proposals map. These include the detailed boundaries identified in the Sedgefield, Wear Valley and Derwentside Local Plans together with more detailed boundaries (albeit at 1:95,000 scale) than the CDSP for districts where

local plans are yet to be published (Easington, Teesdale, Durham City). These are shown on Figure 1.7. The policy and supporting text relating to the AHLV is given below in Appendix 1.

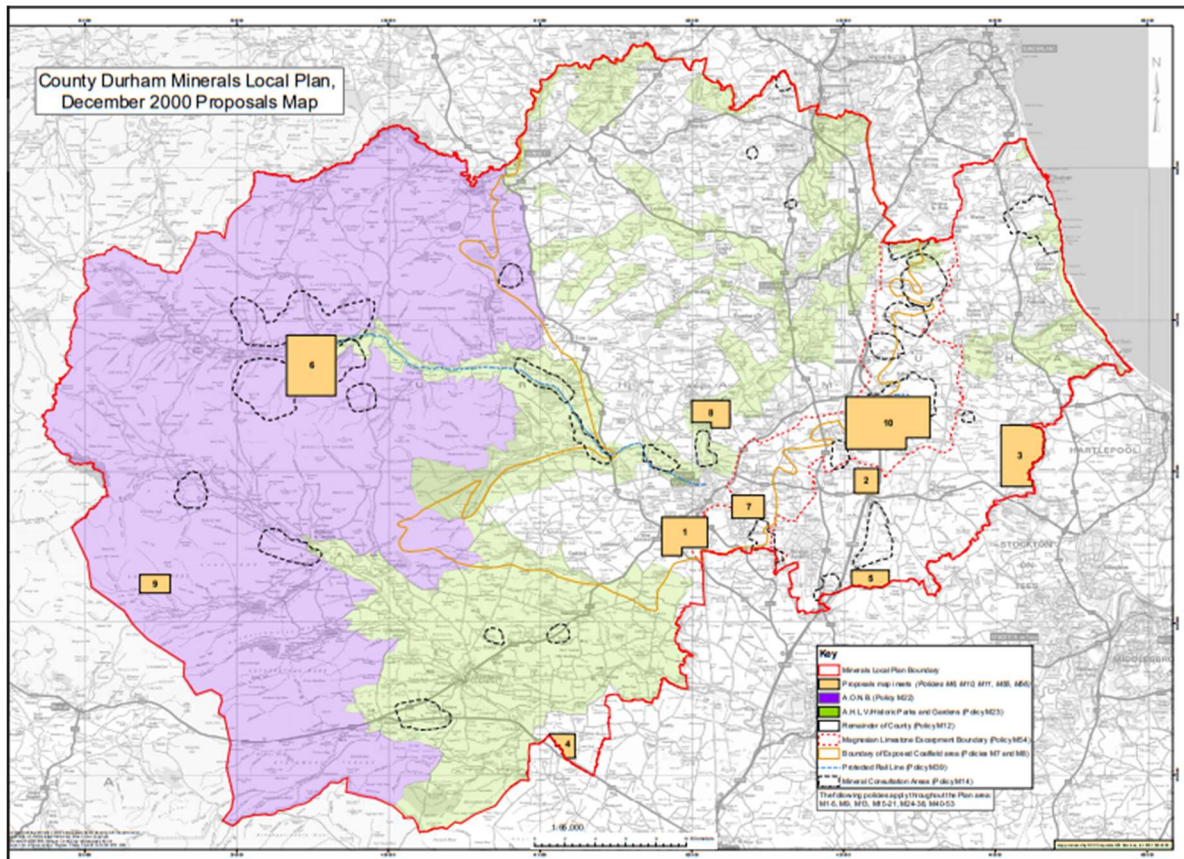


Figure 1.7: Minerals Local plan Areas of High Landscape Value (AHLV)

Easington District Local Plan 2001

1.3.18 The Local Plan identified four AHLVs (Figure 1), the Elemore AHLV, the Northern AHLV (Ryhope & Seaham denes and coast), the central AHLV (Hawthorn and Horden Denes, Warren House and Blackhills Gills and coast) and the southern AHLV (Castle Eden, Crimdon and Hesleden Denes, the parkland landscape of Castle Eden, forestry plantations to the east of Wingate and the coastal strip at Crimdon). The boundaries of these AHLV closely followed the boundaries shown in the CDSP although with some additional areas west of Wingate. AHLV boundaries are clipped to settlement boundaries in some cases and wash over settlements in others. The policy and supporting text relating to the AHLV is given below in Appendix 1.

Teesdale Local Plan 2002

1.3.19 The Local Plan identified a single large AHLV (Figure 1) which closely followed the boundaries shown in the CDSP. AHLV boundaries are clipped to settlement boundaries. The policy and supporting text relating to the AHLV is given below in Appendix 1.

Chester-le-Street Local plan 2003

1.3.20 The Local Plan identified the Beamish & Causey Arch and River Wear AHLV which closely followed the boundaries shown in the CDSP. AHLV boundaries are clipped to

settlement boundaries. The policy and supporting text relating to the AHLV is given below in Appendix 1.

Durham City Local Plan 2004

- 1.3.21 The Local Plan identified a single AHLV based on those shown in the CDSP but including additional areas identified in a review of designations undertaken by consultants in 1999. These included additional areas around Ramside Hall, Sniperley Park and the lower Deerness Valley. AHLV boundaries are clipped to settlement boundaries. The policy and supporting text relating to the AHLV is given below in Appendix 1.

1.4 Other associated designations

Historic parks & gardens

- 1.4.1 The county contains 13 historic parks and gardens identified on English Heritage's register of parks and gardens of special historic interest. A review of historic parks, gardens and designed landscapes in County Durham in 2018 identified a further 104 landscapes worthy of local listing, some of which had been identified in local plans and some of which may be considered for national listing (Figure 1.8).

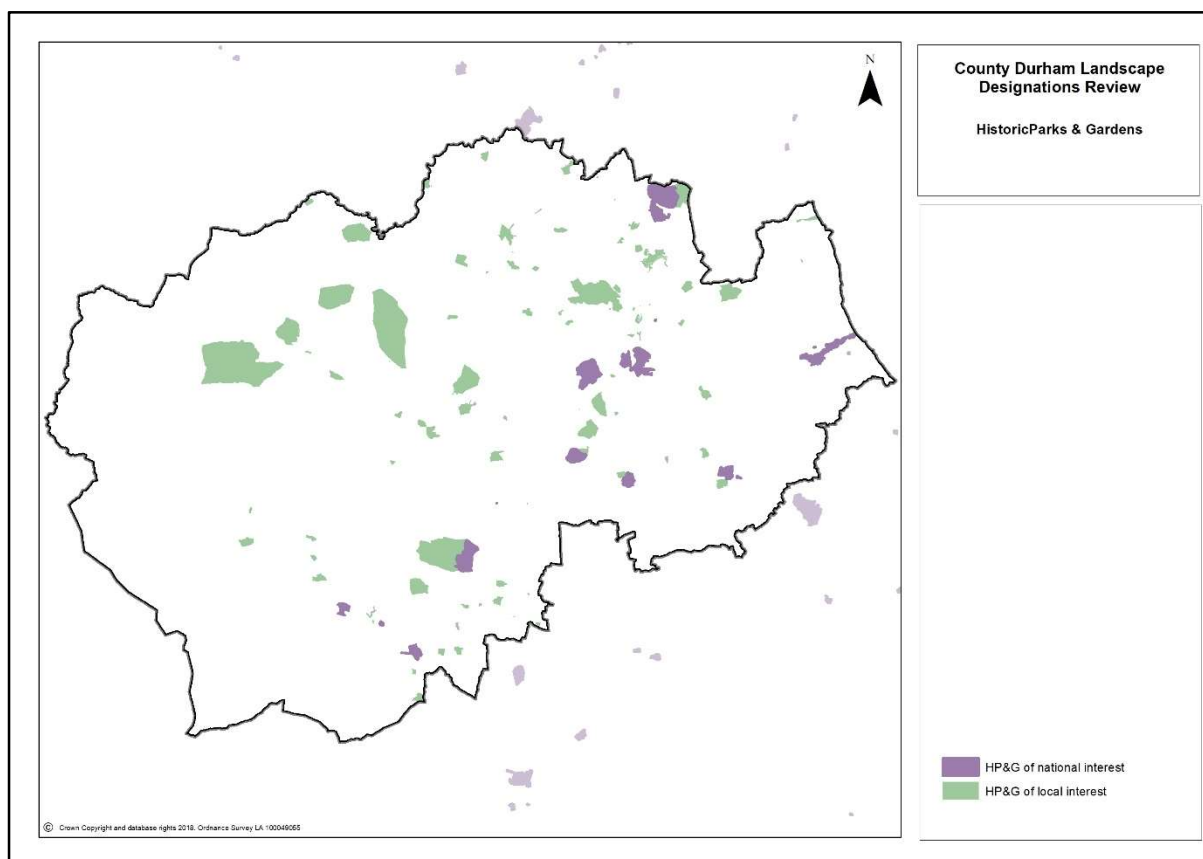


Figure 1.8: Historic parks, gardens and designed landscapes

Heritage Coast

- 1.4.2 Parts of the coast in County Durham lie within the Durham Heritage Coast (Figure 1.9).

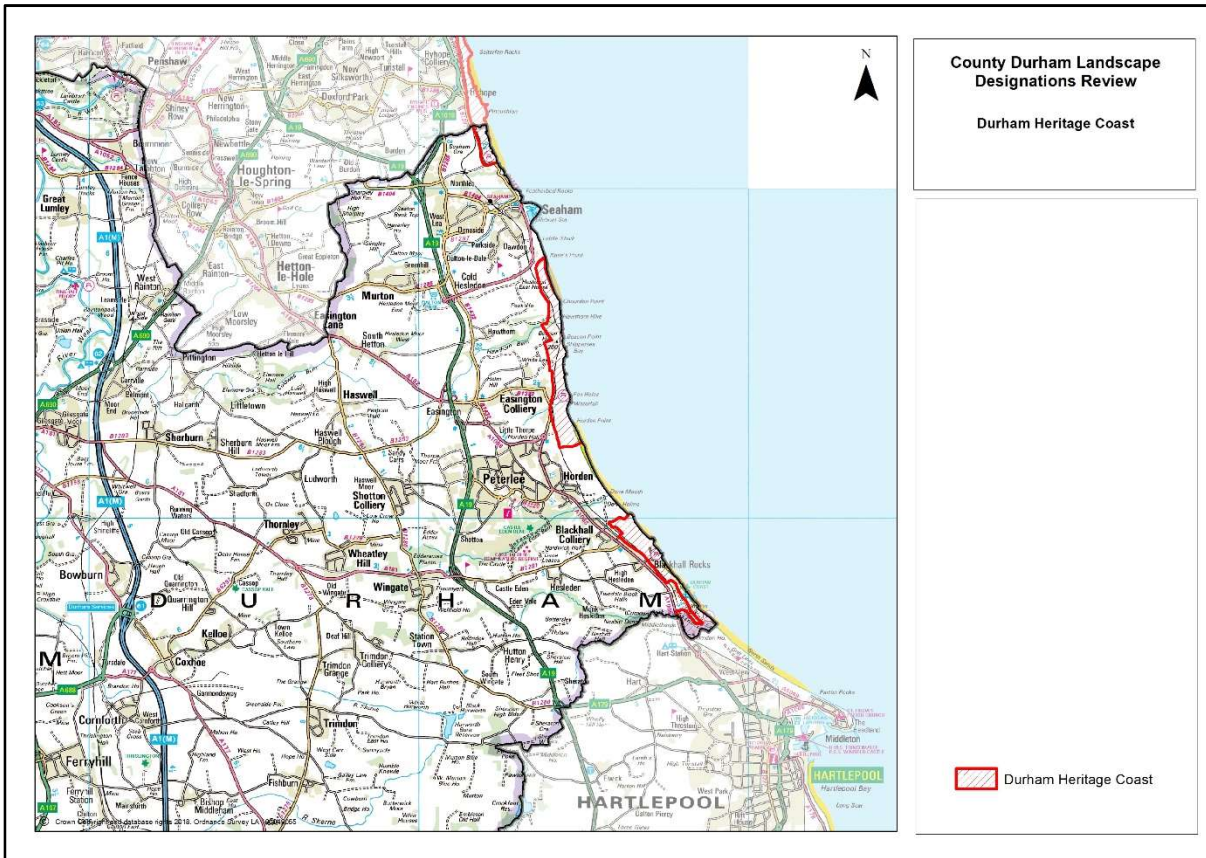


Figure 1.9: Durham Heritage Coast

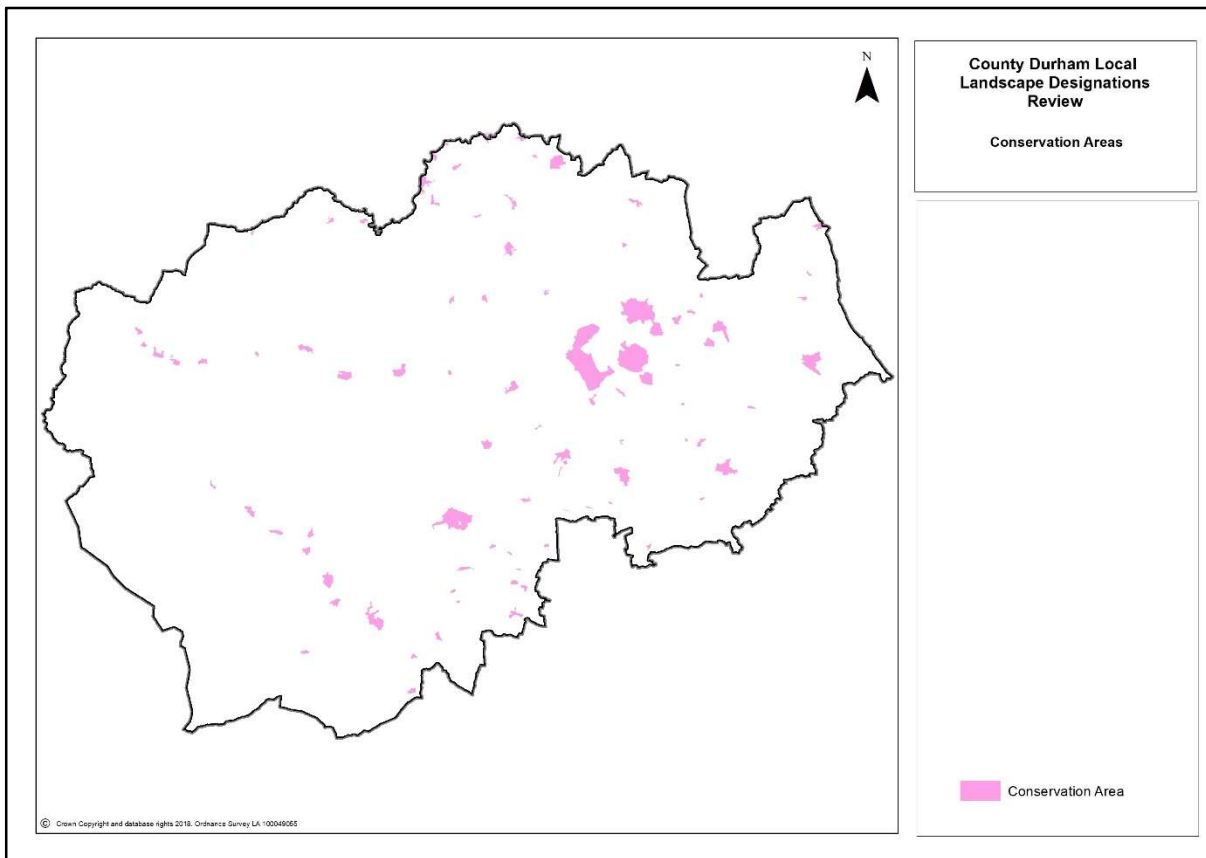


Figure 1.10: Conservation Areas

Conservation Areas

- 1.4.2 The county contains a wide range of Conservation Areas (Figure 1.10). Some of these are tightly drawn around the older built form of historic towns and villages. Others cover wider tracts of landscape, either capturing the setting of settlements or landscapes such as historic parklands.

1.5 Methodology

- 1.5.1 Existing landscape designations were reviewed against the findings of the *County Durham Landscape Value Assessment 2018 (LVA)*. The review was undertaken at the level of County Character Areas as these are the landscape units used in the County Durham Landscape Strategy (2008) to analyse assets and attributes and set strategic objectives for the landscape.
- 1.5.2 Areas that were designated in Local Plans as ALV or AHLV but where the LVA did not indicate elevated value for many attributes were identified.
- 1.5.3 Areas where the LVA indicated elevated values across a range of attributes but which were not designated as ALV or AHLV were identified.
- 1.5.4 Individual LVA Assessment Units were reviewed individually and recommendations made for each unit as to whether to identify it in whole or part as Area of Higher Landscape Value. These assessments are given below in Appendix 2.
- 1.5.5 A set of candidate Areas of Higher landscape Value were drawn up on this basis. A series of workshops was held with the councils' Senior Landscape Officers and with Team Leaders and Principal Planning Officers from the area and strategic planning teams to review the evidence base and consider those areas proposed for designation.
- 1.5.6 A final proposed Area of Higher Landscape Value was defined taking into account changes recommended through the workshop process (Figure 8.1)

1.6 Mapping protocols

Boundaries

- 1.6.1 The boundaries of proposed AHLV follow the boundaries of landscape features where possible. Boundaries were digitised largely at around 1:25,000 scale. It is intended to provide a refined version of boundaries snapped to OS MasterMap boundaries on adoption of the County Durham Plan incorporating any changes made during that process.

Treatment of urban areas

- 1.6.2 Smaller settlements (of less than around 20ha) are washed over by the designation unless located on the edge of the area. Settlements of this size tend to have an intimate relationship with the surrounding landscape and may in some cases contribute to its value.

Treatment of housing commitments

- 1.6.3 Sites with existing planning permission for development are not designated as AHLV other than in the case of small sites in settlements that are washed over and land with permission at Lambton where development is expected to take place within a valued landscape while retaining features of importance. Where designated land lies

immediately adjacent to a committed site, the boundary corresponds to either the planning permission boundary or the known extent of development where appropriate.

Treatment of employment land

- 1.6.4 Land protected for employment in the County Durham Plan is not designated as AHLV.

Treatment of employment allocations

- 1.6.5 Land allocated for employment in the County Durham Plan is not designated as AHLV except in the case of land allocated at Lambton where development is expected to take place within a valued landscape while retaining features of importance.

Treatment of housing land allocations.

- 1.6.6 Land allocated for housing in the County Durham Plan is not designated as AHLV except in the case of land allocated for housing at Sniperley where development is expected to take place within a valued landscape while retaining features of importance and retaining some areas of undeveloped land.

2 North Pennines

Landscape Value

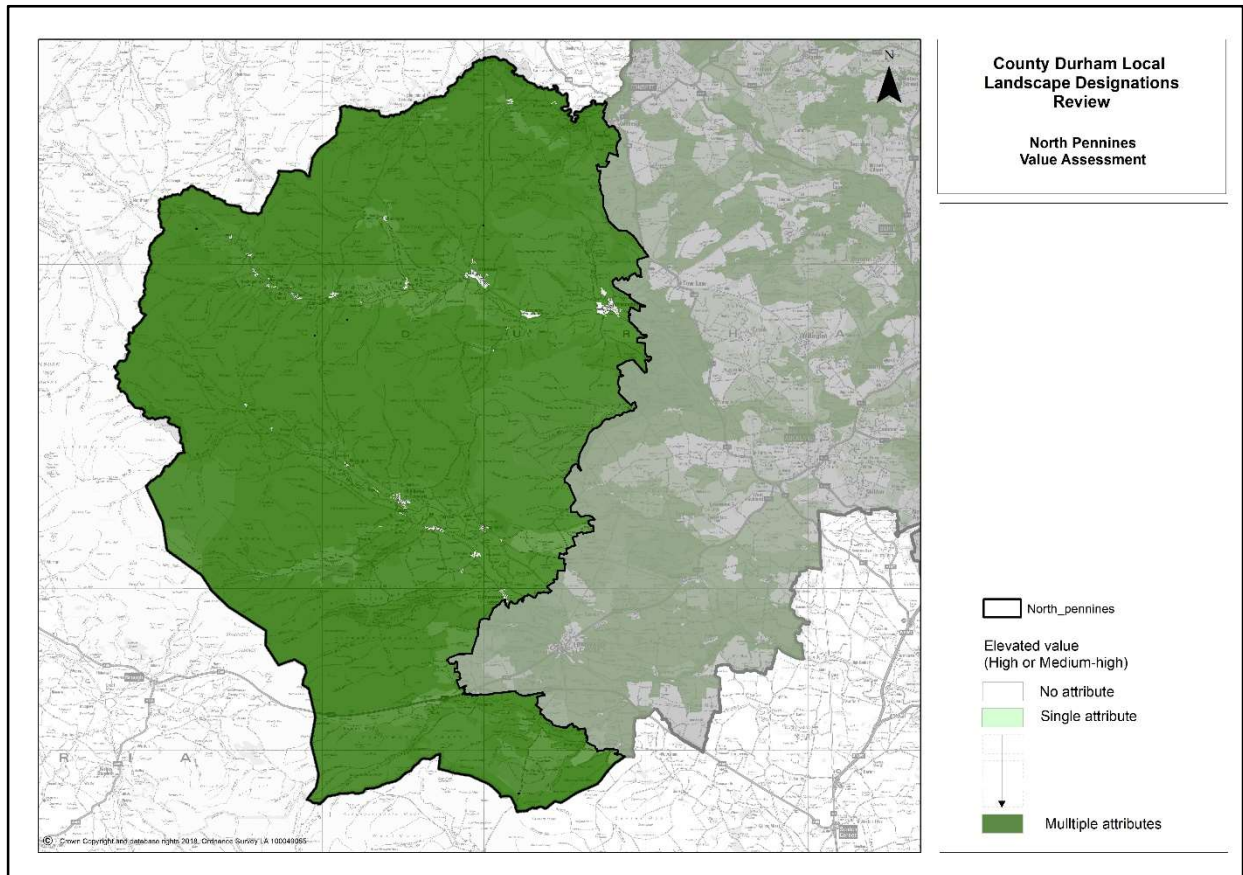


Figure 2.1 Landscape Value Assessment

- 2.1 All of the landscapes of the North Pennines have elevated scores across a range of attributes (Figure 2.1 and Appendix 2).

Condition

- 2.2 Much of the landscape is in relatively good condition. The blanket bog and heather moorlands of the upland moors are generally in good condition although some areas are gripped or over-grazed (white-moor). The pastoral landscapes of the dales and moorland fringes are varied but often in good condition for landscapes of their type. Many areas have been affected in the distant past by lead mining. This is sufficiently distant that legacies of the industry are generally seen as part of the areas' intrinsic character although some issues remain in areas of bare or eroding ground. Some areas are affected by more recent (C20th) and current mineral working. There are locally some areas affected by recent forestry clearances and early stages of moorland restoration.

Scenic quality

- 2.3 A visually open landscape with strong topography affording deep and panoramic views across open moors and pastoral dales. Scenic quality is generally high. Detractive elements are relatively uncommon: locally there are masts and overhead services or

views into active or abandoned mineral workings. Most of the area is designated as AONB for its natural beauty. Areas outside of the AONB are of equivalent value.

Rarity & Representativeness

- 2.4 Some of the moorland fringe landscapes of the North Pennines belong to a relatively common landscape type forming part of a wider suite of upland landscapes across the north of England. Many of its other landscapes are less common or contain specific features or qualities that contribute to a strong sense of place and local distinctiveness, including some that are highly distinctive or unique. Most are moderately to strongly representative of their type depending largely on their condition.

Conservation Interest: natural environment

- 2.5 The contribution of nature to the experience of the landscape is generally of a high order. Moorland landscapes contains extensive areas of natural and semi-natural habitats, including blanket bog and heath, supporting a wider range of common and rarer species and many are designated at a national or European level. The pastoral landscapes of the dales are rich in common species and contain notable natural and semi-natural habitats including ancient woodland, unimproved and semi-improved grasslands and hay meadows, wetlands, riparian habitat and brownfield land some of which are designated at a European, national or local level.

Conservation Interest: historic environment

- 2.6 The contribution of historic features to the experience of the landscape varies. Moorland landscapes may be lacking in legible historic features in places, but often contain relic landscapes from a range of periods from the pre-historic to the post-medieval industrial period with lead mining features such as mines, hushes, reservoirs and chimneys being particularly notable. Dales landscapes have considerable time depth and a strong sense of cultural continuity. Old farmsteads and associated field systems with their origins in various phases of enclosure are particularly legible as are historic villages, many designated as conservation areas, and relics of the minerals industry.

Recreation

- 2.7 The recreational value of the landscape is generally of a high order. The majority of moorland landscapes are designated as access land. Most of the dales have a well-developed rights of way network and are crossed or followed by a number of regional and national trails. The majority of minor roads provide opportunities for walking, cycling, hacking and scenic drives. There are number of visitor attractions (High Force, Low Force, Bowlees, Eggleston Hall, Bowes castle, Weardale Railway) and a wide range of opportunities for active recreation including fishing and water-sports on reservoirs and mountain biking in areas such as Hamsterley Forest

Perceptual aspects

- 2.8 The Moorlands are typically remote and elemental with a near wilderness quality in places. They are generally very tranquil with little noise or movement, other than that arising from natural forces, and have notably dark skies with very little light pollution. The dales are deeply rural and relatively tranquil landscapes. In minor dales there is little movement or noise other than arising from natural forces, agricultural activities

and traffic on minor roads. The main dales are locally affected by traffic on busier roads.

Cultural associations

- 2.9 The LVA did not deal comprehensively with cultural associations. All of the area is identified as having a strong association with Alfred Wainwright. Teesdale in particular has associations with JMW Turner and Charles Dickens.

Existing designations

- 2.10 Much of the North Pennines landscape falls within the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Areas outside of the AONB are all designated as Area of High Landscape Value in the Wear valley and Teesdale local plans (Figure 2.2). This closely reflects the findings of the LVA.

Proposed Designations

- 2.11 Analysis of the individual character areas assessed in the LVA for this area is given in Appendix 2. It is proposed to identify all of the areas outside of the AONB as Area of Higher Landscape Value (Figure 2.3). The area would be co-extensive with the existing AHLV apart from minor changes in the way settlements are clipped out or washed over.

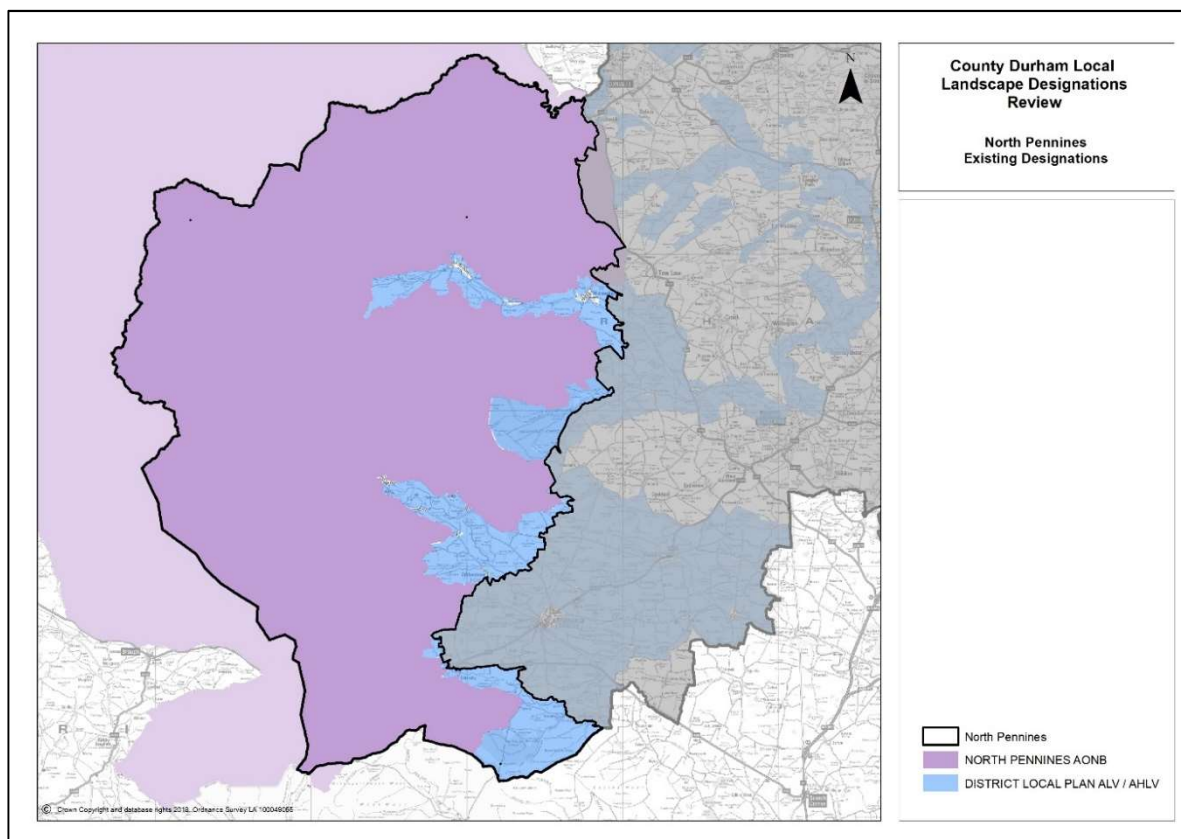


Figure 2.2 Existing designations

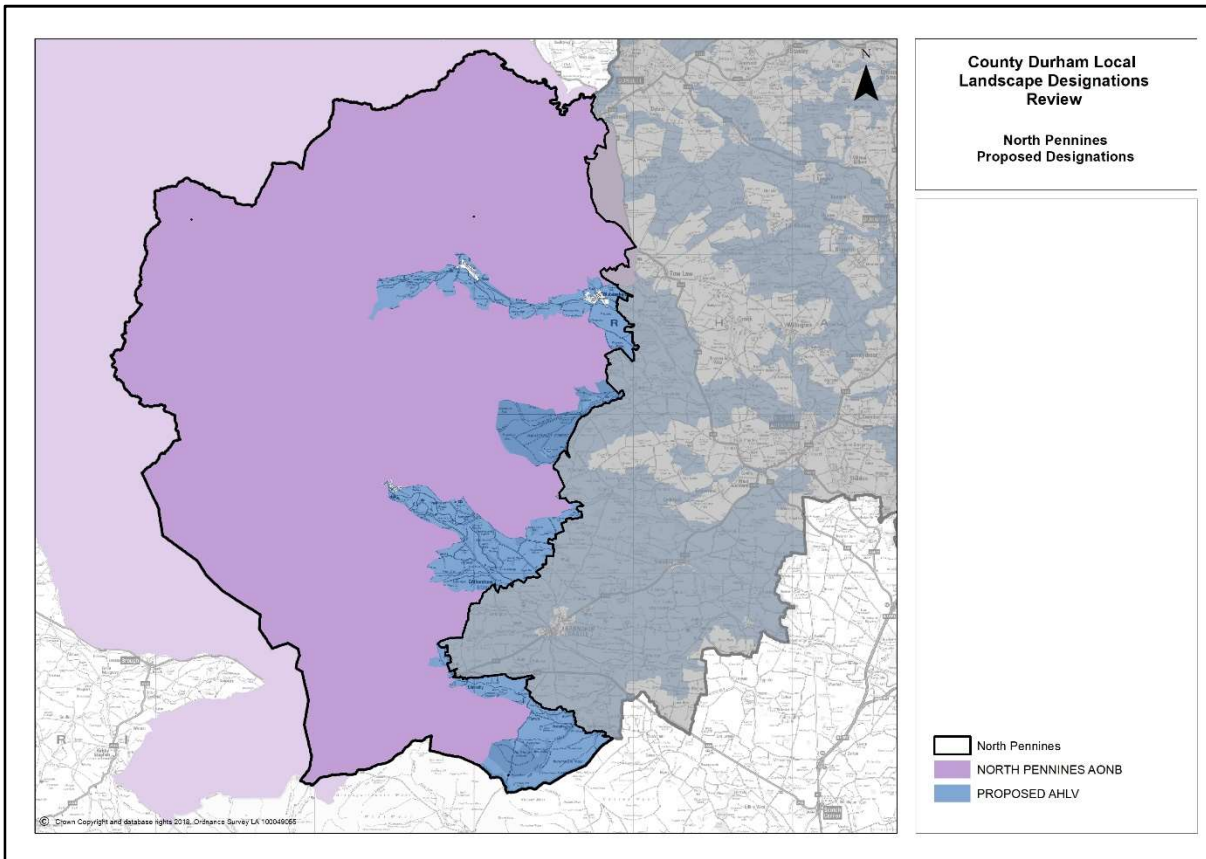


Figure 2.3 Proposed Areas of Higher Landscape Value

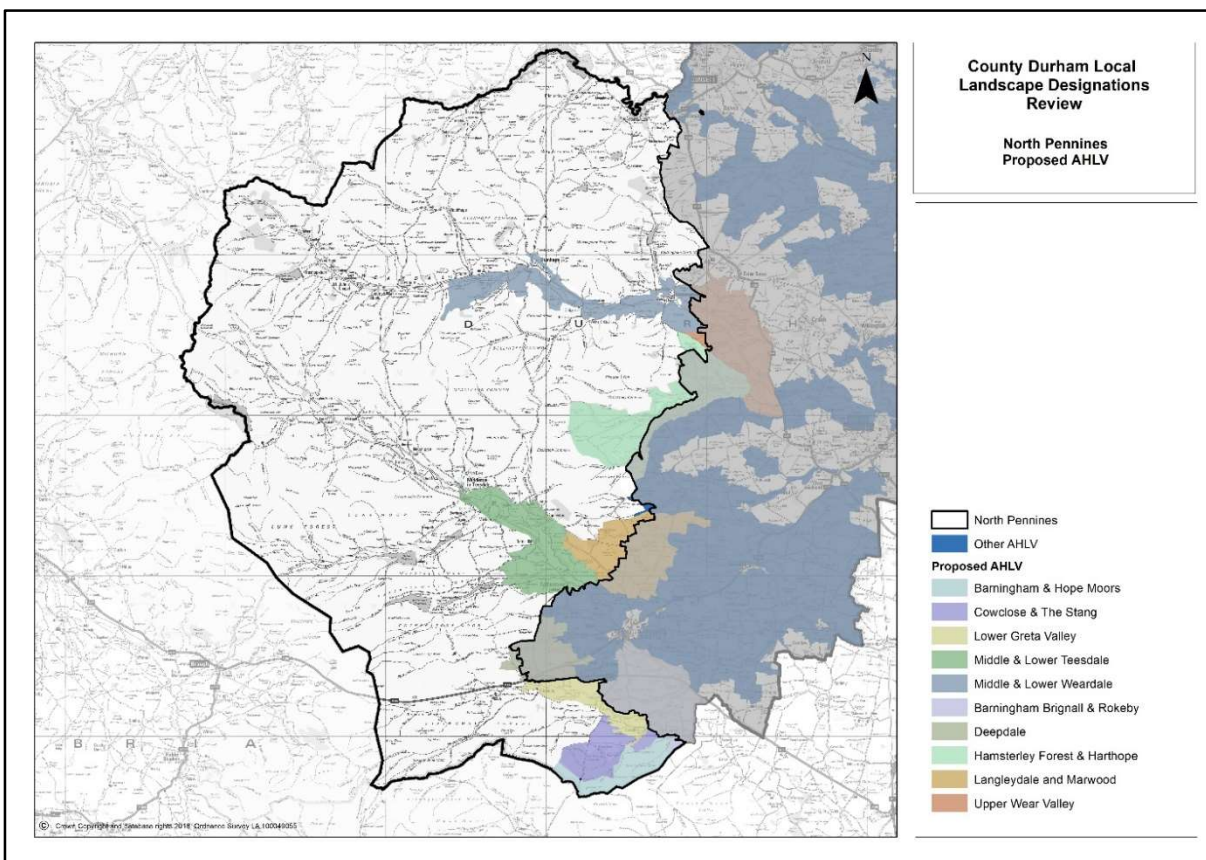


Figure 2.4 Local Areas of Higher Landscape Value

2.12 The proposed area is subdivided into a simplified set of local areas which are shown on Figure 2.4

- Barningham & Hope Moors
- Cowclose & the Stang
- Lower Greta
- Middle and Lower Teesdale
- Middle and Lower Weardale
- Barningham Brignall & Rokeby
- Deepdale
- Hamsterley Forest & Harthope
- Langleydale & Marwood
- Upper Wear Valley

3 West Durham Coalfield

Landscape value

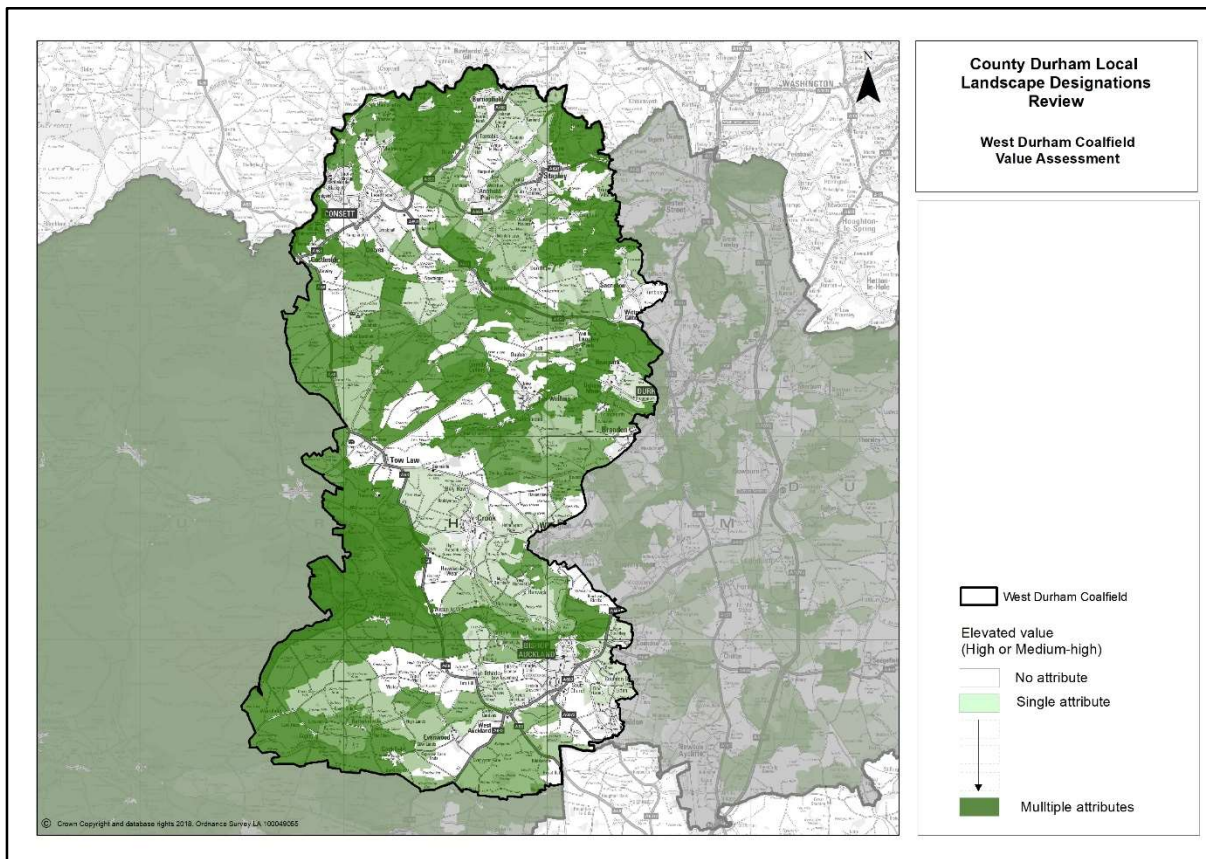


Figure 3.1 Landscape Value Assessment

- 3.1 The West Durham Coalfield is a very varied landscape being transitional between the uplands and lowlands in its underlying character, and having been affected in varying degrees by urban and industrial development and extensive (>120km²) surface mining for coal and, more locally, for sand & gravel. This gives rise to a wide range of values for individual attributes, with some areas having low or moderate scores across the range attributes assessed, and others having higher scores for single or multiple attributes (Figure 3.1 and Appendix 2).

Condition

- 3.2 Condition is very variable with some areas in good condition with relatively intact networks of field boundaries, and with notable features particularly characteristic of the landscape present including mid-altitude heathland and ancient oak woodlands. Condition has been locally affected by surface mining which has resulted in some areas left in poor condition with few landscape features, but with other, better restored areas, developing in their maturity. The landscape was widely affected in the past by deep coal mining and steel working. Much of the legacy of that industrial period, which influenced earlier landscape designations, has been reclaimed and the character and quality of the landscape restored to varying degrees.

Scenic quality

- 3.3 The coalfield landscape is made up largely of well-defined ridges and valleys which give many opportunities for deep or panoramic views across the local landscape and adjoining landscapes. This contributes to higher values for scenic quality in many places and particularly where those views take in landscapes in good condition or rich in woodlands and/or trees. There are many potential detractors in the landscape, including urban and industrial development, overhead services, tall masts, wind turbines and highway infrastructure. These elements are often visible in the wide or deep views typical of the area, resulting in views that often take in both strongly positive and negative features.

Rarity & Representativeness

- 3.4 Coalfield landscapes belong to a relatively common landscape type forming part of a wider suite of upland fringe and coalfield landscape types across the north of England. Some areas contain less common features that contribute strongly to local distinctiveness such as mid-altitude heaths, ancient oak woods in incised denes and steep bluffs, river gorges and floodplains with natural watercourses and wetland features, designed parklands, historic villages and relics from the industrial period. The presence of such features, and the general condition of the local landscape, will often contribute to its value as representative of its type.

Conservation Interest: natural environment

- 3.5 The contribution of nature to the experience of the landscape varies across the coalfield which is largely made up open countryside supporting relatively common flora and fauna depending largely on its condition, but locally containing features of particular interest including tracts of ancient woodland, mid-altitude heath and semi-improved and rush pasture, riparian habitats and other wetlands including old gravel pits and localised brownfield habitats.

Conservation Interest: historic environment

- 3.6 The contribution of historic features to the experience of the landscape is also variable. The coalfield contains extensive areas which have been worked for coal by surface mining and therefore have very little time depth. Some areas contain features of greater interest including historic parklands (registered and locally listed) and relic landscapes from a range of periods from the pre-historic to the post-medieval industrial period together with assemblages of listed building, older villages and occasional scheduled monuments.

Recreation

- 3.7 The coalfield generally has well-developed networks of public rights of way, often reflecting access to older small coal mines that were commonplace in the area. There are locally some areas of access land (heathland), community woodland, local nature reserves and parklands. Abandoned railway lines and tramways serving the area have been developed into a network of longer distance multi-user routes, some of which form part of regional trails or the wider national cycle network. Some localised areas contain fewer paths but contain minor roads used for walking, cycling and hacking. There are a number of heritage based outdoor visitor attractions (Beamish Museum, Causey Arch, Derwentcote Forge, and Harperley Camp) and facilities for active recreation including golf courses and fishing lakes.

Perceptual aspects

- 3.8 Although for the most part a settled landscape, the more rural parts of the coalfield have a relatively remote and tranquil quality.

Cultural associations

- 3.9 The LVA did not deal comprehensively with cultural associations. Some local landscapes within the area were identified as having strong associations with a national and regional figures including artists Hieronymus Grimm and Herbert Cooper, landscape architects Thomas White the Elder & Thomas White the Younger; architects John Dobson, Alfred Waterhouse and William Hedley; writers Sir Walter Scott, Robert Smith Surtees, Thomas Gray, Dora Greenwell, Henry Swinburne, William Mason and John McBain; surveyor & astronomer Jeremiah Dixon, Quakers Anthony Pearson, George Fox and James Naylor; industrialist George Hutton Wilkinson; engineer William Hedley; antiquarians Rev George Ornsby and Canon Greenwell, physician Thomas Wharton, horticulturalists the Backhouse family and notable films (Get Carter).

Existing designations

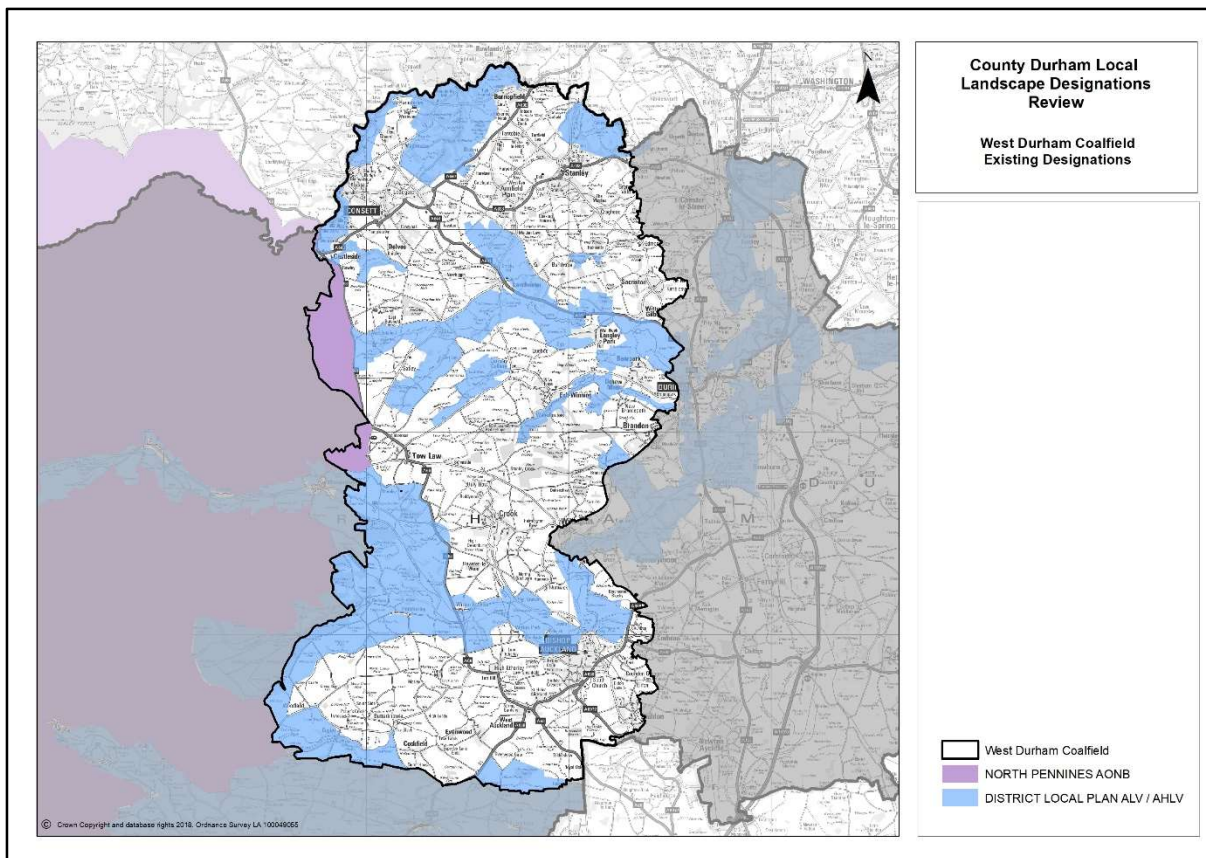


Figure 3.2 Existing designations

- 3.10 There is a degree of correspondence between the pattern of higher values identified in the LVA and existing AHLVs (Figure 3.3) which cover some notable landscapes in good condition and scenic value in the valleys of the Derwent, Browney, Deerness, Wear, Bedburn, Linburn and Gaunless.

- 3.11 Some localised parts of the designated areas weren't identified as having particularly elevated values although some of these form part of wider tracts of landscape of good scenic quality.
- 3.12 A number of areas not covered by existing designations were identified as having elevated values. These include landscapes in parts of the Stanley Burn, Cong Burn, Smallhope, Deerness & Stockley Beck valleys in the north and parts of the Linburn, Gaunless and Hummerbeck valleys in the south.

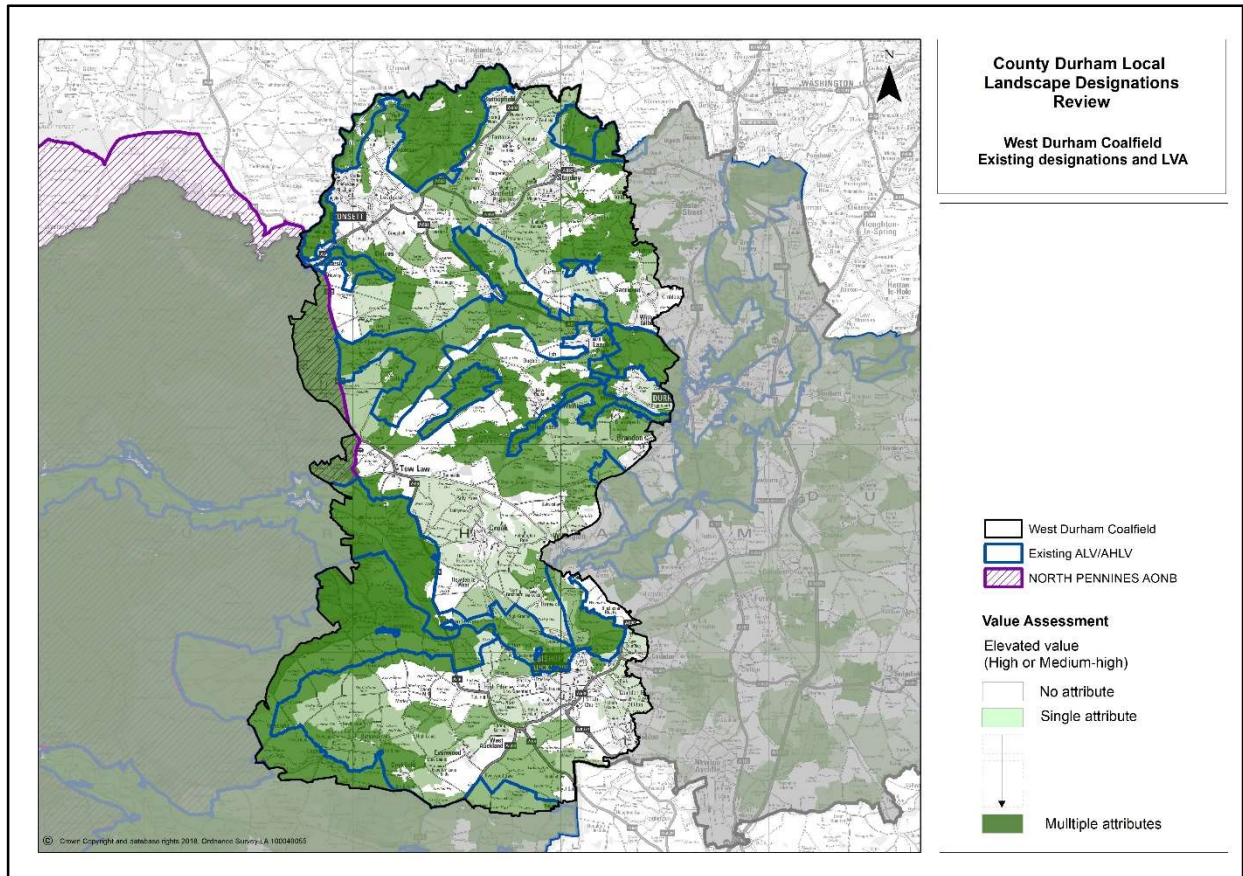


Figure 3.3 Relationship of existing designations and LVA

Proposed Designations

- 3.13 Analysis of the individual character areas assessed in the LVA for this area is given in Appendix 2. The Area of Higher Landscape Value proposed for the West Durham Coalfield based on this assessment is shown on Figure 3.4.
- 3.14 The proposed AHLV covers areas previously identified as AHLV with some boundary modifications and some minor changes in the way settlements are clipped out or washed over. It includes additional areas in parts of the Stanley Burn, Cong Burn, Smallhope, Deerness & Stockley Beck valleys in the north and parts of the Linburn, Gaunless and Hummerbeck valleys in the south. The relationship between the proposed AHLV and the LVA is shown on Figure 3.5.

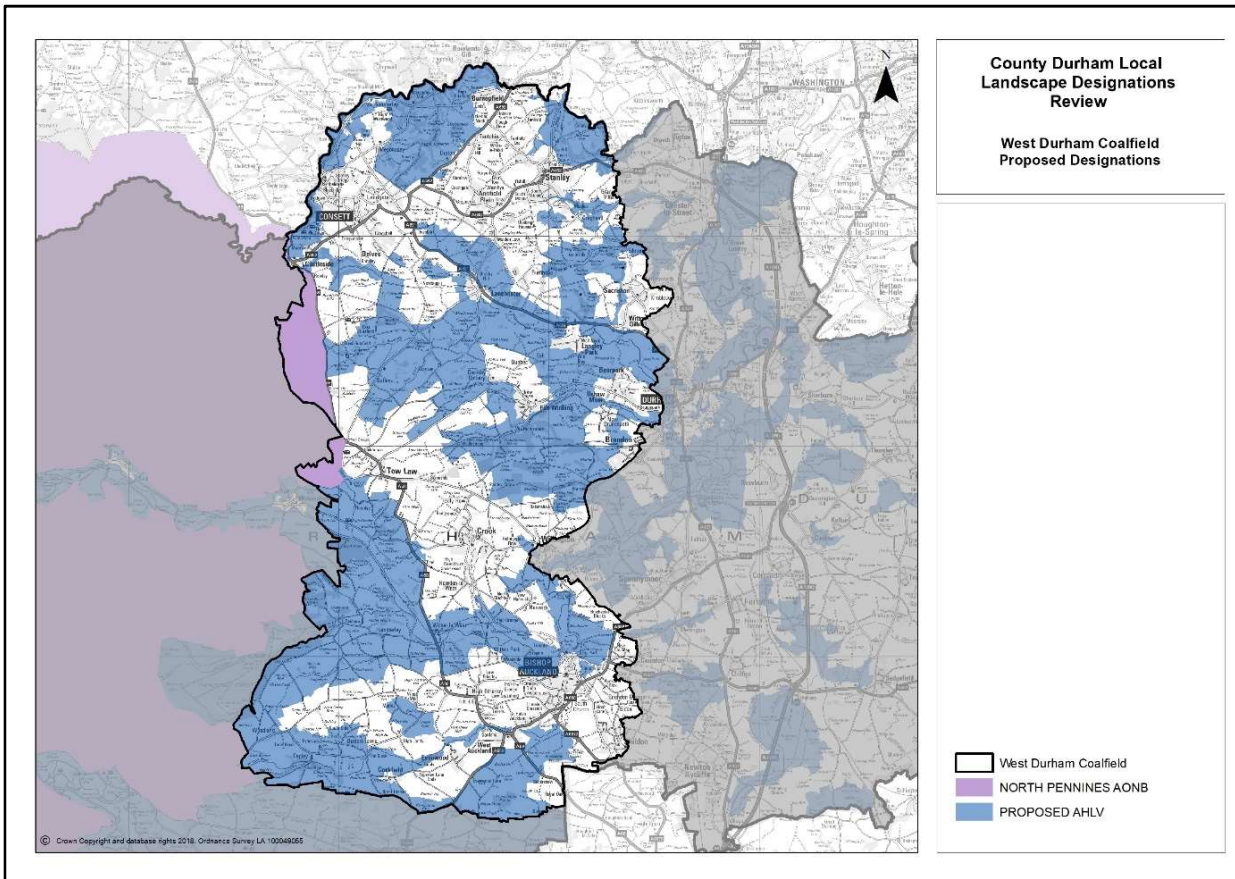


Figure 3.4 Proposed Area of Higher Landscape Value (AHLV)

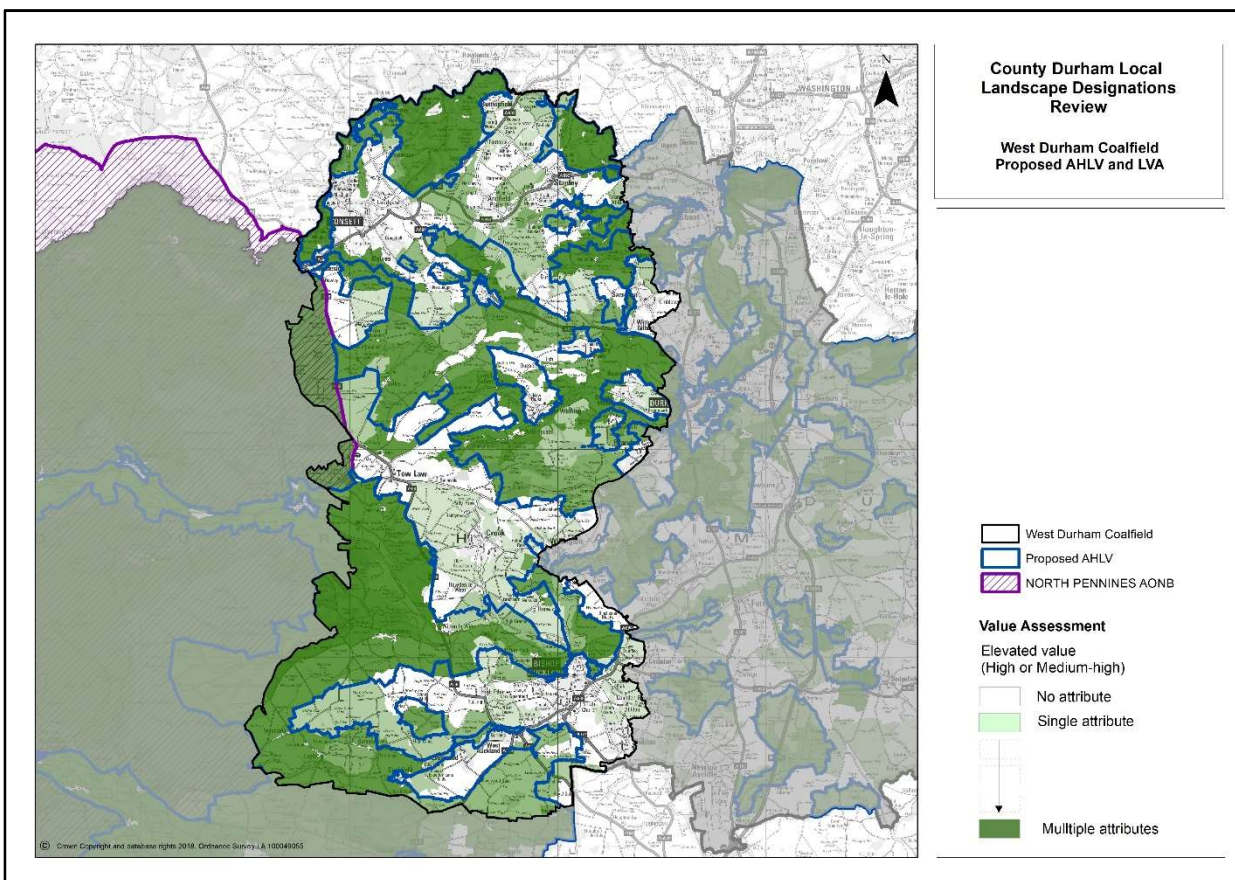


Figure 3.5 Relationship of proposed designations and LVA

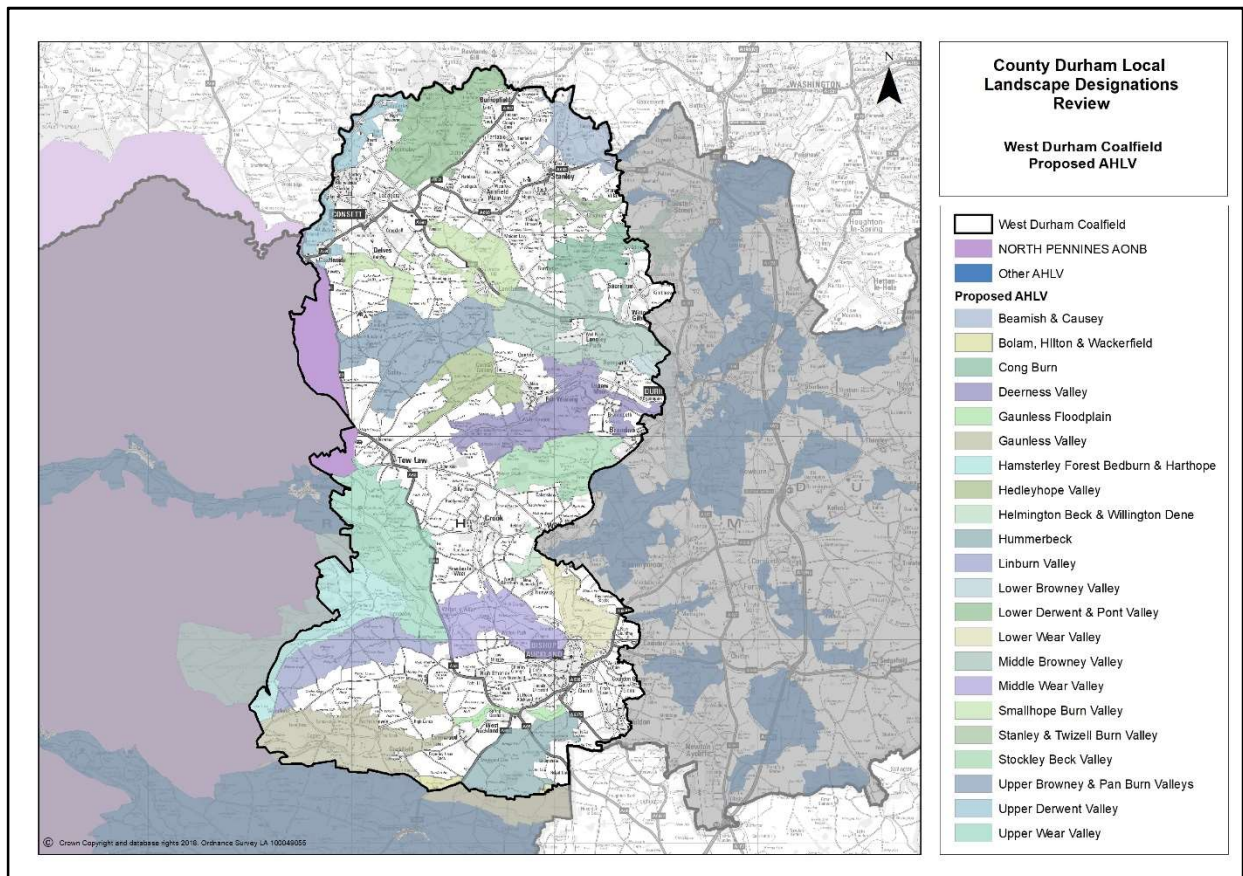


Figure 3.6 Local Areas of Higher Landscape Value

3.15 The proposed area is subdivided into a simplified set of local areas which are shown on Figure 3.6.

- Beamish & Causey Burn Valley
- Cong Burn Valley
- Deerness Valley
- Gaunless Floodplain
- Gaunless Valley
- Hedleyhope Valley
- Helmington Beck & Willington Dene
- Hummerbeck
- Linburn Valley
- Lower Derwent & Pont Valleys
- Lower Wear Valley
- Middle Browney Valley
- Middle Wear Valley
- Smallhope Burn Valley
- Stanley & Twizell Burn Valley
- Stockley Beck Valley
- Upper Browney & Pan Burn Valleys
- Upper Derwent Valley
- Upper Wear Valley

Areas overlapping with neighbouring character areas include:

- Hamsterley Forest, Bedburn & Harthope
- Bolam Hilton & Wackerfield
- Lower Browney valley

4 Dales Fringe

Landscape value

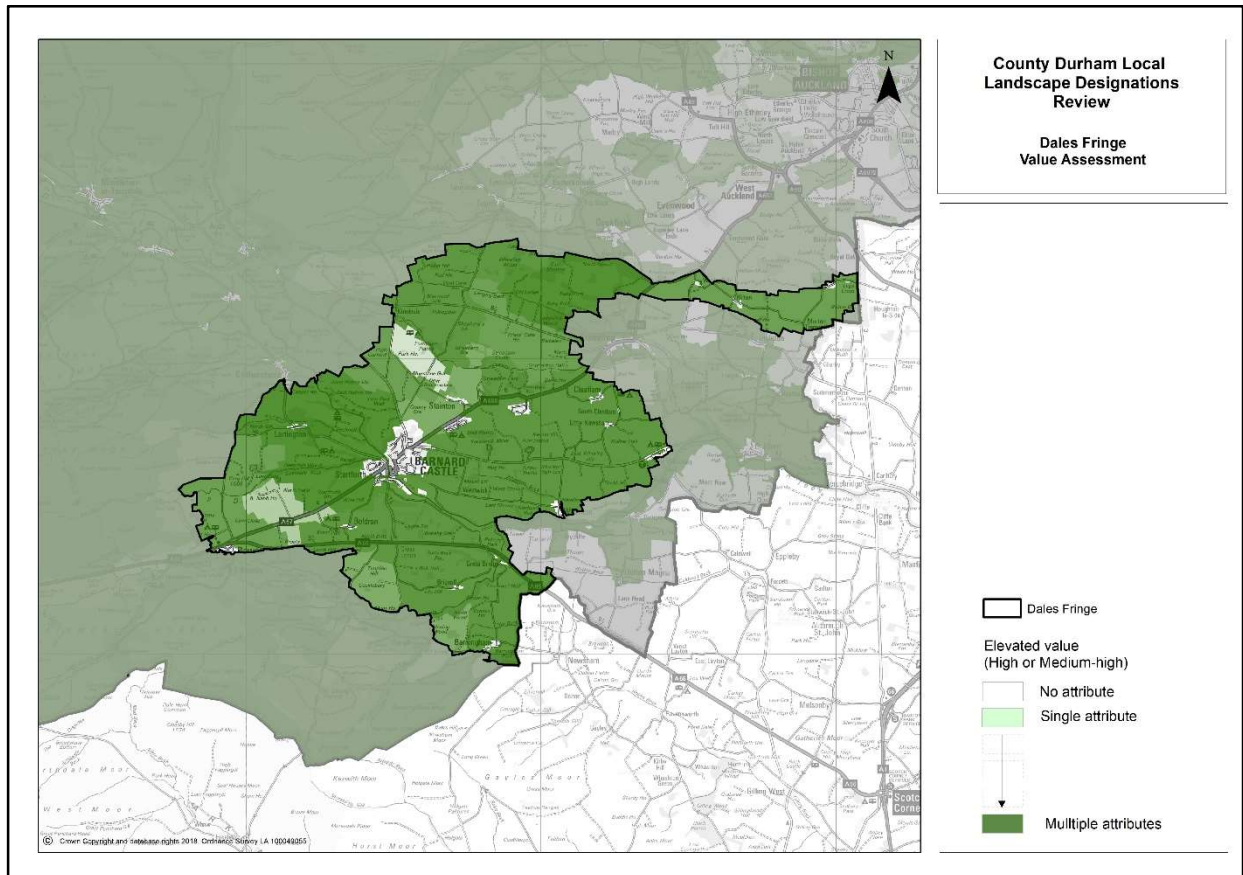


Figure 4.1 Landscape Value

- 4.1 Most of the landscapes of the Dales Fringe have elevated scores across a range of attributes (Figure 4.1 and Appendix 2). Some localised areas in the upland fringes have lower scores relating generally to their condition and lack of distinctiveness.

Condition

- 4.2 Condition is generally good although with some localised tracts where field boundaries are fragmented or in poor condition and other areas affected by active limestone quarrying. The landscape is also affected in places by major transport infrastructure including the A66.

Scenic quality

- 4.3 The visual environment is diverse and experienced in a range of different types of views with shallow views typical of much of the area, deeper views from locally high ground and panoramic views across the vale from around its edges. The area is of consistently good scenic quality as attractive countryside with few detractors, and of locally high or very high scenic quality and particularly in and around its incised rivers and denes and historic parklands. Some views within the area, and particularly from its western edges, take in parts of the AONB. The area contains a number of notable parklands of high scenic value including Lartington Park (Grade II), Rokeby Park (II*) and Bowes Museum

Park (II) together with parts of the wider parklands of Raby (II*) and non-designated parks at Streatlam, Eastwood and Barningham.

Rarity & Representativeness

- 4.4 Gritstone upland fringe and vale landscapes belong to a relatively common landscape type forming part of a wider suite of transitional lowland / upland fringe landscape types across the north of England. Most of the area is in moderate or good condition for the type. Some areas contain less common features such as historic parkland and may have an elevated value in that respect. Most landscapes within the area are representative or strongly representative of the type, depending largely on their condition.

Conservation Interest: natural environment

- 4.5 The contribution of nature to the experience of the landscape varies across the area which is largely made up of pastoral or mixed farmland supporting relatively common flora and fauna depending largely on its condition, but locally containing features of particular interest including tracts of ancient woodland in denes and gorges (some designated as Local Wildlife Sites) riparian habitats and semi-improved grasslands.

Conservation Interest: historic environment

- 4.6 The contribution of historic features to the experience of the landscape varies across the area. Some areas contain features of only general historical interest. Many areas contain features of greater interest including historic parklands (registered and locally listed) and features from a range of periods from the pre-historic to the post-medieval together with listed buildings, historic towns and villages (many designated as Conservation Areas) and scheduled monuments.

Recreation

- 4.7 Some areas have a particularly well-developed networks of public rights of way including many following attractive feature such as riverside woods. The main valley of the Tees is followed by regional trails (railway paths, Teesdale Way) and parts of the national cycle network. Some localised areas contain fewer paths but contain minor roads used for walking, cycling and hacking. There are a number of heritage based outdoor visitor attractions (Egglestone Abbey, Rokeby Park) and opportunities for active recreation (fishing, canoeing) on the River Tees.

Perceptual aspects

- 4.8 A settled but strongly rural and generally tranquil landscape. In most areas there is little noise or movement other than natural forces, agricultural activities and traffic on minor roads. Some areas are locally affected by traffic on busy roads (A688, A66 and A67).

Cultural associations

- 4.9 The LVA did not deal comprehensively with cultural associations. The area has been identified as having strong associations with a national and regional figures including artists JMW Turner, John Sell Cotman & Hablot Knight Browne, landscape architects Thomas White the Elder, Thomas Wright and Joseph Spence, architect Joseph Hansom, writers Charles Dickens and Sir Walter Scott, author & illustrator Alfred Wainwright, and local figures (physician & reformer George Edwards; photographer Elijah Yeoman).

Existing designations

4.10 The whole of the Dales Fringe is identified as an ALV in the Teesdale Local Plan (Figure 4.2).

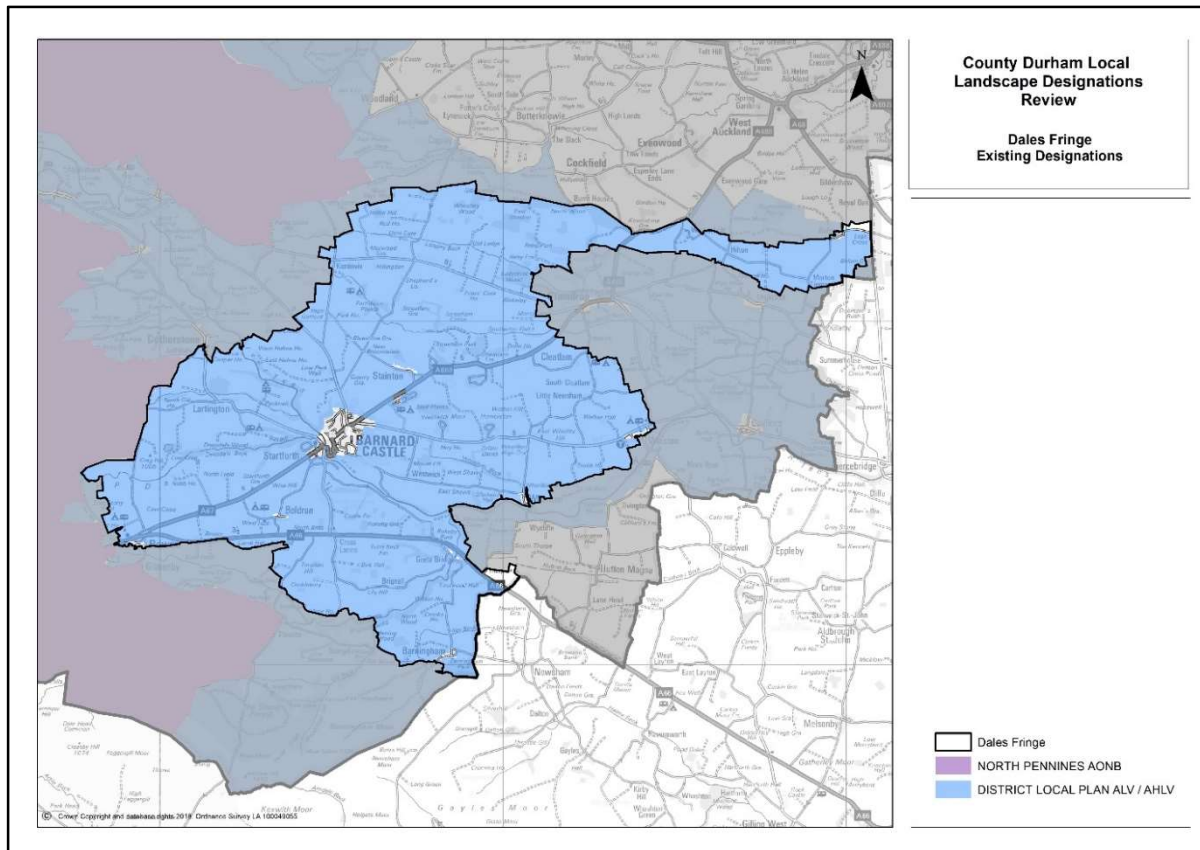


Figure 4.2 Existing designations

Proposed Designations

4.11 It is proposed to identify the whole of the Dales Fringe as Area of Higher Landscape Value (Figure 4.3). The area would be co-extensive with the existing AHLV apart from minor changes in the way settlements are clipped out or washed over. The proposed area is subdivided into a simplified set of local areas which are shown on Figure 4.4.

- Barnigham Brignall and Rokeby
- Bolam Hilton & Wackerfield
- Boldron & Lartington
- Deepdale
- Newsham and Cleatlam
- Stainton & Streatlam

4.13 Areas overlapping with neighbouring character areas include:

- Raby Park
- Whorlton, Winston & Gainford
- Lower Greta Valley
- Langleydale & Marwood

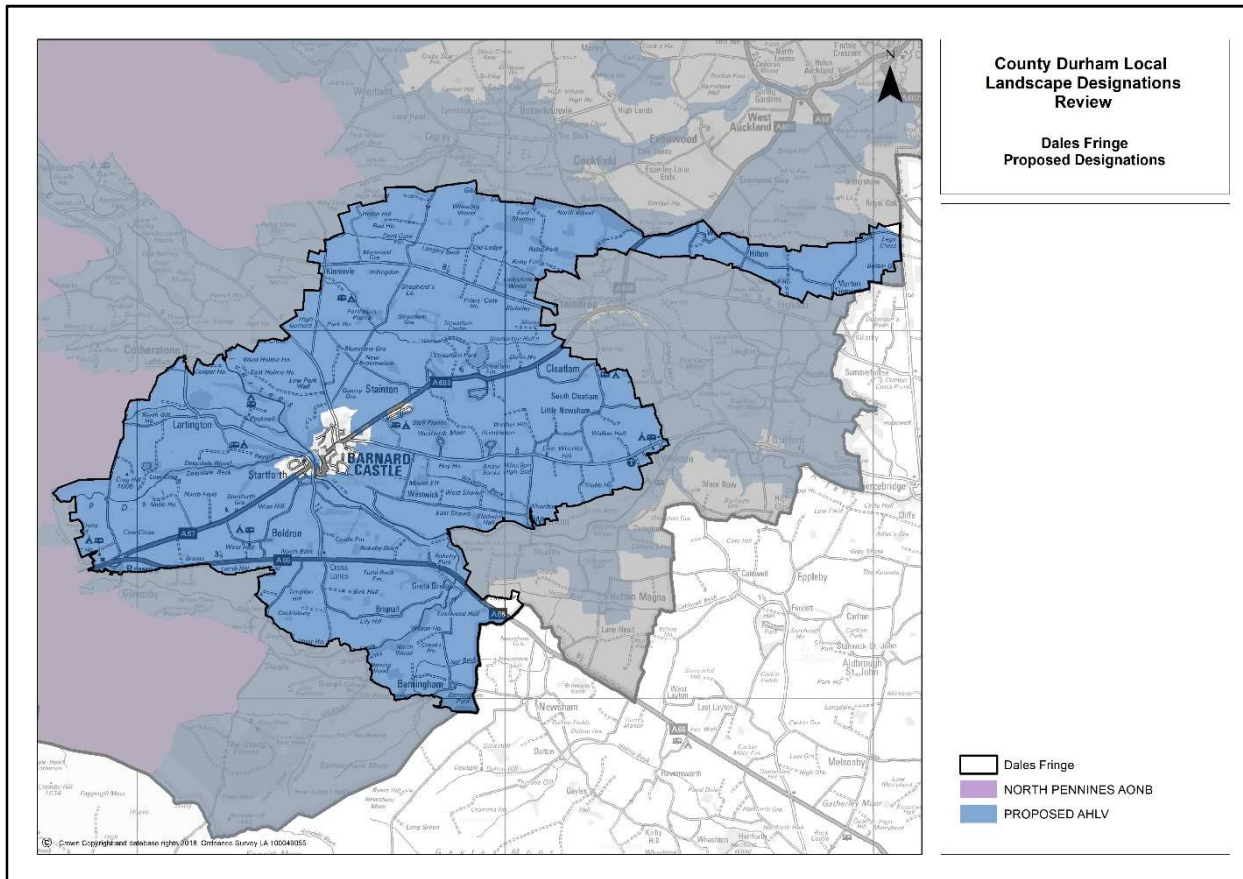


Figure 4.3 Proposed Area of Higher Landscape Value

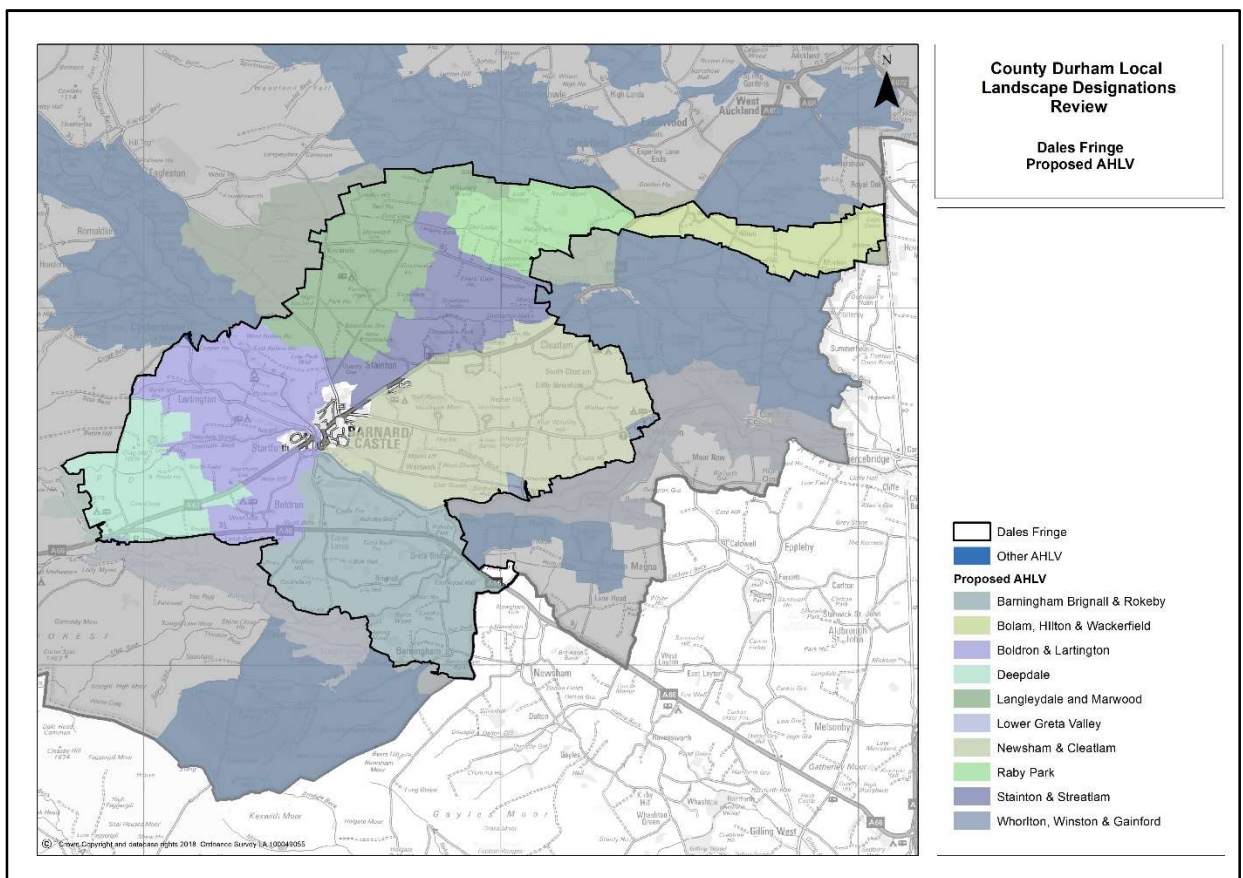


Figure 4.4 Local Areas of Higher Landscape Value

5 Wear Lowlands

Landscape value

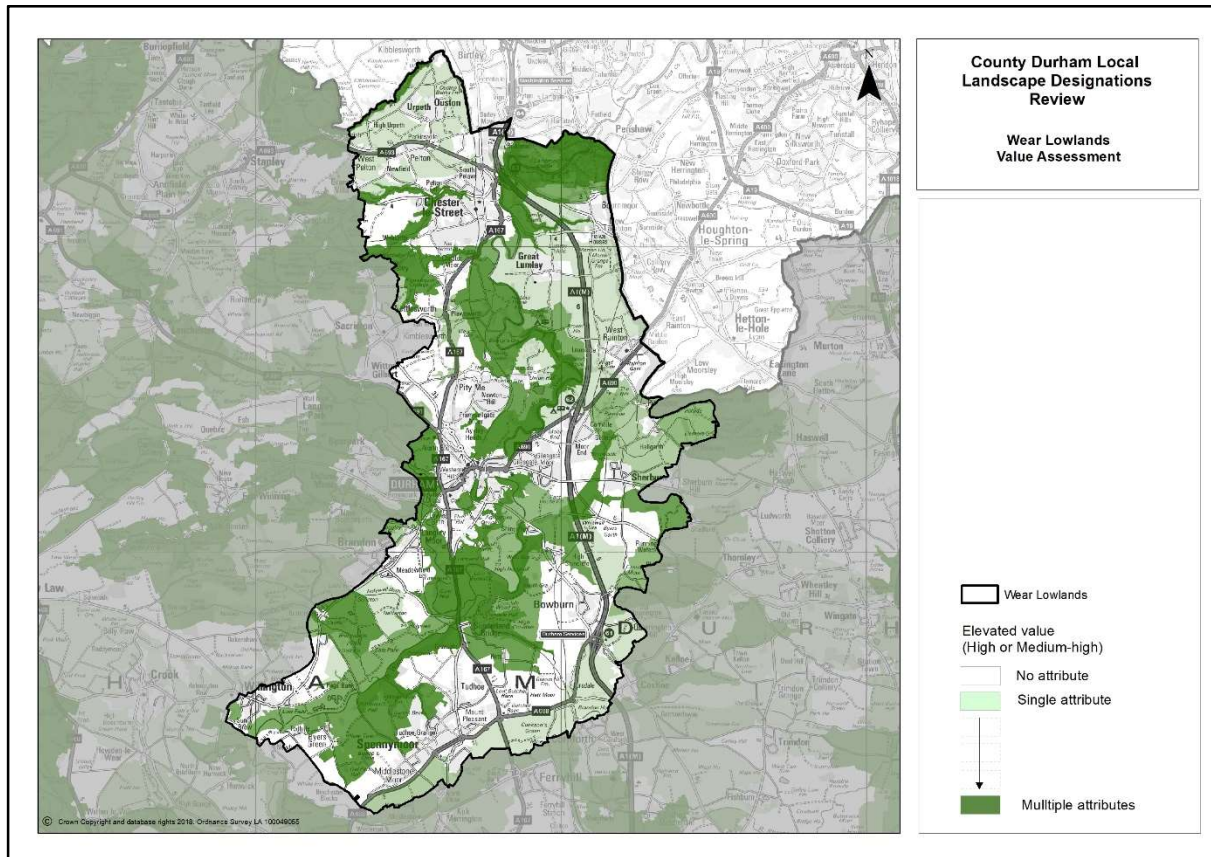


Figure 5.1 Landscape Value Assessment

- 5.1 The Wear Lowlands is a very varied landscape with strong contrasts in character between the incised valleys of the Wear and its tributaries and the wider valley terraces between them. It has also been affected in varying degrees by urban and industrial development and surface mining for coal. This gives rise to a wide range of values for individual attributes, with some areas having low or moderate scores across the range attributes assessed, and others having higher scores for single or multiple attributes (Figure 5.1 and Appendix 2).

Condition

- 5.2 Condition is very variable with some areas in good condition with relatively intact networks of field boundaries, and with notable features characteristic of the landscape present including, lowland heath and ancient oak woodlands on the slopes of denes, gorges and floodplain bluffs. The area is notable for its historic parklands which vary in their condition. Condition has been locally affected by surface mining which has resulted in some areas left in poor condition with few landscape features, but with other, better restored areas, developing in their maturity. The landscape was widely affected in the past by deep coal mining. Much of the legacy of that industrial period, which influenced earlier landscape designations, has been reclaimed and the character and quality of the landscape restored. The landscape is also affected in places by major transport infrastructure including the A1 (M) and ECML.

Scenic quality

- 5.3 The visual environment of the Wear Lowlands is very diverse and experienced in a range of different types of views including shallow views in parts of the valley terraces, enclosed views in some parts of the incised valleys, and deeper and longer range views from other areas taking in the wider landscape of the lowlands and the high ground of the coalfield to the west and the escarpment to the east. Durham cathedral is one of a number of notable landmark features including castles and country houses, bridges, viaducts, and monuments such as Penshaw Monument. The incised valleys are generally of good or high scenic quality as attractive and often heavily wooded countryside, in places very picturesque, with only localised detractors. The valley terraces are generally of lower quality with more potential detractors in the view, including urban and industrial development, overhead services and highway or railway infrastructure. These elements are often visible in the wide or deep views typical of the area, resulting in views that often take in both positive and negative features. The area is notable for the number of historic parklands it contains including registered parks of Lambton (II), Lumley(II), Burn Hall (II), Croxdale (II*) and Brancepeth (II) which are of a high scenic value.

Rarity & Representativeness

- 5.4 The Lowland Valley Terrace landscapes belong to a relatively common landscape type forming part of a wider suite of similar lowland landscape types across the north of England although locally containing some less common elements including lowland heath and historic parkland. The Incised Lowland Valley landscapes belong to a less common landscape type in a regional and national context. Although forming part of a wider suite of river valley landscapes they are geographically restricted to the corridors of incised major rivers. Some areas contain rare features – including rocky gorges and designed parklands which elevate their value further. The peninsula of Durham castle and cathedral is unique. The landscape varies from weakly to strongly representative of the type, depending largely on condition.

Conservation Interest: natural environment

- 5.5 The contribution of nature to the experience of the landscape varies across the area which is largely made up open countryside supporting relatively common flora and fauna depending largely on its condition, but locally containing features of particular interest including tracts of ancient woodland in denes and gorges, lowland heath, riparian habitats and other wetlands including old gravel pits and localised brownfield habitats.

Conservation Interest: historic environment

- 5.6 The contribution of historic features to the experience of the landscape varies across the area. The landscape contains some areas which have been worked for coal by surface mining and therefore have little time depth. Other areas, and particularly within and around the incised valleys contain features of greater interest including Durham cathedral and castle World Heritage Site and much of its inner and wider setting, a large number of historic parklands (registered and locally listed), relic features from a range of periods from the pre-historic to the post-medieval industrial period and numerous listed buildings within the fabric of older towns and villages and scattered across the countryside.

Recreation

- 5.7 The area generally has well-developed networks of public rights of way. There are some notable areas of access land including heathland and community woodlands, together with a number of local nature reserves and urban parks. The Wear valley is followed in places by the Weardale Way and crossed by parts of the national cycle network. Some areas contain very few paths although some have minor roads used for walking, cycling and hacking. There are a number of heritage-based outdoor visitor attractions (Finchale Abbey, Crook Hall), several golf courses and some opportunities for active recreation (fishing, boating) on the River Wear

Perceptual aspects

- 5.8 A settled, in places semi-rural landscape. Locally tranquil but often affected by the noise and movement of busy roads and railway lines.

Cultural associations

- 5.9 The LVA did not deal comprehensively with cultural associations. The historic cathedral city of Durham has very deep and rich cultural associations too complex to detail here. The landscape as a whole has a strong relationship with St Cuthbert and the journey taken with his remains. The LVA identified individual areas as having notable associations with a national and regional figures including artists JWM Turner, John Sell Cotman, Hieronymus Grimm and Norman Cornish, landscape architects Thomas White, George London, Charles Bridgeman & Stephen Switzer; architects John Vanbrugh, Joseph & Ignatius Bonomi & Thomas Wright; writers Sir Walter Scott, Thomas Grey & William Mason, Physician Thomas Wharton, poet Elizabeth Barrett Browning; engineer Timothy Hackworth). The area includes the site of the battle of Neville's Cross (1346).

Existing designations

- 5.10 There is a relatively high degree of correspondence between the pattern of higher values identified in the LVA and existing AHLVs (Figure 5.2) which closely follow the incised valleys of the Wear, Browney and Sherburnhouse Beck, and areas of historic parkland.
- 5.11 Designated areas that weren't identified as having a particularly high value include areas of open valley terrace farmland around Sherburn Grange and north of Tudhoe.
- 5.12 Areas identified as having elevated values that aren't covered by the existing designation include Waldrige Fell and the incised wooded denes of the Twizell, Cong Burn and South Burn, the corridor of the River Team, areas of attractive farmland associated with the historic villages of Hett, Tudhoe and Shadforth, around Old Park and at the entrance to Cassop Vale .

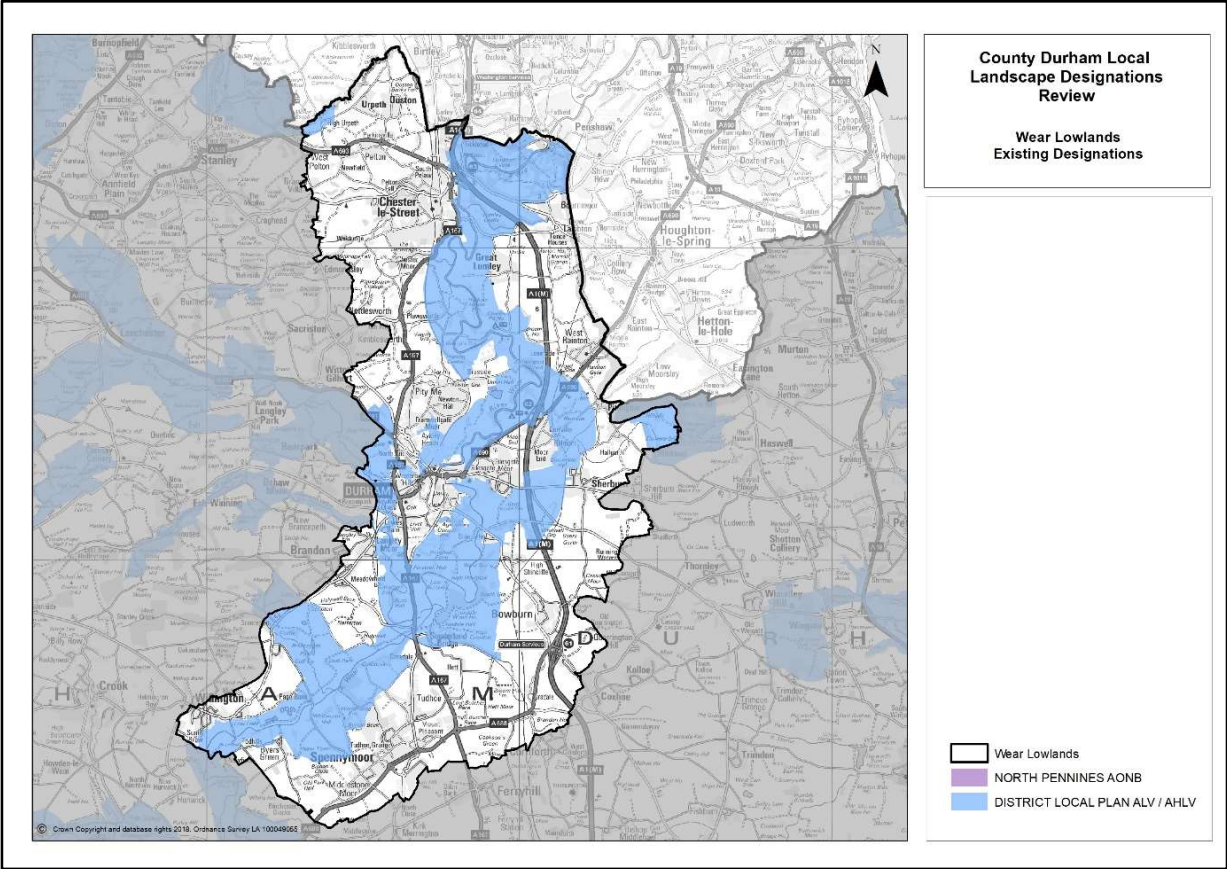


Figure 5.2 Existing Designations

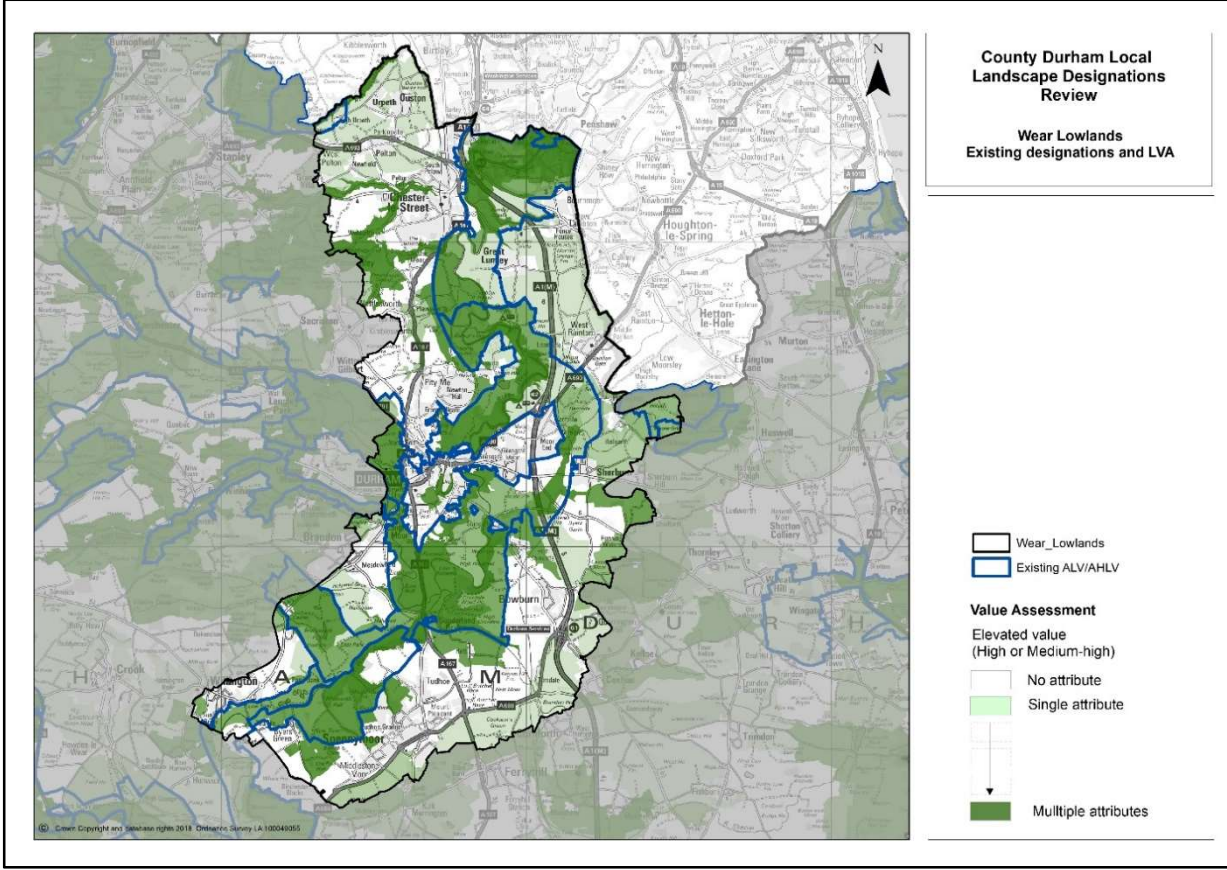


Figure 5.3 Relationship of existing designations and LVA

Proposed Designations

- 5.13 Analysis of the individual character areas assessed in the LVA for this area is given in Appendix 2. The Area of Higher Landscape Value proposed for the Wear Lowlands based on this assessment is shown on Figure 5.4.
- 5.14 The proposed AHLV covers areas previously identified as AHLV with some boundary modifications, the removal of areas of land at Tudhoe and Sherburn Grange, and some minor changes in the way settlements are clipped out or washed over. It includes additional areas at Waldrige Fell, in the Twizell, Cong Burn and South Burn valleys, in the immediate corridor of the River Team, around the villages of Hett, Tudhoe and Shadforth, around Old Park and at the entrance to Cassop Vale. The relationship between the proposed AHLV and the LVA is shown on Figure 5.5.

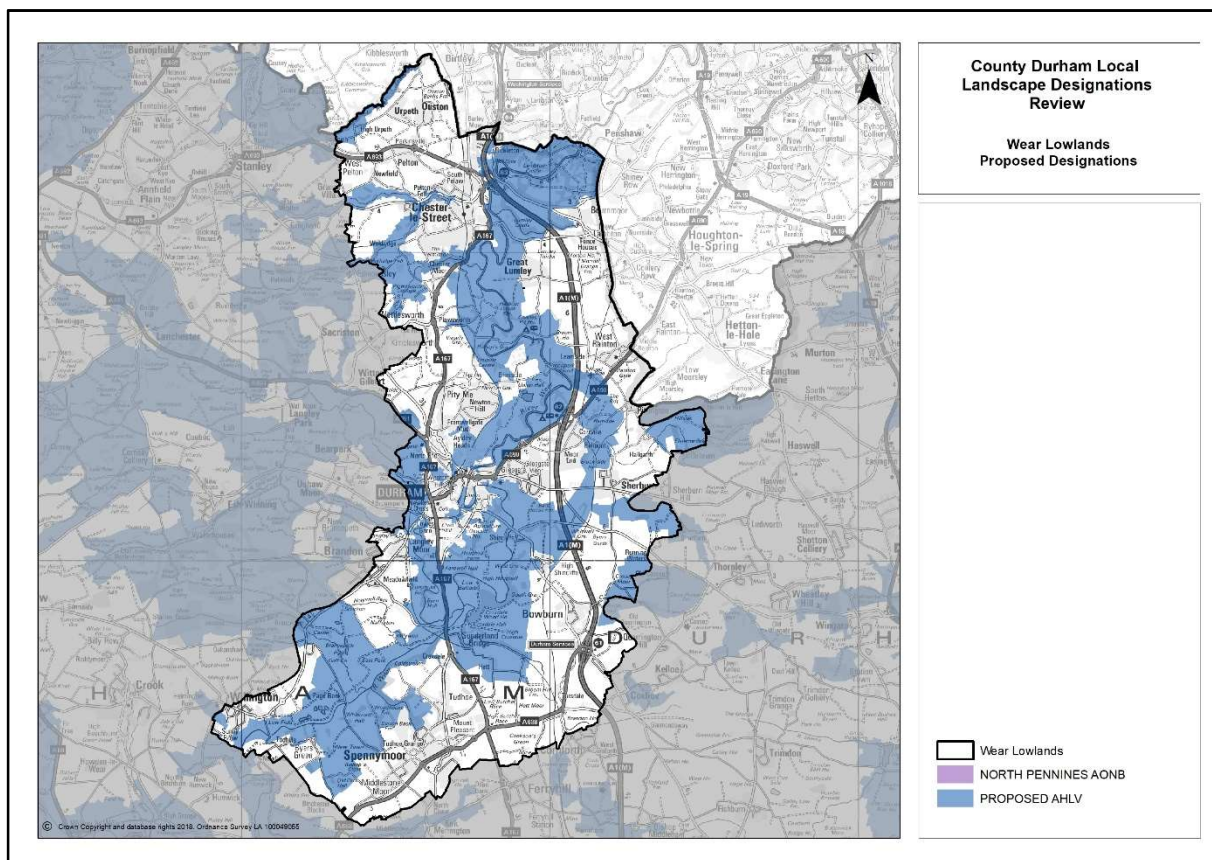


Figure 5.4 Proposed Area of Higher Landscape Value

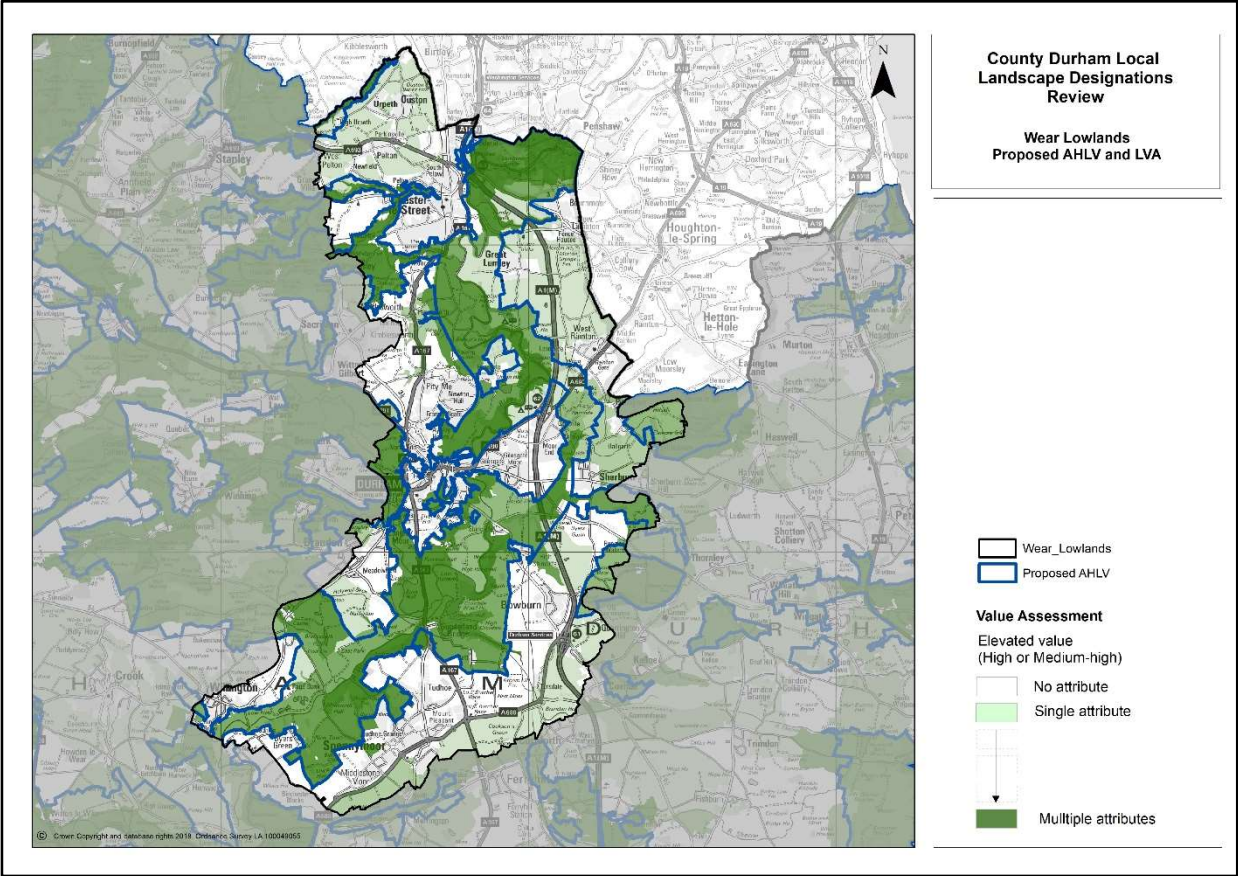


Figure 5.5 Relationship of proposed AHLV and LVA

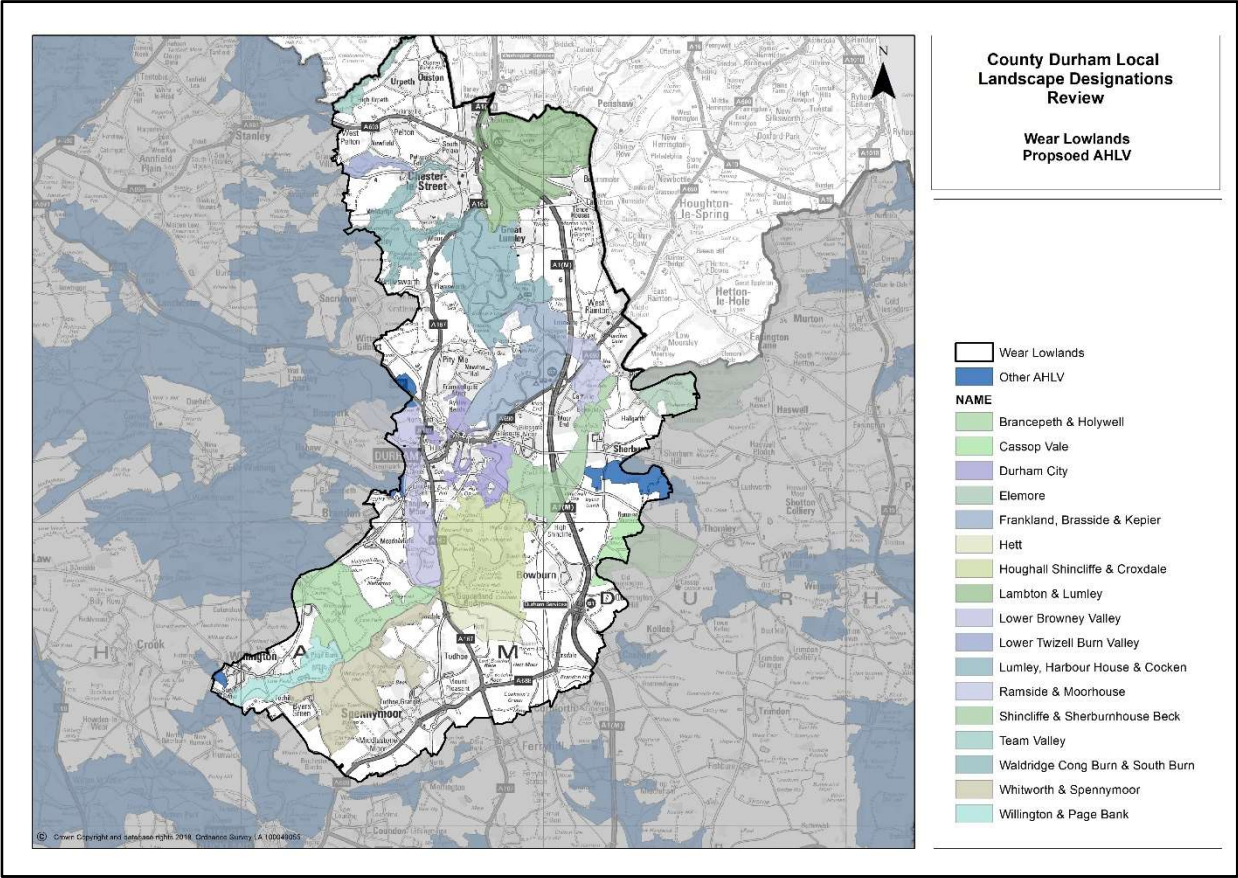


Figure 5.6 Local Areas of Higher Landscape Value

5.15 The proposed area is subdivided into a simplified set of local areas shown on Figure 5.6.

- Brancepeth & Holywell
- Durham City
- Frankland, Brasside & Kepier
- Hett
- Houghall Shincliffe & Croxdale
- Lambton & Lumley
- Lower Browney Valley
- Lower Twizell Burn valley
- Lumley, Harbour House & Cocken
- Ramside & Moorhouse
- Shincliffe & Sherburnhouse Beck
- Team Valley
- Waldrige, Cong Burn & Southburn
- Whitworth & Spennymoor
- Willington & Page bank

5.16 Areas overlapping with neighbouring character areas include:

- Cassop Vale
- Elemore
- Sherburn Hill & Shadforth

6 East Durham Limestone Plateau

Landscape value

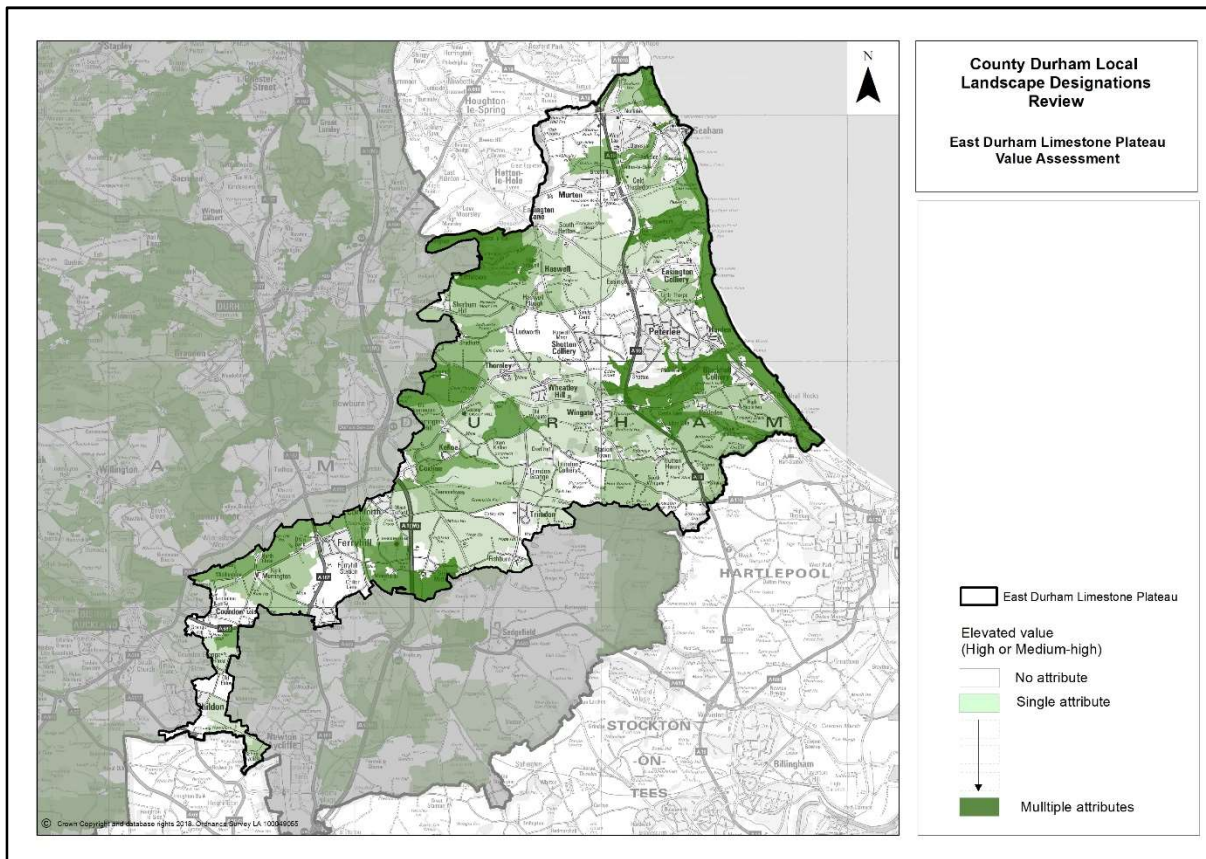


Figure 6.1: Landscape Value Assessment

- 6.1 The East Durham Limestone Plateau is a varied landscape with strong contrasts in character between the escarpment and coast and the open plateau that separates them. It has also been affected in varying degrees by urban and industrial development and agricultural intensification. This gives rise to a wide range of values for individual attributes, with some areas having low or moderate scores across the range attributes assessed, and others having higher scores for single or multiple attributes (Figure 6.1 and Appendix 2). Higher values are largely associated with landscapes of the escarpment and coast.

Condition

- 6.2 Condition is variable with some areas in good condition with relatively intact networks of field boundaries, and with notable features characteristic of the landscape present including the spurs and vales of the escarpment and the denes and maritime features of the coast. Condition has been locally heavily affected by urban and industrial development including quarrying and coal mining and agricultural investigation. Much of the legacy of coal mining has been reclaimed and the character and quality of the landscape restored. Parts of the foreshore retain evidence of tipping of coal wastes although this is being progressively removed by natural erosion. The landscape is also affected in places by major transport infrastructure including the A (19).

Scenic quality

- 6.3 The visual environment of the East Durham Plateau is very diverse and is experienced in a range of different types of views including shallow views typical of the central plateau, panoramic views out from and along the escarpment and a mixture of deep and shallow views along the coast and out to sea. Views of Durham cathedral from the escarpment and views along the coast to headlands and other landmark features are of particular importance. A landscape of variable scenic quality with some attractive and in places picturesque rural landscapes but with relatively widespread detractors including urban and industrial development, limestone quarries, wind turbines, overhead services and highway or railway infrastructure. The area contains historic parklands at Castle Eden (Grade II) which are of a high scenic value and smaller non-designated parks at Seaham Hall and Hardwick Hall.

Rarity & Representativeness

- 6.4 The landscapes of the central plateau belong to a relatively common landscape type forming part of a wider suite of similar lowland landscape types across the north of England from which they are poorly differentiated. Landscapes of the coast and escarpment belong to less common landscape types, the Permian limestone outcropping only rarely at a national and regional level. Some areas contain rare features – including limestone gorges, well-defined spurs, dry valleys, coastal denes or coastal features which elevate their value further. The landscape varies from weakly to strongly representative of the type, depending largely on condition.

Conservation Interest: natural environment

- 6.5 The contribution of nature to the experience of the landscape varies across the area which is largely made up open countryside supporting relatively common flora and fauna depending largely on its condition, but locally contains features of particular interest including limestone flora and associated fauna in wooded denes and abandoned quarries. The coast holds particular interest for its natural maritime and coastal geological features and habitats, flora and fauna.

Conservation Interest: historic environment

- 6.6 The contribution of historic features to the experience of the landscape is also variable. Many areas contain features of only general local interest. Some areas contain features of greater interest including historic parklands (registered and locally listed), relic landscapes from a range of periods from the pre-historic to the post-medieval industrial period such as old railway lines and abandoned quarries, together with assemblages of listed building, older villages and occasional scheduled monuments.

Recreation

- 5.7 Recreational value varies across the area. Some areas have well-developed networks of public rights of way. The coast is generally well accessed and served by a coastal trail and there are locally areas of access land including National Trust Land, national and local nature reserves on the coast and escarpment, and some substantial community woodlands. Abandoned railway lines serving the area have been developed into a network of longer distance multi-user routes, some of which form part of regional trails or the wider national cycle network.

Perceptual aspects

- 6.8 A settled, in places semi-rural, landscape. Locally tranquil but often affected by the noise and movement of busy roads and railway lines.

Cultural associations

- 5.9 The LVA did not deal comprehensively with cultural associations. Some local areas were identified as having notable associations with a national and regional figures including the poets Lord Byron and Elizabeth Barrett Browning, mathematician Ada Lovelace, Engineers Timothy Hackworth and Thomas Hawkesley and artist Norman Cornish.

Existing designations

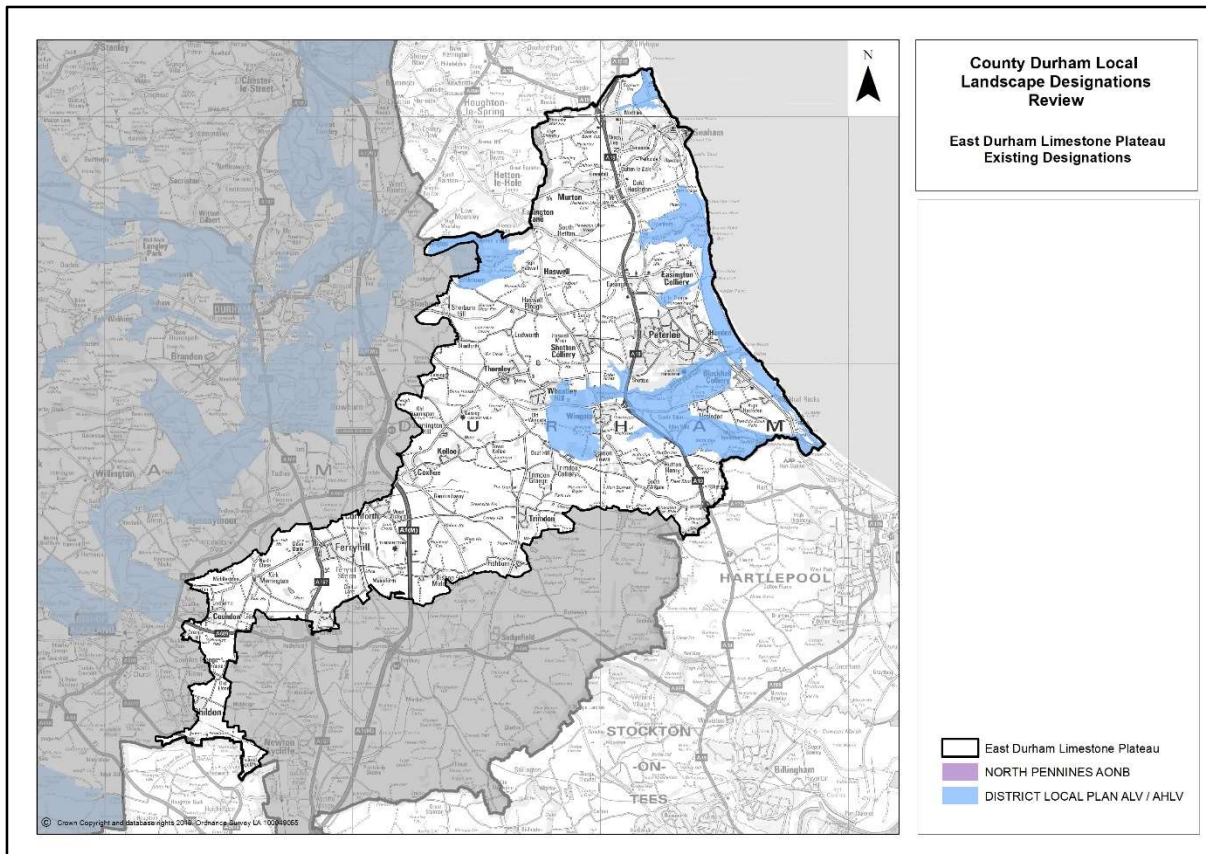


Figure 6.2 Existing designations

- 6.10 There is some correspondence between the pattern of higher values identified in the LVA and existing AHLVs (Figure 6.3) in the area of the coast and coastal dunes, around Castle Eden and the parklands of Elemore.
- 6.11 Designated areas that weren't identified as having elevated values across a large number of attributes include areas west of Wingate and south of Hesleden Dene.
- 6.12 Areas identified as having elevated values that aren't covered by the existing designation include landscapes at Cassop Vale, Old Thornley, Coxhoe Hall, the Ferryhill Gap, Mainsforth, Bishop Middleham, Howlish and the southern escarpment ridge. Many of these areas had been previously identified as ALV in the Magnesian Escarpment Minerals Local Plan (Figure 1.5). Other areas include Dalton Dene and the extensive community woodlands of Dalton Moor.

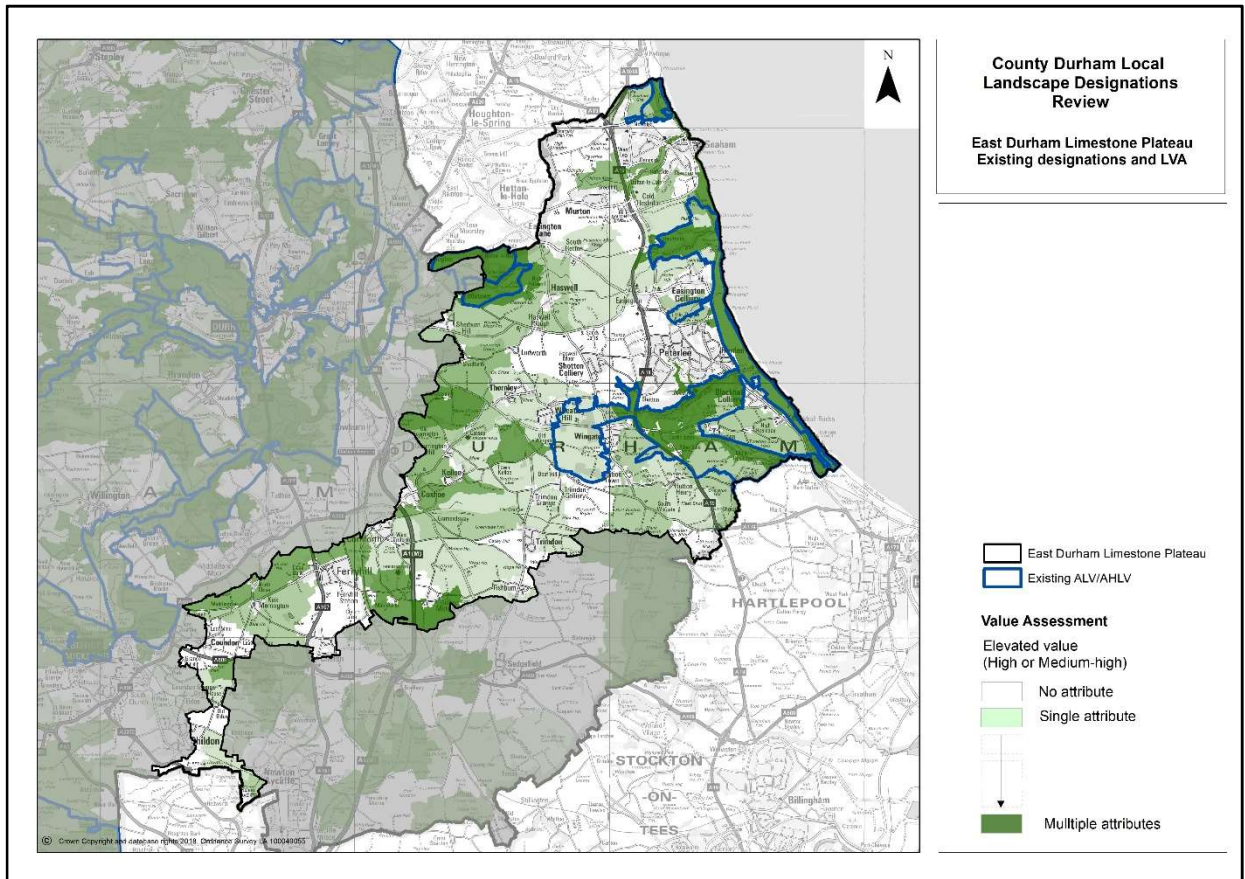


Figure 6.3 Relationship of existing AHLV and LVA

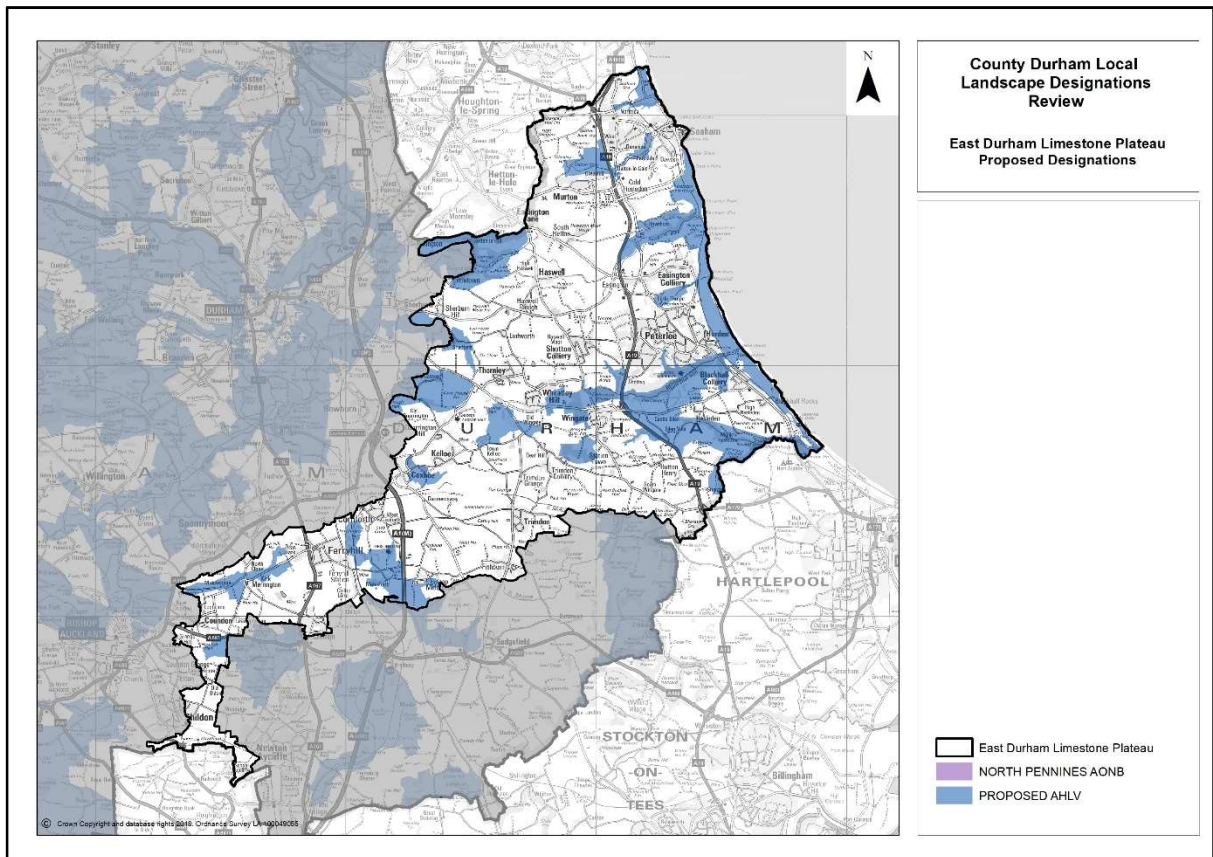


Figure 6.4 Proposed Area of Higher Landscape Value

Proposed Designations

- 6.13 Analysis of the individual character areas assessed in the LVA for this area is given in Appendix 2. The Area of Higher Landscape Value proposed for the East Durham Limestone Plateau based on this assessment is shown on Figure 6.4.
- 6.14 The proposed AHLV covers areas previously identified as AHLV with some boundary modifications, the removal of areas of some land west of Wingate grange and some minor changes in the way settlements are clipped out or washed over. It includes additional areas at Cassop Vale, Old Thornley, Coxhoe Hall, the Ferryhill Gap, Mainsforth, Bishop Middleham, Howlish and the crest of the southern escarpment ridge. The relationship between the proposed AHLV and the LVA is shown on Figure 6.5.

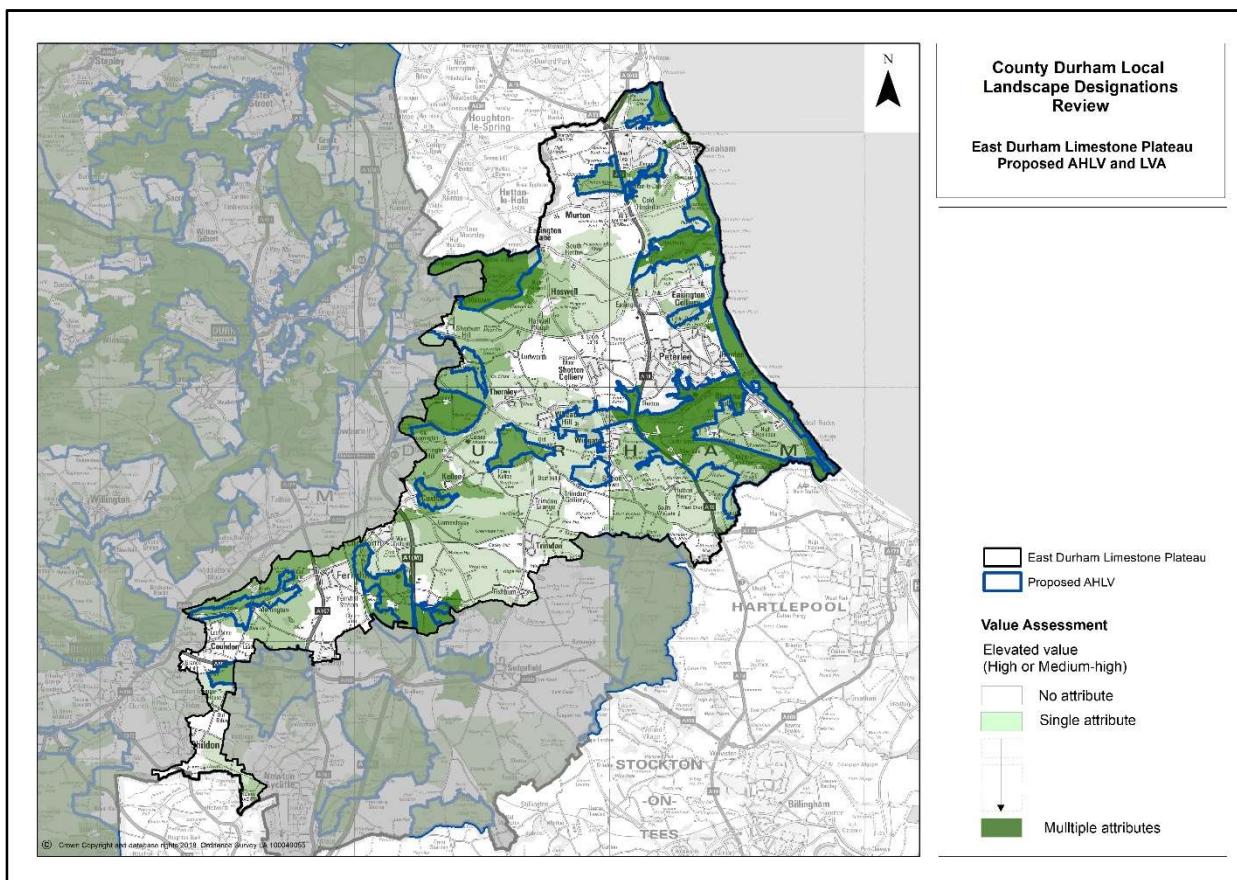


Figure 6.5 Relationship of proposed AHLV and LVA

- 6.15 The proposed area is subdivided into a simplified set of local areas shown on Figure 6.6.

- Bishop Middleham & Mainsforth
- Castle Eden
- Coxhoe Hall & Kelloe Banks
- Dalton Dene
- Dalton Moor
- Ferryhill Gap
- Hawthorn
- Hesleden & Nesbitt Dene
- Horden Dene
- Old Thornley & Wingate Quarry

- Seaham Hall
- The Coast
- Westerton, Middlestone & Kirk Merrington
- Wheatley Hill & Edderacres
- Wingate Grange

6.16 Areas overlapping with neighbouring character areas include:

- Cassop Vale
- Elemore
- Sherburn Hill & Shadforth
- Windlestone

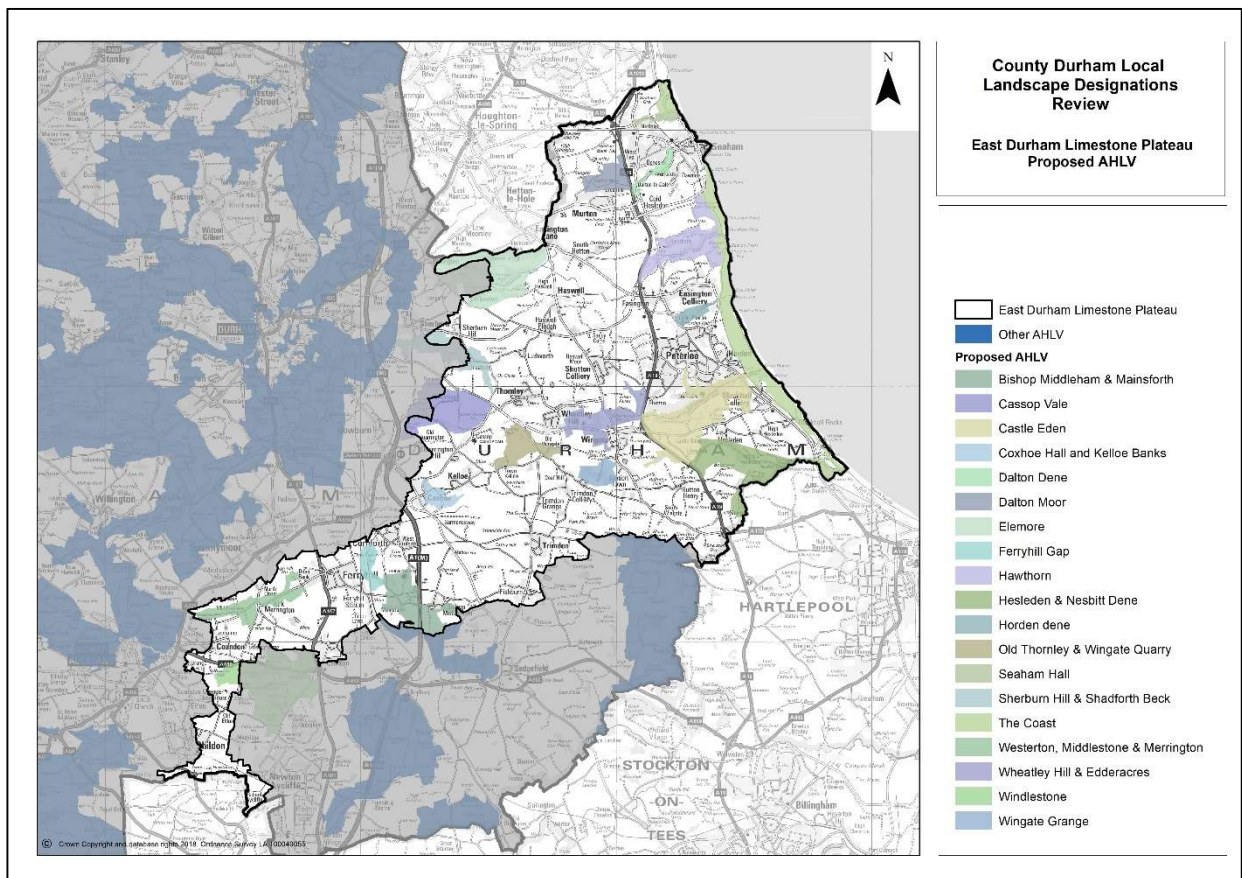


Figure 6.6 Local Areas of Higher Landscape Value

7 Tees Lowlands

Landscape value

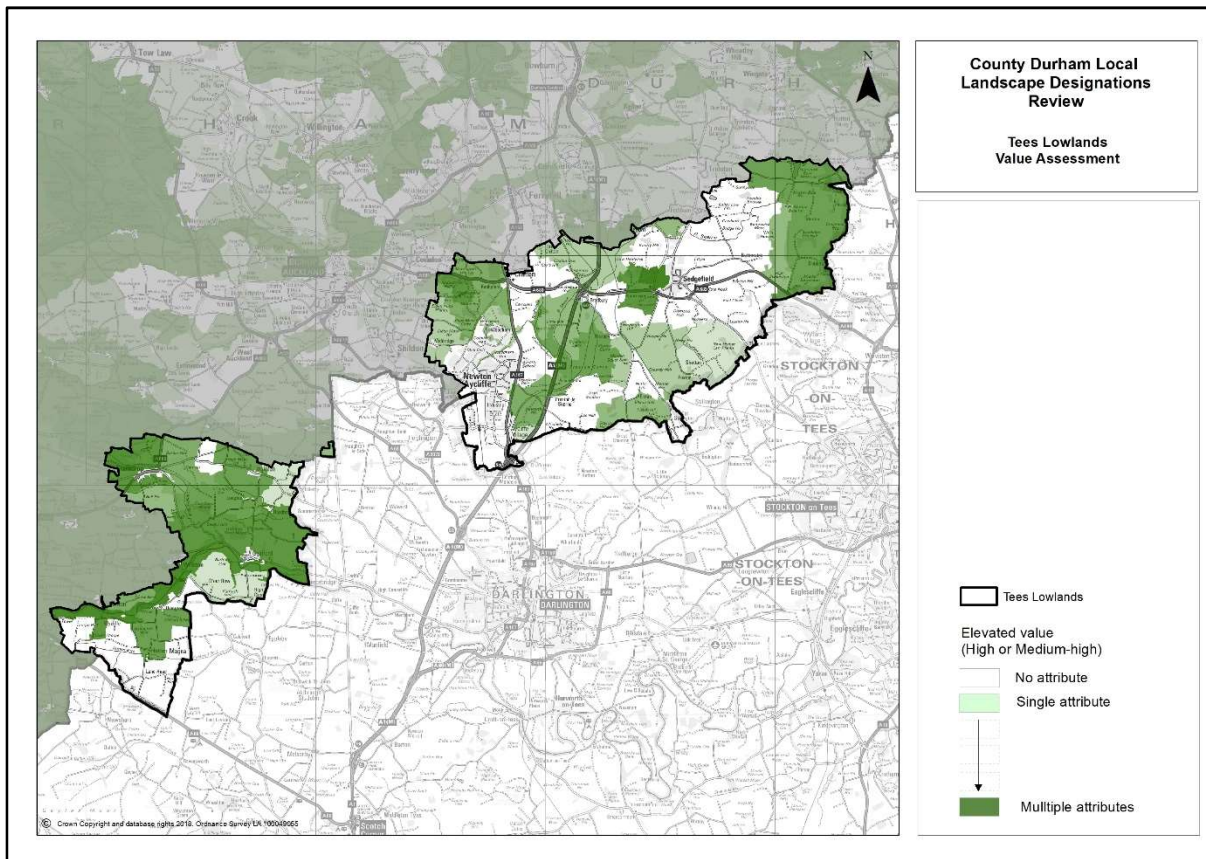


Figure 7.1 Landscape Value

- 7.1 The Tees Lowlands is a varied landscape. It is predominantly rural, although locally affected by urban and industrial development, and its character and value is heavily influenced by the way it is farmed. This gives rise to a relatively wide range of values for individual attributes, with some areas having low or moderate scores across the range attributes assessed, and others having higher scores for single or multiple attributes (Figure 7.1 and Appendix 2).

Condition

- 7.2 Condition varies across the LCT which is made up of settled rural farmland with many areas affected in varying degrees by agricultural intensification. Some areas are in good condition with relatively intact networks of field boundaries, and with notable features characteristic of the landscape present including ancient woodlands, wet grasslands, rig & furrow and historic parkland features. The condition of the landscape is also affected in places by major transport infrastructure including the A1 (M) and ECML.

Scenic quality

- 7.3 A visually open landscape generally experienced in shallow views but with some deeper views from higher ground in adjoining areas. It is more visually enclosed in varying degrees in wooded areas. Very long, open and panoramic views are typical of the Carrs. Views to the Cleveland Hills to the south are a common feature in the east as are views to the higher ground of the Pennine Dales Fringe in the west. The area is of variable

scenic quality being generally attractive but unremarkable countryside with some detractor elements in places including overhead services, highway or railway infrastructure, and large wind turbines. It is locally of higher scenic quality in its more wooded areas, along the river Tees, and in and around the numerous historic parklands found in the area. These include registered parks at Raby (II*) Hardwick Hall (II*) Windlestone Hall (II) Rokeby (II*) and parks of local interest at Selaby hall, Thorpe Hall, Wycliffe Hall, Langton and Snow Hall.

Rarity & Representativeness

- 7.4 The Lowland Plain and Lowland Vale landscapes which make up much of the Tees Lowlands belong to a relatively common landscape type forming part of a wider suite of similar lowland landscape types from which they are poorly differentiate. Some areas may contain less common features such as historic parklands which elevates their value. The Lowland Carrs landscapes belong to a relatively uncommon rare landscape type in a regional context having formed in the basin of an isolated glacial lake. The nearest comparisons are to larger tracts of low lying fenland landscapes which differ because of their scale. The Lowland River Terrace landscapes along the Tees belong to a relatively uncommon landscape type. Although forming part of a wider suite of river floodplain landscape they are geographically restricted to the immediate corridor of the middle reaches of major lowland rivers. Local landscapes which this wider character area vary from weakly to strongly representative of their type, depending largely on their condition. Some contain important features characteristic of the type including historic parklands, natural watercourses and associated features such as river terraces, floodplain haughs and riverside woods.

Conservation Interest: natural environment

- 7.5 The contribution of nature to the experience of the landscape varies across the area which is largely made up open countryside supporting relatively common flora and fauna depending largely on its condition, but locally containing features of particular interest including wetlands and wet grasslands, tracts of old parkland, ancient woodlands and riparian habitats, some of which are designated as SSSI and LWS (including some LNR).

Conservation Interest: historic environment

- 7.6 The contribution of historic features to the experience of the landscape varies across the area. Much of the landscape contains features of only general historic interest, but locally contains features of more particular interest including historic parklands (nationally registered and locally listed), historic villages (many designated as conservation area) and occasional listed buildings and scheduled monuments together with a range of non-designated heritage assets such as older farm buildings and former railway lines

Recreation

- 7.7 The recreational value of the landscape varies considerably. In some areas the network of public rights of way is very sparse, in others it is well developed. There are locally some multi-user routes on former railway lines and sections of national cycle routes. The course of the Tees is followed by the Teesdale Way. There is little access land. There are outdoor visitor attractions including Hardwick Park and Raby castle and some localised opportunities for active recreation such as golf and fishing.

Perceptual aspects

- 7.8 A settled, in places strongly rural landscape. In some places very tranquil with little noise or movement other than that arising from natural forces, agricultural activities and traffic on minor roads. In other places affected by noise and movement on busy roads (A1 (M), A66, A67, A688, A689, A177, and A167), railway lines (ECML) or wind turbines.

Cultural associations

- 7.9 The LVA did not deal comprehensively with cultural associations. Some local areas were identified as having notable associations with a national and regional figures including landscape architects Thomas White, Thomas Wright and Joseph Spence; architects James Paine and John Bell; former Prime Minister Sir Anthony Eden; philosopher John Wycliffe; novelist Sir Walter Scott; nurseryman / designer John Davenport and photographer Elijah Yeoman.

Existing designations

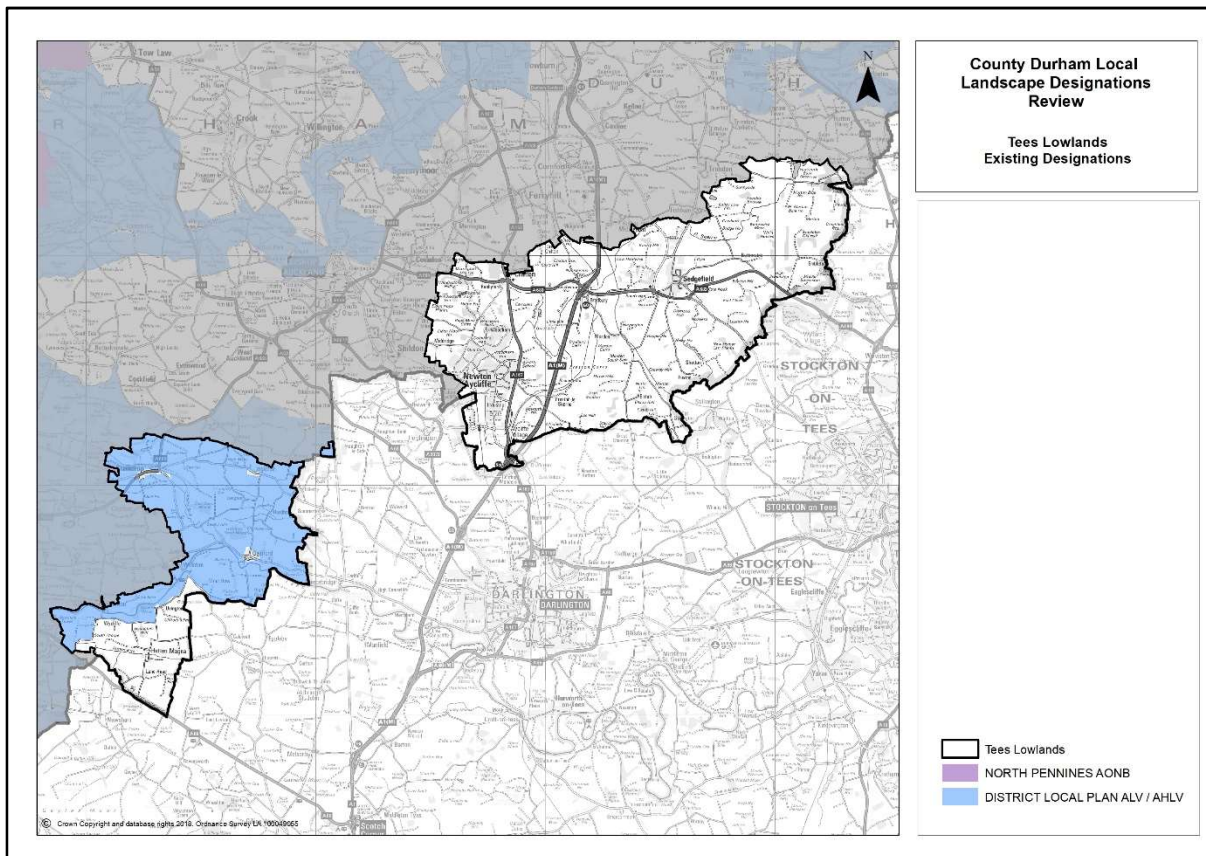


Figure 7.2 Existing designations

- 7.10 There is a relatively strong degree of correspondence between the pattern of higher values identified in the LVA and the existing AHLV in the Tees Vales (Figure 7.3).
- 7.11 Some localised parts of the designated areas weren't identified as having particularly elevated values although some of these form part of wider tracts of landscape of good scenic quality.

- 7.12 A number of areas not covered by existing designations were identified as having elevated values. These include the wooded farmlands of Embleton & Hurworth, the parklands and wooded estate farmland of Windlestone and Hardwick, and much of the landscape of the Carrs. Some of these had been identified previously as ASLV (Windlestone, Hardwick, Wynyard) or as having special character (The Carrs). Some further areas were identified as having elevated values for condition and associated factors.

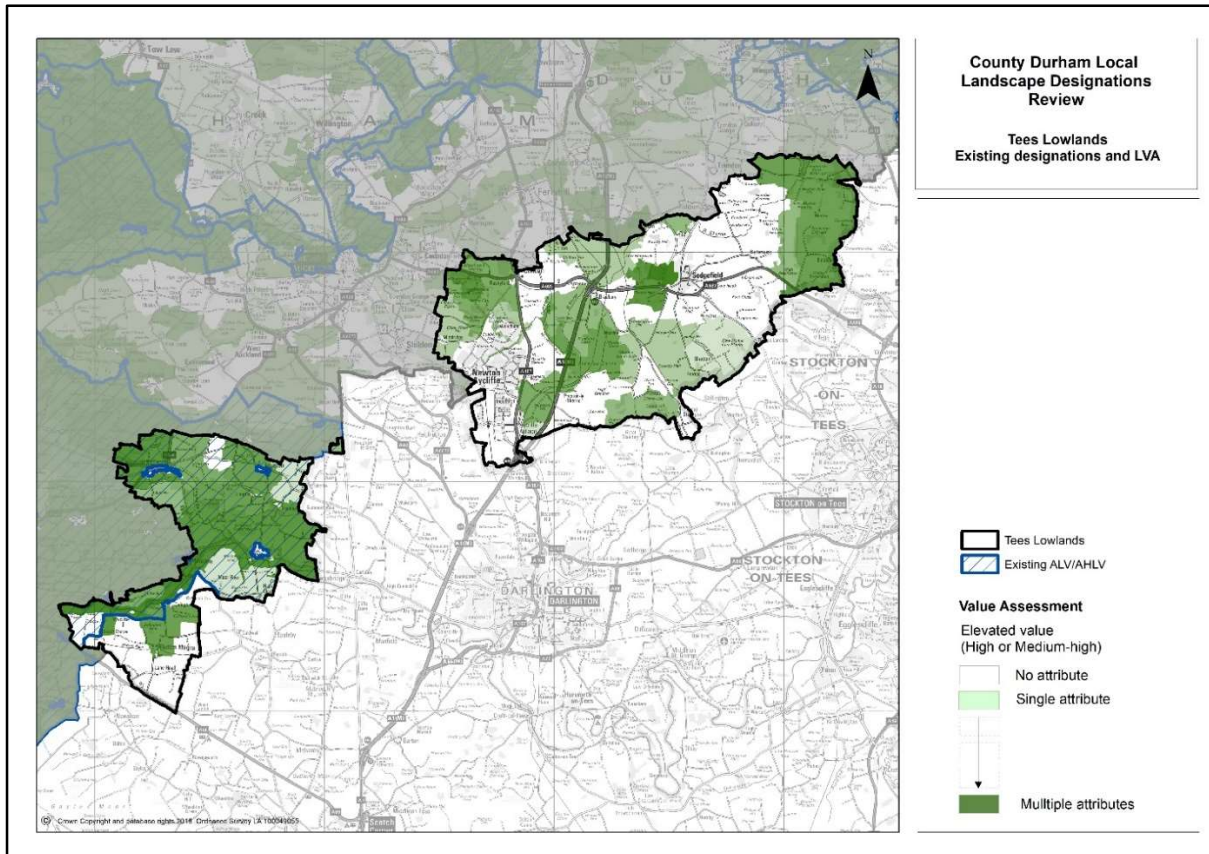


Figure 7.3 Existing designations and LVA

Proposed Designations

- 7.13 Analysis of the individual character areas assessed in the LVA for this area is given in Appendix 2. The Area of Higher Landscape Value proposed for the Tees Lowlands based on this assessment is shown on Figure 7.4.
- 7.14 The proposed AHLV covers areas in the Tees Vale previously identified as AHLV (with some boundary modifications) together with the wooded farmlands of Embleton & Hurworth; the parklands and wooded estate farmland of Windlestone and Hardwick, and Bradbury, Preston and Mordon Carrs and associated areas to the south. Of the areas with elevated values elsewhere in the Tees Lowlands, only Elstob was considered to have sufficient value to warrant designation. The relationship between the proposed AHLV and the LVA is shown on Figure 7.5.

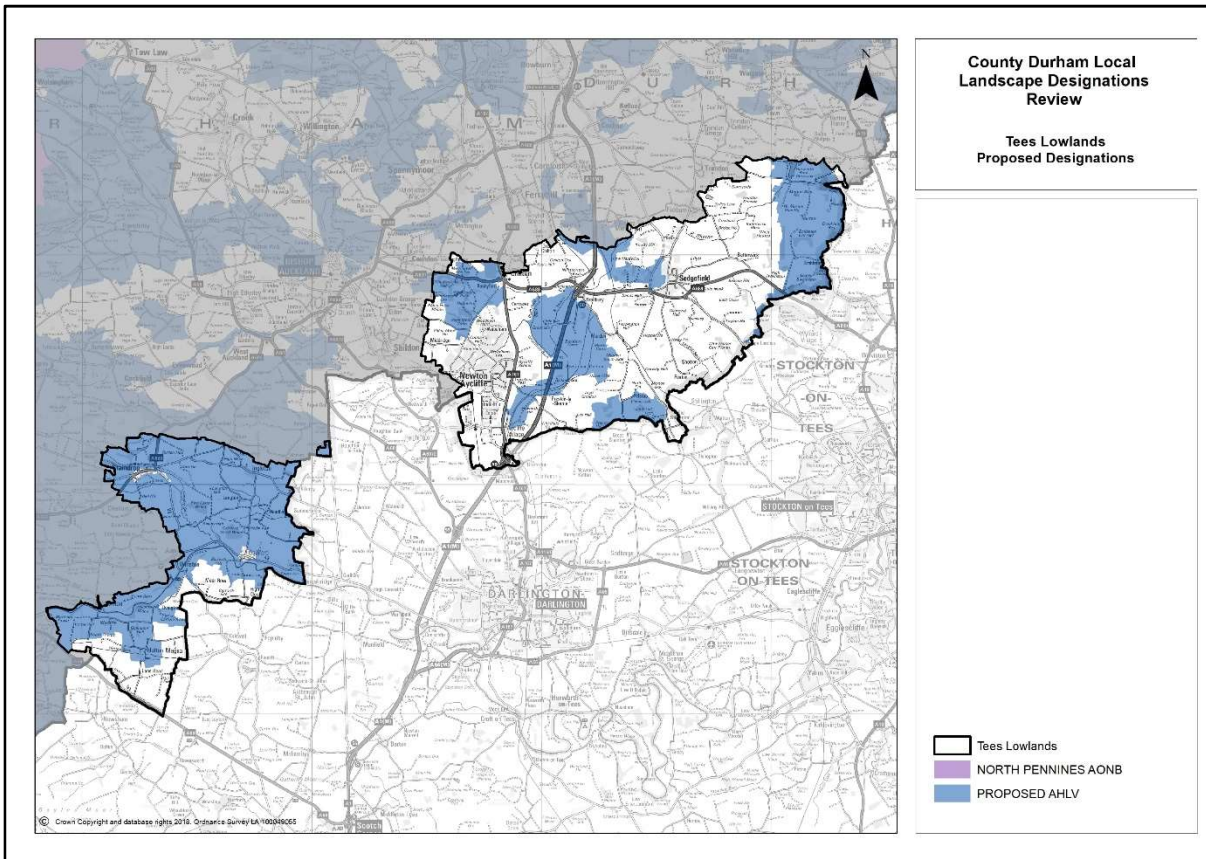
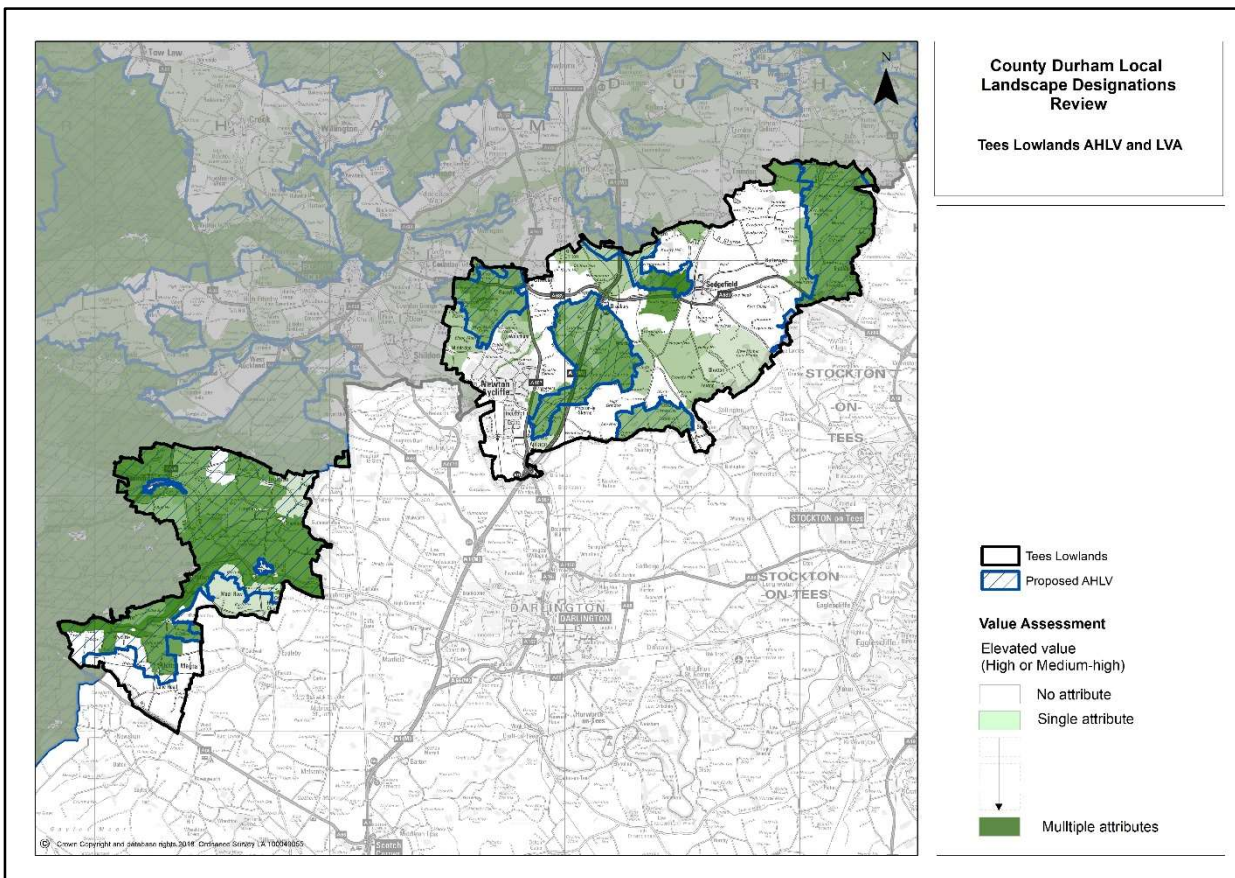


Figure 7.4 Proposed Areas of Higher Landscape Value



7.5 Proposed AHLV and LVA

7.15 The proposed area is subdivided into a simplified set of local areas which are shown on Figure 7.6.

- Bradbury Preston & Mordon Carrs
- Elstob
- Hardwick
- Hurworth & Embleton
- Hutton Magna & Thorpe Hall
- Middleham & Mainsforth Carrs
- Staindrop & Ingleton
- Windlestone
- Whorlton, Winston & Gainford

7.16 Areas overlapping with neighbouring character areas include:

- Bolam, Hilton & Wackerfield
- Raby Park

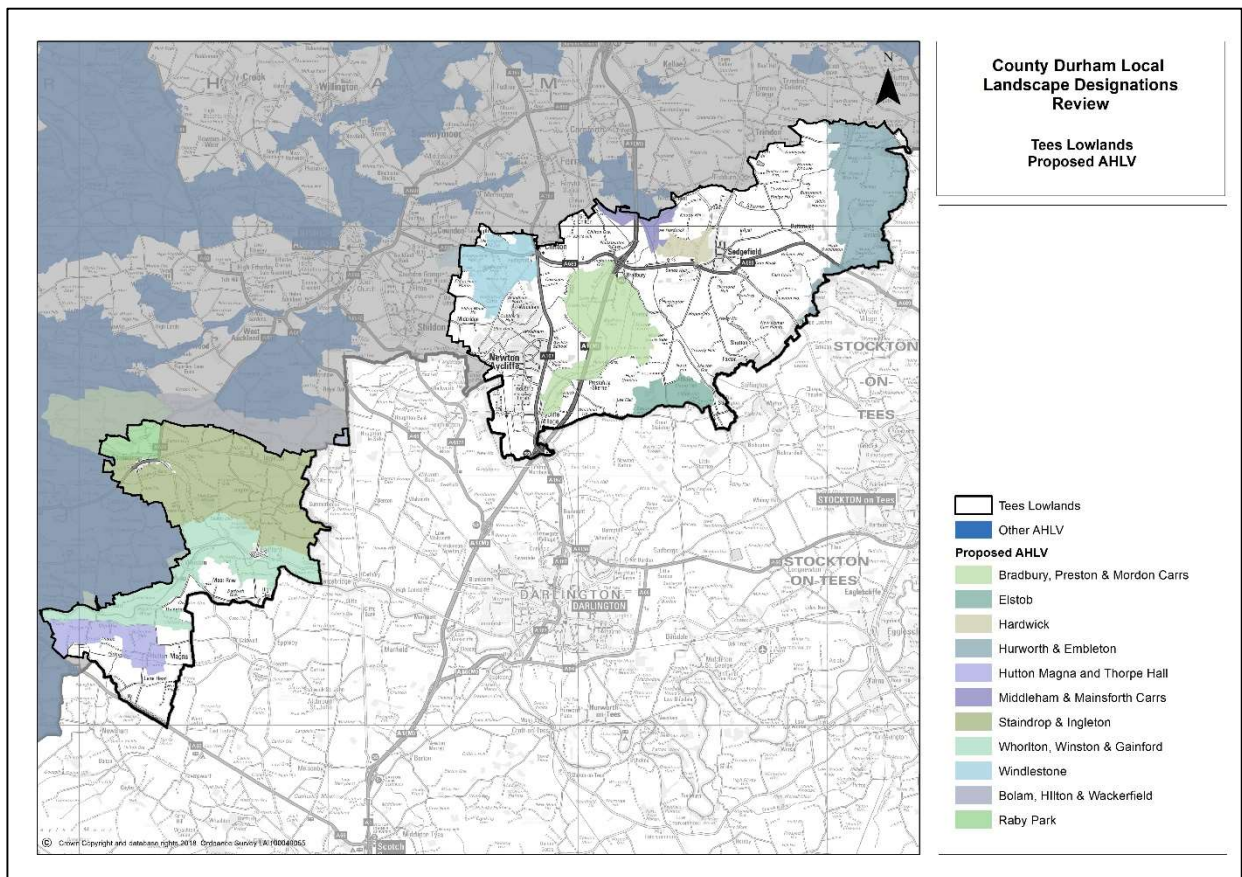


Figure 7.6 Local Areas of Higher Landscape Value

8 Proposed Area of Higher Landscape Value

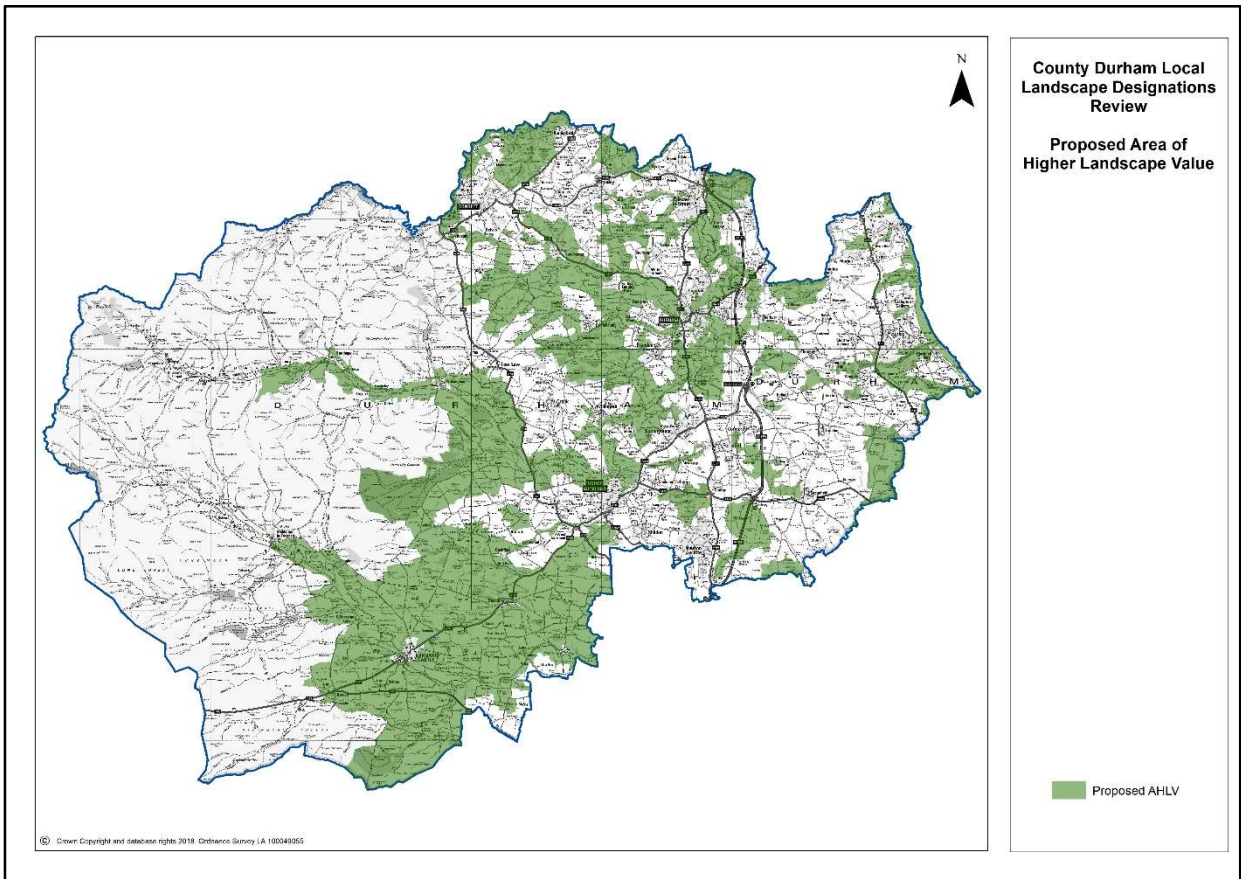


Figure 8.1 Proposed Areas of Higher Landscape Value

Sedgefield Borough Local Plan (1996)

Policy

POLICY E1

THE COUNCIL WILL SEEK TO ENCOURAGE THE MAINTENANCE OF DISTINCTIVE LANDSCAPE AREAS BY:

(A) NORMALLY RESISTING PROPOSALS OR WORKS WHICH WOULD DAMAGE THE CHARACTER OR APPEARANCE OF THE RIVER WEAR VALLEY AREA OF LANDSCAPE VALUE; AND

(B) NORMALLY REQUIRING THAT LANDSCAPE FEATURES, SUCH AS HEDGEROWS, WOODS, STREAMS AND BUILDINGS, FIT INTO THE LANDSCAPE SCHEME FOR ANY DEVELOPMENT IN THE LANDSCAPE AREA OF: THE SOUTHERN AND EASTERN LOWLANDS; THE MAGNESIAN LIMESTONE ESCARPMENT; AND THE RIVER WEAR VALLEY SHELF.

Supporting text

The Borough has four separate areas of distinctive landscape character: the Southern and Eastern Lowlands, the Magnesian Limestone Escarpment, the River Wear Valley Shelf and the River Wear Valley Area of Landscape Value, which contain characteristic features which help to identify the differences between these areas. The boundaries of these areas are shown on Plan 1.

The Southern and Eastern Lowlands are characterised by gently undulating farmland drained by the River Skerne. The land use is predominantly mixed farming with fields divided by hedges and tree cover provided by shelter belts and blocks of woodland. There are a number of farm buildings and few hamlets. The area provides a setting for Sedgefield, Newton Aycliffe and Winterton Hospital. It is outside the mineral extraction area and the only derelict land is related to redundant railway lines. The area is crossed by the main north-south transport routes (the east coast mainline railway, A1 (M) and A167).

The Magnesian Limestone Escarpment is a prominent feature in the Borough, extending from Shildon in the south-west to the Trimdons in the north-east. It is dissected by the steep natural valley of the Ferryhill Gap. The landscape has been affected by mineral workings (limestone, sand and coal). Most of the derelict land remaining in the Borough is found in this landscape area. The agricultural land is used mainly for grazing. There is little tree cover and some hedges have been replaced by fences. The area is the most urbanised and provides the setting for Shildon, Chilton, Kirk Merrington, Ferryhill, Cornforth, Bishop Middleham, Fishburn and the Trimdons.

The River Wear Valley Shelf is characterised by the transition between the Magnesian Limestone Escarpment and the steep sided valley of the River Wear. This relatively level area provides the setting for the town of Spennymoor and extends from Byers Green and Todhills in the north west of the Borough to the A167 and mainline railway transport corridor to the east. The landscape character of parts of this area can be enhanced by tree planting, particularly within the urban fringe of Spennymoor, the transport corridor (Policy E8) and around Todhills brickworks.

The River Wear Valley is considered to be of sufficient importance to the character of the County to require special recognition and is defined in the Durham County Structure Plan

Review as an Area of High Landscape Value where the conservation and enhancement of the landscape character is a primary objective. The characteristic quality of this area is created by the River Wear which flows through the steeply sided valley on the northern edge of the Borough. The area is mostly in agricultural use with important woodlands, particularly along the valleys of Burton Beck. Although this area is mostly attractive, some of the land has been the subject of opencast coal working. The land north of Tudhoe has been restored and improved through tree planting. Some of the Whitworth Park has also been opencast with the result that parkland trees have been removed. The proposal to develop a golf course here (Policy H4) will create an opportunity to enhance the landscape quality.

The distinctive character of landscapes is dependent upon the combination of many different elements: the type and location of trees, woodlands, grasslands and other vegetation; the scale of fields and the nature of their boundaries; the style of buildings and the nature of local materials; the character of streams and ditches, etc.

In order to maintain the diversity of landscape character, decisions on the use and management of land should take account of these features.

Within each of these areas of landscape character there are particular areas that need to be conserved for reasons of wildlife, geology, landscape quality or history; these are referred to in Policies E2, E3, E10, E11, E13, E15, E17 and E18. There are also areas that need to be enhanced, referred to in Policies E5, E6 and E8.

Policy

POLICY E2

THE COUNCIL WILL SEEK TO PRESERVE OR ENHANCE THE HISTORIC CHARACTER AND APPEARANCE OF THE FOLLOWING HISTORIC LANDSCAPE AREAS: HARDWICK PARK; WHITWORTH PARK; AND WINDLESTONE PARK. WITHIN THESE AREAS ONLY DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS THAT ARE COMPATIBLE WITH EXISTING USES ALREADY WITHIN THE AREA AND MEET THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA WILL NORMALLY BE GRANTED PLANNING PERMISSION:

- (A) THE PROPOSAL IS NOT DETRIMENTAL TO THE HISTORIC LANDSCAPE OF THE AREA; AND
- (B) ANY BUILDINGS ARE SITED AND OF A DESIGN, SCALE AND MATERIALS THAT ARE SYMPATHETIC TO THE EXISTING CHARACTER OF THE AREA.

Supporting text

Historic parklands are an important part of the Borough's heritage and environment. The English Heritage's Register of Historic Parks and Gardens in England identifies Hardwick Park of national importance. The Council has identified two other parks and gardens as being of local significance: Windlestone and Whitworth Parks.

The approved County Structure Plan identifies these areas as being of Special Landscape Value. The quality of the landscape is largely due to the planned relationship between tree groups, buildings and farmland. The danger is that by the full or partial destruction of the vegetation, either intentionally or through neglect, the quality of these areas could be dramatically reduced. The areas will therefore be protected from inappropriate development and management.

Appropriate development could include golf courses, country parks, picnic areas which predominantly make use of open countryside and require little built development.

The cores of these areas are designated Conservation Areas. Proposals that would damage the character or appearance of the Conservation Area and its setting would be contrary to Policy E18. The Council will ensure that features of architectural and historic interest are preserved or enhanced in accordance with Policy E18 and the advice of English Heritage.

The approved Durham County Structure Plan identified the woodland fringe of the Wynyard Estate on the southern edge of the Borough as another area of Special Landscape Value. It adjoins the area defined as being of special landscape value in the approved Cleveland County Structure Plan and the Stockton Borough Local Plan. The woodland is characteristic of the southern and eastern lowlands landscape area of the Borough (Policy E1) and will be protected by Policies E11 and E15.

Policy

POLICY E3

THE COUNCIL WILL SEEK TO CONSERVE THE HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER OF THE BRADBURY, MORDON AND PRESTON CARRS WHEN APPROVING PROPOSALS BY ENSURING THAT THEY DO NOT DAMAGE THE CHARACTER OR APPEARANCE OF THE AREA.

Supporting text

The area of land south of Bradbury, drained by the Rushyford Beck, Woodham Burn and River Skerne, is known as the Bradbury, Mordon and Preston Carrs. The area was created by a post glacial lake and the special character of the landscape is recognised by a combination of certain features; most of the land below the 76 metre contour is flat and low lying. Due to the low lying nature of this area, it is partly drained by artificial drainage ditches; these along with the streams and River Skerne contribute to its landscape character. The area is of importance due to its human and natural history which is reflected in sites of archaeological interest and a rare example of fenland grassland situated alongside the East Coast Main Line. This Site of Special Scientific Interest is protected by Policy E10.

The Carrs contain some small areas of woodlands and the small scale planting of woodlands and trees including alder and willow, also thorn hedges may be of benefit to the landscape and nature conservation interest of the area.

Certain types of development would harm the special character of this area but the Council recognises the importance of the rural economy in helping to protect this historic landscape. New buildings or extensions and alterations that are reasonably required for agriculture will be treated in accordance with the requirements of Policy IB19. This policy will not affect the normal agricultural management of land in this area in the future.

Wear Valley District Local Plan (1997)

Policy

POLICY ENV3: AREA OF LANDSCAPE VALUE

DEVELOPMENT WILL NOT BE ALLOWED WHICH ADVERSELY AFFECTS THE SPECIAL LANDSCAPE CHARACTER, NATURE CONSERVATION INTERESTS AND APPEARANCE OF THE AREA OF LANDSCAPE VALUE IDENTIFIED ON THE PROPOSALS MAP.

Supporting text

Protection and enhancement of the local environment is one of the Council's most important activities and one which should be of direct benefit to all who live in Wear Valley or who visit the District. The Countryside of the District is under increased pressure today with shifts in agricultural policy, increased demand for tourism and recreation, the move of people from towns to more rural locations, the continued pressure from mineral extraction, industrial development and new road links. The local environment should be regarded as an inheritance and one that should be protected and enhanced allowing future generations to enjoy it. Although the countryside is changing and evolving it is vital that change is carried out in harmony with Wear Valley's unique and special landscape and wide ranging wildlife habitats.

Landscape

2.2 The landscape of Wear Valley is predominantly a rural one covering an area of 50,500 hectares. It is very diverse, from the attractive open heather moorland of the AONB located in the west of the District to the winding river valley of the lower slopes of the River Wear. To the east of the District lies the former coalfield areas where pockets of dereliction and despoliation are all that remains from the former mining industries.

2.3 The landscape of Wear Valley can be divided into the following three basic areas, as shown on Figure 2 :- a) The North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

2.4 National recognition of the landscape quality of the west of the District was given by its inclusion in the North Pennines' Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) designated in 1988. The area of the District included within the designation is essentially the area west of the A68 but excluding the River Wear Valley bottom as far as Eastgate.

2.5 The special quality of the North Pennines AONB has long been admired for its unenclosed open heather moorland landscape. The moors provide valuable habitats for flora and fauna and are managed for rough grazing and grouse shooting. In addition the AONB contains a number of important meadows, pastures and woodlands of nature conservation importance.

2.6 Scattered throughout the AONB are farm buildings, which together with a distinctive pattern of dry stone walls which enclose both valley farmland and large expanses of moorland are an integral feature of the landscape. In addition, throughout the AONB, there is physical evidence of Weardale's industrial past particularly that which relates to the lead mining and stone quarrying industry. Several small areas of block coniferous planting are imprinted on the open tops of the AONB. b) The River Valleys/Area of Landscape Value

2.7 The area of the District between the AONB and the former coalfield areas to the east of the District is a mix of the landscape of the Wear River valley, two historic parklands and open agricultural countryside. Part of this area has been recognised as being of County landscape importance and is designated an Area of Landscape Value. c) Former Coalfield Areas

2.8 The former coalfield area lies in the eastern part of the District. Once the scene of intensive coal extraction the area now is essentially a rural landscape with a scattering of small former mining settlements. It is an area where much opencast coal extraction has taken place and where as a consequence landscape quality has been impaired. To the east of the River Wear Valley north of Bishop Auckland is an area of the Central Durham Magnesian Limestone Escarpment with its characteristic landscapes. In both these areas there is a need for more tree cover and hedgerow planting.

Derwentside Local Plan (1997)

Policy

POLICY EN6

IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS OF HIGH LANDSCAPE VALUE DEVELOPMENT WILL BE PERMITTED PROVIDED THAT IT PAYS PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE LANDSCAPE QUALITIES OF THE AREA IN THE SITING AND DESIGN OF BUILDINGS AND THE CONTEXT OF ANY LANDSCAPING PROPOSALS:

BEAMISH AND CAUSEY
 BROWNEY AND SMALLHOPE BURN VALLEYS
 HOWNSGILL
 LOWER DERWENT AND PONT VALLEYS
 MIDDLE DERWENT VALLEY
 USHAW COLLEGE
 BEGGAR SIDE AND KNITSLEY BURN VALLEYS
 HEDLEYHOPE FELL AND HEDLEYHOPE BURN
 NEWHOUSE BURN
 NORTH LANGLEY
 PAN BURN
 WHITESIDE BURN

Supporting text

EN6 development within Areas of High Landscape Value

The Proposals Map identifies twelve Areas of High Landscape Value (AHLV) within the District. AHLVs are areas of countryside whose overall landscape quality is particularly high and could easily be damaged by inappropriate development. The first six areas in the policy list are those landscapes considered to be of County-wide importance, whilst the other six smaller areas are just as important within the District. Details of the areas listed in the policy are outlined in the site schedule in Appendix F(v). These areas will be protected from development which would harm their special landscape character by taking special care with the siting and design of developments considered to be appropriate. In general, development within these designated areas should be compatible with its predominantly rural nature.

Minerals Local Plan 2001

Policy

POLICY M23

IN AREAS OF HIGH LANDSCAPE VALUE AND HISTORIC PARKS AND GARDENS, PROPOSALS FOR MINERAL WORKING WILL BE GIVEN THE MOST CAREFUL CONSIDERATION. PROPOSALS WILL ONLY BE ALLOWED WHERE THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ON THE SPECIAL CHARACTER AND QUALITY OF THE LANDSCAPE IS ACCEPTABLE, OR CAN BE MADE SO BY PLANNING CONDITIONS OR OBLIGATIONS AND, IN THE CASE OF NON-ENERGY MINERALS, WHERE ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONALLY APPLIES:

- A) THERE IS A NEED FOR THE MINERAL WHICH CANNOT BE MET FROM ALTERNATIVE SITES OR SOURCES ELSEWHERE, INCLUDING SUITABLE SECONDARY OR RECYCLED MATERIALS;
- B) THE MINERAL EXTRACTION IS IN ADVANCE OF OTHER APPROVED DEVELOPMENT OR WHICH IS ON LAND ALLOCATED IN AN ADOPTED DEVELOPMENT PLAN (IN ACCORDANCE WITH POLICY M15);
- C) THE PROPOSAL IS ACCEPTABLE AS A BORROW PIT (IN ACCORDANCE WITH POLICY M13);
- D) PART OF THE SITE CONSISTS OF DERELICT OR CONTAMINATED LAND IN NEED OF TREATMENT AND THE PROPOSAL PROVIDES FOR ITS COMPREHENSIVE RECLAMATION;
- E) WHERE IT LEADS TO AN OVERALL IMPROVEMENT THROUGH THE RELINQUISHING OR CONSOLIDATION OF OTHER PLANNING PERMISSIONS (IN ACCORDANCE WITH POLICY M53);
- F) IT IS AN EXTENSION TO AN EXISTING MINERAL WORKING (IN ACCORDANCE WITH POLICY M3)

IN ALL CASES PROPOSALS WILL BE REQUIRED TO CONFORM WITH OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES OF THIS PLAN.

Supporting text

Designated landscapes

5.11 In addition to the AONB there are a number of areas within the County which are considered to be sufficiently important to the appearance of the County to be worthy of special recognition. These include areas of high landscape value, as identified in the Structure Plan and local plans, which include regionally and locally important landscapes, principally within the major river valleys of the Tees, Wear, Browney, Derwent and Team and parts of the coast and coastal dunes. These areas are also often important for nature conservation, for their archaeological heritage, historical and cultural associations, and are highly valued for both formal and informal recreation.

5.12 Historic Parks and Gardens are of similar significance and make an important contribution to the quality of the County's landscape and reflect the cultural and horticultural traditions of

their time. They are also likely to be of importance in other respects, and in particular offer a resource for recreation, tourism and education and often provide outstanding settings for listed buildings. English Heritage's register currently includes 11 parks or gardens within the County which are considered to be of national importance.

5.13 The policies of the adopted Structure Plan recognise the need to conserve the character and the quality of these landscapes and seek to protect them from inappropriate development. Mineral extraction would in many cases result in unacceptable damage either through direct impacts on landscape features or through the visual intrusion of industrial operations in a landscape valued for its scenic qualities, even where working is of a short duration and considerable effort is put into restoration. For the most part alternative sources of mineral deposits exist in less sensitive locations. This Plan has, for example, made adequate provision for sand and gravel by identifying "areas of search" (see paragraphs 4.59-4.63). For this reason proposals for new working within the landscape areas outlined above will only be permitted after the most careful consideration. All proposals for new or extended working will need to pay particular attention to the sensitivity of the landscape in designated areas.

Easington District Local Plan 2001

Policy

POLICY 7

THE SPECIAL CHARACTER, QUALITY AND APPEARANCE OF THE LANDSCAPE WITHIN THOSE AREAS DESIGNATED AS AREAS OF HIGH LANDSCAPE VALUE ON THE PROPOSALS MAP WILL BE MAINTAINED AND ENHANCED. ANY DEVELOPMENT LIKELY TO ADVERSELY AFFECT THE CHARACTER, QUALITY OR APPEARANCE OF THOSE AHLV'S WILL ONLY BE PERMITTED IF IT MEETS A NEED THAT OUTWEIGHS THE VALUE OF THE LANDSCAPE AND THERE IS NO ALTERNATIVE LOCATION WITHIN THE COUNTY. THE COUNCIL WILL REQUIRE DEVELOPERS TO DEMONSTRATE THAT ADVERSE EFFECTS ARE MINIMISED (AS FAR AS IS REASONABLE) AND THAT COMMENSURATE EFFORTS TO COMPENSATE FOR UNAVOIDABLE DAMAGE ARE MADE.

Supporting text

3.30 Whilst it is the intention of the Council to protect all of the countryside for its own sake there are landscape areas in the District which are particularly attractive and extra care needs to be taken to ensure that these areas are not spoilt by inappropriate new development. These areas are considered worthy of special recognition and they have been given a County-wide designation of Areas of High Landscape Value (AHLV) in the County Durham Structure Plan. Four AHLVs, as defined on the Proposals Map, have been designated in Easington District. The character of the English countryside has been mapped at a regional level by the Countryside Agency as part of the Countryside Character initiative. Countryside Character: The Character of England's Natural and Man-Made: Landscape. Volume 1: The North East (Countryside Commission 1998 CCP535) shows Easington District as falling within the Durham Magnesian Limestone Plateau (Character Area 15). More detailed information on local landscape character will be provided by the County Durham Landscape Assessment currently being prepared by Durham County Council in partnership with the Countryside Agency

3.31 At Elemore, west of Haswell, there exists an area of parkland landscape linked with areas of commercial woodland which is partly under the control of the County Council and the Woodland Trust. This formal type of parkland is not registered by English Heritage as an Historic Parkland but the relationship between tree groups, buildings and farmland has resulted in an area of particularly attractive landscape which has been designated as an AHLV.

3.32 In addition to the more formal landscape of the Elemore AHLV, there are three informal areas of attractive landscape in the District which have been designated for their high landscape quality. These areas incorporate coastal denes which, because of their dramatic topography, have in the main, escaped unsuitable development.

3.33 The Northern Area of Landscape Value (AHLV) includes both Ryhope and Seaham Denes and the areas of farmland in between, from the coastal railway to the cliff tops. The Central AHLV includes Hawthorn and Horden Denes, Warren House Gill and Blackhills Gill, together with areas of farmland and the coastal strip. The Southern AHLV contains Castle Eden, Crimdon and Hesleden Denes, agricultural land around them, the parkland landscape of Castle Eden, forestry plantations to the east of Wingate and the coastal strip at Crimdon. The Central and Southern AHLVs meet at Blackhills Gill.

3.34 Most of the area covered by AHLV designation is deemed to be in the countryside as it is outside the defined settlement boundaries contained within the Plan. Policy 3 indicates the type of uses that may be acceptable in the countryside. Whether in the countryside or within settlement boundaries, the protection of the character and landscape quality of an Area of High Landscape Value will be the overriding consideration in an assessment of any development proposals within these areas. Proposals should, therefore, be sympathetic to these designated areas and should seek to retain existing landscape features and to incorporate elements to enhance the landscape quality of the area.

3.34A Although the policy designates AHLV's, it is intended to control any proposal which may affect them, not just those which arise actually within the designated areas.

Teesdale Local Plan 2002

Policy

POLICY ENV3

THE PROPOSALS MAP DEFINES AN AREA OF HIGH LANDSCAPE VALUE WHERE THE DISTINCTIVE QUALITIES OF THE COUNTRYSIDE ARE WORTHY OF SPECIAL RECOGNITION. DEVELOPMENT WILL BE PERMITTED WHERE IT DOES NOT DETRACT FROM THE AREA'S SPECIAL CHARACTER, AND PAYS PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE LANDSCAPE QUALITIES OF THE AREA IN SITING AND DESIGN OF BUILDINGS AND THE CONTEXT OF ANY LANDSCAPING PROPOSALS SUCH DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS SHOULD ACCORD WITH POLICY GD1.

Supporting text

3.8 AREA OF HIGH LANDSCAPE VALUE

3.8.1 The character of the English countryside has been mapped and described at a regional level by the Countryside Agency as part of the Countryside Character Initiative. Countryside Character. The character of England's natural and man-made landscape. Volume 1: North East (Countryside Commission 1998 CCP535) shows the district as containing four Countryside Character Areas:

CA 10 - North Pennines

CA 16 - Durham Coalfield Pennine Fringe

CA 22 - Pennine Dales Fringe

CA23 – Tees Lowlands

Each of these landscapes has a distinctive character arising from differences in geology, soils, climate, flora and fauna together with human influences such as settlement patterns, farming practices and industrial development.

3.8.2 Countryside Character contains information on the character of these landscapes. More detailed information on the character of local landscapes and refinement of Countryside Character Area boundaries will be provided by the County Durham Landscape Assessment currently being prepared by Durham County Council in partnership with the Countryside Agency.

3.8.3 Outside of the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty there are substantial areas in the district which are considered to be of countywide importance in respect of the character and quality of the landscape. These are designated as Areas of High Landscape Value. They include areas of intact, mature and unspoilt rural landscape in the lower dales of the North Pennines, much of the Pennine Dales Fringe, part of the Durham Coalfield Pennine Fringe and the Tees Lowlands.

3.8.4 Policy ENV3 builds upon the overall provisions of ENV1 for the special character and quality of its landscape. ENV1 remains applicable to the AHLV. The landscape character of the area defines as AHLV should be conserved and enhanced. It should be protected by resisting development that would detract from its special character and taking particular care in the siting and design of development considered to be appropriate. Designation as an Areas of High Landscape Value does not exclude all development and the operational need of agriculture will be take into account when determining applications for farm buildings.

3.8.5 Further information on the character and quality of these landscapes will be provided by the County Durham Landscape Assessment which will provide guidance for developers and land managers and assist in determining applications. The inner boundaries of the AHLV with settlements will be subject to reassessment at a review of the plan in the light of the detailed findings.

Chester-le-Street Local Plan 2003

Policy

POLICY NE15

CHESTER-LE-STREET DISTRICT COUNCIL WILL GIVE SPECIAL ATTENTION TO MAINTAINING AND ENHANCING THE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AND QUALITY WITHIN THE BEAMISH/CAUSEY ARCH AND WEAR VALLEY AREAS OF HIGH LANDSCAPE VALUE, AS DEFINED ON THE PROPOSALS MAP. PROPOSALS FOR DEVELOPMENT EITHER WITHIN OR ON THE EDGES OF BUILT UP AREAS ADJACENT TO AHLVS WILL ONLY BE PERMITTED WHERE THEY:-

- I) ARE OF A HIGH STANDARD OF DESIGN;
- II) REFLECT THE SCALE AND CHARACTER OF BUILDINGS IN THE AREA; AND
- II) DO NOT DETRACT FROM THE HIGH LANDSCAPE QUALITY.

Supporting text

1.64 The Beamish/Causey Arch and River Wear Valley areas have been identified in the County Durham Structure Plan Review as landscapes of countywide importance within which the maintenance and enhancement of the landscape 31 and nature conservation character must be the prime objective and any new development should accord with these principles. As the AHLVs cover a variety of landscape type this should be reflected in the design, styles, materials and landscape features in the locality of the new development.

1.65 In some circumstances, an Environmental Assessment will be required to accompany development proposals (subject to the provision of Schedules 1 and 2 of the Town and Country (Assessment of Environmental Affects) Regulations 1988) which affect land either within AHLVs or on land that abuts their boundaries

City of Durham Local Plan 2004

Policy

POLICY E10

THE COUNCIL WILL PROTECT THE LANDSCAPE VALUE OF THE DISTRICT IN RESPECT OF DEVELOPMENT WHICH IS ACCEPTABLE UNDER POLICIES E1, E3, E5, E7 AND E8 AND U8 BY:

1. RESISTING DEVELOPMENT WHICH WOULD HAVE AN UNACCEPTABLE ADVERSE IMPACT UPON THE LANDSCAPE QUALITY OR APPEARANCE OF THE AREA OF HIGH LANDSCAPE VALUE DEFINED ON THE PROPOSALS MAP; AND
2. REQUIRING THAT DEVELOPMENT RESPECTS THE CHARACTER OF ITS LANDSCAPE SETTING IN TERMS OF ITS SITING, DESIGN, SCALE, MATERIALS, LANDSCAPING, PROTECTION OF EXISTING LANDSCAPE FEATURES AND RELATIONSHIP WITH NEARBY BUILDINGS.

WHERE ESSENTIAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CANNOT MEET THESE SPECIFIC DESIGN REQUIREMENTS, THE DEVELOPER WILL NEED TO DEMONSTRATE, TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE COUNCIL, THAT THE PROPOSALS CAN BE DESIGNED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO ENSURE THAT IT WILL NOT HAVE AN UNACCEPTABLE ADVERSE IMPACT UPON THE LANDSCAPE SETTING.

Supporting text

3.47 The Area of High Landscape Value is an area of countryside where the overall quality of the landscape is particularly high and would be damaged by inappropriate development, even of a minor nature. The Area of High Landscape Value is shown on the Proposals Map and is broadly based on the valley of the River Wear, River Browney, and Sherburn Beck. It contains some of the most significant surviving areas of intact, mature and unspoilt rural landscapes in County Durham. As a result, the vast majority of this area is included in either the proposed Green Belt or Parks and Gardens of historic interest and is therefore also subject to Policies E1 and E26 of the Plan. Much of the Area of High Landscape Value is of paramount importance in respect of the setting and historic character of Durham City.

3.48 The Area of High Landscape Value shown on the Proposals Map is taken from the revised landscape assessment carried out by the Council's Landscape Consultants in mid 1999.

3.49 Outside the Area of High Landscape Value there are many distinctive and attractive areas of landscape. Many factors contribute to making an area distinctive including geology, topography, tree cover, vegetation, grassland and the scale of fields. It is important to ensure that development, which is considered to be acceptable in principle, respects the particular characteristics and distinctiveness of its landscape setting in terms of siting, design, materials and retention of important landscape features. Policy E10 does not seek to oppose all development, but only that which would have an unacceptable adverse impact upon the quality of that part of the landscape which is of high value.

3.49A Where essential infra structure development cannot meet the specific design requirements set out in Criteria 1 and 2 of Policy E10, the developer will need to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the City Council, that the proposal can be designed in such a way as to ensure that it will not have an unacceptable adverse impact upon its landscape setting. Examples of such developments could include sewage treatment works required under Policy U8.

North Pennines

BLT1 Moorland ridges & Summits									
Character area / Sub-area	Condition	scenic	rarity	Represent	CI: natural	CI: historic	Recreation	Perceptual	Cultural
1a Barningham, Hope & Scargill Moors.									
1a i Hope Moor.	MH	H	MH	MH	MH	MH	H	H	
Part AONB. Part TLP AHLV. Higher scoring across a range of attributes. Identify part as AHLV.									
1a ii Scargill Low Moor	MH	H	MH	MH	MH	MH	H	H	
AONB									
1a iii Barningham Moor.	MH	H	MH	H	MH	H	H	H	
TLP AHLV. Higher scoring across a range of attributes. Identify as AHLV.									
1b Bollihope, Ireshope & Westernhope									
1b i Bollihope Common	H	H	MH	H	H	MH	H	H	
AONB									
1b ii Ireshope & Westernhope	MH	H	MH	MH	H	MH	H	H	H
AONB									
1b iii Burnhope Seat	H	H	MH	H	H	MH	H	H	
AONB									
1c Holwick & Cronkley.									
1c Holwick & Cronkley.	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H
AONB									
1d Langdon, Newbiggin & Middleton Common.									
AONB									
1d Langdon, Newbiggin & Middleton Common.	H	H	MH	H	H	MH	H	H	H
AONB									
1e Lune Forest & Mickle Fell.									
1e i Holwick Fell & Crossthaite Common.	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H
AONB									
1e ii Mickle Fell.	H	H	H	H	H	MH	L	H	H
AONB									
1e iii Lune Forest	H	H	H	H	H	MH	H	H	H
AONB									
1f Middlehope, Redburn, Wolfcleugh & Lintzgarth.									
1f Middlehope, Redburn, Wolfcleugh & Lintzgarth.	MH	H	MH	H	MH	MH	H	H	H
AONB									
1g Muggleswick & Waskerley.									
1g i Muggleswick & Waskerley.	H	H	MH	H	H	MH	H	H	H
AONB									
1g ii Muggleswick Common	H	H	MH	H	H	MH	H	H	
AONB									

Appendix 2: LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA ASSESSMENTS

1g iii Wakerley South.	H	H	MH	H	MH	MH	H	H	
AONB									
1g iv Whitehall Moss	H	H	MH	H	H	MH	H	H	
AONB									
1h Nookton Fell.									
1h Nookton Fell.	H	H	MH	H	H	MH	H	H	H
AONB									
1i Pikestone & Woodland Fells.									
1i i Pikestone & Woodland Fells.	H	H	MH	H	H	M	H	H	
AONB									
1i ii Knitsley Fell.	H	MH	MH	H	H	MH	H	H	
TLP and WVLP AHLV. Higher scoring across a range of attributes (8). Identify as AHLV.									
1j Stanhope Common & Wolsingham Moors.									
1j i Stanhope Common	H	H	MH	H	H	MH	H	H	H
AONB									
1j ii Wolsingham Park Moor.	H	H	MH	H	MH	M	H	H	
AONB									
1j iii Wolsingham North Moor.	H	H	MH	H	H	MH	H	H	
AONB									
1k West Common & Cow Green.	H	H	H	H	H	MH	H	H	H
AONB									
BLT2 Moorland Plateau									
2a Cotherstone Moor.									
2a i Ravock and Lartington High Moor	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H
Largely AONB. Small part TLP AHLV. Higher scoring across a range of attributes (10). Identify part as AHLV.									
2a ii Cotherstone Moor	MH	H	H	H	H	MH	H	H	H
AONB									
2a iii Great Allotment	MH	H	H	MH	MH	MH	H	H	H
AONB									
2b Mickleton and Hunderthwaite Moors.									
2b i Mickleton and Hunderthwaite Moors.	H	H	H	H	H	MH	H	H	H
AONB									
2b ii Lune Head.	H	H	H	H	H	M	H	H	H
AONB									
2c Stainmore.									
2c Stainmore.	H	H	H	H	H	M	H	H	H
AONB									
BLT3 Moorland Fringe									
3a Deepdale Moorland fringe.									
3a Deepdale Moorland fringe.	MH	MH	M	MH	MH	M	MH	MH	H
Largely AONB. Small part TLP AHLV. Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7). Identify part as AHLV.									
3b Derwentdale Moorland fringe.									
3b Derwentdale Moorland fringe.	MH	H	M	MH	H	M	MH	MH	

Appendix 2: LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA ASSESSMENTS

AONB									
3c Hamsterley.									
3c Hamsterley.	MH	MH	M	MH	MH	M	H	MH	
TLP AHLV. Higher scoring across a range of attributes (6). Identify as AHLV.									
3d Lunedale moorland fringe.									
3d Lunedale moorland fringe.	MH	H	MH	MH	H	M	H	MH	H
AONB									
3e Romaldkirk Moor.									
3e Romaldkirk Moor.	MH	H	M	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	H
Part AONB. Part TLP AHLV. Higher scoring across a range of attributes (8). Identify part as AHLV.									
3f Scargill and Barningham fringe.									
3f i Scargill Moorland fringe.	MH	MH	M	MH	MH	M	H	MH	
Part AONB. Part TLP AHLV. Higher scoring across a range of attributes (6). Identify part as AHLV.									
3f ii Barningham Moorland fringe.	MH	MH	M	MH	MH	M	LM	MH	
3g Sleightholme & Greta Moorland Fringes.									
3g Sleightholme & Greta Moorland Fringes.	MH	H	MH	MH	H	MH	H	MH	H
AONB									
3h Teesdale moorland fringes.									
3h Teesdale moorland fringes.	MH	H	MH	MH	H	MH	H	MH	H
AONB									
3i Waskerley & Tunstall Moorland fringe.									
3i Waskerley & Tunstall Moorland fringe.	MH	H	M	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	
AONB									
3j Weardale Moorland fringes.									
3j Weardale Moorland fringes.	MH	H	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	H
Largely AONB. Small parts WVLP AHLV. Higher scoring across a range of attributes (9) Identify part as AHLV.									
3k Woodland, Langleydale & Marwood fringes.									
3k Woodland, Langleydale & Marwood fringes.	MH	MH	M	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	
Part AONB. Part TLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7). Identify part as AHLV									
BLT4 Upper Dale									
4a Burnhope Head.									
4a Burnhope Head.	MH	H	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	
AONB									
4b Upper Baldersdale.									
4b Upper Baldersdale.	MH	H	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	H
AONB									
4c Upper Derwentdale.									
4c Upper Derwentdale.	MH	H	MH	MH	MH	MH	H	MH	H
AONB									

Appendix 2: LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA ASSESSMENTS

4d Upper Greta Valley.									
4d Upper Greta Valley.	MH	H	MH	MH	MH	MH	M	M	H
AONB									
4e Upper Lunedale.									
4e Upper Lunedale.	MH	H	MH	MH	H	M	M	MH	H
AONB									
4f Upper Rookhope									
4f Upper Rookhope	M	MH	MH	M	MH	MH	MH	MH	H
AONB									
4g Upper Teesdale.									
4g Upper Teesdale.	H	H	H	H	H	MH	MH	MH	H
AONB									
4h Upper Weardale.									
4h Upper Weardale.	M	H	MH	H	MH	H	H	MH	
AONB									
BLT5 Middle Dale									
5a Baldersdale									
5a Baldersdale.	MH	H	MH	MH	MH	MH	H	MH	H
Largely AONB. Small part TLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (9) Identify part as AHLV									
5b Burnhope									
5b Burnhope.	MH	H	MH	M	MH	MH	M	MH	
AONB									
5c Langleydale & Marwood									
5c Langleydale & Marwood.	MH	H	MH	M	MH	M	M	MH	
Part AONB. Part TLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (5) Identify part as AHLV									
5d Lunedale.									
5d Lunedale.	MH	H	MH	MH	H	MH	MH	MH	H
AONB									
5e Mid Greta									
5e i Mid Greta North	MH	H	MH	M	MH	MH	LM	M	H
Largely AONB. Small part TLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (6). Identify part as AHLV									
5e ii Mid Greta South	MH	H	MH	M	MH	MH	MH	MH	H
Largely AONB. Small part TLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (8) Identify part as AHLV									
5f Mid Derwentdale.									
5f Mid Derwentdale.	MH	H	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	H
AONB									
5g Mid Teesdale.									
5g i High Force & Ettersgill	H	H	MH	H	H	H	H	MH	H
AONB									
5g ii Middleton.	H	H	MH	H	H	H	H	M	H

Appendix 2: LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA ASSESSMENTS

AONB									
5h Mid Weardale									
5h i Westgate.	MH	H	MH	H	MH	MH	H	M	H
AONB									
5h ii Stanhope	MH	H	MH	MH	MH	MH	H	M	
Part AONB. Part WVLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7) Identify part as AHLV									
5h iii Eastgate & Newlandside	M	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	M	H
Part AONB. Part WVLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7) Identify part as AHLV									
5h iv Bollihope	MH	MH	MH	M	MH	MH	M	MH	
AONB									
5i Rookhope.									
5i Rookhope.	MH	H	MH	MH	MH	MH	H	M	H
AONB									
5j Tunstall.									
5j Tunstall.	MH	H	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	
AONB									
BLT6 Lower Dale									
6a Lower Derwent.									
6a Lower Derwent	MH	H	MH	H	H	MH	MH	MH	
Largely AONB. Small part DLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (8) Identify small part as AHLV									
6b Lower Greta									
6b Lower Greta	MH	H	MH	MH	H	MH	MH	MH	H
Small part AONB. Largely TLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (9) Identify largely as AHLV									
6c Lower Teesdale.									
6c Lower Teesdale.	MH	H	MH	H	MH	MH	H	M	H
Small part AONB. Largely TLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (8). Identify largely as AHLV									
6d Lower Weardale									
6d Lower Weardale	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	H	M	
Part AONB. Part WVLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7) Identify part as AHLV									

West Durham Coalfield

BLT7 Coalfield Upland Fringe										
Character area / Sub-area	Condition	Scenic	Rarity	Represent	Cl: natural	Cl: historic	Recreation	Perceptual	Cultural	
7a: Northern Coalfield Uplands										
7a (i): Charlaw Fell East	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	
Not previously designated Lower scoring across a range of attributes Do not identify as AHLV										
7a (ii): Medomsley Edge	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	M	LM		
Not previously designated Lower scoring across a range of attributes Do not identify as AHLV										
7a (iii): Sacriston Woods	MH	MH	MH	MH	H	MH	M	LM		
Not previously designated Higher scoring across a range of attributes (6). Identify as AHLV										
7a (iv): Charlaw Fell	M	MH	M	M	M	M	M	LM		
Small parts DLP AHLV Moderately scoring across most attributes other than scenic. Forms part of a wider landscape of similar scenic value due to topography and woodland. Western part contain large turbines. Identify part as AHLV										
7a (v): Burnhope	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	LM	M	LM		
Small part DLP AHLV Lower scoring across a range of attributes. Forms part of a wider landscape of higher scenic value but is largely concealed in views from south by tree cover and containing prominent mast. Do not identify as AHLV										
7a (vi): Craghead	MH	MH	M	M	MH	M	H	LM		
Not previously designated Small unit with higher scoring across a range of attributes (4) Identify larger eastern unit as part of wider AHLV										
7a (vii): Pontop	M	LM	M	M	MH	MH	MH	LM		
Small parts DLP AHLV Some higher scores across conservation and recreation attributes (3) but of generally moderate condition and with notable detractors from scenic quality. Identify only small parts as AHLV on boundaries with other LCA										
7a (viii): Leadgate	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	M	LM		
Not previously designated Lower scoring across a range of attributes Do not identify as AHLV										
7a (ix): Templetown	M	LM	LM	M	M	LM	M	LM		
Not previously designated Lower scoring across a range of attributes Do not identify as AHLV										
7a (x): Burnopfield	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	M	MH	LM		
Not previously designated Moderate or lower scoring across all attributes other than recreation.										

Do not identify as AHLV									
Check and revise AHLV boundary adjacent to Pont Valley in Mountset area									
7a (xi): Iveston	M	M	MH	M	LM	MH	M	LM	
Not previously designated									
Moderately scoring across a range of attributes though parts form setting of a conservation area village. Northern part of the area retains some of the village's tofts / garths. Southern area has been worked by surface mining and has less time-depth. Land to the east in 8c xvii is more intact and proposed at AHLV.									
Identify small parts as part of wider AHLV									
7a (xii): High Bradley	MH	MH	M	MH	M	M	MH	LM	
DLP AHLV									
Higher scoring across a range of attributes (4)									
Identify as AHLV									
7a (xiii): Medomsley Grange	M	M	M	M	M	MH	MH	LM	
Not previously designated									
Moderately scoring across a range of attributes though parts form setting conservation area village									
Do not identify as AHLV									
7a (xiv): Chapman's Well	M	M	M	M	H	LM	H	LM	
Not previously designated									
Moderately scoring across a range of attributes though with high scores for nature conservation and recreation. Recent but maturing restored opencast coal site									
Do not identify as AHLV: candidate for future consideration									
7a (xv) Oxhill	LM	LM	LM	LM	MH	MH	MH	LM	
Not previously designated									
Lower scoring across a range of attributes (5) though with high scores for nature conservation, heritage and recreation largely relating to linear railway feature.									
Do not identify as AHLV									
7a (xvi) Maiden Law	M	MH	M	M	M	MH	M	LM	
DLP AHLV									
Moderately scoring across most attributes other than scenic and cultural heritage (west). Forms part of a wider landscape of similar scenic value due to topography and woodland. Contains overhead HV									
Identify part as AHLV									
7a (xvii): Wagtail	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	
Not previously designated									
Lower scoring across a range of attributes									
Do not identify as AHLV									
7a (xviii) Annfield Plain South	LM	LM	LM	LM	H	M	MH	LM	
Not previously designated									
Lower scoring across a range of attributes. Higher scores for nature conservation and recreation but in poor condition and with major detractors from scenic value.									
Do not identify as AHLV									
7b: Browney Uplands									
7b (i) Salters Gate	MH	MH	M	MH	H	M	LM	MH	
AONB									
7b (ii) Rowley	M	M	M	M	M	M	LM	M	
Small part DLP AHLV									
Moderately scoring across a range of attributes. Contains some parts of the Knitsley / Hownsgill dene complex (8c xiv and 8h i) in its northern edges which are locally of higher value. More remote parts of the area would score higher for perceptual factors.									
Identify small parts in the north as part of wider AHLV									
7b (iii) Butsfield	MH	MH	M	MH	H	MH	M	MH	

Appendix 2: LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA ASSESSMENTS

	DLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (5) Identify as AHLV									
7b (iv) Drover House	MH	M	M	MH	M	M	LM	LM	H	
	Small part DLP AHLV Moderately scoring across a range of attributes , scoring higher for condition and representativeness though containing large wind turbines detracting from scenic vale Identify only small parts as AHLV on boundaries with other LCA									
7b (v) Longedge	LM	M	LM	M	LM	M	LM	MH		
	Not previously designated Lower scoring across a range of attributes. Higher scores only for remoteness. Do not identify as AHLV									
7b (vi) Sawmill Wood	MH	MH	M	MH	M	MH	LM	MH	H	
	Not previously designated Higher scoring across a range of attributes (5) Identify as AHLV									
7b (vii) Woodlands Park	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	LM	MH	H	
	Not previously designated though identified as parkland Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7) Identify as AHLV									
7b (viii) Humber Hill	LM	M	LM	LM	M	M	LM	M		
	Not previously designated Lower scoring across a range of attributes. Identify only small parts as AHLV on boundaries with other LCA									
7c: Central Coalfield Uplands										
7c (i): Cornsay & Hamsteels	MH	MH	MH	MH	M	MH	M	M		
	Small part DLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (5) Identify as AHLV									
7c (ii): Quebec	M	M	M	M	M	LM	M	LM		
	Not previously designated Moderately scoring across a range of attributes Do not identify as AHLV									
7c (iii): Esh	M	MH	MH	M	M	MH	MH	LM		
	Small part DLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (4) Identify parts as AHLV									
7c (iv) Stonefoot & South Shields	LM	M	LM	LM	M	LM	M	LM		
	Not previously designated Lower or moderately scoring across all attributes Do not identify as AHLV									
7c (v): Tow Law Common & Hedleyhope Fell	MH	M	MH	H	H	MH	H	LM		
	Part DLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (6) although condition deteriorates to the west Identify part as AHLV									
7c (vi) Deerness Uplands	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	LM	M	LM		
	Not previously designated Lower or moderately scoring across all attributes Do not identify as AHLV other than small areas bordering onto higher value LCA									
7c (vii) Ball Hill, Wooley Hill & Stanley Hill	MH	MH	M	MH	M	LM	MH	MH		
	Not previously designated									

Higher scoring across a range of attributes (5). Forms part of wider landscape of higher scenic value including 8f ii in the north and 8n i in the east. Although largely LIPA in CDLS the landscape is in good and improving condition as features of open cast restoration mature and likely to increase in value during the plan period. Identify largely as AHLV									
7c (viii): Pithouse	M	MH	M	M	M	LM	MH	M	
Not previously designated Moderately scoring across most attributes though higher for scenic value and remoteness and forming part of wider landscape of scenic value across the upper and middle Deerness including 8f ii, 8f v and 8f iv to the north and the Stokley/Scripton Gill Valley – 8n iii – to the south. Sense of remoteness and scenic qualities diminish to the east although that area affords significant views out to the east. Identify largely as AHLV									
7c (ix) White Lea	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	LM	MH	LM	
Not previously designated Lower or moderately scoring across most attributes other than recreation. Do not identify as AHLV									
7c (x) Stockley Lane	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	LM	
Not previously designated Lower or moderately scoring across all attributes Do not identify as AHLV									
7c (xi): Gibbet Hills	LM	LM	LM	M	LM	LM	M	M	
Small parts WVLP AHLV Lower or moderately scoring across all attributes. Some localised areas in better condition and higher scenic value as part of wider landscapes of the Wear Valley to the south and west. Identify only small parts as AHLV on boundaries with other LCA									
7c (xii) Houselop	MH	MH	M	MH	MH	MH	LM	M	
Largely AONB. Small WVLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes Identify small part as AHLV									
7c (xiii) Tow Law	LM	M	LM	LM	LM	M	M	LM	
Not previously designated Lower or moderately scoring across all attributes Do not identify as AHLV									
7d Upper Bedburn & Harthope Valleys									
7d Upper Bedburn & Harthope Valleys	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	H	MH	H
TLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (9) Identify as AHLV									
7e Southern Coalfield Uplands									
7e (i) Woodland & Copely	MH	MH	M	MH	MH	M	MH	MH	
Part TLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (6). Some areas of poorer condition in the east. Areas in the north very open in character but forming part of wider landscape of high scenic value with notable panoramic views of the AONB moors. Identify as AHLV									
7e (ii) Crane Row & Softley	LM	M	LM	M	LM	M	MH	MH	
Not previously designated Lower or moderately scoring across most attributes other than recreation and perceptual factors (remoteness) Do not identify as AHLV									

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7e (iii) Morley & Toft Hill	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	
<p>Not previously designated Lower or moderately scoring across most attributes other than recreation. A localised area south of Morley is comparable to the higher value LCA 8i iv Morley. More remote parts of the area in the west would score higher for perceptual factors. Identify only area south of Morley as AHLV</p>										
7f: Brussleton										
7f Brussleton	M	M	M	M	MH	M	MH	LM		
<p>Part MLELP ALV9 Moderately scoring across a range of attributes though with higher scores for nature conservation and recreation. Landmark hill with ancient woodland on northern flanks has higher values. The ridgetop has detractive elements (derelict land, masts & turbine). Recent but maturing restored opencast coal site on southern flanks. Identify wooded northern slopes as AHLV</p>										
BLT8 Coalfield Valley										
Character area / Sub-area	Condition	Scenic	Rarity	Represent	Cl: natural	Cl: historic	Recreation	Perceptual	Cultural	
8a Beamish & Causey Burn Valley.										
8a i Marley Hill	LM	M	M	LM	MH	M	MH	M		
<p>Not previously designated Lower or moderately scoring across most attributes other than nature conservation and recreation. Wooded bluffs along the Bobbgins burn have higher scenic value and form part of the wider wooded dene complex of the Beamish & Causey burns which are AHLV to the south-west. Identify lower Bobbgins Burn area as AHLV</p>										
8a ii Causey Road	M	MH	M	M	M	M	MH	LM		
<p>DLP AHLV Moderately scoring across most attributes but higher scoring for scenic and recreational value (2). Forms part of wider landscape of scenic value with views across the area to incised woodlands. Identify as AHLV</p>										
8a iii Beamish & Causey	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	H	M		
<p>TLP and CLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7). Identify as AHLV</p>										
8b Beechburn Valley.										
8b i Upper Beechburn Valley.	M	LM	M	M	M	M	MH	LM		
<p>Not previously designated Lower or moderately scoring across most attributes other than recreation Do not identify as AHLV</p>										
8b ii Middle Beechburn Valley.	MH	M	M	M	M	M	M	LM		
<p>Not previously designated Moderately scoring across most attributes other than condition Do not identify as AHLV</p>										
8b iii Lower Beechburn Valley.	M	MH	M	M	M	M	MH	M		
<p>Part WVLP AHLV Lower or moderately scoring across most attributes other than scenic value and recreation. Parts form part of a wider landscape of high value (Wear Valley) to the south. More remote parts of the area would score higher for perceptual factors. Identify land in the south as AHLV</p>										

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8c Browney Valley										
8c i Upper Browney Valley	MH	MH	MH	MH	H	MH	M	M	M	H
Largely DLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7) Identify as AHLV										
8c ii Colepike & Ragpathside	MH	MH	M	MH	MH	M	M	M	M	
Largely DLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (4) Identify as AHLV										
8c iii Ragpath & Hamsteels Banks	LM	M	LM	LM	M	M	M	M	M	
Part DLP AHLV Moderately or lower scoring across the range of attributes but forming part of a wider landscape of higher scenic value Identify as AHLV										
8c iv Langley	MH	MH	M	MH	MH	M	M	LM	M	
Part DLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (4) Identify part as AHLV										
8c v Greenland	M	M	M	M	M	M	LM	LM		
Not previously designated Moderately scoring across most attributes Do not identify as AHLV										
8c vi Bearpark	MH	MH	MH	MH	H	H	MH	LM		
Largely DCLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7) Identify as AHLV										
8c vii Aldin Grange	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	MH	LM		
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than recreation Do not identify as AHLV										
8c viii Findon Hill	LM	M	LM	LM	LM	M	LM	LM		
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes Do not identify as AHLV										
8c ix Logoviccium	MH	M	H	MH	M	H	LM	M	H	
DLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (5) Identify as AHLV										
8c x Burnhopside & Greenwell Ford	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	M	M	H	
DLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7) Identify as AHLV										
8c xi Greencroft	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	M	LM	MH	
Largely DLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7) Identify as AHLV										
8c xii Lanchester West	MH	M	M	MH	M	MH	MH	M		
Not previously designated Higher scoring across a range of attributes (4) with some locally detractive elements and land in poorer condition in the north. Identify largely as AHLV										

Appendix 2: LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA ASSESSMENTS

8c xiii Newbiggin & Hurbuck	LM	M	LM	LM	M	LM	M	M	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes Do not identify as AHLV									
8c xiv Knitsley	MH	MH	MH	MH	H	MH	M	LM	
Part DLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (6) but with some areas in poorer condition and with detractive elements. Higher values closely associated with Knitsley Dene complex Identify parts capturing dene complex as AHLV									
8c xv Little Greencroft	MH	MH	M	MH	M	M	L	LM	
Not previously designated. Part Proposed as AHLV for Lanchester Neighbourhood Plan Moderately or lower scoring across some attributes with higher scores for condition, scenic value and representativeness (3) Identify small part as AHLV to reflect neighbourhood plan									
8c xvi Stockerley	LM	M	LM	LM	M	M	LM	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes Do not identify as AHLV									
8c xvii Woodside & Durham hill	MH	MH	M	MH	MH	M	M	LM	
Small part DLP AHL Higher scoring across a range of attributes (4) and forming part of wider tract of higher value landscapes in the Smallhope valley Identify largely as AHLV									
8c xviii Brooms	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	M	M	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes Do not identify as AHLV other than in small areas bordering on to other LCA									
8d Central Wear Valley									
8d i Willington & Crook East	M	M	M	M	MH	M	M	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately scoring across all attributes other than nature conservation. A small section along Willington dene has higher scenic value as do areas bordering the Hunwick road. Identify Willington Dene and areas towards Hunwick road as part of wider AHLV									
8d ii Helmington	MH	MH	M	MH	MH	M	MH	LM	
Part WVLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (5) but with some localised detractors east of Hunwick Identify areas in the north and east as AHLV									
8d iii Hunwick West	M	LM	M	M	M	M	MH	LM	
Small part WVLP AHLV Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes other than recreation Identify small part east of and including railway walk as AHLV									
8d iv Binchester	LM	M	LM	LM	LM	M	M	LM	H
Small part WVLP AHLV Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes other than associations (loose associations with Old Park) Identify only small part as AHLV									
8d v Dene Valley	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	M	MH	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately scoring across all attributes other than recreation Do not identify as AHLV									
8d vi Woodhouses	LM	M	LM	LM	M	M	M	LM	

Appendix 2: LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA ASSESSMENTS

	Not previously designated Moderately scoring across all attributes Do not identify as AHLV								
8d vii Witton Park	LM	M	LM	LM	LM	MH	M	LM	
Part WVLP AHLV Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes other than historic. Land in the north (currently AHLV) has a higher scenic value than land in the south, forming part of wider landscape of higher scenic value across the Wear Valley Identify northern part as AHLV									
8d viii Woodside & Escomb	MH	M	M	MH	MH	M	M	LM	
Part WVLP AHLV Moderately or lower scoring across some attributes but scoring higher for condition, scenic value, and representativeness (3). Northern area (AHLV) had higher scenic value and forms part of wider valley landscape of scenic value. Identify northern part as AHLV									
8d ix South Church	M	LM	M	M	M	M	M	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes Do not identify as AHLV									
8d x Bracks Farm	MH	MH	M	MH	MH	M	MH	LM	
Not previously designated Higher scoring across a range of attributes (5) Identify as AHLV									
8d xi Auckland Park	MH	H	H	H	MH	H	MH	M	H
WVLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (8) Identify as AHLV									
8d xii Coundon West	M	M	M	M	M	M	MH	LM	
Part WVLP AHLV Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes other than recreation. Areas bordering onto Auckland Park may have higher scenic value as part of wider landscape Identify part as AHLV									
8d xiii Vinovia	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	H	M	LM	
WVLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (6) Identify as AHLV									
8d xiv Toronto	MH	MH	M	MH	M	M	M	LM	
Largely as WVLP AHLV Moderate and lower scoring across 5 attributes and higher scoring across 3. Forms part of a wider landscape of higher scenic value. Identify largely as AHLV									
8e Cong Burn Valley									
8e Cong Burn Valley.	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	LM	H
Small part DLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (8). Some areas of poorer condition in the north and some localised detractors elsewhere. Identify main wooded valley corridor and Beechgrove as AHLV									
8f Deerness & Hedleyhope Valley									
8f i Hedleyhope Valley	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	M	
Part DLP AHLV									

Appendix 2: LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA ASSESSMENTS

Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7). Some detractive elements (settlement edge) around Cornsay Colliery and Quebec. More remote parts of the area would score higher for perceptual factors. Identify largely as AHLV									
8f ii Upper Deerness Valley	MH	MH	MH	MH	H	MH	MH	LM	
Part DLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7). Identify as AHLV									
8f iii Deerness northern flanks	LM	M	LM	LM	M	LM	M	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes Do not identify as AHLV other than small area south of Esh									
8f iv Middle Deerness	MH	MH	MH	MH	H	MH	MH	LM	
Part DLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7). Higher values relate closely to wooded corridor of the main valley, parklands of Eshwood Hall and Ushaw and old field systems north of Flass Hall. Identify largely as AHLV									
8f v Deerness southern flanks	LM	MH	LM	LM	LM	MH	M	M	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across many attributes. Higher scoring for scenic value and historic interest. Contains some detractive elements (OH services) but forms part of a wider landscape of higher scenic value Identify as AHLV									
8f vi Lower Deerness	MH	MH	M	MH	H	MH	MH	LM	
Part DLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (6). Identify largely as AHLV									
8f vii Brandon North	MH	MH	M	MH	M	MH	M	LM	
Not previously designated Higher scoring across a range of attributes (4). A variable LCA with higher value in the more intact field systems towards High Brandon and lower value in areas of poorer condition Identify more intact field systems towards Brandon as AHLV									
8f viii Broom Hill	LM	M	M	LM	LM	M	MH	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes other recreation (proximity to railway walks). Do not identify as AHLV									
8g Derwent Valley									
8g i Upper Derwent valley	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	LM	
Largely DLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7). Identify largely as AHLV									
8g ii Middle Derwent valley	M	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	LM	
Partly DLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (6). Identify partly as AHLV									
8g iii Lower Derwent & Pont Valley	MH	MH	MH	H	MH	MH	MH	LM	H
DLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7). Parts of the area would score higher for perceptual value with a sense of remoteness. Identify as AHLV									
8h Findon Hill & South Burn Valley.									

Appendix 2: LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA ASSESSMENTS

8h i Daisy Hill	LM	M	LM	M	MH	M	MH	LM	
<p>Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than nature conservation and recreation Do not Identify as AHLV other than woodlands bordering Waldridge Fell.</p>									
8h ii Findon Hill	LM	M	LM	M	LM	M	LM	LM	
<p>Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes Do not Identify as AHLV</p>									
8i Gaunless Valley.									
8i i Butterknowle	MH	M	M	MH	MH	M	MH	M	
<p>Not previously designated High scoring across a range of attributes (4). Dispersed and clustered settlement pattern detracts from scenic value is some views but contributes to local distinctiveness. Identify largely as AHLV</p>									
8i ii Cockfield	MH	M	H	MH	MH	H	H	M	
<p>Not previously designated Higher scoring across a range of attributes (6) Identify as AHLV</p>									
8i iii High Lands & Low Lands	M	M	M	M	MH	LM	MH	LM	
<p>Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across most attributes but higher for nature conservation and recreation. Higher values notable in the corridor of the River Gaunless / Cragg Wood Do not Identify as AHLV other than Gaunless / Cragg Wood corridor</p>									
8i iv Morley	MH	MH	M	MH	MH	M	M	MH	
<p>Not previously designated Higher scoring across a range of attributes (5) Identify as AHLV</p>									
8i v Ramshaw	MH	M	M	MH	MH	M	M	M	H
<p>Not previously designated Higher scoring for condition, representativeness and conservation value but otherwise moderately scoring and unremarkable. A high score for associations relates to a localised feature. Do not Identify as AHLV</p>									
8i vi Etherley	M	M	M	M	M	MH	M	LM	
<p>Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring for all attributes other than historic interest (historic railway). Do not Identify as AHLV</p>									
8i vii Thrushwood	M	M	M	M	M	LM	MH	LM	
<p>Not previously designated. Moderately or lower scoring for all attributes other than recreation. Do not Identify as AHLV other than woods bordering Upper Gaunless Floodplain to the north.</p>									
8i viii Shildon West	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	LM	
<p>Not previously designated. Moderately or lower scoring for all attributes. Small area in west has higher value for condition, scenic and representativeness and forms parts of attractive views to Brussleton Hill Identify area north and west of Brussleton Hill as AHLV.</p>									
8i ix South Side	MH	MH	M	MH	MH	M	MH	M	
<p>Not previously designated Higher scoring across a range of attributes. Dispersed and clustered settlement pattern detracts from scenic value but contributes to distinctiveness. Identify largely as AHLV</p>									
8j Hummerbeck Valley.									

Appendix 2: LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA ASSESSMENTS

8j i Keverstone	MH	MH	M	MH	M	M	LM	M	
<p>Not previously designated. Moderately or lower scoring for most attributes but higher scoring for condition, scenic value and representativeness. Forming part of wider landscape of scenic value. Identify as AHLV.</p>									
8j ii Bucks head & Cockshaw Hill	LM	M	LM	LM	M	LM	M	LM	
<p>Not previously designated. Moderately or lower scoring for all attributes. Do not Identify as AHLV.</p>									
8j iii Hilton	MH	MH	M	MH	M	M	M	M	
<p>TLP AHLV. Higher scoring for a range of attributes (3). Forming part of wider landscape of scenic value. Identify as AHLV.</p>									
8j iv Lutterington	MH	MH	M	MH	M	M	M	M	
<p>Not previously designated. Higher scoring for a range of attributes (3). Condition and scenic value are higher in the north which also forms part of attractive views to Brussleton Hill. Identify largely as AHLV.</p>									
8j v Crook Beck	M	M	M	M	M	M	LM	LM	
<p>Not previously designated. Moderately or lower scoring for all attributes. Do not Identify as AHLV other than small area bordering onto adjacent LCA to south</p>									
8j vi Bildershaw	LM	M	LM	LM	LM	M	M	M	
<p>Not previously designated. Moderately or lower scoring for all attributes. Do not Identify as AHLV.</p>									
8k Kyo Burn Valley.									
8k I Bushblades	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	M	M	LM	
<p>Not previously designated. Moderately or lower scoring for all attributes. Do not Identify as AHLV.</p>									
8k ii East Kyo	LM	LM	LM	LM	MH	M	MH	LM	
<p>Not previously designated. Moderately or lower scoring for all attributes other than nature conservation value and recreation. Adjacent to Do not Identify as AHLV.</p>									
8k iii Tanfield Lea	M	LM	MH	M	H	M	MH	LM	
<p>Not previously designated. Moderately or lower scoring for all attributes but high for rarity, nature conservation and recreation (LNR). Identify LNR as AHLV</p>									
8k iv Tanfield	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	M	MH	LM	
<p>Not previously designated. Moderately or lower scoring for all attributes other than recreation value. Do not Identify as AHLV.</p>									
8l Linburn Valley									
8l Linburn Valley	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	M	M	MH	
<p>Part TLP AHLV. Higher scoring for a range of attributes (6). Identify as AHLV.</p>									
8m Stanley Burn Valley.									

Appendix 2: LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA ASSESSMENTS

8m i Upper Stanley Burn	LM	M	LM	LM	MH	MH	MH	LM	MH
<p>Not previously designated. A variable LCA scoring higher for nature conservation, historic interest, recreation value and cultural associations. Higher values associated with Memorial Park and South Moor Golf Course – as a designed landscape attributed to a known designer, containing relic mid-altitude heath and with higher scenic value than other parts of the LCA Identify golf course as AHLV.</p>									
8m ii Lower Stanley Burn	MH	MH	MH	MH	H	MH	MH	LM	
<p>Not previously designated. Higher scoring for a range of attributes (7). Identify largely as AHLV.</p>									
8m iii Eden Hill & Twizell Hall	LM	M	LM	LM	LM	M	M	LM	
<p>Not previously designated. Moderately or lower scoring for all attributes. Do not Identify as AHLV.</p>									
8m iv Twizell Dykes	MH	M	M	MH	M	M	M	LM	
<p>Not previously designated. Moderately or lower scoring for all attributes other than condition and representativeness. Do not Identify as AHLV.</p>									
8n Stockley Beck Valley.									
8n i Stockley Beck Valley.	MH	MH	M	MH	MH	M	LM	M	
<p>Not previously designated. Higher scoring for a range of attributes (4). More remote parts of the area would score higher for perceptual factors. Identify as AHLV.</p>									
8n ii Park House.	MH	MH	M	LM	LM	M	M	LM	
<p>Not previously designated. Moderately or lower scoring for all attributes. Do not Identify as AHLV.</p>									
8n iii Scriptor Gill	MH	MH	M	MH	M	MH	M	M	
<p>Part DCLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (4). More remote parts of the area would score higher for perceptual factors. Identify as AHLV.</p>									
8o Upper Wear & Lower Bedburn Valleys.									
8o i Thornley & Helme Park	MH	H	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	M	
<p>WVLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (7). More remote parts of the area would score higher for perceptual factors. Identify as AHLV.</p>									
8o ii Harperley	MH	H	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	M
<p>WVLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (8). Identify as AHLV.</p>									
8o iii Shipley	MH	H	M	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	
<p>WVLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (7). Identify as AHLV.</p>									
8o iii Lower Bedburn	MH	H	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	
<p>WVLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (8).</p>									

Appendix 2: LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA ASSESSMENTS

Identify as AHLV.									
8o iv Witton Castle	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	M	M	
WVLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (6). Identify as AHLV.									
BLT7 Coalfield Valley Floodplain									
9a Derwent Floodplain									
9a Derwent Floodplain	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	M	
DLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (7). Identify as AHLV.									
9b Gaunless floodplain									
9b i Upper Gaunless floodplain	M	M	MH	M	MH	MH	MH	LM	
Not previously designated Higher scoring for a range of attributes (4). Identify parts as AHLV.									
9b ii Middle Gaunless floodplain	M	M	MH	M	MH	MH	M	LM	
Not previously designated Higher scoring for a range of attributes (3). Identify most distinctive parts of floodplain and areas forming part of attractive views to Brusleton Hill as AHLV.									
9b iii Lower Gaunless Floodplain	LM	LM	M	LM	M	M	LM	LM	
Not previously designated. Moderately or lower scoring for all attributes. Do not Identify as AHLV.									
9c Wear floodplain									
9c i Wear floodplain west	MH	H	MH	MH	MH	MH	M	MH	
WVLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (7). Identify as AHLV.									
9c ii Wear floodplain central	M	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	M	
WVLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (6). Identify as AHLV.									
9c iii Wear floodplain north	LM	M	MH	LM	M	M	MH	LM	
WVLP AHLV Moderately or lower scoring for attributes other than rarity and recreation value. Condition and scenic value scores reflects localised detractors (Kynren, coal stockyard, sewerage works) which would otherwise be higher. Forms part of wider valley landscape of scenic value Identify part as AHLV									

Dales Fringe

BLT10 Gritstone Upland Fringe										
Character area / Sub-area	Condition	Scenic	Rarity	Represent	Cl: natural	Cl: historic	Recreation	Perceptual	Cultural	
10a Bowes										
10a i Bowes & Deepdale	MH	MH	M	MH	MH	M	M	MH	H	
TLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (6). Identify as AHLV.										
10a ii Hulands and Thornberry	M	M	M	M	M	M	MH	MH	H	
DLP AHLV Moderately scoring for most attributes; higher scoring for recreation, perceptual and cultural associations (3). Forms part of much wider landscape of higher scenic and other values. Identify as AHLV.										
10b Moorhouse and Gillbeck										
10b i Moorhouse	MH	MH	M	MH	M	M	M	MH	H	
TLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (5). Identify as AHLV.										
10b ii Gillbeck	MH	MH	M	MH	M	M	LM	MH		
TLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (4). Identify as AHLV.										
10c Raby Hill, Marwood & Kinninvie										
10c i Marwood	MH	MH	M	MH	M	MH	M	MH		
TLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (5). Identify as AHLV.										
10c ii Bluestone	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	MH		
DLP AHLV Moderately scoring for most attributes; higher scoring for perceptual only. Forms a small part of part of a wider landscape of higher scenic and other values. Identify as AHLV.										
10c iii Kinninvie	MH	MH	M	MH	MH	MH	M	MH		
TLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (6). Identify as AHLV.										
10c iv Raby Hill	MH	H	MH	MH	MH	H	LM	MH	H	
TLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (8). Identify as AHLV.										
10c v Raby Park North	H	H	H	H	MH	H	LM	M	H	
BLT11 Gritstone Vale										
11a Barnigham, Brignall and Rokeby										
11a i Barnigham & Brignall	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	M	M	H	
TLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (7).										

Appendix 2: LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA ASSESSMENTS

Identify as AHLV.									
11a ii Rokeby park	H	H	H	H	H	H	M	M	H
TLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (7). Identify as AHLV.									
11b Bolam, Hilton & Wackerfield									
11b Bolam, Hilton & Wackerfield	MH	MH	MH	MH	M	MH	M	M	
TLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (6). Identify as AHLV.									
11c Boldron and Lartington									
11c i Boldron	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	M	H
TLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (8). Identify as AHLV.									
11c ii Lartington	MH	H	MH	H	H	MH	H	M	H
TLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (8). Identify as AHLV.									
11c iii Lartington park	H	H	H	MH	H	H	H	MH	H
TLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (9). Identify as AHLV.									
11d Newsham and Cleatlam									
11d Newsham and Cleatlam	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	M	M	M
TLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (6). Identify as AHLV.									
11e Raby and Streatlam									
11e i Raby Old Park	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	H	LM	MH	H
TLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (8). Identify as AHLV.									
11e ii Raby Home Farm	H	H	MH	H	MH	H	LM	MH	H
TLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (8). Identify as AHLV.									
11e iii Staindrop Moor	MH	MH	M	MH	MH	M	M	MH	M
TLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (5). Identify as AHLV.									
11e iv Streatlam Park	MH	H	MH	MH	MH	H	M	M	M
TLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (6). Identify as AHLV.									
11e v Stainton	MH	MH	M	MH	MH	M	M	M	H
TLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (5). Identify as AHLV.									

Wear Lowlands

BLT12 Incised Lowland Valleys									
Character area / Sub-area	Condition	Scenic	Rarity	Represent	Cl: natural	Cl: historic	Recreation	Perceptual	Cultural
12a Congburn, Southburn and Blackdene									
12a i Congburn	MH	MH	MH	MH	H	MH	MH	LM	
Not previously designated Higher scoring for a range of attributes (7). Identify largely as AHLV.									
12a ii Blackdene	M	M	MH	M	H	M	LM	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across a range of attributes; higher scoring for rarity and nature conservation (geology). Do not identify as AHLV other than Blackdene woods as part of wider AHLV.									
12a iii Southburn	MH	MH	MH	MH	H	MH	MH	LM	
Small part CLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (7). Identify as AHLV.									
12a iv Hett Hills South	LM	M	M	LM	LM	M	LM	M	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across a range of attributes. Do not identify as AHLV.									
12b Lower Browney Valley									
12b Lower Browney Valley	MH	MH	MH	MH	H	MH	M	LM	
Largely DCLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (6). Identify as AHLV.									
12c Northern Wear Valley									
12c i Lambton	MH	H	H	H	MH	H	LM	MH	MH
Largely CLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (8). Identify as AHLV.									
12c ii Lumley	MH	MH	H	MH	H	H	MH	LM	H
CLP AHLV Higher scoring for a range of attributes (8). Identify as AHLV.									
12c iii Lumley Banks	LM	MH	M	LM	M	M	M	LM	
CLP AHLV Moderately or lower scoring across a range of attributes. Higher scoring for scenic value with notable views out to the west and forming part of wider landscape of higher scenic value. Identify as AHLV.									
12c iv Chester-le-Street Riverside	M	MH	MH	M	MH	M	H	LM	
Largely CLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (4) Identify largely as AHLV.									
12c v Harbour House and Cocken	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	LM	LM	H
Largely DCLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7)									

Appendix 2: LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA ASSESSMENTS

Identify largely as AHLV.										
12c vi Finchale and Kepier Gorge	MH	H	H	H	H	H	MH	MH	H	
DCLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (9) Identify as AHLV.										
12c vii Aykley Heads & Frankland	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	LM	H	
DCLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (8) Identify as AHLV.										
12c viii Durham Riverbanks	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	
Not previously designated Higher scoring across a range of attributes (9) Identify as AHLV.										
12c ix Observatory Hill & Elvet Hill	MH	MH	MH	MH	M	MH	MH	LM	H	
Not previously designated. Within Durham City conservation area. Covered by protected open space policy in DCLP Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7) Identify as AHLV.										
12d Southern Wear Valley										
12d i Hollingside Mountjoy & Whinney Hill	H	H	MH	H	H	MH	MH	M		
DCLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7) Identify as AHLV.										
12d ii Durham Racecourse Old Durham and Pelaw	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	LM	H	
DCLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (8) Identify as AHLV.										
12d iii Old Durham Beck	M	MH	MH	M	M	MH	M	LM		
DCLP AHLV Moderately or lower scoring across some attributes; higher scoring for scenic value, rarity and historic value. Forms part of a wider landscape of high value. Identify as AHLV.										
12d iv Sherburnhouse Beck	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	LM		
Largely DCLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7) Identify as AHLV.										
12d v Houghall and Maiden castle	LM	M	MH	LM	M	MH	MH	LM		
DCLP AHLV Moderately or lower scoring across some attributes; higher scoring for rarity, historic and recreational value. Forms part of a wider landscape of high value. Identify as AHLV.										
12d vi Shincliffe east	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	M	M	LM		
Not previously designated Higher scoring across a range of attributes (5). Northern part forms part of wider landscape of high value; Southern part has less valued attributes. Identify northern part as AHLV.										
12d vii Shincliffe South	MH	H	MH	MH	H	MH	MH	MH		
Largely DCLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (8) Identify as AHLV.										
12d viii Houghall Farm	M	MH	MH	M	M	M	LM	MH		

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<p style="text-align: right;">DCLP AHLV</p> <p>Moderately or lower scoring across some attributes; higher scoring for scenic quality, rarity and perceptual factors. Forms part of a wider landscape of high value.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Identify as AHLV.</p>									
12d ix Burn Hall & Croxdale	MH	H	H	H	MH	H	MH	M	
<p style="text-align: right;">DCLP AHLV</p> <p>Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Identify as AHLV.</p>									
12d x East Park & Holywell	M	MH	MH	M	M	H	M	MH	
<p style="text-align: right;">Largely DCLP AHLV</p> <p>Higher scoring across a range of attributes (4)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Identify as AHLV.</p>									
12d xi Whitworth & Coldstream	MH	MH	MH	MH	H	H	MH	MH	
<p style="text-align: right;">Largely SLP AHLV</p> <p>Higher scoring across a range of attributes (4)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Identify as AHLV.</p>									
12d xii Brancepeth Park	MH	H	H	H	MH	H	LM	M	
<p style="text-align: right;">DCLP AHLV</p> <p>Higher scoring across a range of attributes (6)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Identify as AHLV.</p>									
12d xiii Page bank	M	MH	MH	M	MH	M	MH	M	
<p style="text-align: right;">Largely DCLP AHLV</p> <p>Higher scoring across a range of attributes (4)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Identify as AHLV.</p>									
12d xiv Byers Green	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	M	M	LM	
<p style="text-align: right;">SLP AHLV</p> <p>Higher scoring across a range of attributes (5)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Identify as AHLV.</p>									
12d xv Cobey's Carr	LM	LM	M	LM	LM	M	LM	LM	
<p style="text-align: right;">SLP AHLV</p> <p>Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Forms part of a major river corridor of higher value but, as a recently restored waste tip, does not contribute positively at this stage.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Do not identify as AHLV.</p>									
12d xvi Willington Riverside	M	MH	MH	M	H	M	MH	LM	
<p style="text-align: right;">SLP AHLV</p> <p>Higher scoring across a range of attributes (4)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Identify as AHLV.</p>									
12e Team Valley									
12e Team Valley	MH	MH	MH	MH	H	MH	MH	LM	
<p style="text-align: right;">Part CLP AHLV</p> <p>Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Identify as AHLV.</p>									
BLT13 Lowland Valley Terraces									
13a Eastern Valley Terraces									
13a i Picktree	LM	M	LM	LM	M	MH	LM	L	
<p style="text-align: right;">Part CLP AHLV</p> <p>Moderately or lower scoring across many attributes but with a higher scoring for historic value as heavily modified part of Lambton Park</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Identify part as AHLV</p>									
13a ii Lambton Park N	M	MH	H	M	MH	H	L	MH	MH
CLP AHLV									

Appendix 2: LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA ASSESSMENTS

Higher scoring across a range of attributes (6) Identify as AHLV.										
13a iii Lambton Park E	MH	H	H	H	MH	H	LM	LM	MH	
CLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7) Identify as AHLV.										
13a iv Lambton Park South	MH	MH	H	MH	MH	H	L	M	MH	
CLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7) Identify as AHLV.										
13a v Lambton Development Area	M	MH	M	M	MH	H	LM	M	MH	
CLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes. Part housing commitment site; part employment allocation. Part of a wider landscape of high value. Retention as AHLV would reflect overall landscape quality of the site. Identify as AHLV.										
13a vi Lumley Park N	LM	M	M	LM	LM	H	LM	LM	H	
CLP AHLV Moderately or lower scoring across some attributes; higher scoring for historic and cultural associations as part of Lumley Park. Forms part of wider landscape of higher value. Identify as AHLV.										
13a vii Bournmoor West	LM	MH	LM	LM	LM	M	LM	LM		
CLP AHLV Moderately or lower scoring across most attributes. Scoring higher for scenic value as it affords views across to large linear woodland of Lambton and Lumley parks. Forms part of wider landscape of higher value. Retention as AHLV would reflect quality of that wider landscape. Identify as AHLV.										
13a viii Bournmoor East	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	M	M	LM		
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV.										
13a ix Lumley & Leamside	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	M	MH	LM		
Small part CLP AHLV Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV.										
13a x Cocken	MH	MH	M	MH	M	MH	M	LM		
DCLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (4) Identify as AHLV.										
13a xi Moorhouse & Low Grange	M	M	M	M	MH	M	LM	LM		
DCLP AHLV Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes other than nature conservation. In places forms part of wider landscape of scenic value. Moorhouses area in itself would score higher for historic interest. Identify parts towards Keping Gorge and Moorhouses as AHLV.										
13a xii Field House	LM	L	L	LM	LM	LM	LM	L		
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV.										
13a xiii Pittington West	M	M	M	M	MH	M	MH	LM		
DCLP AHLV										

Appendix 2: LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA ASSESSMENTS

Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes other than nature conservation and recreation with values concentrated in the west towards the Sherburnhouse Beck. Identify areas bordering onto Sherburnhouse Beck only as part of wider AHLV.									
13a xiv Ramside	M	MH	MH	M	M	MH	MH	LM	
DCLP AHLV Moderately or lower scoring across some attributes; higher scoring for rarity, representativeness and historic value. Identify part as AHLV.									
13a xv Elemore	M	MH	M	M	MH	MH	M	M	
Part MLELP ALV and DCLP AHLV Moderately or lower scoring across some attributes; higher scoring for scenic, nature conservation and historic value. Forms part of wider landscape of historic parkland. Identify partly as AHLV.									
13a xvi Sherburn East	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	MH	MH	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across most attributes. Scoring higher for historic value (localised) and recreation. Do not identify as AHLV.									
13a xvii Sherburn Grange	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	LM	LM	
DCLP AHLV Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV									
13a xviii Byers Garth	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	LM	LM	
Small parts west of Leamside line DCLP AHLV Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV other than parts west of Leamside line and bordering onto adjacent LCA.									
13a xix Whitwell	M	M	M	M	MH	M	LM	LM	
Small part north of Leamside line DCLP AHLV Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes other than nature conservation. Do not identify as AHLV other than parts west of Leamside line.									
13a xx Bowburn East	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	LM	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV.									
13a xxi Shadforth Valeside	MH	MH	M	MH	MH	M	MH	LM	
Largely MLEMLP ALV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (5) Identify largely as AHLV									
13a xxii Cassop Valeside	MH	MH	M	MH	M	M	LM	LM	
Part MLEMLP ALV Moderately or lower scoring across some attribute; higher scoring for condition, scenic value and representativeness. Part of wider landscape of scenic value together with Cassop Vale Identify as AHLV									
13a xxiii Old Quarrington	LM	LM	LM	LM	MH	M	M	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes other than nature conservation. Do not identify as AHLV.									
13a xxiv Bowburn West	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	M	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV.									

Appendix 2: LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA ASSESSMENTS

13a xxv High Croxdale	MH	MH	M	MH	M	MH	M	M	
DCLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (4). Identify as AHLV.									
13a xxvi Hett	MH	MH	MH	MH	M	MH	M	M	
Not previously designated although part is conservation area. Higher scoring across a range of attributes (5). Identify as AHLV.									
13a xxvii Tursdale	LM	LM	LM	LM	MH	M	M	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes other than nature conservation. Do not identify as AHLV.									
13a xxviii Thinford & Metal Bridge	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	M	M	LM	MH
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes other than cultural associations. Do not identify as AHLV.									
13a xxix Hett Moor	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	M	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV.									
13a xxx Tudhoe North	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	
Part SLP AHLV Moderately scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV.									
13a xxxi Tudhoe South	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	LM	
Not previously designated Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7). Identify as AHLV.									
13a xxxii Whitworth	MH	MH	M	MH	MH	H	MH	LM	
Part SLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7). Identify largely as AHLV.									
13a xxxiii Old Park	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	M	LM	H
Part SLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7). Identify as AHLV.									
13a xxxiv Middlestone Moor	LM	M	LM	LM	LM	M	LM	LM	H
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes other than cultural associations of a general nature. Do not identify as AHLV.									
13a xxxv Middlestone Moor S	LM	LM	LM	LM	MH	M	LM	LM	MH
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes other than nature conservation and cultural associations of a general nature. Do not identify as AHLV.									
13a xxxvi Long Lane	LM	M	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	H
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes other than cultural associations of a general nature. Do not identify as AHLV.									

Appendix 2: LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA ASSESSMENTS

13b Western Valley terraces									
13b i Perkinsville & Ouston	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	M	MH	LM	
Small part CLP AHLV Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes other than recreation. Higher values for condition and scenic value around High Urpeth Do not identify as AHLV other than area around High Urpeth									
13b ii Pelton	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	M	MH	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes other than recreation. Do not identify as AHLV.									
13b iii Hett Hills	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	LM	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV.									
13b iv Waldridge	MH	MH	H	H	H	MH	H	LM	
Not previously designated Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7) Identify as AHLV.									
13b v Waldridge East	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	M	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV.									
13b vi Hermitage	MH	MH	MH	MH	M	H	L	LM	
Part CLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (5) Identify as AHLV.									
13b vii Chester Moor	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	M	LM	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Area of young community woodland in east has higher values for scenic, recreational and nature conservation value Do not identify as AHLV other than community woodlands as part of wider AHLV									
13b viii Plawsworth Cottage	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	LM	LM	
Not previously designated Higher scoring across a range of attributes (6) Identify as AHLV.									
13b ix Hagg House	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	LM	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV.									
13b x Sniperley & Kimblesworth	LM	M	LM	LM	M	M	LM	LM	
Small part in south DCLP ALV Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV.									
13b xi Sniperley Park	M	MH	MH	M	M	H	LM	LM	
CLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (5) Identify largely as AHLV									
13b xii Whitesmocks	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	H	M	LM	H
CLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (5) Identify as AHLV									

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13b xiii Brasside N & Finchale	LM	LM	LM	LM	H	M	M	LM	
Part DCLP ALV Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes other than nature conservation. Do not identify as AHLV other than parts adjacent to other LCA									
13b xiv Brasside S	MH	M	MH	MH	H	M	MH	LM	
Part DCLP ALV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (5) Identify largely as AHLV									
13b xv Merryoaks	LM	M	LM	LM	LM	M	M	LM	
Small part DCLP ALV Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes Do not identify as AHLV other than small part in south as part of wider AHLV									
13b xvi Langley	M	M	M	M	MH	M	MH	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than nature conservation and recreation. Do not identify as AHLV									
13b xvii Meadowfield	L	L	L	L	LM	M	LM	L	
Part DCLP ALV Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Areas east of the ECML are of higher value and for part of wider landscape of scenic value. Do not identify as AHLV other than parts east of ECML									
13b xviii Browney Lane	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	LM	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV									
13b xix Red Barns & Nafferton	M	M	M	M	M	H	LM	LM	
Small part DCLP AHLV Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than historic value Do not identify as AHLV other than small area within Brancepeth Park									
13b xx Brancepeth Park E	MH	H	MH	MH	MH	H	LM	M	
DCLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (6) Identify as AHLV									
13b xxi Brancepeth Park S	M	MH	MH	M	MH	H	M	M	
CLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (4) Identify as AHLV									
13b xxii Brancepeth Park W	M	MH	MH	M	M	MH	M	LM	
Not previously identified Higher scoring across a range of attributes (6) Identify as AHLV									
13b xxiii Brancepeth Park SW	M	M	M	M	M	H	LM	M	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes other than historic interest, forming part of registered parkland. Higher value dene complex in south Identify as AHV									
13b xxiv Willington East	LM	M	LM	LM	LM	M	M	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV									
13b xxv Willington South Dene	MH	MH	M	MH	H	M	LM	LM	

<p>Not previously designated Higher scoring across a range of attributes due to presence of wooded dene. Identify part as AHLV as part of wider Willington Dene AHLV</p>

East Durham Limestone Plateau

BLT14 Limestone Escarpment										
Character area / Sub-area	Condition	Scenic	Rarity	Represent	Cl: natural	Cl: historic	Recreation	Perceptual	Cultural	
14a Limestone Escarpment Ridge										
14a i Western Escarpment	M	MH	MH	M	M	MH	LM	LM	MH	
Part MLEMLP AHLV Higher scoring across a number of attributes (4). Higher values are associated with areas around the ridgetop and historic villages and hamlets. Identify higher ground of ridge top as AHLV										
14a ii Western Dipslope	M	M	MH	M	M	MH	M	LM		
Part MLEMLP AHLV Moderately or lower scoring for a number of attributes. Higher scoring for rarity and historic value. Higher values are associated with areas around the ridgetop and historic villages and hamlets. There are some localised areas of better condition not reflected in the overall score. Scenic value could be higher if it reflected importance of views out from the ridge top. Identify higher ground of ridge top as AHLV										
14a iii Ferryhill South	LM	LM	M	LM	LM	M	M	LM		
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV										
14a iv Ferryhill Gap	M	MH	H	M	H	M	MH	LM		
Part MLEMLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes. Although containing some notable detractors the Ferryhill Gap is an important landscape feature. Identify as AHLV										
14a v Mainsforth	MH	MH	M	MH	MH	MH	M	LM		
Part MLEMLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (5) Identify parts as AHLV										
14a vi Thrislington & Cornforth	L	L	L	L	MH	LM	LM	LM		
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes other than nature conservation Do not identify as AHLV										
14a vii Bishop Middleham North	LM	LM	M	LM	M	M	M	LM		
Part MLEMLP ALV Moderately or lower scoring across most attributes Do not identify as AHLV										
14a viii Bishop Middleham South	MH	MH	H	MH	MH	MH	MH	LM		
Not previously designated Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7) Higher values closely associated with medieval deer park and melt water channels. Identify parts as AHLV										
14a ix Garmondsway	LM	LM	M	LM	MH	MH	M	LM		
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than nature conservation and historic interest. Do not identify as AHLV										

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14a x Eastern Dipslope	LM	M	M	LM	MH	M	LM	LM	
<p>Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than nature conservation interest. Do not identify as AHLV</p>									
14a xi Trimdon West	LM	LM	M	LM	M	M	M	LM	
<p>Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV</p>									
14b Northern Limestone Escarpment									
14b i Elemore	MH	MH	MH	MH	H	MH	MH	M	
<p>Part MLEMLP ALV, and DCLP and ELP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7) Identify largely as AHLV</p>									
14b ii Sherburn	LM	LM	MH	LM	H	M	LM	LM	
<p>Part MLEMLP ALV Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than rarity and nature conservation both closely associated with the spur of Sherburn Hill. Do not identify as AHLV other than spur</p>									
14b iii Shadforth	M	M	MH	M	MH	MH	M	LM	
<p>Part MLEMLP ALV Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than rarity, nature conservation and historic interest. Contains some localised areas in better condition, forming part of the setting of Shadforth and wider views along the escarpment. Identify areas immediately around Shadforth and dry valley to the east as AHLV</p>									
14b iv Cassop Vale	MH	MH	MH	H	H	MH	M	LM	
<p>MLEMLP ALV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (6) Identify as AHLV</p>									
14b v Cassop	M	M	MH	M	M	M	MH	LM	
<p>Small part MLEMLP ALV Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than representativeness and recreation. Do not identify as AHLV</p>									
14b vi Quarrington Hill	LM	LM	MH	LM	H	M	MH	LM	
<p>Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than representativeness, nature conservation and recreation. Contains notable detractors in active quarry and landfill. Do not identify as AHLV</p>									
14b vii Old Thornley	M	MH	MH	M	H	MH	MH	LM	
<p>MLEMLP ALV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (5) Identify largely as AHLV</p>									
14b viii Thornley Moor	M	M	M	M	MH	M	M	LM	
<p>Small part MLEMLP ALV Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than nature conservation. Do not identify as AHLV</p>									
14b ix Kelloe	M	M	M	M	MH	M	M	LM	
<p>MLEMLP ALV Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than nature conservation. Do not identify as AHLV</p>									
14b x Coxhoe Park & Kelloe Vale	M	M	MH	M	MH	MH	MH	LM	H
<p>Part MLEMLP ALV</p>									

Appendix 2: LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA ASSESSMENTS

Higher scoring across a range of attributes (5) but a variable LCA with notable detractors in the east and west Identify part (Coxhoe Hall Park and Raisby Hill Grasslands) as AHLV									
14b xi Raisby	L	L	L	L	H	LM	M	L	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than nature conservation. Do not identify as AHLV									
14c Southern Limestone Escarpment									
14c i Coundon	LM	LM	M	LM	LM	M	M	LM	
Part MLEMLP ALV Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV									
14c ii Eldon	LM	M	LM	LM	MH	M	M	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than nature conservation. Do not identify as AHLV									
14c iii Shildon North	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	LM	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV									
14c iv Shildon East	LM	LM	LM	LM	MH	M	LM	LM	H
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than nature conservation and associations. Do not identify as AHLV									
14c v Aycliffe South	M	MH	M	M	MH	M	LM	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than representativeness and nature conservation. Do not identify as AHLV									
14c vi Shildon South	LM	LM	M	LM	M	LM	M	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV									
14c vii Howlish	M	MH	MH	MH	MH	M	M	LM	
Part MLEMLP ALV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (4). Identify as AHLV									
BLT15 Clay Plateau									
15a Central East Durham Plateau									
15a i Seaton & Slingley	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	M	M	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV									
15a ii Murton South	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	M	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV									
15a iii Hawthorn Colliery	L	L	LM	L	MH	M	M	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than nature conservation. Do not identify as AHLV									

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15a iv Haswell Moor	LM	LM	LM	LM	MH	M	MH	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than nature conservation and recreation. Do not identify as AHLV									
15a v Thornley & Wheatley Hill	LM	LM	LM	LM	MH	M	M	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than nature conservation. Do not identify as AHLV									
15a vi Easington Moor	LM	LM	LM	LM	MH	M	LM	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than nature conservation. Do not identify as AHLV									
15a vii Shotton Moor	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	M	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV									
15a viii Shotton East	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	M	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV									
15a ix Wingate West	M	MH	M	M	M	M	LM	LM	
Part ELP AHLV Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than scenic value. Identify heavily wooded landscapes in the north as AHLV									
15a x Wingate & Station town East	LM	LM	LM	LM	MH	M	MH	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than nature conservation and recreation. Do not identify as AHLV									
15a xi South Wingate & Hurworth	M	M	M	M	MH	M	MH	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than nature conservation and recreation. Do not identify as AHLV									
15a xii Hurworth Bryan	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	M	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV									
15a xiii Trimdons	M	M	M	M	MH	M	M	LM	H
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than nature conservation and associations. Do not identify as AHLV									
BLT16 Coastal Limestone Plateau									
16a Coastal East Durham Plateau									
16a i Seaham Grange	LM	LM	M	LM	MH	M	LM	LM	H
Part ELP AHLV Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than nature conservation and associations. Do not identify as AHLV other than cemetery area									
16a ii Seaham Hall park	M	MH	MH	M	H	MH	LM	LM	H
Not previously designated Higher scoring across a range of attributes (5). Identify as AHLV									
16a iii Seaton South	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	LM	LM	

Appendix 2: LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA ASSESSMENTS

	Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV									
16a iv Dalton Moor	MH	M	M	MH	MH	M	MH	LM		
	Not previously designated Higher scoring across a range of attributes. Large community woodland in early establishment phase likely to increase progressively in value over the plan period. Identify as AHLV									
16a v Dalton-le-Dale	M	MH	H	M	H	MH	LM	LM		
	Not previously designated Higher scoring across a range of attributes (4). Identify parts as AHLV									
16a vi Dalton Hill	LM	LM	MH	LM	LM	M	M	LM	H	
	Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes other than cultural associations (localised) and rarity (sea view). Do not identify as AHLV									
16a vii Fox Cover	M	M	MH	M	MH	M	M	LM		
	Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than rarity (sea view) and nature conservation. Do not identify as AHLV									
16a viii Batter Law	LM	LM	M	LM	M	M	M	LM		
	Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV									
16a ix Cold Hesleden	LM	M	MH	LM	LM	M	LM	LM		
	Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than rarity (sea view) Do not identify as AHLV									
16a x Kinley Hill	M	MH	H	M	M	MH	LM	LM		
	Part ELP ALV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (4). Identify parts as AHLV									
16a xi Hawthorn Quarry	L	L	L	L	H	LM	L	L		
	ELP ALV Lower scoring across all attributes other than nature conservation. Do not identify as AHLV									
16a xii Hawthorn	MH	MH	H	H	H	MH	MH	M		
	Part ELP ALV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7). Identify as AHLV									
16a xiii Easington North	M	M	MH	M	M	M	M	LM		
	Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than rarity (sea view) Do not identify as AHLV									
16a xiv Easington South	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	LM	LM		
	Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV									
16a xv Horden Dene	M	M	H	M	MH	M	M	LM		
	Part ELP ALV									

Appendix 2: LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA ASSESSMENTS

Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes other than rarity and nature conservation. Higher values within Horden Dene itself. Identify Horden Dene as AHLV									
16a xvi Castle Eden Dene	MH	MH	H	H	H	H	H	LM	
Part ELP ALV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7). Identify as AHLV									
16a xvii Castle Eden	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	LM	
ELP ALV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7). Identify as AHLV									
16a xviii Head's Hope	LM	LM	LM	LM	MH	M	MH	LM	
Part ELP ALV Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes other than nature conservation and recreation. Higher values within the Dene in the south. Identify southern Dene as AHLV									
16a xix Hesleden	LM	M	MH	LM	LM	M	MH	LM	
Part ELP ALV Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes other than rarity (sea view) and recreation. Do not identify as AHLV other than small areas bordering higher value LCA									
16a xx Hesleden dene	MH	MH	H	H	H	M	MH	M	
ELP ALV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7). Identify as AHLV									
16b Sheraton									
16b i Hulam	LM	M	MH	LM	H	M	M	M	
Part ELP ALV Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes other than rarity (sea view) and nature conservation (Sheraton Kames LGS). Scenic value increases in the north along Hesleden Dene where the geological interest lies Identify area towards Hesleden and Nesbitt Denes as AHLV									
16b ii Sheraton & Hutton Henry	M	M	M	M	LM	M	MH	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes other than recreation. Do not identify as AHLV									
16b iii Sheraton Grange	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV									
BLT17 Limestone Coast									
17a The Durham Coast									
17a the Durham Coast	M	MH	H	H	H	M	H	MH	H
ELP ALV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7). Identify as AHLV									

Tees Lowlands

BLT18 Lowland Plain										
Character area / Sub-area	Condition	Scenic	Rarity	Represent	Cl: natural	Cl: historic	Recreation	Perceptual	Cultural	
18a Butterwick & Shotton										
18a i Humble Knowle	M	M	M	M	M	M	LM	M		
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV										
18a ii Butterwick	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	LM	LM		
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV										
18a iii Sedgefield East	M	M	M	M	LM	M	LM	M		
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV										
18a iv Beacon Hill	M	LM	M	M	LM	M	LM	LM		
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV										
18a v Old Acres & Dial Hill	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	LM	LM		
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV										
18a vi Shotton & Foxton	LM	LM	LM	LM	MH	M	M	M		
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes other than nature conservation. Do not identify as AHLV other than small areas (woodland) bordering Wynyard										
18a vii Diamond hall	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	LM	LM		
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV										
18a viii Bog Hall	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M		
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV										
18a ix Stillington Moor	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	LM	M		
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV										
18a x Elstob	MH	MH	M	MH	M	M	LM	M		
Not previously designated Moderately scoring across most attributes but higher for scenic value, condition (reflecting recent enhancement in the west of the area) and representativeness. Forms part of wider tract of similar landscape with 18c viii Grindon Identify as AHLV										

Appendix 2: LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA ASSESSMENTS

18a xi Stillington	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	LM	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV									
18a xii Mill House	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	M	M	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV									
18b Embleton									
18b i Walkway Wind Farm	MH	LM	M	MH	MH	M	LM	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across a number of attributes. Higher scoring for condition, representativeness and nature conservation value. Containing notable detractors: large wind turbines Do not identify as AHLV									
18b ii Embleton	MH	MH	M	MH	MH	M	MH	M	
Not previously designated Higher scoring across a range of attributes (5). More remote parts of the area not affected by roads or wind turbines would score higher for perceptual factors. Identify largely as AHLV									
18c Sedgefield Windlestone & Aycliffe									
18 c i Lizards farm	M	M	M	M	MH	M	L	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes other than nature conservation. Do not identify as AHLV									
18c ii Knotty Hill & Low Hardwick	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV other than small areas bordering onto adjacent LCA									
18c iii Hardwick Park	H	H	H	H	MH	H	H	M	H
Not previously designated Higher scoring across a range of attributes (8). Identify as AHLV									
18c iv Brakes Farm & Sands hall	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	LM	LM	
Not previously designated Higher scoring across a range of attributes (6). A variable LCA with higher value landscapes in the north and around Sand's Hall but crossed by a busy road and with consented chalet development in the central area. Identify northern part as AHLV									
18c v Morden South	MH	M	M	MH	M	M	M	M	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than condition and representativeness. Do not identify as AHLV									
18c vi Morden Moor	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	LM	M	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV									
18c vii Bradbury	M	M	M	M	M	M	LM	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV									

Appendix 2: LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA ASSESSMENTS

18c viii Grindon Lane	MH	MH	M	MH	M	M	LM	M	
Not previously designated Higher scoring for a number of attributes (3). Forms part of wider tract with 18a x Elstob. Identify as AHLV									
18c ix Preston South	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	LM	M	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV									
18c x Aycliffe Quarry	L	L	L	L	MH	LM	L	L	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes other than nature conservation. Do not identify as AHLV									
18c xi Aycliffe South	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	LM	LM	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV									
18c xii Forest hall	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV									
18c xii Preston Heworth & Aycliffe	MH	M	M	MH	MH	MH	M	LM	
Not previously designated Higher scoring across a range of attributes (4). Higher values are closely associated with the corridor of the Skerne. Identify Skerne corridor as AHLV									
18c xiii Copelaw	M	M	M	M	M	M	LM	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV									
18c xiv Carrsides	M	M	M	M	M	M	LM	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV									
18c xv Nunstainton	LM	LM	LM	LM	LM	M	LM	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV									
18c xvi Woodham	M	MH	M	M	MH	M	LM	LM	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes other than scenic value and nature conservation. Do not identify as AHLV.									
18c xvii Windlestone	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	M	LM	M	
Largely MLEMLP ALV and former ASLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (5). Identify largely as AHLV									
18c xviii Windlestone Park	MH	H	H	H	MH	H	LM	M	H
Largely MLEMLP ALV former ASLV and registered HP&G Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7). Identify as AHLV									
18c xix Middridge & Eldon	MH	M	M	MH	M	M	M	M	
Not previously designated									

Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than condition and representativeness. Do not identify as AHLV										
18c xx Oakleaf & Twin Oaks	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across all attributes. Do not identify as AHLV										
18c xxi Nunstainton East	M	LM	M	M	MH	MH	LM	LM		
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than nature conservation and historical interest. Do not identify as AHLV										
BLT19 Lowland Carrs										
19a Bradbury Preston and Morden Carrs										
19a i Northern Carrs	LM	MH	MH	MH	M	M	LM	M		
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across some attributes. Higher scoring for scenic value, rarity and representativeness (3). Some parts of the area away from the Motorway would score higher for perceptual factors (remoteness). Identify as AHLV										
19a ii Southern Carrs	M	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	LM	M		
Not previously designated Higher scoring across a range of attributes (5). Identify as AHLV										
19b Nunstainton, Mainsforth and Middleham Carrs										
19b Nunstainton, Mainsforth & Middleham Carrs	M	M	MH	M	MH	M	LM	LM		
Not previously designated Moderately or lower scoring across some attributes. Higher scoring for rarity and nature conservation value. Scenic value higher in the north. Identify northern part as AHLV										
BLT20: Lowland River terraces										
20a The River Tees										
20a i Gainford	MH	MH	MH	H	H	MH	MH	M	M	
TDLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7). Identify as AHLV										
20a ii Ovington	MH	MH	MH	H	H	MH	MH	MH	H	
TDLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (9). Identify as AHLV										
BLT21: Lowland Vale										
21a Northern tees Vale										
21a i Raby Park	H	H	H	H	MH	H	M	M	H	
TDLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7). Identify as AHLV										
21a ii Raby park west	H	H	MH	H	MH	H	LM	M	H	
TDLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (7). Identify as AHLV										

Appendix 2: LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA ASSESSMENTS

21a iii Staindrop	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	M	LM	M
TDP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (6). Identify as AHLV									
21a iv Staindrop Carrs	MH	MH	M	MH	MH	M	LM	M	
TDLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (4). Identify as AHLV									
21a v Burton House	MH	MH	M	MH	M	MH	LM	M	M
TDLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (4). Identify as AHLV									
21a vi Grainger barn	LM	M	LM	LM	LM	M	LM	M	
TDLP AHLV Moderate and lower scoring across all attributes but forming part of a wider landscape of higher value. Identify as AHLV									
21a vii Ingleton	MH	MH	MH	MH	M	MH	M	M	
TDLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (5). Identify as AHLV									
21a viii Killerby	M	MH	LM	M	M	M	LM	M	
TDLP AHLV Moderate and lower scoring across all attributes other than scenic value but forming part of a wider landscape of higher value. Identify as AHLV									
21a ix Langton	MH	MH	MH	MH	M	MH	M	M	
TDLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (5). Identify as AHLV									
21a x Staindrop South	MH	MH	M	MH	M	M	M	M	M
TDLP AHLV Moderate and lower scoring across some attributes. Higher scoring for condition, scenic value and representativeness. Forming part of a wider landscape of higher value. Identify as AHLV									
21a xi Selaby & Gainford	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	M	M	M
TDLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (6). Identify as AHLV									
21a xii Bolam Grange	MH	MH	M	MH	M	M	M	M	
TDLP AHLV Moderate and lower scoring across some attributes. Higher scoring for condition, scenic value and representativeness. Forming part of a wider landscape of higher value. Identify as AHLV									
21b Southern Tees Vale									
21b i Barforth	M	MH	M	M	M	M	LM	M	
TDLP AHLV Moderate and lower scoring across most attributes. Higher scoring for scenic value. Northern area towards the Tees forms part of a wider landscape of higher value. Identify area towards the Tees as AHLV									
21b ii Ovington Grange	LM	M	LM	LM	LM	M	LM	M	

Appendix 2: LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA ASSESSMENTS

<p>Small area towards Tees TDLP AHLV Moderately or lower scoring across attributes other than rarity. Identify small area towards the Tees as AHLV</p>										
21b iii Whorlton	MH	MH	M	MH	MH	M	M	M	M	
<p>TDLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (4). Identify as AHLV</p>										
21b iv Ovington	MH	MH	MH	MH	M	MH	M	M	M	H
<p>Small part in north TDLP AHLV Higher scoring across a range of attributes (6). Identify as AHLV</p>										
21b v Hutton Magna	LM	M	M	LM	M	M	M	M	M	H
<p>Small part in west TDLP AHLV Moderate and lower scoring across most attributes. Higher scoring only for associations (Dickens at Thorpe Farm). Do not identify as AHLV other than in areas of better condition bordering higher value LCAs</p>										
21b vi Thorpe hall	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH	M	M	M	
<p>Not previously designated Higher scoring across a range of attributes (6). Identify as AHLV</p>										