



ADEL NEIGHBOURHOOD LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

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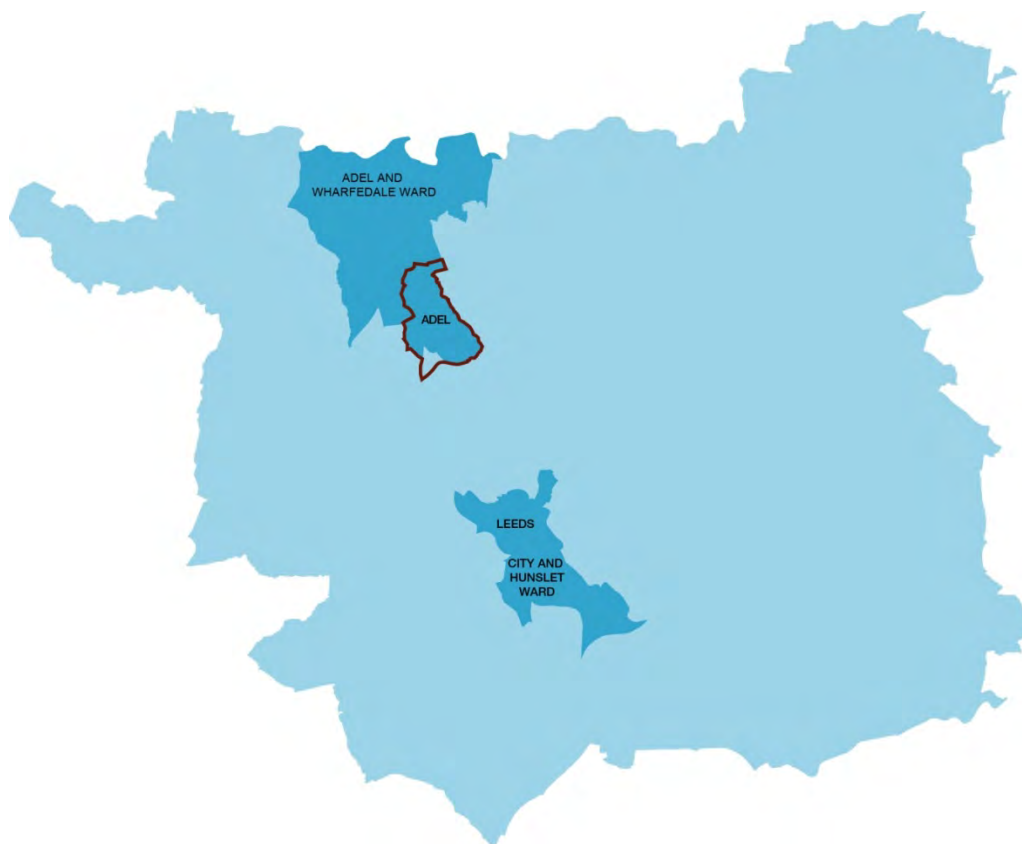
- 1 Designated Sites and UK Priority Habitats
- 2 Landscape Character Areas
- 3 Landscape Analysis Plan

APPENDICES

- 1 Site Survey Record Sheet (Example)
- 2 Landscape Character Area Description Sheets

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1.1 This 'Landscape Character Assessment of Adel Neighbourhood' has been commissioned by Adel Neighbourhood Forum (ANF) to inform and support the preparation of the Adel Neighbourhood Plan. The brief put forward seeks assess the character of the Adel Neighbourhood landscape and its sensitivity and capacity to accommodate change and future development, in order to inform the Neighbourhood Plan. In doing so the report should determine sites that have inherent landscape quality that are particularly sensitive, which define the character of Adel.
- 1.1.2 Natural England describes landscape character as what makes an area unique. It is defined as "a distinct, recognisable and consistent pattern of elements, be it natural (soil, landform) and/or human (for example settlement and development) in the landscape that makes one landscape different from another "(Countryside Agency (now Natural England)/SNH (April 2002), 'Landscape Character Assessment – Guidance for England and Scotland').
- 1.1.3 This study has been undertaken in line with the Natural England's best practice guidelines along with a focus on the experiences and perception of the local residents of their landscape and surroundings. As well as reviewing the elements that make up the character i.e. the physical nature of the landscape and its land use, the experience of living or working within the area or driving or walking around it has been considered. Important views, valued walks, local landmarks etc have all been discussed with the residents of the parish and the findings have been used to develop the landscape character areas set out below.



Inset 1 | Leeds City Council Administrative Area and Proposed Adel Neighbourhood Boundary

2 APPROACH

2.1 Methodology

- 2.1.1 Landscape Character Assessment, is the recognised methodology for describing the landscape and its defining characteristics at a variety of scales from national through to regional, district and parish. Guidelines for undertaking such assessments were published by Natural England (formerly the Countryside Agency) in 2002 and 'Landscape Character Assessment Guidance for England and Scotland' remains the recognised standard for such studies. Landscape character assessment is also recognised by national government within the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).
- 2.1.2 This parish based assessment has been undertaken in several stages. Following the development of the brief and scope of this study with members of the neighbourhood forum, the first stage was to undertake a 'desk based' assessment which included a review of current and historical mapping, planning policy and existing, published, character assessments.
- 2.1.3 The second stage involved a series of site visits and walking of most of the footpaths and lanes within the parish. These were recorded with photographs and written notes describing the features within the landscape, views, landmarks etc. and were undertaken by a competent Landscape Architect. The field visits were carried out in late Autumn and Winter when visibility is least restricted due to trees and shrubs with limited leaf cover and with grassed fields without flower or seed heads.
- 2.1.4 The third stage involved drawing up an initial character area map and describing the key characteristics of each area.
- 2.1.5 The final stage was the collation of information into a map and series of descriptions for each character area. The findings have been analysed and the Neighbourhood divided into areas of distinct Landscape character (section 4). Each character area has then been assessed individually in the tables in section 4. The information for each area has then been used to assess in broad terms the sensitivity and landscape value of each area, which when considered together result in the area's landscape capacity for change. The summary of the results is shown in the final row of the table. The 'change' has not been specified at this point although primarily residential development is the main consideration for Adel and the Neighbourhood plan.
- 2.1.6 The results of the landscape capacity study were then used to set out our summary and conclusions (section 5) in order to fulfil the brief, advise the Neighbourhood plan. The results explain which areas of Adel:
- Have an inherent landscape quality that is particularly sensitive, which defines the character of the neighbourhood
 - Have the potential for development and would have least impact on the landscape and character of the neighbourhood

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 Desk Study

3.1.1 Initially, a comprehensive desk-top assessment of the local area was undertaken to form the basis of the assessment and assist in identifying the Neighbourhood landscape character areas, the boundary for the study area is the extents of the Adel Neighbourhood boundary provided by the Adel Neighbourhood forum. Desk study data consider includes:

- Geology and soils;
- Topography;
- Land use (based on aerial photography);
- National, Regional and District landscape character assessments;
- Historic landscape characterisation;
- Local landscape, nature conservation, and heritage designations;
- Key public rights of way (e.g. long-distance footpaths) and notable view points;
- Areas at risk of flooding.

3.1.2 The data was analysed and set out in working plans, tables, figures and text, and used to review the existing landscape character assessments and provisionally subdivide the County/District character areas into draft landscape character areas appropriate to the Neighbourhood scale. The study area boundary was the revised Adel Parish boundary although some character areas do extend beyond this and link to a wider landscape.

3.2 Field Assessment

3.2.1 The assessment is underpinned by field assessments carried out during late autumn and winter of 2014 and subsequent visits in early 2015 by an experienced Landscape Architect.

3.2.2 Field assessment involved travelling extensively throughout Adel and the immediate surroundings. This involved recording variations in landscape character on field survey sheets and making a working photographic record, including (list is not exhaustive): local topography, existing land uses and vegetation structure, condition of landscape elements (trees, hedges etc), streams/ditches, character of the built edge of settlements, inter-visibility between settlements, local landmarks and visual detractors, relationship with the any designated landscape or biodiversity sites and key views. An example of the site record sheet used is included within Appendix 1.

3.3 Landscape Character Context

3.3.1 There are already studies which exist at a national, regional and district scale and this section will summarise the findings of these assessments as they form an important basis for the more detailed parish level assessment below.

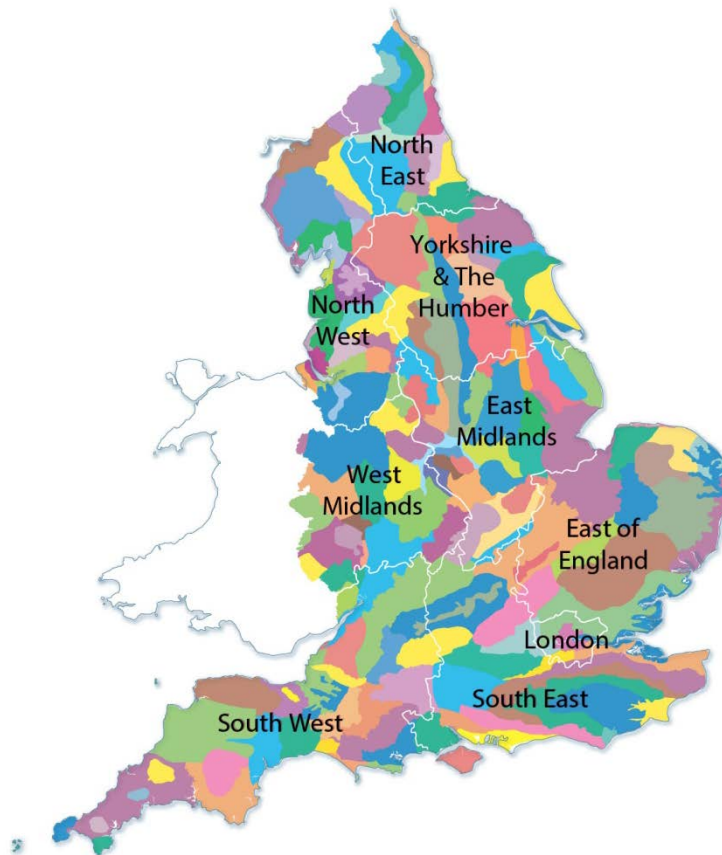
3.4 National Planning Policy Context

- 3.4.1 At a national level, the landscape is recognised as an important asset and this is set out in planning policy as well as being promoted by government bodies such as Natural England and English Heritage. In 2006 the government signed up to the European Landscape Convention which became binding in 2007. Part of delivering the objectives of the convention has been through the preparation and application of landscape character assessments. Such assessments have become important and recognised tools in helping decision making bodies, developers and the general public understand distinctions between landscapes at all scales as well as helping set policy relating to the conservation or enhancement of the landscape. The convention defines landscape as “An area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors.” (Council of Europe 2000)
- 3.4.2 Under the Localism Act 2011, the government sets out that local communities, through a Parish Council or through the formation of a local forum, can produce Neighbourhood Plans with a view to setting locally based guidance on where new development can go and what any such development should look like. This landscape character assessment will be used to inform the policies set out in the potential Neighbourhood Plan and will form part of the ‘evidence base’ for the Plan.
- 3.4.3 The NPPF forms the primary national planning policy in respect of new development and seeks to promote sustainable development across the country. Local Plans (those prepared by the District Councils) are also required to be in line with the NPPF. Neighbourhood Plans are required to be in line with both the NPPF and Local Plan policy.
- 3.4.4 The NPPF sets out 12 ‘core principles’ the first of which states that decision making should “be genuinely plan-led, empowering local people to shape their surroundings, with succinct local and neighbourhood plans setting out a positive vision for the future of the area.”
- 3.4.5 The fourth principle states that decision making should “always seek to secure high quality design and a good standard of amenity for all existing and future occupants of land and buildings” and the fifth principle states that it should “take account of the different roles and character of different areas, promoting the vitality of our main urban areas, protecting the Green Belts around them, recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside and supporting thriving rural communities within it”.
- 3.4.6 Section 8 of the NPPF, Promoting Healthy Communities, sets out the national policy relating to access to open space and its importance to health and well-being, whilst much of this policy is concerned with formal open space and sports provision, paragraph 75 states that “Planning policies should protect and enhance public rights of way and access. Local authorities should seek opportunities to provide better facilities for users, for example by adding links to existing rights of way networks including National Trails.”
- 3.4.7 Section 11, Conserving and Enhancing the Natural Environment sets out how policy and decision making should protect and enhance the natural environment including minimising impact on bio-diversity and ‘protecting and enhancing valued landscapes’ with an emphasis on existing ‘protected

landscapes'. Section 12 goes on to set out policy relating to Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment noting that policy and planning decisions should take account of "opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a place."

- 3.4.8 Paragraph 170, which sets out requirements for local authorities in respect of preparing an 'evidence base' to support their local plans, states that "Where appropriate, landscape character assessments should also be prepared, integrated with assessment of historic landscape character, and for areas where there are major expansion options assessments of landscape sensitivity."

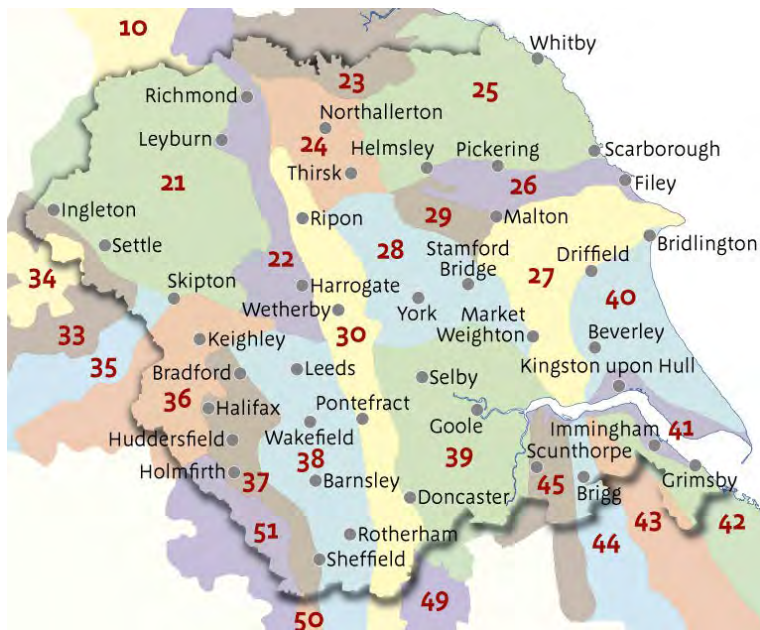
3.5 National Landscape Character Area



Inset 2 | National Character Area Map

- 3.5.1 Natural England republished all national level character assessments in 2014. Adel neighbourhood falls within character area 38 Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield. Adel is situated within the northern most section of this large area (see Inset below) covers a large area and is summarised below:

"The Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield is an area that has seen great change over the past few centuries. The impact of widespread industrialisation and development on the landscape and settlement pattern within the National Character Area (NCA) is clear, influencing the visual and ecological landscape. The geological deposits of coal and iron, along with the water supply, brought mass industrialisation to the area to exploit these resources. A generally low-lying area, with hills and escarpments above wide valleys, the landscape embraces major industrial towns and cities as well as villages and countryside.



Inset 3 | NCA – Yorkshire and Humber Region

Over half of the NCA (64 per cent) is currently designated as greenbelt land; this maintains some distinction between settlements and represents areas that are often under pressure for development and changes in land use. Very little of the NCA is designated for geology or nature conservation, but instead the landscape is dotted with many pockets and patches of habitat where species find refuge. This is often on land that was once worked for minerals or occupied by major industry, and as these enterprises have declined the land they once dominated has opened up with opportunities to create a new landscape which will continue to provide a strong sense of place for local populations.

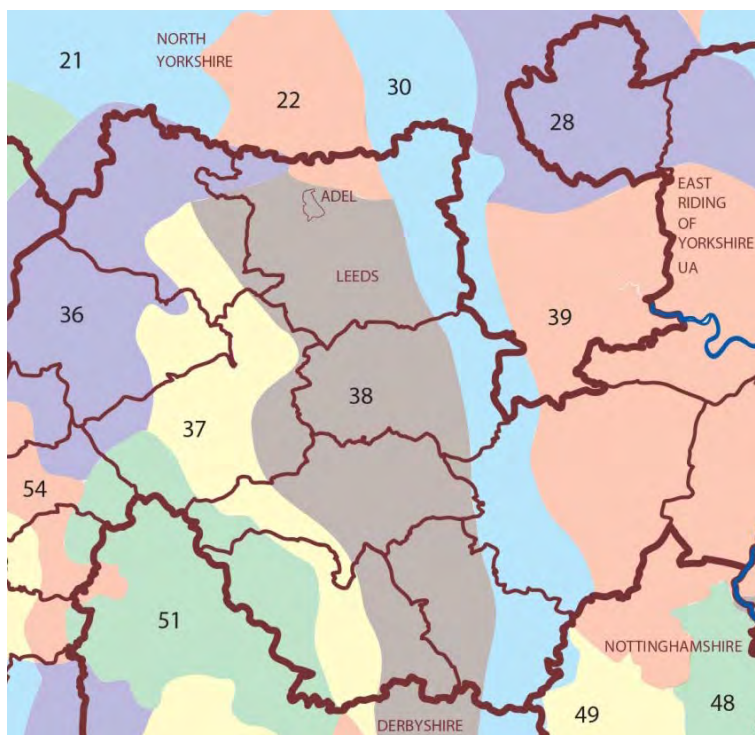
The large populations of the towns and cities within the NCA mean that there will be opportunities to better engage people with the natural and historical environment, creating new access and recreational openings that deliver a better quality of life while also helping people and wildlife to adapt to a changing climate.

The NCA is an important area nationally for history, especially in relation to industrialisation and the story of its impact on the landscape. Opportunities should be taken to restore and maintain historical features in the landscape and to explore how they can be interpreted and used to educate and engage people with the landscape.

Rivers and waterways are an important feature in the landscape, often linking rural and urban areas and increasingly providing green corridors and tranquil settings for both people and wildlife. The source of the water is outside the NCA, as is the case for a number of ecosystem services, and the large population means that the area is a key user of ecosystem services (such as water) that are provided by surrounding NCAs. A key challenge will be to improve links between this NCA and others in order to get a better understanding of the delivery of ecosystem services and how they can be improved.”

3.5.2 Key Characteristics of the area applicable to Adel are listed below:

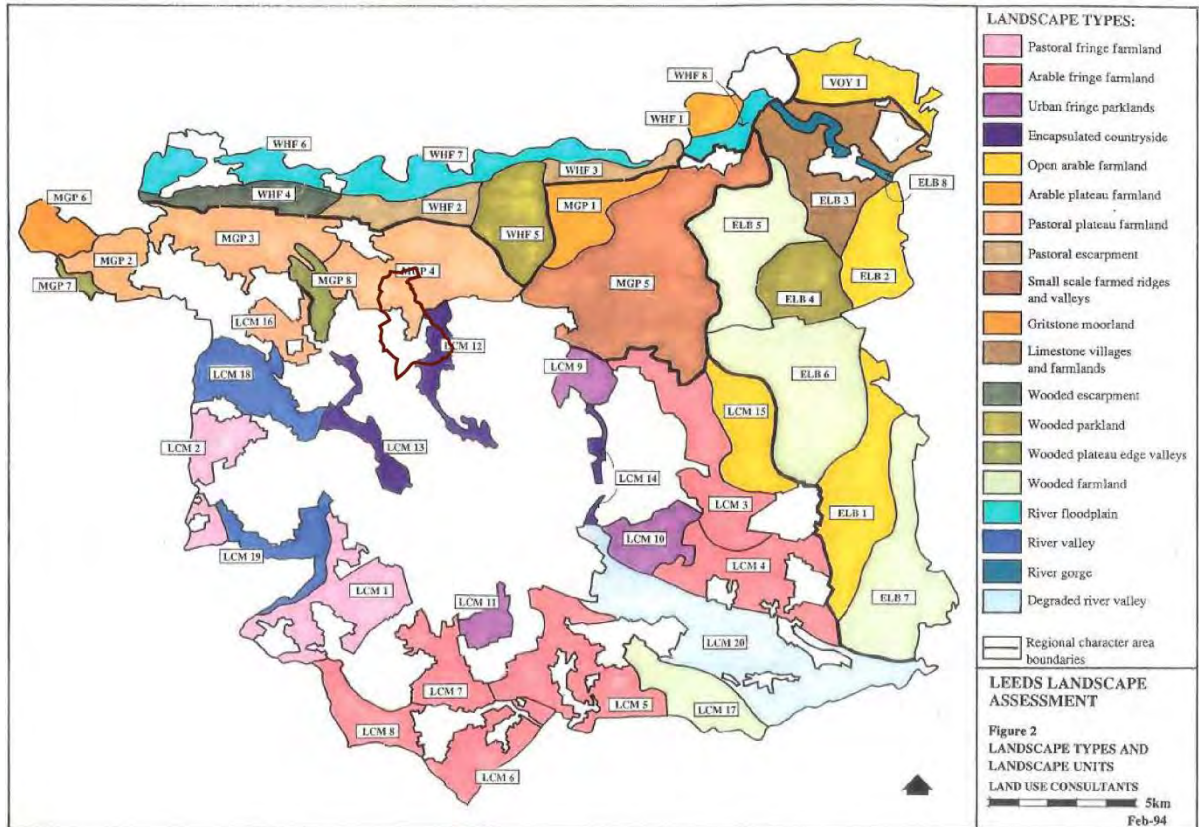
- A low-lying landscape of rolling ridges with rounded sandstone escarpments and large rivers running through broad valleys, underlain by Pennine Coal Measures.
- Local variations in landscape character reflecting variations in underlying geology.
- A mixed pattern of built-up areas, industrial land, pockets of dereliction and farmed open country.
- Small, fragmented remnants of pre-industrial landscapes and more recent creation of semi-natural vegetation, including woodlands, river valley habitats and subsidence flashes, with field boundaries of clipped hedges or fences.
- Many areas affected by urban fringe pressures creating fragmented landscapes, some with a dilapidated character, separated by substantial stretches of intact agricultural land in both arable and pastoral use.
- Features of industrial heritage such as mills, goits, tips, old railway lines, canals and bridges are evident, along with former mining villages.
- Many large country houses and estates established by wealthy industrialists in the 18th and 19th centuries and ancient monuments create focal points and important recreational opportunities within the landscape.



Inset 4 | NCA with Administrative Areas and Adel Neighbourhood Boundary

3.6 Regional Scale

3.6.1 The Leeds Landscape Assessment carried out in 2004 indicates that Adel is characterised by two regional character areas, the Millstone Grit Plateau (MGP) to the northern half and Leeds Coal Measures (LCM) to the south eastern, the remainder has not been characterised but is primarily urbanised areas i.e. areas of primarily housing associated with the conurbation of Adel (See Inset 5 below).



Inset 5 | Leeds Landscape Assessment Landscape Types with Adel Neighbourhood Boundary

3.6.2 The following sections have been taken from the Leeds Landscape Assessment (Land Use Consultants, 2004).

Leeds Coal Measures

3.6.3 “The Leeds Coal Measures is a large area of undulating country occupied by part of the Yorkshire coalfield and lying between the limestone belt to the east and the Millstone Grit moors to the west and north. Although the coalfield represents a continuation of the Millstone Grit, there is a greater variability of sandstones and a greater dominance of coal. The occurrence of natural resources of coal but also stone, iron and soft water amongst others has been the most influential factor in the development of this landscape, leading to the growth of industry and expansion of the urban area of Leeds.

3.6.4 Throughout the area but particularly adjacent to the urban edge, land use is dominated by human activity with many areas under intense pressure from both authorised and unauthorised urban fringe land uses and activities, such as scrap yards, caravan storage and horse grazing. On the edges of the built-up area, roads, canals and railways run along the valleys of the Aire and the Calder, fronted by ribbon development of houses, factories and warehouses. Quarries both past and present and waste

tips are common sights, particularly along the Aire Valley which has been scarred by its industrial past. The industrial history of the region has also led to the development of several great industrialists' houses such as Temple Newsam which along with Middleton and Roundhay now form important urban fringe parks, well used by local people and by visitors from further afield.

- 3.6.5 The underlying geology of the coalfield has resulted in a mix of light, well-drained soils derived from the sands tones and much heavier soils derived from the Coal Measure sands and clays. The presence of a large urban population has led to the development of intensive types of arable or mixed dairy farming. Horticulture is common, particularly in the south of the region, where the strips of intensive cultivation of potatoes, broccoli and rhubarb contrast with pockets of small-scale often degraded arable and pasture including large areas of horse pasture adjacent to settled areas. Woodland occurs in mainly dense semi-natural strips along valleys and becks with oak and sycamore common throughout. Planted woodland occurs mainly in the parkland areas around the edge”.

Millstone Grit Plateau

- 3.6.6 “The Millstone Grit Plateau is made up by more or less continuous ridges, with valleys in between. These ridges are all escarpments of varying steepness or slope. Where the scarp slope is steep and the dip slope gentle, such as along the Chevin (along the edges of Wharfedale, there is a marked difference in topography and land use. Elsewhere within the region, however this contrast is not so pronounced.
- 3.6.7 Farmland is predominantly pastoral, with sheep and cattle grazed pastures, interspersed with smaller pockets of rough pasture and horse grazing around settlements. In the far north-west tip of the region, Hawksworth Moor forms the only significant area of open heather covered moorland within the district, fringed by fields of semi-improved pasture. Throughout, the abundance of stone has led to many of the fields being bounded by drystone walls. To the east of the region however, hedgerows are more common, and arable farmland appears amidst the fields of pasture.
- 3.6.8 Mixed and coniferous plantations are dotted throughout this region, but occur particularly in the east, close to the Harewood estate. Areas of semi-natural deciduous woodland also occur within the numerous valleys and becks which cut across the plateau, although are generally absent from some of the more exposed areas of high ground where, isolated hedgerow trees form the only tree cover.
- 3.6.9 Architecturally, the local stone of the region has been used since the earliest times in large structures, such as long bridges across rivers, castles, churches and most houses. Today, the use of the sandstone has diminished, with the rock being replaced by bricks for small scale building and by more ornamental stone like Portland Stone or by concrete for larger structures”.

3.7 District Scale

- 3.7.1 The Leeds Landscape Assessment further sub-divides the 4 regional character areas into 19 distinct landscape character types; Adel sits within an area of Pastoral Plateau Farmland (MGP4 Eccup Plateau) and incorporates the edge of the Encapsulated countryside type (LCM12 Meanwood Valley). The following summaries of both Landscape types are taken from the above quoted report.

Pastoral Plateau Farmland

- 3.7.2 “The pastoral plateau landscape type occurs in four landscape units: Hawksworth Plateau (MGP2); Guiseley Plateau (MGP3); Eccup Plateau (MGP4); and the Rawdon Plateau (LCM16). Found in the north west of the district, mainly on the elevated Millstone Grit Plateau, this landscape type is characterised by medium scale, generally intact fields of pasture, grazed by sheep and cattle. The plateau tops are open and sometimes exposed, with isolated boundary trees and planted woodland strips alongside roads.
- 3.7.3 Today, parts of the open and largely undeveloped pastoral plateau farmland are under pressure from urban influences such as garden centres and golf course development, and the spread of horse culture.” These activities are influencing land use, particularly along the lower slopes and around the edges of settlements and have the effect of introducing a 'suburban' nature to an otherwise predominantly rural landscape. In addition, and as in many of the areas around Leeds, some of the walls and hedgerows are poorly maintained and suffering from neglect”.

Encapsulated Countryside Landscape Type

- 3.7.4 The encapsulated countryside landscape type can be found in three landscape units, the Meanwood Valley (LCM12); the Kirkstall Valley (LCM13); and the Wyke Beck Valley (LCM14). Meanwood Valley hugs the eastern boundary of Adel and like the other units, occurs as a linear area or 'finger' of countryside associated with the river corridor of Adel Beck, which extend right into the heart of the urban area of Leeds.
- 3.7.5 “The valley sides of the corridors can be steep sided and are generally well wooded, with pockets of scrub and pasture forming a green patchwork in an otherwise built up environment. Urban influences are present, with public utility works, isolated industrial units and occasional housing all in evidence, mainly along the valley bottoms. Views from within these areas are framed by either the development along the edges, or by the dense wooded nature of the semi- natural woodlands which abound. The encapsulated countryside provides a valuable recreational resource for local communities and an important corridor for wildlife.
- 3.7.6 Due to their proximity to the urban edge, the areas of encapsulated countryside are all subject to a range of pressures, typical of the urban fringe. These pressures include building development, recreational pressures, fly tipping and the growth of areas of horse grazing, some of which has become degraded, with run down ancillary buildings and structures apparent. Although some areas such as the Meanwood Valley remain intact, others, such as the Wyke Beck Valley have been fragmented by areas of urban development or roads. Future change could occur with any proposed residential or commercial development”.

3.8 Local Landscape Context

- 3.8.1 Adel is located approximately 4 miles to the North of Leeds immediately outside of the Leeds Ring road (A6120). Surrounding Adel are the neighbourhoods of West Park and Meanwood to the south, Blackmoor and Alwoodley to the east, Bramhope to the north and Cookridge and Horsforth to the

west. The steep wooded valleys to the east of the Neighbourhood limit visibility between Adel and Alwoodley.

- 3.8.2 A townscape character assessment has been carried out previously as part of the Adel Neighbourhood Design Statement in 2011. For clarity, the following local context focuses on the landscape of Adel.
- 3.8.3 The land use within the Neighbourhood is predominantly grazed pasture, residential development and recreational landscapes e.g. playing fields, golf courses. Fields are generally small and irregular – in keeping with the character of the High Weald. The Neighbourhood is well wooded, with much of the woodland occurring on the valley sides of the gill streams. Hedgerows are the dominant field boundary and often define the edges of the rural lanes that wind through the Neighbourhood.
- 3.8.4 The topography is gently undulating to the north with the historic core and the majority of the residential development placed on a plateau before the landform dips away to the north and eastern boundaries associated with the wooded valley corridor of Adel Beck and the Ring Road.
- 3.8.5 Adel has several places of local and national interest. Yorkgate Garden is a nationally important garden created by the Spencer Family the one-acre garden is widely recognised as one of the most innovative small gardens of the period. It is situated immediately north east of the Church of St John the Baptist one of the few surviving Norman churches, on the northern outskirts of Leeds.
- 3.8.6 There is one conservation area within Adel village, encompassing the historic centre of the village to the centre of the parish and focussed around the Norman church of St John the Baptist dating to c.1100 AD.
- 3.8.7 There are numerous footpaths and bridleways around the main residential area linking to wider countryside and more strategic public rights of way such as the Leeds Country Way which provides a 62m circuit around the rural boundary of Leeds and Meanwood Valley Trail which provides a direct route into the main urban core of Leeds
- 3.8.8 Adel has one Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) Breary Marsh, an area of Lowland Fen which is also a UK Priority Habitat. There are two main Sites of Ecological Importance at Adel Dam/Golden Acre Park and Meanwood Valley. Both are situated along the wooded valley of Adel Beck and which forms the eastern and southern boundary of Adel, both sites straddle the boundary and extend beyond linking Adel to its neighbouring conurbation of Alwoodley. The majority of the Meanwood Valley is designated as a Local Nature Reserve and is made up of several UK Priority Habitats including Deciduous Woodland, Purple Moor Grass and Rush Pasture, Lowland Meadows and Ancient Replanted Woodland (Scotland Wood) shown on Figure 1.
- 3.8.9 Adel 's residential area is primarily based on the central plateau around the Bedquilts playing fields. Fields encompass the urban areas to the north, east and south with limited development along this urban fringe. The wooded valley of Adel Beck to the east provides both a physical link between neighbouring communities yet provides a strong boundary between urban sprawl and should be maintained. The land slopes steeply away from Adel to the southeast towards the ring road that forms a

valley north of Meanwood. To the west the boundary is less distinct with the residential area connecting directly to the neighbouring houses of Cookridge.

- 3.8.10 The high level of tree cover is an important factor within Adel Neighbourhood. Much of the existing settlement is screened from view from the wider landscape, by woodland. Any future development would need the appropriate level of screening in order to fit in with existing settlement patterns and minimize the impacts on the surrounding important designated landscapes.

4 LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT

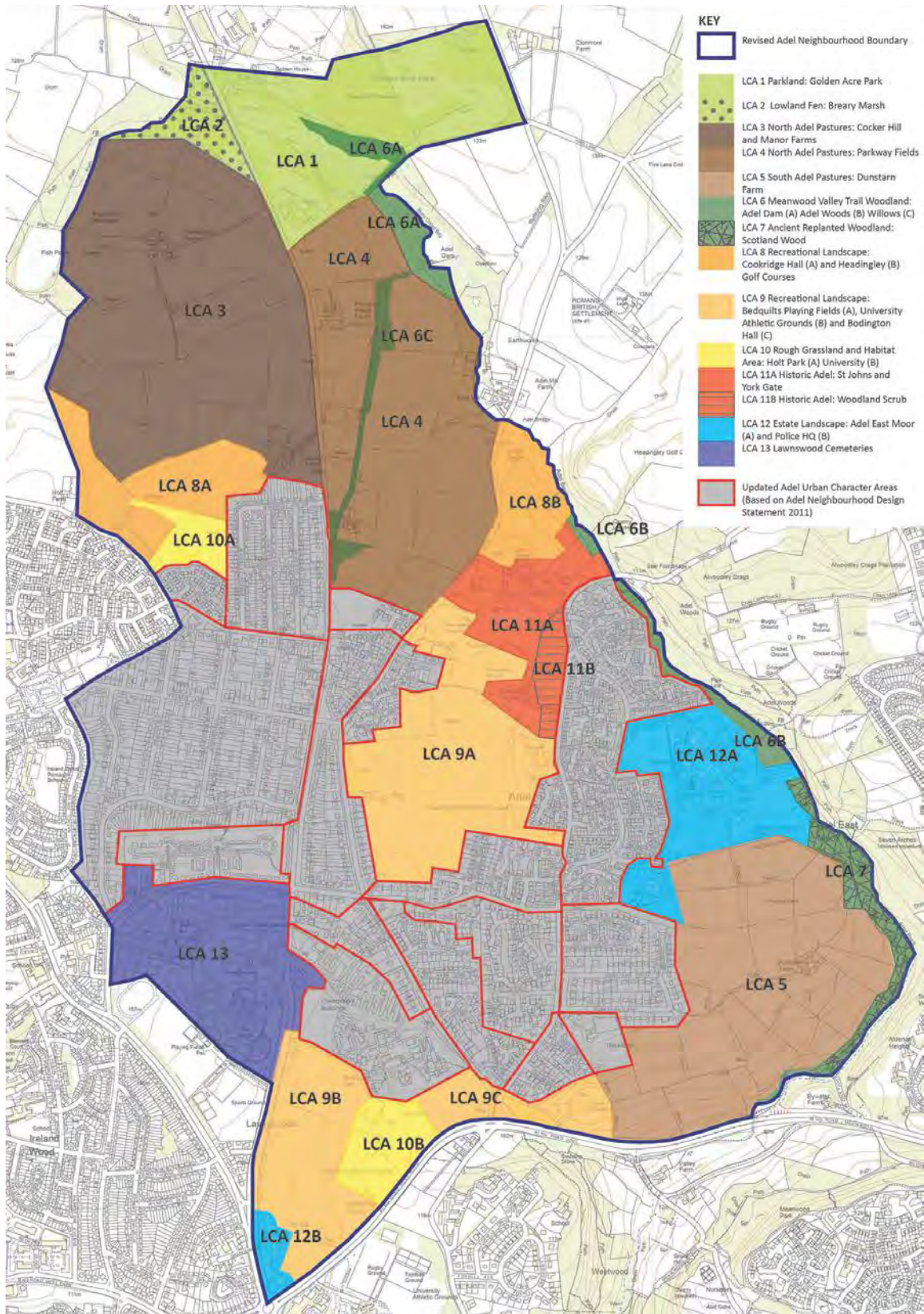
4.1 Landscape Characterization

- 4.1.1 Drawing on the initial desk study, landscape structure analysis and the field assessment, the study divides the landscape into Neighbourhood scale landscape character areas of specific landscape character.
- 4.1.2 Landscape character often crosses administrative boundaries, and to provide context to Adel, an indication of the landscape character areas that extend beyond the Neighbourhood boundary have been shown where appropriate.
- 4.1.3 Adel Neighbourhood has been divided into 13 distinct Landscape Types with a total of 21 Local Landscape Character Areas or units. These have been shown on Figure 2 (Inset 6 Below) and are also listed below:

LCA 1 Parkland: Golden Acre Park	LCA 9A Recreational Landscape: Bedquilts Playing Fields
LCA 2 Lowland Fen: Breary Marsh	LCA 9B Recreational Landscape: University Athletic Grounds
LCA 3 North Adel Pastures: Cocker Hill and Manor Farms	LCA 9C Recreational Landscape: Bodington Hall
LCA 4 North Adel Pastures: Parkway Fields	LCA 10A Rough Grassland and Habitat Area: Holt Park
LCA 5 South Adel Pastures: Dunstarn Farm	LCA 10B Rough Grassland and Habitat Area: University
LCA 6A Meanwood Valley Trail Woodland: Adel Dam	LCA 11A Historic Adel: Church of St John the Baptist and Yorkgate
LCA 6B Meanwood Valley Trail Woodland: Adel Woods	LCA 11B Historic Adel: Woodland Scrub
LCA 6C Meanwood Valley Trail Woodland: Willows	LCA 12A Estate Landscape: Adel East Moor
LCA 7 Ancient Replanted Woodland: Scotland Wood	LCA 12B Estate Landscape: Police HQ
LCA 8A Recreational Landscape: Cookridge Hall Golf Course	LCA 13 Lawnswood Cemeteries
LCA 8B Recreational Landscape: Headingley Golf Course	

4.2 Analysis of Neighbourhood Scale Landscape Character Areas

- 4.2.1 The characteristics of each Neighbourhood scale landscape character area is analysed against criteria identified in Topic Paper 6 of the Countryside Agency's landscape Character Assessment Guidance, along with identification of any designations, and consideration of the historic landscape characterisation of the area. This information is then fed into the landscape sensitivity and landscape value assessments.
- 4.2.2 The landscape value, sensitivity and capacity assessments of each Local scale character area are all found on the Landscape Character Area Description Sheets within Appendix 2.



Inset 6 | Adel Neighbourhood Landscape Character Areas

5 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

5.1.1 The summary and conclusions set out below relate to the brief described in the introduction of this report. The study has identified that most of the landscape surrounding Adel has a medium to high landscape sensitivity and medium to high landscape value therefore the majority of landscape character areas are assessed to have a low landscape capacity for development (Refer to Figure 3). They are rural areas, inconsistent with the exiting settlement pattern of Adel and have limited existing urban influence.

5.2 Sites with Inherent Landscape Quality

5.2.1 Significant parts of the study area are intact, high quality landscapes. Out of the 21 local character areas identified, 9 had a Low to Negligible Landscape Capacity and have an inherent value to Adel:

- LCA1 Parkland: Golden Acre Park
- LCA2 Lowland Fen: Breary Marsh
- LCA 6A-C Meanwood Valley Trail Woodland
- LCA 7 Ancient Replanted Woodland: Scotland Wood
- LCA 9A Recreational Landscape: Bedquilts Playing Fields
- LCA11A –B Historic Adel

These are high quality landscapes which define the character of the Neighbourhood.

5.3 Sites that could have the capacity to accommodate further development

5.3.1 From the 21 local character areas identified, 2 have been judged to have a medium/high landscape capacity. These have been found to be more suitable for development in landscape terms and are described below.

5.3.2 LCA 12A Estate Landscape: Adel East Moor: The landscape is in various states of repair as the area is undergoing development associated with the new approved school buildings and infrastructure. However, the area also has very high cultural associations for the Adel community, with a grade II listed building forming part of the existing buildings and records of Neolithic habitation on the site.

5.3.3 LCA12B Estate Landscape: Police HQ: The landscape is highly organised, artificial and in poorer condition than the surrounding countryside. It has more of an urban influence than the other character areas within the Neighbourhood as a Police HQ site. New development in this area would be in keeping with the settlement pattern of Adel and would be well placed to access local facilities, the ring road and proposed park and ride facilities as part of the NGT system.

5.3.4 Whilst more suitable for development in landscape terms than the majority of Adel's character areas, careful consideration must still be given to the extent and design of any developments within these areas, considering adjacent landscape conditions to avoid harmful effect on the surrounding landscape character.

- 5.3.5 The pastoral landscape character areas to the north and south (LCA 3,4 and 5) should be preserved in order to protect the character of the landscape and their important role linking Adel to a wider green infrastructure corridor that connects Leeds city centre to the rural areas north of Adel and beyond (Meanwood Valley Trail).
- 5.3.6 It is important for the grassland areas to provide an adequate buffer zone to the deciduous woodland along the Adel Beck and the Meanwood Valley Trail. This zone of green infrastructure also plays a vital role in preventing the urban sprawl connecting Adel to Alwoodley, an example of this is seen on the western boundary where the boundary between Adel and Cookridge has become less distinct due to the infill development over many years.

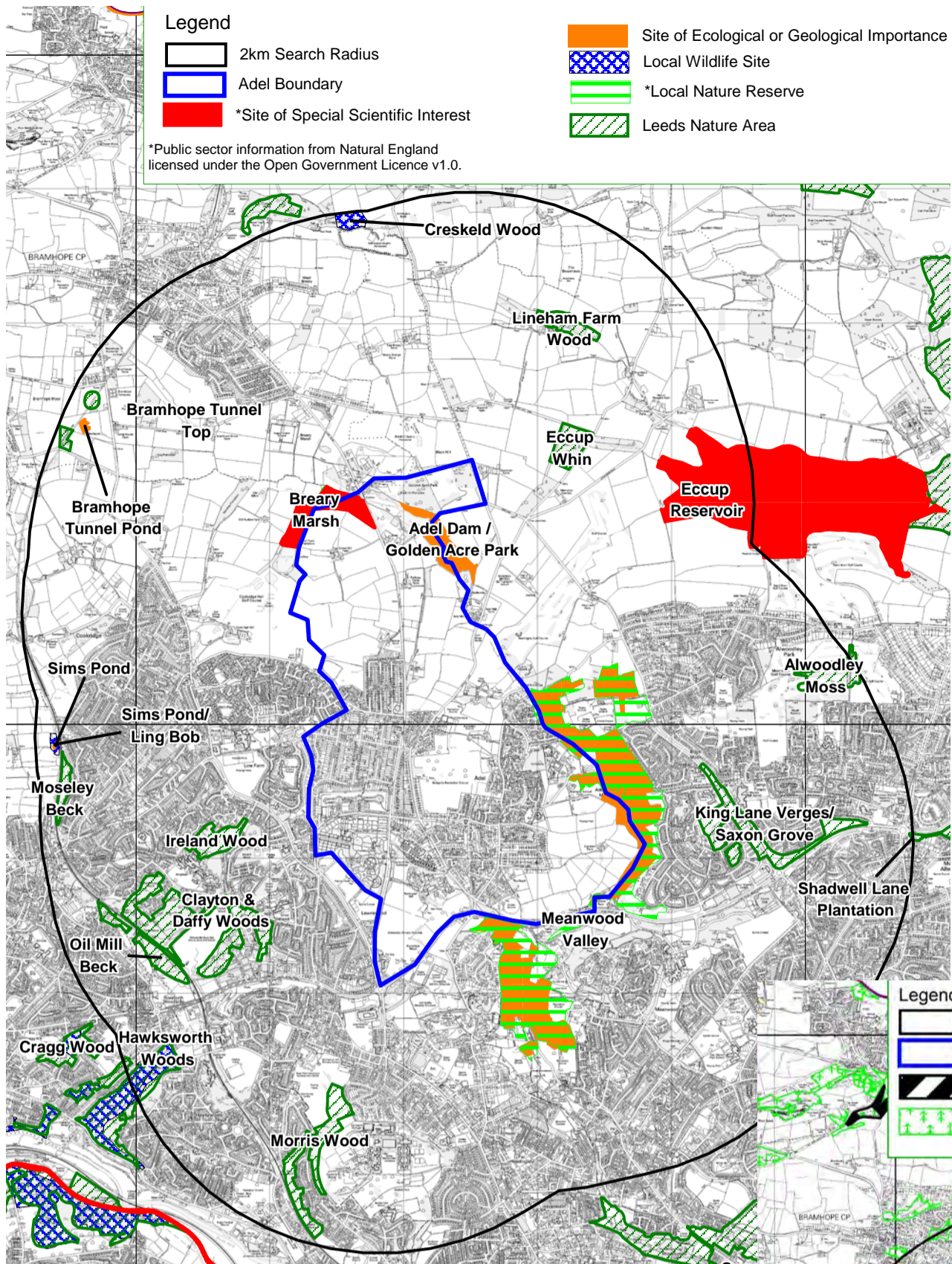
6 REFERENCES

6.1.1 Primary Reference sources shown below:

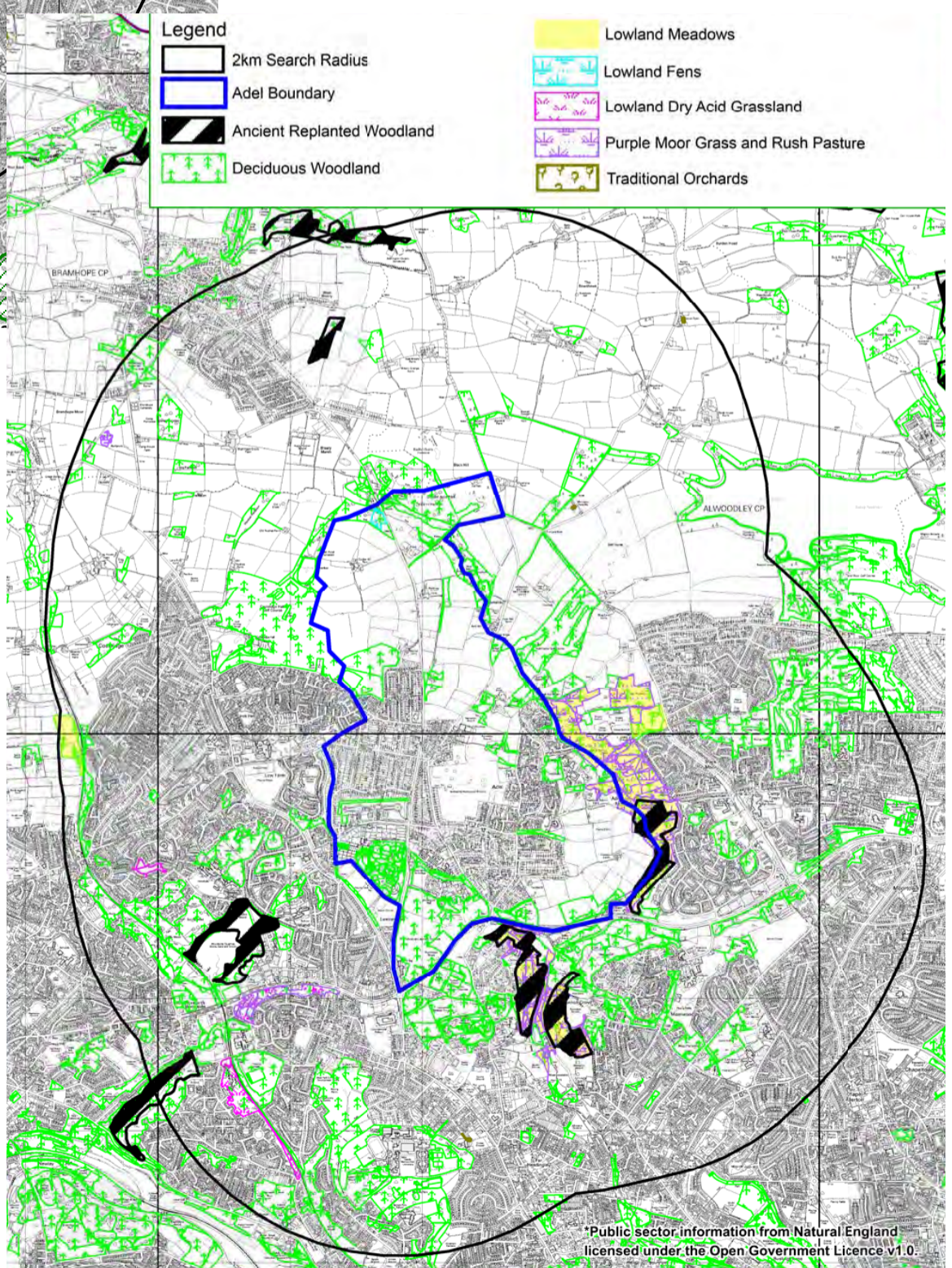
- 'Landscape Character Assessment – Guidance for England and Scotland' Countryside Agency (now Natural England)/SNH (April 2002),
- National Character Area Profile 38 - Countryside Agency (now Natural England)/SNH (April 2014),
- Leeds Landscape Assessment – Land Use Consultants (2004)
- HER Records for Adel Proposed Neighbourhood Boundary – WYAAS (2015)
- Ecological Records Search for Adel – West Yorkshire Ecology WYJS (2015)
- Leeds Habitat Network Plan- West Yorkshire Ecology WYJS (2015)
- Leeds Local Development Framework Policies Map, Leeds City Council (2013)
- Leeds UDP Review, Leeds City Council (2006)

F I G U R E S

- 1 Designated Sites and UK Priority Habitats
- 2 Landscape Character Areas
- 3 Landscape Analysis Plan

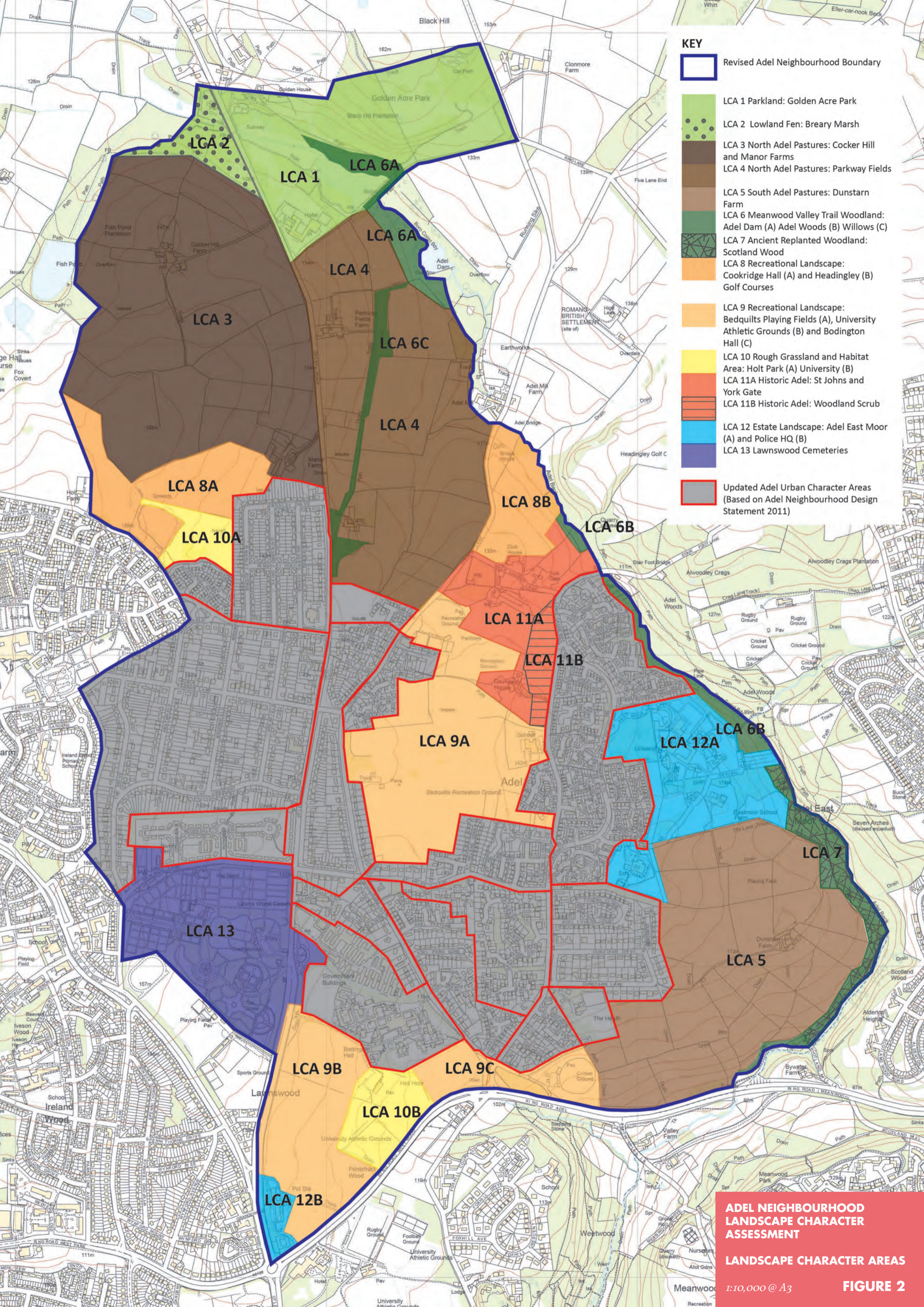


DESIGNATED SITES



UK PRIORITY HABITATS

ADEL NEIGHBOURHOOD LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

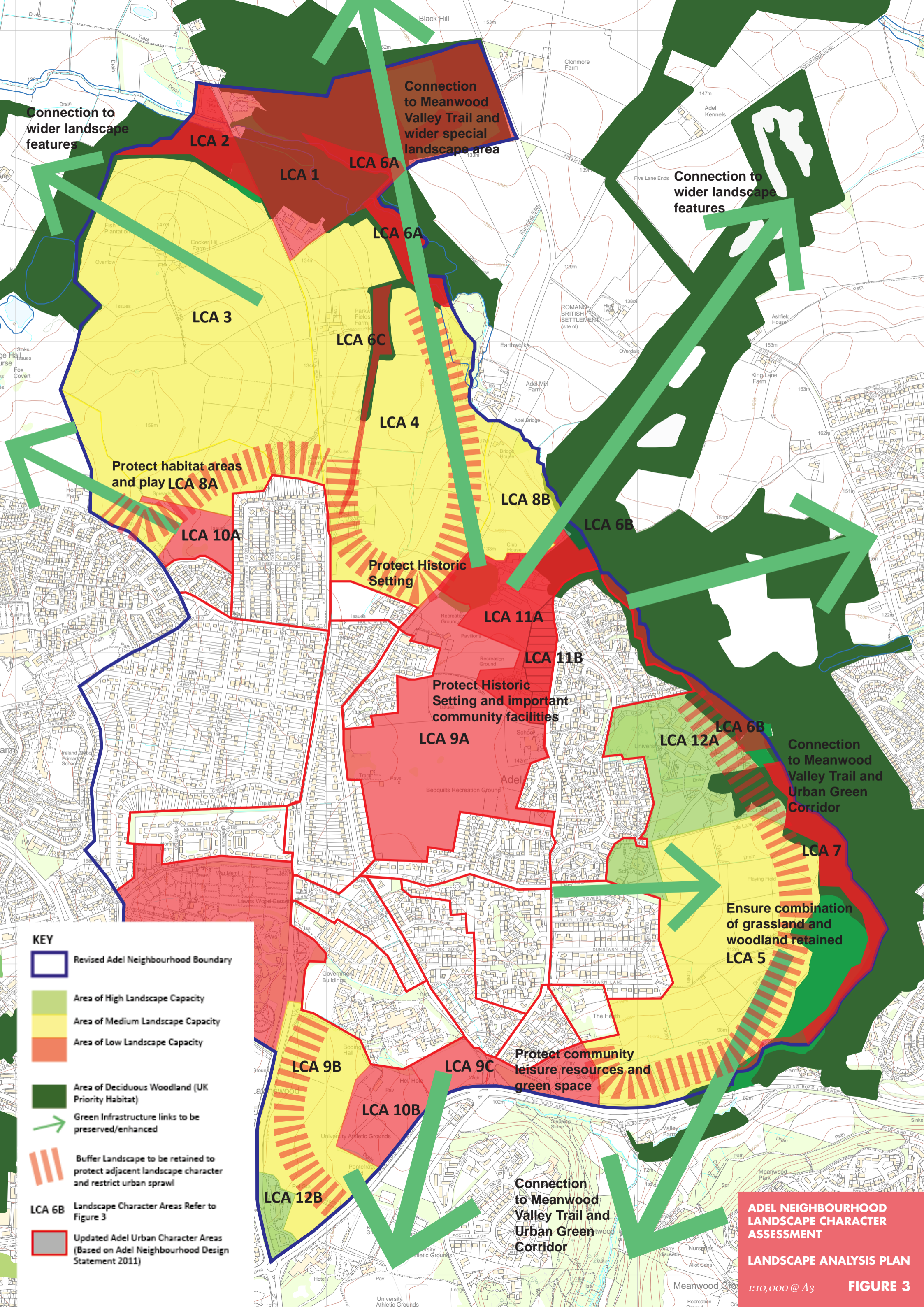


**ADEL NEIGHBOURHOOD
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER
ASSESSMENT**

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS

1:10,000 @ A3

FIGURE 2



Connection to wider landscape features

Connection to wider landscape features

Connection to Meanwood Valley Trail and wider special landscape area

Connection to Meanwood Valley Trail and Urban Green Corridor

Connection to Meanwood Valley Trail and Urban Green Corridor

Protect habitat areas and play LCA 8A

Protect Historic Setting

Protect Historic Setting and important community facilities

Ensure combination of grassland and woodland retained LCA 5

Protect community leisure resources and green space

KEY

- Revised Adel Neighbourhood Boundary
- Area of High Landscape Capacity
- Area of Medium Landscape Capacity
- Area of Low Landscape Capacity
- Area of Deciduous Woodland (UK Priority Habitat)
- ➔ Green Infrastructure links to be preserved/enhanced
- Buffer Landscape to be retained to protect adjacent landscape character and restrict urban sprawl
- LCA 6B Landscape Character Areas Refer to Figure 3
- Updated Adel Urban Character Areas (Based on Adel Neighbourhood Design Statement 2011)

ADEL NEIGHBOURHOOD LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS PLAN

A P P E N D I X 1

Site Survey Record Sheet (Example)

ADEL LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT: FIELD SURVEY FORM

VIEWPOINT:	LOCATION:	DATE:
BRIEF DESCRIPTION: (main elements, features attractors and detractors)		
KEY CHARACTERISTICS:		

LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS OBJECTIVE CHECK LIST: (Circle the dominant element(s) in the landscape or add.)

LANDFORM	LAND COVER	BUILDINGS / STRUCTURES	TREES/ VEGETATION	WATER	HERITAGE	RECREATION	TRANSPORT	LANDSCAPE CONDITION
Flat	Pasture	Farm	Woodland	Sea	Buildings	Walking	Motorway	Wild
Plateau	Arable	Church	Plantation	River	Commons	Horse Riding	Trunk Road A	Managed
Ridgeline	Car Park	Ruins	Shelterbelt	Beck/Stream	Fields pattern	Cycling	Road	Degraded
Vertical	Quarry	New Build	Tree Clumps	Waterfall	Hedges	Sailing	B Road Track	Spoilt
Broad Valley	Wasteland	Houses Manor	Isolated Trees	Rapids	Ridge and	Historical	Bridleway	Poor
narrow valley	Parkland	House	Hedge Rows	Pond	Furrow	Golf Course	Footpath	Not Bad
River Plain	Moorland	Castle	Ancient	Lake	Canals		Cycleway	Good
Hills	Residential	Masts	Woodland	Canal	Historic Sites		Railway Flight path	Excellent
Scarp/ cliff	Commercial	Pylons			Archaeological remains	ENCLOSURE		RARITY
Slope	Industrial	Lighting			Ancient	Walls		Ordinary Rare
Rolling	Woodland	Columns Tents			Woodland	Fences		Unique
Undulating	Scrub	Caravans				Hedges		
Plain	Grassland	Bridge				Banks		
		Industrial						
		Commercial						
		Retail						
		Military						

VISUAL ASSESSMENT CRITERIA:

PERCEPTION:

SCALE	ENCLOSURE	TEXTURE	PATTERN	FORM	COLOUR	SECURITY	TRANQUILLITY	PLEASURE
Intimate	Very enclosed	Smooth	Weak	Straight	Monochrome	Threatening	Noisy	Unpleasant
Small	/constrained	Textured	Broken	Angular	muted	Unsettling	Busy	Pleasant
Medium	Enclosed	Rough	Strong	Curved	Typical	Safe	Peaceful	Attractive
Large	Open	Very rough	Dominant	sinuous	Colourful	Comfortable	Vacant	Very Attractive
Vast	Expansive		Unified	Interrupted	Garish	Intimate	Remote	
			fragmented	Chaotic	COMPLEXITY		Wild Inaccessible	STIMULUS
				Sweeping	Complex			Monotonous
				Channelled	Diverse			bland
					Simple			interesting
					Uniform			challenging
								inspiring

ARCHITECTURE:

SETTLEMENT FORM (Scattered, clustered, street etc.)	VERNACULAR (Style, windows, roof pitch etc.)	MATERIALS (Stone, brick texture, colour etc.)	COMBINATION/PATTERN

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

A P P E N D I X 2

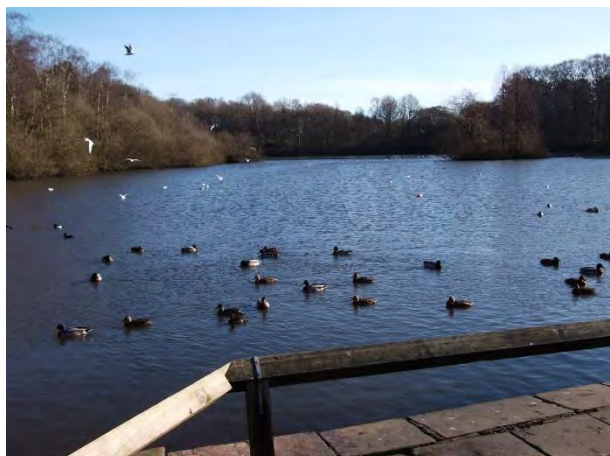
Landscape Character Area Description Sheets

ADEL NEIGHBOURHOOD LCA: CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTION

LCA 1 – Parkland: Golden Acre Park

DESCRIPTION:	
Forming the northern boundary of Adel neighbourhood area, the public park and its car park are dissected by the A660 Otley Road. The parkland includes lakes, paths and informal recreational use for the public and contains a wide range of habitats including a locally important nature reserve Adel Dam (Breary Marsh is characterized under LCA2). Open in 1932 as amusement park and then bought by Leeds City Council in 1945 for a public park. The parkland connects to the wider landscape of the Meanwood Valley Trail, nearby plantation woodland and the public right of way network including the Leeds Country Way.	
DESIGNATIONS AND POLICY:	KEY CHARACTERISTICS /ANALYSIS:
N37 Special Landscape Area N32 Green Belt N50 SEGI 001 – Adel Dam UK Priority Habitat- Deciduous Woodland, Lowland Fen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lake formed by Adel Dam on Adel Beck • 20th century parkland • Arboretum • Local Nature reserve Adel Dam • Dry Stone wall boundaries and stone paths • Lowland fen/marsh including wetland tree copses • Flat with land rising up to the east (Black Hill), wider landscape is very gently undulating topography. • Small clusters of stone buildings around church. • Attractive parkland setting and circuitous paths connect to Leeds Country Way and Meanwood Valley Trail. • Varied flora and fauna associated with woodland and wetland areas. • A peaceful and sheltered leisure resource
HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERIZATION:	
3774 Black Hill Roman c.70AD to 5 th Century	

IMAGES: Typical images of the St Johns Church Area







LANDSCAPE CAPACITY SUMMARY:					
Parkland landscape with varied habitats including wetland, lake, riparian corridor deciduous woodland and open grassland. Key resource for recreation and biodiversity. Important resource for the area.					

SENSITIVITY:	High	LANDSCAPE VALUE:	High	CAPACITY:	LOW
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ADEL NEIGHBOURHOOD LCA: CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTION

LCA 2 – Lowland Fen: Breary Marsh

DESCRIPTION:					
Wet alder woodland (Carr) SSSI and Local nature reserve. Ground flora is dominated by greater tussock sedge, stands of reed and pools filled with cushions of sphagnum moss. Where the ground level rises the woodland is drier and alder is replaced by oak and birch, beneath which carpets of bluebell, fern and creeping soft-grass can be found. Look out for kingfishers on Breary's streams and ponds and siskins in winter.					
DESIGNATIONS AND POLICY:			KEY CHARACTERISTICS /ANALYSIS:		
N37 Special Landscape Area N32 Green Belt N50 SSSI – Breary Marsh UK Priority Habitat- Deciduous Woodland, Lowland Fen Local Nature Reserve			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nearby Historic fishpond and walling (Local Nature reserve Fishpond Plantation) Paul's Pond (c.1820) Alder and willow Carr Oak Birch, beech and sycamore woodland to drier areas above marsh and wet meadows Willow scrub and woodland glades Varied flora and fauna associated with wetland areas including kingfishers Fence boundaries, timber boardwalks and gravel paths Lowland fen/marsh typically Flat with gently undulating topography within the woodland. Peaceful and sheltered 		
HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERIZATION:					
Adjacent to 7451 Fishpond Plantation c. medieval or post medieval man made fishpond Pauls Pond (c.1820 for Cookridge Hall)					
IMAGES:					
					
					
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY SUMMARY:					
Rare Lowland Fen (UK Priority Habitat)					
SENSITIVITY:	High	LANDSCAPE VALUE:	High	CAPACITY:	LOW





ADEL NEIGHBOURHOOD LCA: CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTION

LCA 3 – North Adel Pastures: Cocker Hill and Manor Farms

DESCRIPTION:					
Rolling pastoral farmland with irregular field pattern rising to the west from the A660. Deterioration of field boundaries has led to open rural character. Landscape associated with Cocker Hill and Manor Farms. Section of footpath west of farm runs on line of Roman Road					
DESIGNATIONS AND POLICY:		KEY CHARACTERISTICS /ANALYSIS:			
N37 Special Landscape Area N32 Green Belt		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fields are irregular and vary in size with walls, fencing and hedgerows. Boundary loss has led to a more open character, although it retains a rural and scenic character. • Slopes down to the east, towards A660 • Bordered by woodland / trees to the north, south and west, with boundary vegetation to the east (A660) which gives a feeling of enclosure and separation from Adel. • Public rights of way run through the character area. • Long ranging views across the plateau to the south from footpaths. • Farmsteads including Cocker Hill and Manor farms both pre-date 1847 OS map, Farm can be seen from the A660 on the ridges to the east. Views to the west and east are contained by the rising landform and vegetation. • Strong rural character and attractive scenery 			
HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERIZATION:					
Cocker Hill farm - Stone house and outbuildings built on line of Roman Road running east west Irregular field network. Boundary loss – replacement with hedges and fences					
IMAGES:					
					
					
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY SUMMARY:					
Rolling Pastoral landscape. Fields form the setting to the listed buildings at Little London. Views to the east.					
SENSITIVITY:	medium	LANDSCAPE VALUE:	medium	CAPACITY:	medium


ADEL NEIGHBOURHOOD LCA: CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTION

LCA 4 – North Adel Pastures: Parkway Fields

DESCRIPTION:					
Undulating pastoral farmland with open valley to Adel Beck. Irregular field pattern rising to the west to the A660. Deterioration of field boundaries has led to open rural character.					
DESIGNATIONS AND POLICY:			KEY CHARACTERISTICS /ANALYSIS:		
<p>N37 Special Landscape Area N32 Green Belt N34 Protected areas of search for long term development</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fields are irregular and vary in size, pattern running north south in wide strips. Boundary loss has led to a more open character, although it retains a rural and scenic character. • Slopes down to the east, towards Adel Beck and Adel Dam. • Bordered by woodland / trees to the north (golden acre), east (Adel Dam and Beck) and running north south along the Adel Dam access (non definitive footpath) which gives a feeling of enclosure and separation from Adel. • Small stream runs north south to join Adel Beck. Tree groups along line of ditch. • Public rights of way run through the character area. • Views are medium range due to the intermediate vegetation and lower lying landscape • Farmsteads including Parkway and willows Views to the west are contained by the rising landform and vegetation. • Strong rural character and attractive scenery • New development to south of character area on edge of Adel to be planted with new woodland species. 		
HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERIZATION:					
<p>Irregular field network Road running east west– towards former roman camp at Adel Mill Boundary loss – replacement with hedges and fences Tree planting to access road to Adel Dam in late 19th century</p>					
IMAGES:					
					
					
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY SUMMARY:					
Rural landscape on ridge top- would be consistent for development pattern. Fields form the setting to the listed buildings at Little London. Views to the east.					
SENSITIVITY:	MEDIUM	LANDSCAPE VALUE:	medium	CAPACITY:	medium


ADEL NEIGHBOURHOOD LCA: CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTION

LCA 5 – South Adel Pastures: Dunstarn Farm

DESCRIPTION:					
Undulating pastoral farmland with enclosed steep valley to Adel Beck. Irregular field pattern rising to the west, the Dunstarns. Deterioration of field boundaries has led to open rural character and provides and extension to the woodland buffer between Adel and Alwoodley, tying in with the Meanwood Valley Trail and associated landscape.					
DESIGNATIONS AND POLICY:			KEY CHARACTERISTICS /ANALYSIS:		
N32 Green Belt N5Proposed Open Space N8 Urban Green corridor			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fields are irregular and vary in size, pattern. Boundary loss has led to a more open character, although it retains a rural and scenic character. • Slopes down to the east, towards Adel Beck and Meanwood valley trail. • Bordered by woodland / trees to the north (Adel East Moor site), east (Meanwood valley trail) gives a feeling of enclosure and separation from Adel. • Hedgerow boundaries and Tree groups along line of field lines. • Views are medium range due to the intermediate vegetation and topography • Farmsteads include Dunstarn and East Moor • Strong semi-rural character and with urban elements on the skyline (high rise flats) 		
HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERIZATION:					
2815 Site of early flints pre roman Irregular field pattern					
IMAGES:					
					
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY SUMMARY:					
Rural landscape on ridge top consistent for field pattern. Provides buffer to Meanwood valley trail yet could accommodate limited incursion at urban fringe					
SENSITIVITY:	MEDIUM	LANDSCAPE VALUE:	Medium	CAPACITY:	Medium

ADEL NEIGHBOURHOOD LCA: CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTION

LCA 6A – Meanwood Valley Trail Woodland: Adel Dam

DESCRIPTION:					
Locally important nature reserve and site of ecological importance developed from breached industrial dam. Continued management and biodiversity improvements make this an attractive and valuable community resource.					
DESIGNATIONS AND POLICY:			KEY CHARACTERISTICS /ANALYSIS:		
N37 Special Landscape Area N32 Green Belt N50 SEGI 001 Local Nature reserve Deciduous Woodland UK Priority Habitat			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Densely wooded area around small lake Adel Dam and Adel Beck. • Mixture of broadleaved and plantation woodland –associated with the dams construction in c. 18th century • No Public rights of way access is afforded from Golden acre Park • Very enclosed landscape, with no views of settlement • Forms a natural, wooded and rural edge to Adel. • Feeling of tranquility and wildness with little human influence. • Plans are in place to increase diversity in the dry woodland, by reducing sycamores and replanting with low to mid canopy shrubs and trees, as well as developing some reed beds 		
HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERIZATION:					
c.18 th Construction dam breached in 1830's nature reserve 1968					
IMAGES:					
					
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY SUMMARY:					
Important habitat resource for the local community and contributes to network of habitat areas at a district level.					
SENSITIVITY:	high	LANDSCAPE VALUE:	HIGH	CAPACITY:	LOW

ADEL NEIGHBOURHOOD LCA: CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTION

LCA 6B – Meanwood Valley Trail Woodland: Adel Woods

DESCRIPTION:					
Densely wooded valley within the Meanwood Valley Trail paths run throughout the character area and connect to the wider landscape resources and settlements of Adel and Alwoodley.					
DESIGNATIONS AND POLICY:			KEY CHARACTERISTICS /ANALYSIS:		
N8 Urban Green Corridor N32 Green Belt N50 Local Nature reserve 004 SEGI 019 UK Priority Habitats: Deciduous Woodland Purple Moor Grass and Rush Pasture Lowland Meadows			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Densely wooded area straddles the Adel boundary • Adel Beck running through the centre. • Steep valley sides. • Mixture of mature broadleaved and plantation woodland - located on the steep valley sides • Beech, Birch and holly dominate eastern side. • There is no settlement within the woodland and only one lane passes through the area. • Public rights of way, run throughout the character area and connect to the wider landscape resources and settlements of Adel and Alwoodley. • Designated as local nature reserve and site of ecological importance • Very enclosed landscape, with no views of settlement and little human influence. • Forms a natural, wooded and rural edge to Adel Neighbourhood. • Screens views of Adel from the east and increases visual separation of settlement. • Feeling of tranquility and wildness with little human influence. 		
HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERIZATION:					
IMAGES:					
					
					
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY SUMMARY:					
Important landscape providing green infrastructure connections to wider landscape and separation from urban sprawl					
SENSITIVITY:	high	LANDSCAPE VALUE:	HIGH	CAPACITY:	LOW

ADEL NEIGHBOURHOOD LCA: CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTION

LCA 6C – Meanwood Valley Trail Woodland: Willows

DESCRIPTION:					
Beech plantation woodland along non definitive footpath					
DESIGNATIONS AND POLICY:		KEY CHARACTERISTICS /ANALYSIS:			
		<p>The key characteristics for the LCA are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong woodland feature separating arable and pastoral landscapes • Intimate Scale with formal plantation style planting • Flat or very gently undulating topography. • Attractive properties with simple muted pallet of colours • Provides edge to historic setting of St John The Baptist church landscape. 			
HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERIZATION:					
Trees planted in late 19 th century					
IMAGES:					
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY SUMMARY:					
Although planted in late 19 th century provides a strong landscape feature in rural agricultural landscape					
SENSITIVITY:	MEDIUM	LANDSCAPE VALUE:	Medium	CAPACITY:	medium


ADEL NEIGHBOURHOOD LCA: CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTION

LCA 7 – Ancient Replanted Woodland: Scotland Wood

DESCRIPTION:					
Densely wooded valley within the Meanwood Valley Trail paths run throughout the character area and connect to the wider landscape resources and settlements of Adel and Alwoodley. Includes important Ancient replanted woodland UK priority habitat and historic industrial features					
DESIGNATIONS AND POLICY:			KEY CHARACTERISTICS /ANALYSIS:		
N8 Urban Green Corridor N32 Green Belt N50 Local Nature reserve 004 SEGI 019 UK Priority Habitats: Ancient Replanted woodland Deciduous Woodland Purple Moor Grass and Rush Pasture Lowland Meadows			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Densely wooded area straddles the Adel boundary • Adel Beck running through the centre with steep valley sides. • Mixture of ancient broadleaved and plantation woodland - located on the steep valley sides • Species include Acer sp., Alder, Ash, Beech, Birch, Elder, Hawthorn, Oak and holly. • There is no settlement within the woodland a seven arch aqueduct formerly built in 1842 for water supply to Leeds City • Public rights of way, run throughout the character area and connect to the wider landscape resources and settlements of Adel and Alwoodley. • Designated as local nature reserve and site of ecological importance • Very enclosed landscape, with no views of settlement and little human influence. • Forms a natural, wooded and rural edge to Adel Neighbourhood. • Screens views of Adel from the east and increases visual separation of settlement. • Feeling of tranquility and wildness with little human influence. 		
HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERIZATION:					
Ancient Woodland Grade II listed structure – Seven Arches Aqueduct					
IMAGES:					
					
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY SUMMARY:					
Important landscape habitat providing green infrastructure connections to wider landscape and separation from urban sprawl					
SENSITIVITY:	high	LANDSCAPE VALUE:	HIGH	CAPACITY:	LOW

ADEL NEIGHBOURHOOD LCA: CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTION

LCA 8A – Recreational Landscape: Cookridge Hall Golf Course

DESCRIPTION:					
Golf Course landscape to north west of Adel with undulating topography woodland planting and an intensive management regime.					
DESIGNATIONS AND POLICY:			KEY CHARACTERISTICS /ANALYSIS:		
N37 Special Landscape Area N32 Green Belt			The key characteristics for the LCA are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium scale with maturing woodland areas including understory planting. Tree groups dispersed within grassland areas providing separation to each hole. • Rolling undulating topography. • Open landscape on eastern boundaries • Intensive management to grass fairways, rough areas allowed to develop providing habitat resource • A predominantly tranquil area with some footpaths. 		
HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERIZATION:					
Formerly part of Cookridge Hall estate landscape					
IMAGES:					
					
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY SUMMARY:					
Golf course landscape					
SENSITIVITY:	low	LANDSCAPE VALUE:	medium	CAPACITY:	medium





ADEL NEIGHBOURHOOD LCA: CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTION

LCA 8B – Recreational Landscape: Headingley Golf Course

DESCRIPTION:					
Golf Course landscape to north east of Adel with undulating topography woodland planting and an intensive management regime. The Clubhouse is situated within the Adel conservation Area.					
DESIGNATIONS AND POLICY:			KEY CHARACTERISTICS /ANALYSIS:		
N37 Special Landscape Area N32 Green Belt			The key characteristics for the LCA are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium scale with maturing woodland areas including understory planting. Tree groups dispersed within grassland areas providing separation to each hole. • Sloping landscape to northeast (Open Valley side) rising away from Adel Beck. • Open landscape on northern boundaries woodland to east • Intensive management to grass fairways, rough areas allowed to develop providing habitat resource • A predominantly tranquil area with some footpaths. • Conservation area to south of character area including clubhouse 		
HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERIZATION:					
Conservation area to south of character area including clubhouse (not listed)					
IMAGES:					
To Be retaken					
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY SUMMARY:					
Golf course landscape provides green edge and improved setting to conservation area and prevents urban sprawl of Alwoodley					
SENSITIVITY:	low	LANDSCAPE VALUE:	medium	CAPACITY:	medium





ADEL NEIGHBOURHOOD LCA: CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTION

LCA 9A – Recreational Playing Field Landscape: Bedquilts

DESCRIPTION:					
<p>Situated within the centre of Adel on plateau the character area is surrounded by housing on the western, eastern and southern boundaries, to the north is the conservation area and the LCA 11A and B Historic Adel Character Areas. The landscape is protected for playing pitches and green space and provides a valuable resource to the local community and wider district. The fields include individual and small groups of mature deciduous trees with a low lying area of wet meadow to the north western corner.</p>					
DESIGNATIONS AND POLICY:			KEY CHARACTERISTICS /ANALYSIS:		
<p>N1 Green Space N6 Protected playing pitch N8 Urban Green corridor N32 Green Belt</p>			<p>The key characteristics for the LCA are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historic quilted effect on grassland (strip farming) • Playing pitches • Associated infrastructure for pitches including changing facilities and car parking. • Open scale considering area is enclosed on all boundaries. • Individual and tree groups in managed landscape • Wet meadow area during high rain • Flat or very gently undulating topography • Footpaths cut across the middle of the site east west and to the northern boundary. • A predominantly tranquil area 		
HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERIZATION:					
<p>Historically used for strip farming, evidence of ripples or a quilted effect to the landscape gives the name Bedquilts</p>					
IMAGES:					
					
					
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY SUMMARY:					
Valuable and protected leisure resource for the local and wider communities.					
SENSITIVITY:	high	LANDSCAPE VALUE:	HIGH	CAPACITY:	LOW


ADEL NEIGHBOURHOOD LCA: CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTION

LCA 9B – Recreational Playing Field Landscape: University Athletic Grounds

DESCRIPTION:					
Situated to the south of Adel on plateau the character area is associated with the Bodington Hall University site to the north and east of the LCA. With hedgerow and ditch boundaries the landscape is open in character and contributes to the green space buffer between Meanwood and Adel around the ring road. The landscape contributes to the urban green corridor to the north of Leeds and is offered some protection. The western corner of the site is outlined for the terminus for the supertram scheme, an important transport hub into the centre of Leeds					
DESIGNATIONS AND POLICY:			KEY CHARACTERISTICS /ANALYSIS:		
N8 Urban Green corridor T13 Supertram Proposed Line and station			The key characteristics for the LCA are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playing pitches • Associated infrastructure for pitches including changing facilities and car parking. • Open in character with individual and tree groups in managed landscape • Gently sloping to the southeast • No public access 		
HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERIZATION:					
IMAGES:					
					
					
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY SUMMARY:					
Private resource contributing positively to wider landscape buffer to south of Adel					
SENSITIVITY:	MEDIUM	LANDSCAPE VALUE:	low	CAPACITY:	medium



ADEL NEIGHBOURHOOD LCA: CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTION

LCA 9C – Recreational Playing Field Landscape: Bodington Hall

DESCRIPTION:					
Situating to the south of Adel on a narrow and low plateau the character area is bordered by new housing on the northern boundary. The site includes both playing pitches and a cricket ground. The landscape is protected for playing pitches and provides a valuable resource to the local community and wider district. The fields include individual and small groups of mature deciduous trees providing an important buffer to the ring road.					
DESIGNATIONS AND POLICY:			KEY CHARACTERISTICS /ANALYSIS:		
N6 Protected playing pitch N8 Urban Green corridor N11 Other protected open land			<p>The key characteristics for the LCA are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cricket ground • Playing pitches • Associated infrastructure for pitches including changing facilities and car parking. • Semi-Open scale • Individual and tree groups in managed landscape • Flat with slope at edge to ring road • Footpaths border the cricket ground and link the ring road and Meanwood valley trail • Ring road is major influence in the area 		
HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERIZATION:					
IMAGES:					
					
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY SUMMARY:					
Protected landscape and important resource for local and wider communities. Valuable in order to maximise green corridor of Meanwood valley trail and avoid development encroachment.					
SENSITIVITY:	medium	LANDSCAPE VALUE:	HIGH	CAPACITY:	LOW

ADEL NEIGHBOURHOOD LCA: CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTION

LCA 10A – Rough Grassland and Habitat Area: Holt Park

DESCRIPTION:					
Area of undulating rough grassland and scrubby woodland adjacent to playing fields and Cookridge golf course includes informal paths connections to wider public highway network.					
DESIGNATIONS AND POLICY:			KEY CHARACTERISTICS /ANALYSIS:		
N5 Proposed Open Space N32 Green Belt			The key characteristics for the LCA are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rough grassland habitat • Fence and stone wall boundaries • Wet woodland and evidence of water collecting • Scrubby understory • Undulating topography with low lying wet woodland scrub • Unmanaged area Encouraging biodiversity • Informal footpaths connect with neighbouring housing and play area. 		
HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERIZATION:					
IMAGES:					
					
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY SUMMARY:					
Habitat contributes positively to wider landscape and biodiversity improving opportunities for new flora and fauna					
SENSITIVITY:	MEDIUM	LANDSCAPE VALUE:	HIGH	CAPACITY:	LOW

ADEL NEIGHBOURHOOD LCA: CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTION

LCA 10B – Rough Grassland and Habitat Area: University

DESCRIPTION:					
Area of sloped rough grassland within university playing fields and adjacent to ring road boundary, includes informal paths mown into landscape and individual tree planting.					
DESIGNATIONS AND POLICY:			KEY CHARACTERISTICS /ANALYSIS:		
N1 Green Space N6 Protected playing pitch N8 Urban Green corridor N11 Other protected open land			The key characteristics for the LCA are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rough grassland habitat • Fence boundaries • Sloping south to ring road. • Encouraging biodiversity in a managed landscape • Major road at bottom of embankment 		
HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERIZATION:					
IMAGES:					
Images to be retaken (access)					
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY SUMMARY:					
Habitat contributes positively to wider landscape and biodiversity improving opportunities for new flora and fauna					
SENSITIVITY:	medium	LANDSCAPE VALUE:	HIGH	CAPACITY:	LOW

ADEL NEIGHBOURHOOD LCA: CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTION

LCA 11 – Historic Adel: St Johns and York Gate

DESCRIPTION:

This is the key historic core of Adel Village and is centred on St John the Baptist Church dating from the 12th Century. Adel conservation Area is included within this character area with historic buildings dating from c. 1766 (The Old Stables) and includes the Headingly Golf Club House and Yorkgate. Yorkgate is a one acre garden open to the public and is widely recognized as one of the most innovative small gardens of the late 20th century.

DESIGNATIONS AND POLICY:

N1 Green Space
N5 Proposed Open Space
N8 Urban Green corridor
N18-22 Conservation Area
N6 Protected playing pitch
N32 Green Belt

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERIZATION:

Grade 1 listed building c.1100AD
Norman Church

KEY CHARACTERISTICS /ANALYSIS:

The key characteristics for the LCA are:

- Historic Stone buildings including St John the Baptist Norman Church (c. 1100)
- Cemetery landscape
- Dry Stone wall boundaries and stone paths
- Intimate Scale with small field pattern with mature boundary vegetation and tree groups remaining
- Flat or very gently undulating topography.
- Open landscape on north, west and southern boundaries
- Small clusters of stone buildings around church.
- Attractive properties with simple muted pallet of colours
- A predominantly tranquil area with only a very few minor roads.

IMAGES:




LANDSCAPE CAPACITY SUMMARY:

Rural landscape on ridge top- would be consistent for development pattern. Fields form the setting to the listed buildings at Little London. Views to the east.

SENSITIVITY:	HIGH	LANDSCAPE VALUE:	HIGH	CAPACITY:	LOW
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ADEL NEIGHBOURHOOD LCA: CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTION

LCA 11B– Historic Adel: Woodland Scrub

DESCRIPTION:					
Part of historic core of Adel Village centred on St John the Baptist Church dating from the 12 th Century. Area of former woodland edge to rectory landscape. Trees have been felled by landowner.					
DESIGNATIONS AND POLICY:			KEY CHARACTERISTICS /ANALYSIS:		
N1 Green Space N5 Proposed Open Space N8 Urban Green corridor N18-22 Conservation Area N6 Protected playing pitch N32 Green Belt			The key characteristics for the LCA are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dry Stone wall boundaries and stone paths including ancient stile • Intimate Scale with small field pattern with mature boundary vegetation and tree groups remaining • Flat or very gently undulating topography. • Open landscape on north, west and southern boundaries • Attractive properties with simple muted pallet of colours • A predominantly tranquil area with only a very few minor roads. 		
HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERIZATION:					
Former rectory landscape grassland and tree groups					
IMAGES:					
					
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY SUMMARY:					
Important landscape within conservation area that provides the setting to the listed church building and grounds					
SENSITIVITY:	high	LANDSCAPE VALUE:	HIGH	CAPACITY:	LOW

ADEL NEIGHBOURHOOD LCA: CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTION

LCA 12A – Estate Landscape: Adel East Moor

DESCRIPTION:	
Former university and Adel east Moor approved school, now under development for new secure school and housing site. Mature managed estate landscape in disrepair.	
DESIGNATIONS AND POLICY:	KEY CHARACTERISTICS /ANALYSIS:
N1 Green Space N5 Proposed Open Space N8 Urban Green corridor N18-22 Conservation Area N32 Green Belt H3 Phase 3 housing site	<p>The key characteristics for the LCA are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managed landscape in disrepair • Enclosed complex pattern of road, paths and buildings • Intimate Scale with mature boundary vegetation and tree groups remaining • Flat or very gently undulating topography. • high cultural associations for the Adel community, • Grade II listed building forming part of the existing buildings and records of Neolithic habitation on the site.
HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERIZATION:	
Grade II listed building forming part of the existing buildings and records of Neolithic habitation on the site.	

IMAGES:



LANDSCAPE CAPACITY SUMMARY:

Landscape undergoing development and in need of improvement.

SENSITIVITY:	low	LANDSCAPE VALUE:	medium	CAPACITY:	Medium/high
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ADEL NEIGHBOURHOOD LCA: CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTION

LCA 12B – Estate Landscape: Police HQ

DESCRIPTION:					
Police HQ managed landscape, paths and road and scattered area of evergreen planting and semi-mature trees.					
DESIGNATIONS AND POLICY:		KEY CHARACTERISTICS /ANALYSIS:			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Estate landscape associated with police HQ• managed landscape• Limited character			
HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERIZATION:					
IMAGES:					
Images to be retaken					
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY SUMMARY:					
No defining landscape character features					
SENSITIVITY:	low	LANDSCAPE VALUE:	low	CAPACITY:	high

ADEL NEIGHBOURHOOD LCA: CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTION

LCA 13 – Lawnswood Cemeteries

DESCRIPTION:					
Ornamental landscape associated as part of the Lawnswood cemetery and Quaker cemetery including path network, ornamental trees and shrub planting including larger proportion of evergreen species.					
DESIGNATIONS AND POLICY:			KEY CHARACTERISTICS /ANALYSIS:		
N8 Urban Green corridor			The key characteristics for the LCA are:		
HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERIZATION:			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historic Stone buildings funeral buildings, offices and chapel. • Cemetery landscape head stones and monuments • Dry Stone wall boundaries and stone paths • Evergreen ornamental planting within former woodland setting. Mature trees • Flat enclosed landscape • Small cluster of stone buildings around chapel. • A tranquil area with only a very few minor roads. 		
Landscape evolved in late 19 th century from woodland on Lawns Hall estate to cemetery use					
IMAGES:					
					
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY SUMMARY:					
Important community facility no development acceptable unless associated with the cemetery use.					
SENSITIVITY:	high	LANDSCAPE VALUE:	HIGH	CAPACITY:	LOW