Appendix 6A
EIA Scoping Opinion responses for landscape and visual amenity

PINS ID	Ref	PINs comment	Response
PINSC4-1	4.1.1	No visual representation of the proposed circuit breaker and isolator have been provided, nor any detailed dimensions of the equipment/ infrastructure involved.	A visual representation of the proposed circuit breaker and isolator will be provided in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR). Based on current understanding this information will justify the scoping out of this project element on the basis that there is no potential for significant landscape or visual effects to occur. **Figure 3.12** shows the existing and proposed layout at Osbaldwick Substation.
PINSC4-2	4.1.1	In addition, the Scoping Report highlights the potential for the works to require land take east of the existing site boundary. In absence of more detailed information on the works/ final layout, the Inspectorate cannot agree to scope this matter out at this stage.	Details of the construction compound and associated plant will be provided to justify the scoping out of this element on the current understanding that there is no potential for significant landscape and visual effects.
PINSC4-3	4.4.1	An assessment should be presented in the Environmental Statement (ES), where significant effects are likely to occur, or a robust justification (incorporating feedback from relevant consultation bodies) for its exclusion.	Based on current understanding of the proposed works, a robust justification will be provided to justify the scoping out of this project element as part of future environmental reporting.
PINSC4-4	4.4.1	Scoping out of the reconductoring of the 275kV XC overhead line: The Inspectorate accepts that like for like replacement of existing wires and pylon fittings would be unlikely to have significant landscape and visual effects.	Noted, no action required.
PINSC4-5	4.1.2	However, reference is made to " ... replacement pylons in similar locations in close proximity to existing pylons". It is not explained whether the old pylons will be removed or the degree of variance from the existing route and extent of any new vegetation clearance or easements required. Until	Clarification on replacement pylons will be provided as part of future environmental reporting and should there be significant variance in location or height, these pylons will be scoped into the assessment of operational effects.

PINS ID	Ref	PINs comment	Response
		this matter is clarified, the Inspectorate cannot agree to scope out an assessment of the operational landscape and visual impact of replacement pylons.	
PINSC4-6	4.1.3	Landscape Elements Construction: The Inspectorate considers that whilst there is likely to be some impact on the identified landscape elements during construction of the Proposed Development, on the basis of the information presented in the Scoping Report this will not result in impact to nationally designated landscape areas and/or the permanent loss or change of landscape elements of importance. Therefore, the Inspectorate agrees that this matter can be scoped out of the ES.	Noted, no action required.
PINSC4-7	4.1.4	The Scoping Report proposes to scope out likely significant effects on all Landscape Character Areas (LCA) and Landscape Character Types (LCT) identified within the study area, on the basis that construction activity would be temporary, largely concentrated at ground level and would not require removal of extensive landscape elements. The Inspectorate notes that the specific LCA and LCT are not listed within table 5.6.	Further information will be provided on the predicted visibility of construction activity from the surrounding landscape in order to justify the scoping out of any specific LCA and LCT within the study area.
PINSC4-8	4.1.4	The Scoping Report proposes to scope out likely significant effects on all Landscape Character Areas (LCA) and Landscape Character Types (LCT) identified within the study area, on the basis that construction activity would be temporary, largely concentrated at ground level and would not require removal of extensive landscape elements. The Inspectorate notes that the specific LCA and LCT are not listed within table 5.6.	Noted, this approach to assessment of national, regional, and local landscape character areas will be adopted in future environmental reporting.
PINSC4-10	4.1.5	Given that the exact number and location of construction compounds has yet to be defined, along with temporary accommodation and other activities (eg laydown areas and areas for storage and staff car parking), the Inspectorate is	Further information will be provided on the predicted visibility of construction activity from the surrounding landscape in order to justify the scoping out of any specific visual receptors within the study area.

PINS ID	Ref	PINs comment	Response
		not content for potential views of temporary construction compounds and associated activity to be scoped out until detailed evidence is presented that these would not give rise to significant effects.	
PINSC4-11	4.1.6	It is not clear from the Scoping Report exactly what LCA and LCT are being proposed to be scoped out of assessment during operation, including Levels Farmland LCT and Haddlesey Farmland LCA, and how "new man-made features would be predominantly screened". At this stage of the project, the Inspectorate is not content for these to be scoped out until full detailed evidence is presented.	Further evidence will be provided by mapping the LCA and LCT within the study area and cross referring to the ZTV plans already prepared in order to justify any request for specific LCA and LCT to be scoped out of assessment within the PEIR.
PINSC4-12	4.1.7	On the basis of the information presented in chapter 5, including the ZTV mapping at figures 5.3 to 5.7, the Inspectorate agrees that the visual receptors in these locations [shown in Table 5.6] are unlikely to experience significant effects relating to visual impact as the Proposed Development is not likely to be visible and therefore these receptors can be scoped out of the ES.	Noted, no action required.
PINSC4-13	4.1.8	The Inspectorate agrees that visitors to the York Minster Tower can be scoped out as visual receptors on this basis. The ES should include ZTV mapping on the final design and layout of the Proposed Development to demonstrate that visual receptors in this location would not experience a visual impact of significant effect.	The ZTV is not proposed to extend to York Minster and an indication of theoretical visibility from this location does not indicate the potential for significant effects. The judgement has been reached by consideration of the intervening distance and presence of considerable built development in the urban area of York, including closer high voltage overhead lines and sub-station developments between the edge of York and the Project.
PINSC4-15	4.1.10	In addition to the Landscape Institute's Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment 3rd edition (2013), the Inspectorate considers that the ES could also	Noted, reference will be made to this guidance note in future environmental reporting.

PINS ID	Ref	PINs comment	Response
		refer to the Landscape Institute's Technical Guidance Note 04/20 Infrastructure (2020).	
PINSC4-16	4.1.11	The Inspectorate suggests that the ES should also refer to the West Yorkshire Historic Landscape Characterisation Project (2017), the Leeds Landscape Assessment (1994), and the Harrogate Borough Council Landscape character assessment (2004).	Noted, reference will be made to this these in future environmental reporting.
PINSC4-17	4.1.12	The Scoping Report includes maximum heights for the principal components of the Proposed Development. The ES should include finalised and maximum parameters for all proposed components of the development, including any Associated Development within the red line boundary and comprising the DCO.	Noted. The ES will include maximum parameters for all proposed components of the Project.
PINSC4-18	4.1.13	The principle of establishing ZTVs using Digital Terrain Models is sound but the Inspectorate suggests that prior to the production of the ES these should be verified through fieldwork to establish accurate visual envelopes.	Noted. As part of the ES further field observations will be undertaken to establish the actual likely visibility of the Project that considers landscape elements not accounted for in the ZTV including, but not confined to, hedgerows and tree cover outside woodland areas.
PINSC4-19	4.1.14	It should be clear within the ES which type of visualisation (photomontage) has been produced for each viewpoint and why that type of visualisation is sufficient to support the assessment of likely significance effects.	Noted. The ES will clarify which types of photomontage will be produced and why it is sufficient for the purposes of assessment.
PINSC4-20	4.1.15	The ES should set out evidence of agreement regarding the locations of landscape and visual impact receptors and viewpoints with relevant consultation bodies, where possible.	Noted. The ES will set out the relevant evidence with regard to agreement on the locations of receptors and viewpoints with the relevant consultation bodies where this has been possible to obtain.

Appendix 6B
Technical engagement on the landscape and visual amenity assessment

Title	**Landscape and Visual Consultation Meeting Minutes**	
Meeting No.	**#1**	
Date	**01/07/2021**	
Location	**Online via MS Teams**	
Attendees	Role/Organisation	Abbreviation
John Wainwright	Landscape Officer/ North Yorkshire County Council and Selby District Council	JW
Ruth Hardingham	Planning Manager/ Selby District Council	RH
Mark Williams	Planning Officer/ Harrogate Borough Council	MW
Neil Furber	Landscape Lead/ Wood	NF
James Hunter	Landscape/ Wood	JH
Circulated to the above and:		
Bethany Kington	Consents Officer/ National Grid	
Michael Reynolds	Policy Officer/ North Yorkshire County Council	
Michelle Saunders	Officer/ North Yorkshire County Council	
Liz Small	Officer/ North Yorkshire County Council	
Jenny Tyreman	Officer/ Selby District Council	
Nicholas Turpin	Officer/ Harrogate Borough Council	
Stuart Mills	Officer/ Harrogate Borough Council	
Peter Jones	Officer/ Hambleton District Council	
Gareth Arnold	Officer/ City of York Council	
Louise White	Officer/ Leeds City Council	
Kate McAfee	EIA/ Wood	
Rachel Dimmick	EIA Lead/ Wood	
Edward Purnell	Planning/ Wood	
Tom Binzamoussirou	EIA/ Wood	

Sue Birnie	Consents Officer/ Wood	
Matthew Addy	Public Engagement/ Copper Consultancy	

ID	Topic/Discussion	Action/Due by
1	**Introduction/Background** Prior to the meeting the following information was circulated to all attendees and others on the 25/06/21: Google Earth files of the Design Freeze 2 of the Project; Viewpoint locations; Annotated photography from 29 No. viewpoints (taken March 2021); Approach to level of detail for visualisations, with reference to TGN 06/19 best practice guidance and highlighting differences proposed between Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) and Environmental Statement (ES) submissions; and Proposed locations of 6 No. views to be presented as outline wireframe visualisations in the PEIR. The purpose of the meeting was to seek feedback on the viewpoint locations, noting that any additional viewpoint photography would need to be undertaken as part of the ES scope of work in winter 2021/2022 i.e. after the PEIR has been submitted.	
2	**Proposed Development** NF described the main components of the Project with reference to the Google Earth file. This included the rationale for the 3km Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) study areas centred on the areas of the development at Monk Fryston, Tadcaster and North-west of York where new infrastructure is proposed. The rationale for scoping out of the LVIA specific parts of the Project comprising minor changes to the Osbaldwick Substation and the reconductoring works between the aforementioned study areas, where changes are confined to minor changes to existing pylons for example, steel reinforcement was explained with reference to the commentary by PINs in the Scoping Opinion.	
3	**Viewpoint and Visualisation selection** In commenting on the selection of the 29 annotated photoviews, JW noted overall numbers appeared appropriate and the approach to use wireframes for PEIR and detailed photomontages for the S42 was acceptable. JW commented that some of the viewpoints could be better sited to avoid intervening planting etc. (specific details to be provided by JW). JW also noted his remit was to cover viewpoint selection within North Yorkshire County and Selby District administrative areas and would	**JW and all consultees/Oct 2021**

ID	Topic/Discussion	Action/Due by
	not comment on viewpoint selection for adjoining Local Planning Authority areas (Leeds and York). JW requested more detailed information on the rationale for inclusion of viewpoints and the receptor groups that were represented at each location. NF noted receptor information was set out in the scoping report, however following field work, some of the viewpoints were adjusted for two main reasons: 1) alternatives were taken depending on different route options for new overhead lines and selection later finalised once scheme design had developed, and 2) local vegetation screening made some alternative locations necessary. An updated schedule of the 29 viewpoints selected would be provided, together with the updated ZTV plans to justify changes from the scoping schedule. Additional changes in viewpoints may also be needed as part of the ES next year because PEIR photography was necessarily obtained in Spring 2021 based on the scoping proposals i.e. before leaf cover emerged and the scheme design evolution. NF described the selection rational with reference to the annotated photographs and Google Earth map of the Project at Design Freeze 2 stage, for the selection of the 6 No. viewpoints to be prepared as outline wireframe visualisations as listed below: **Viewpoint 13b:** **A19, western edge of Skelton** **Viewpoint 14c:** **National Cycle Network 65, Overton Road near Overton Grange** **Viewpoint 15a:** **National Cycle Network 65, Overton Road, near junction with A19** **Viewpoint 16b:** **Public footpath near western edge of Shipton by Beningbrough** **Viewpoint 23a:** **Public footpath south of Monk Fryston Substation** **Viewpoint 25a:** **Junction of Rawfield Lane and A63** No comments on the above locations were received by consultees and subsequently these have been taken forward to be prepared as outline wireframe visualisations for the PEIR. NF to circulate draft wireframes to consultees to inform commentary of any adjustments in viewpoint/photomontage selection for the ES.	**NF/July 2021** **NF/August 2021**
4	**<u>Cumulative and Mitigation Strategy</u>** JW highlighted 3 No. other development proposals (2 No. battery storage and 1 No. gas peaking plant) in the vicinity of the Monk	**NF – cut off dates TBC as**

ID	Topic/Discussion	Action/Due by
	Fryston Substation that need to be considered in the design of the landscape mitigation strategy and cumulative assessment. NF noted that these developments would be considered in the outline cumulative assessment and landscape mitigation strategy in the PEIR. Given that the other development proposals are all in the planning system but currently undetermined, it is likely that the ES LVIA (to be submitted in 2022) would include a more detailed cumulative assessment and more advanced landscape mitigation strategy. This work would reflect any changes, in the intervening period, to the status of those development proposals. JW requested that the multi-functional benefits of the mitigation strategy should be clear and there should be no conflicting principles between ecology and landscape. JW requested that information will be needed in the mitigation strategy on how soils stripped from temporary construction compounds would be stored and how areas would be reinstated to the same agricultural quality as the baseline.	**part of the PEIR and ES**
5	**Date of next meeting** To be confirmed based on any further feedback from consultees on updated PEIR viewpoint selection rationale and ZTV (to be issued by NF in July 2021) and outline wireframe visualisations (to be issued by NF in August 2021). **Any feedback on this material will be required from consultees by the end of October 2021** in order that it can potentially be accounted for in any additional site visits from November 2021 onwards (the earliest any additional or alternative photography can be obtained following leaf fall).	**NF - TBC**

Appendix 6C
Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Methodology

6.1 Overview

6.1.1 This appendix sets out the approach and methodology used to provide an assessment of effects on landscape and visual receptors as a result of the proposed development, during the construction, operation and decommissioning stages. The Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) methodology and approach outlined in this appendix has been undertaken in accordance with the Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, Third Edition (2013) (GLVIA 3) by the Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management & Assessment[1].

6.1.2 The assessment of the significance of landscape and visual effects is, according to GLVIA 3 at paragraph 3.23 '*an evidence-based process combined with professional judgement*'[1]. All assessments and judgements must be transparent and capable of being understood by others. Levels of landscape and visual effects are determined by consideration of the nature or 'sensitivity' of each receptor or group of receptors and the nature of the effect or 'magnitude of change' that would result from the proposed development.

6.1.3 The EIA Regulations[2] require a final judgement on whether or not each effect is likely to be significant. In this context GLVIA 3 states at paragraph 3.33 that '*it is not essential to establish a series of thresholds for different levels of significance of landscape and visual effects, provided that it is made clear whether or not they are considered significant'*. GLVIA 3 goes on to state at paragraph 3.34 that *'… effects not considered to be significant will not be completely disregarded'.*

6.1.4 The assessments reported in the LVIA represent the culmination of an iterative design and assessment process and therefore relate to the remaining residual effects that could not otherwise be mitigated or 'designed out'.

6.2 Landscape effects

Introduction

6.2.1 Landscape effects are defined by the Landscape Institute in GLVIA 3, paragraphs 5.1 and 5.2 as follows:

> "*An assessment of landscape effects deals with the effects of change and development on landscape as a resource. The concern ... is with how the proposal will affect the elements that make up the landscape, the aesthetic and perceptual aspects of the landscape and its distinctive character. ... The area of landscape that should be covered in assessing landscape effects should include the site itself and the full extent of the*

[1] Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management & Assessment, 2013. *Guidelines for landscape and visual impact assessment*. London: Routledge.
[2] The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017

wider landscape around it, which the proposed development may influence in a significant manner."

6.2.2 The potential landscape effects, occurring during the construction and operation periods of the Project may include, but are not restricted to the following:

- Changes to landscape elements: the removal and/or change in condition and/or management of existing elements such as trees, vegetation and buildings and the addition of new elements. In addition, changes to other characteristic aspects may include notable aesthetic, perceptual or experiential qualities that may, individually or in combination with landscape elements, constitute key landscape characteristics; and
- Changes to landscape character: in particular the key landscape characteristics that may be affected through the combined effect upon changes to landscape elements and aspects, the magnitude of which will influence the impact of the Project upon overall character and distinctiveness of the landscape.

6.2.3 The Project will have direct effects on landscape elements and character. Indirect and secondary effects could also arise that represent consequential changes from the Project for example, an increase in traffic and reduction in tranquillity.

6.2.4 The types of landscape effect covering the following considerations, are described in detail at Section 4 of the methodology:

- Direct or Indirect Effects;
- Duration;
- Beneficial, adverse or neutral; and
- Cumulative effects (see Section 5).

Evaluating landscape sensitivity to change

6.2.5 The sensitivity of a landscape receptor for example, a Landscape Character Area, to the Project is determined by the value of the landscape receptor and its susceptibility to the type of change proposed. The methodology describes landscape sensitivity as high, medium, or low and is assessed by considering the landscape receptor's landscape value and susceptibility to the changes identified as the result of the proposed development.

6.2.6 Further guidance on the evaluation of landscape sensitivity and the criteria for assessing value and susceptibility is set out in paragraphs 5.39 – 5.47 of GLVIA 3 and is summarised below.

Landscape Value

6.2.7 GLVIA 3 defines landscape value at paragraph 5.19 as:

"The relative value that is attached to different landscapes by society, bearing in mind that a landscape may be valued by different stakeholders for a whole variety of reasons."

6.2.8 Published information that has informed the understanding of landscape value has included:

- The extent, description and policies related to any statutory and non-statutory landscape designations located within the study area;
- The extent, description and any policies related to landscapes demonstrably valued by the local community including, but not confined to, designated open space, village greens, memorials, allotments etc;
- Art and literature sources, if present, including tourism literature for example, local walks and specially promoted views;
- Cross reference to the Cultural Heritage ES chapter to identify landscape receptors that have particular archaeological interest and cultural heritage elements including, but not confined to, Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens and Historic Landscape Character Assessment. Cross reference to the Ecology ES Chapter to identify Important hedgerows and other landcover elements of value and reference to the Arboricultural ES Chapter to identify any TPO's.

6.2.9 A consistent approach has been applied to determining the baseline landscape value of the individual landscape receptors considered in the landscape assessment.

6.2.10 This utilises a range of factors to help understand the value of each landscape receptor, with reference to the presence of any statutory or non-statutory landscape designations (see paragraph 5.19 to 5.27 of GLVIA 3) and by consideration of a range of factors generally agreed to influence landscape value (see Box 5.1 GLVIA 3):

- Landscape designations: whether an area of landscape is recognised by statute (i.e. National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty), is a heritage coast, a locally designated landscape or is undesignated;
- Landscape condition: a measure of the physical state of the landscape (i.e. the intactness of the landscape and the condition of individual elements);
- Scenic quality: where landscape appeal primarily but not wholly to the visual senses;
- Rarity: the presence of rare elements or features in the landscape or the presence of a rare landscape character type;
- Representativeness: the presence of a particular element/s and/or key characteristics recognised as being particularly important examples;
- Conservation interests: the presence of features of wildlife or historical and cultural interest which add value to the landscape;
- Recreational value: evidence that the landscape is valued for recreational activity where experience of the landscape is important;
- Perceptual aspects: a landscape may be valued for its perceptual qualities, notably tranquillity; and
- Associations: some landscapes are associated with particular people, such as artists or writers, or events in history.

6.2.11 **Table 6C.1** draws from the advice provided in GLVIA 3 and provides further guidance and examples of landscape value.

Table 6C.1 Assessing Landscape Value

Value Criteria	Landscape Value category		
	High	Medium	Low
Designations	Internationally or nationally designated landscape. Management plans aim for conservation.	Locally designated or 'ordinary' landscapes and features. Management plans aim for conservation and enhancement.	Non-designated landscape with detracting, derelict or industrial features. Management plans aim for enhancement and restoration.
Landscape condition and intactness	A landscape/features recognised to be in very good condition with a 'strong' intact/unified and distinctive character. Constant/mature landscape with strong time depth.	A landscape/features that are typically in a reasonable condition with an intact or largely intact and recognisable character. Constant or improving state.	A landscape/features that are in a poor condition with a fragmented or indistinct landscape character. The landscape may be in a declining state.
Scenic quality	A landscape of high aesthetic appeal supported by recognised tourist/visitor literature. There are few or no detracting features.	A landscape of moderate or 'ordinary' aesthetic appeal. There may be some minor detracting features.	A landscape of limited or no aesthetic appeal with many or large-scale detracting features, may by abandoned or partially derelict.
Rarity and representativeness	A landscape or features that are rare and valued in a national or regional context that is supported by designation.	A landscape or features that may be uncommon in parts but is not particularly valued or supported through designation.	A landscape or features that are common and not rare.
Conservation interest and associations	A landscape with rich and diverse cultural, historic, nature conservation value and recognised literary or artistic associations.	A landscape with some cultural or nature conservation features and interest.	A landscape with few or no cultural or nature conservation features and interest.

Value Criteria	Landscape Value category		
	High	Medium	Low
Recreational value	High recreational/ tourist value indicated through land use (parks/ sports facilities etc.) and the density/ hierarchy of recreational routes.	A landscape of moderate recreational value, as indicated by land use and density/ hierarchy of recreational routes.	A landscape of limited recreational value, where an appreciation of the landscape has a limited contribution to the public's recreational experience.
Perceptual aspects	Highest levels of tranquillity and strong perceptions of naturalness.	Moderate levels of tranquillity and potentially some perceptions of naturalness.	Developed landscapes which are the antithesis of tranquillity and naturalness.

Landscape susceptibility to change

6.2.12 GLVIA 3 defines landscape susceptibility to change at paragraph 5.40 as follows:

"This means the ability of the landscape receptor…to accommodate the proposed development without undue consequences for the maintenance of the baseline situation…".

6.2.13 GLVIA 3 also emphasises that susceptibility to change is dependent on the types of development proposed. Paragraph 5.42 states:

"*Some of these existing assessments may deal with what has been called 'intrinsic' or 'inherent' sensitivity, without reference to a specific type of development. These cannot reliably inform assessment of the susceptibility to change since they are carried out without reference to any particular type of development and therefore do not relate to the specific development proposed. Since landscape effects in LVIA are particular to both the specific landscape in question and the specific nature of the development, the assessment of susceptibility must be tailored to the project*."

6.2.14 **Table 6C.2** provides further guidance and examples of landscape susceptibility, which considers the ability of the landscape receptor, by virtue of its particular physical, visual or perceptual characteristics to accommodate the Project without undue consequences for the maintenance of the baseline situation and/or the achievement of landscape planning policies and strategies. Common indicators of landscape susceptibility include landscape scale, landform and topography type, openness and enclosure, the nature of the skyline, landmarks, landcover and patterns, presence of perceptual qualities. Other indicators include land use and a rational for the Project location that may be associated with other development and associated change and movement and how the Project would relate to the wider landscape context and relationship with adjacent landscapes.

6.2.15 Generally, landscapes with the highest susceptibility to the proposed change will have the least capacity to accommodate that proposed development. Conversely, landscapes with the lowest susceptibility to the proposed change are likely to have the greatest capacity to accommodate the proposed development.

Table 6C.2 Assessing landscape susceptibility to a Proposed Development

Susceptibility Criteria	Landscape susceptibility category		
	High	Medium	Low
Examples of physical elements / key characteristics	Highly valued elements or key characteristics. Typically includes small-scale landscapes with strong topographical variation or distinctive landform and complex patterns, which are essentially intact and susceptible to the proposed development.	Elements or combinations of characteristics such as medium to large scale landscapes with more open, simple landform and patterns with a greater capacity for the proposed development.	Common/indistinct elements or combinations of characteristics such as simple and uniform landscapes where similar development is already part of the baseline character and there is capacity for the proposed development.
Examples of visual characteristics	Susceptibility to alteration of regionally/locally valued or distinctive skylines. Views, vistas and skylines with historic landmarks. Areas with a strong visual relationship with surrounding landscapes and limited visual intrusion. Dark skies and low levels of light intrusion.	A partially enclosed landscape offering some visual containment and filtering of views and moderate levels of intervisibility surrounding landscapes. A landscape where light intrusion and some movement and change are already present.	A heavily enclosed landscape which contains or strongly filters views with a corresponding limited visual relationship with surrounding landscapes. A landscape with an absence of visual landmarks. Combinations of broad and simple skylines lacking in landmarks, where development change movement, light intrusion and/or visual intrusion is present.
Examples of other perceptual characteristics	Perceptions of tranquillity, remoteness or naturalness, with a strong sense of time depth and/or related special qualities that	Perceptions of moderate tranquillity, remoteness or naturalness. Presence of some visual or audible signs of existing	Landscapes lacking in tranquillity and/or remoteness, which are subject to land use change and high degrees of visual or audible signs of existing built development/infrastructure

Susceptibility Criteria	Landscape susceptibility category		
	High	Medium	Low
	would be susceptible to development.	built development /infrastructure giving rise to a landscape with some development capacity.	with development capacity.

Overall Landscape Sensitivity

6.2.16 Judgements on value and susceptibility are combined to determine overall landscape sensitivity which is informed by professional judgement and guided by the following matrix shown in **Table 6C.3**. In terms of landscape value, statutory landscape designations are generally accorded the highest assessment value.

Table 6C.3 Evaluation of Landscape Sensitivity

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

Evaluating the magnitude of landscape effects

6.2.17 The magnitude of landscape effects upon landscape receptors is described by reference to the size or scale, geographical extent and duration/reversibility of the change that would be experienced. GLVIA 3 at paragraph 5.48-52 sets out the criteria in detail that can be summarised as follows.

- Size or Scale:
  - The size or scale of landscape change is described and quantified where possible in order to clearly set out the extent or proportion of loss or addition of landscape elements, the degree to which the perceptual characteristics of the landscape may be altered and whether the effect changes any critical key characteristics of the landscape.
- Geographical Extent:
  - The geographical extent of the effect is distinct from the size and scale of effect. There may for example be a medium loss of landscape elements affecting a large geographical area, or a high-level addition of new elements affecting a very localised area. The geographical extent is described at a site level within the development site boundary, within the immediate setting of the site, at the

scale of the landscape character type or area assessed or on a larger scale, affecting several landscape character types or areas.

- Duration and reversibility:
  - In accordance with GLVIA 3 this is a separate, but linked consideration and the duration of an effect may be described as temporary (short term 0-5 years, medium term 5-10 years or long term 10-20 years) or permanent. The proposed development may also be considered in terms of whether the effects are reversible.

6.2.18 The magnitude of landscape effects resulting from the Project is described as high, medium, low or very low, in accordance with the 'word' scales advised at paragraph 3.27 of GLVIA 3. In those instances where, due to mitigation, there would be no magnitude of landscape effect, then this justification is also recorded in the landscape assessment. Examples and further guidance on the evaluation of the magnitude of landscape effect are described in **Table 6C.4.**

Table 6C.4 Establishing the magnitude of landscape change

Magnitude	Criteria
High	A large-scale change that may include the loss of key landscape elements/characteristics or the addition of uncharacteristic new features or elements that would alter the perceptual characteristics of the landscape. The size or scale of landscape change could create new landscape characteristics and may change the overall distinctive landscape quality and character, typically, but not always affecting a larger geographical extent.
Medium	A medium-scale change that may include the loss of some key landscape characteristics or elements, or the addition of some uncharacteristic new features or elements that could alter the perceptual characteristics of the landscape. The size or scale of landscape change could create new landscape characteristics and may lead to a partial change in landscape character, typically, but not always affecting a more localised geographical extent.
Low	A small-scale change that may include the loss of some landscape characteristics or elements of limited characterising influence, or the addition of some new features or elements of limited characterising influence. They may be a small partial change in landscape character, typically, but not always affecting a localised geographical extent.
Very Low	A very small-scale change that may include the loss or addition of some landscape elements of limited characterising influence. The landscape characteristics and character would be unaffected.

6.2.19 The assessment also identifies areas where no landscape change is predicted. In these instances, 'No Change' has been inserted into the magnitude of change column of the assessment tables and the resulting level of effect identified as 'None'. This commonly occurs where no intervisibility (presence of a line of sight between two locations) or other perceptual pathway for example, noise and/or light impacts, exists between the landscape receptor and the proposed development.

6.3 Visual effects

Introduction

6.3.1 Visual effects are concerned wholly with the effect of the Project on views, and visual amenity and are defined by the Landscape Institute in GLVIA 3, paragraph 6.1 as follows:

"*An assessment of visual effects deals with the effects of change and development on views available to people and their visual amenity. The concern ... is with assessing how the surroundings of individuals or groups of people may be specifically affected by changes in the context and character of views*…"

6.3.2 The visual baseline is informed by Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) studies that are computer generated maps to identify land that is visually connected with the proposed development. However, in many parts of the ZTV there will typically be very few people that would experience the effects for example, private farmland.

6.3.3 Visual effects are identified for different receptors (people) who will experience the view at their place of residence, within their community, during recreational activities, at work, or when travelling through an area. The receptors are identified by further desktop analysis and fieldwork.

6.3.4 Scoping has identified the study area with the competent authority, noting GLVIA 3 states at paragraph 6.2 that *'the emphasis must be on a reasonable approach which is proportional to the scale and nature of the proposed development…'*

6.3.5 The level of visual effect (and whether this is significant) is determined through consideration of the *'sensitivity'* of each visual receptor (or range of sensitivities for receptor groups) and the *'magnitude of effect'* that would be brought about by the construction and operation proposed development. Visual assessment unavoidably involves a combination of both quantitative and subjective assessment and wherever possible a consensus of professional opinion is sought through consultation and internal peer review.

6.3.6 The types of visual effect covering the following considerations, are described in detail at Section 4 of the methodology:

- Duration;
- Beneficial, adverse or neutral; and
- Cumulative effects (see **Section 5**).

Visual Receptor Assessment

6.3.7 A range of viewpoints from publicly accessible locations were identified in the Scoping report, in accordance with GLVIA 3 (paragraphs 6.16 - 6.23). Photography was undertaken from 29 No. locations (see **Table 6.7**) in accordance with Technical Guidance Note 06/19 prepared by the Landscape Institute (TGN 06/19) and presented as annotated photoviews (Type 1). The initial site visit was undertaken in March 2021 in order to illustrate the maximum visibility before deciduous vegetation came into leaf.

6.3.8 Preliminary photowire visualisations were prepared from 6 No. viewpoints in accordance with TGN 06/19 (Type 4 AVR level 1) and the rationale for the selection of the 6 No. viewpoint photowires was set out in the consultation process with the competent authorities and documented in meeting minutes at **Appendix 6B**.

6.3.9 The purpose of photowires was to depict the overall massing of the principal Project elements, in order to allow a preliminary assessment of visual impact for a selection of receptors that would typically experience the greatest magnitude of change and also to help guide the ongoing Project design process for example, refinement of built element design and mitigation proposals.

Evaluating Visual Sensitivity to Change

6.3.10 In accordance with Paragraphs 6.31- 6.37 of GLVIA 3, the sensitivity of visual receptors (people) takes account of the susceptibility of the receptor to visual change and the value of the baseline view available to those receptors. The sensitivity of visual receptors is described as high, medium or low.

6.3.11 The main factors influencing the susceptibility of a visual receptor to change are the occupation or activity of the receptor (people) at particular locations and the extent to which their attention or interest may therefore be focused on the available view.

Value of Views

6.3.12 The factors influencing judgements regarding the value attached to views by receptors is set out at paragraph 6.37 of GLVIA 3 and in summary covers:

- Any recognition of the value attached to a particular view in relation to heritage assets or through planning designations; and
- Any indications of value provided by guidebooks and tourist literature, the inclusion of specific viewpoints on OS maps, provision of parking places at scenic locations and/or provision of interpretation materials.

Table 6C.5 Assessing the value of views

Value	Criteria
High	Notable specific value attached for example in relation to heritage assets, references in literature/art and or promoted by planning designation. Likely inclusion of facilities at or near viewpoint for example, parking places, sign boards and interpretative material. Likely to be of high scenic quality and located within or overlooking a designated landscape.
Medium	Some indicators of value are present for example, views well know at a local level and/or may be part of wider visual amenity experienced along a locally promoted footpath route. Likely to be of moderate scenic quality.
Low	No indication of any value attached to view/s or visual amenity. Likely to be of low scenic quality.

Visual Susceptibility to change

6.3.13 With reference to paragraphs 6.33 - 6.35 of GLVIA 3, the visual receptors most susceptible to change are likely to include:

- people at their place of residence (especially using rooms normally occupied in daylight hours – paragraph 6.36 GLVIA 3);
- people engaged in outdoor recreation whose attention or interest is likely to be focussed on the landscape and on particular views;

- visitors to heritage assets or other attractions where views of the surroundings are likely to make an important contribution to their experience; and
- people in their community where views contribute to the landscape setting enjoyed by residents.

6.3.14 People using the transport network are usually considered to be moderately susceptible to change unless travelling on recognised scenic routes.

6.3.15 Visual receptors likely to be less susceptible to change include:

- people engaged in outdoor recreation that does not depend upon appreciation of views of the landscape; and
- people at their place of work where views of the landscape are not an important contributor to the quality of working life.

6.3.16 Examples and further guidance on the evaluation of visual receptor susceptibility are described in **Table 6C.6.**

Table 6C.6 Assessing the susceptibility of visual receptors

Susceptibility	Criteria
High	Visual receptors in this category would generally include residents with ground floor views from main living space and gardens, tourists/visitors, walkers, cyclists and horse riders, either stationary or travelling through the landscape, and/or undertaking outdoor recreational activities where the focus of the activity involves an appreciation of the landscape: • Residential properties or settlements and related community outdoor spaces; • Outdoor tourist and visitor attractions; • Recreational routes (national trails, long distance footpaths and PRoWs; Sustrans national cycle routes (NCR) and regional cycle routes (RCR); open access land/ beaches and recognised scenic driving routes); and • People generally, undertaking recreational activity where the focus of the activity involves an appreciation of the landscape (especially within internationally or nationally designated landscapes).
Medium	Visual receptors in this category would generally include people travelling through the landscape on road, rail or other transport routes as rail passengers and road users and people undertaking recreational and sporting activities where it is likely that their surroundings have some influence upon their enjoyment (for example, angling and golfing).

Susceptibility	Criteria
Low	Visual receptors in this category would generally include people for whom their surroundings are unlikely to be a primary concern or affect how they undertake their current activity. Receptors are likely to include people at their place of work, people travelling on main roads through built up areas, dual-carriageways or motorways or taking part in activities not involving an appreciation of the landscape (for example, playing team sports).

Overall Visual Sensitivity

6.3.17 Judgements on value and susceptibility are combined to determine overall visual sensitivity which is informed by professional judgement and guided by the following matrix shown in **Table 6C.7**.

Table 6C.7 Evaluation of Visual Sensitivity

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

Evaluating the magnitude of visual effects

6.3.18 The magnitude of visual effect is assessed, accounting for the composition of the visual baseline and is described by reference to the size and scale, geographical extent, and duration/reversibility of the proposed development with reference to GLVIA 3 (paragraphs 6.38 to 6.41) as follows:

- Size or Scale:
  - Scale of change: This is determined by the loss or addition of features in the view and changes in the composition and extent of view affected. It can in part be described objectively by reference to the numbers and scale of new objects visible and the horizontal/vertical field of view that these new objects will occupy. Other descriptors such as ‘dominant’, ‘prominent’, ‘noticeable’ and ‘negligible’ can also be used to describe the scale of change.
  - Screening: The proposed development may be wholly or partly screened by landform, vegetation (including seasonal effects due to hedgerow management and seasonal variations in deciduous leaf cover) and/or buildings. Conversely visual receptors with open views, particularly from landscapes where such views are a key characteristic, are likely to be able to see a greater proportion of the proposed development.

- Contrast: The degree of contrast or integration that will be generated by the introduction of any new features or changes in the view arising in terms of form, scale, mass, line, height, colour, and texture. Developments which contrast or appear incongruous in terms of colour, scale and form are likely to be more apparent and result in the generation of a higher magnitude of change.
- Skyline/background: Whether the proposed development would be viewed against the skyline or a background landscape may affect the level of contrast and magnitude, for example, skyline developments may be more noticeable, particularly where they affect open and uninterrupted horizons.
- Speed: The speed at which the proposed development may be viewed will affect how long the view is experienced (continuously, intermittently, glimpsed or repeatedly and sequentially along a route) and the likelihood of the proposed development being noticed by people travelling in cars or trains compared to those who may be walking/riding/cycling and able to stop and 'take in' a view.

- Geographical Extent:
  - Distance: The separation distance from the proposed development can be measured objectively. Distance often provides a strong indicator of the magnitude of visual change, subject to any intervening screening of the proposed development by landform, vegetation, or buildings.
  - Angle of view: The angle of view may be considered in terms of whether the proposed development will be seen directly in front of a visual receptor or if it will be seen more obliquely. Road users are generally more aware of the views in their direction of travel, whilst train passengers are more aware of views perpendicular to their direction of travel. Elevated views are likely to reveal more of the proposed development, whereas low level views are more likely to be screened by intervening built form and vegetation.
  - Geographical extent of area over which the changes would be visible. This can be defined by the distance or area. For example, effects on people within a particular area such as a golf course can be illustrated via a 'representative viewpoint' that represents a similar visual effect, likely to be experienced by larger numbers of people within that area. The geographical extent of that visual effect can be expressed as approximately '5 hectares' or '10%' of the golf course. The geographical extent can be described as a linear measurement (m or km) according to the length of route affected. For example, effects on people travelling on a route through the landscape such as a road or footpath can be illustrated via a 'representative viewpoint' that represents a similar visual effect, likely to be experienced by larger numbers of people along that route. The geographical extent of that visual effect can be expressed as approximately '1km' or '20%' of the total length of the route.

- Duration and reversibility:
  - In accordance with GLVIA 3 this is a separate, but linked consideration and is described in more detail at Section 4 of this methodology.

6.3.19 The magnitude of visual effects resulting from the Project is described as high, medium, low or very low, in accordance with the 'word' scales advised at paragraph 3.27 of GLVIA 3. In any instances where the proposed development would not be visible, due to screening, then this is recorded as '*No Change*' and the resulting level of visual effect

identified as '*None*'. Further guidance on the evaluation of the magnitude of visual change is provided in **Table 6C.8.**

Table 6C.8 Establishing the magnitude of visual change

Magnitude	Criteria
High	A large and prominent change to the view, appearing in the fore to middle ground and involving the loss/ addition of several features, which is likely to have a strong degree of contrast and benefits from little or no screening. The view is likely to be experienced at static or low speed and is more likely to be continuously/ sequentially visible from a route.
Medium	A moderate and prominent/ noticeable change to the view, appearing in the middle ground and involving the loss/ addition of features and a degree of contrast with the existing view. There may be some partial screening. The view is likely to be experienced at static or low to medium speed and is more likely to be intermittently or partially visible from a route.
Low	A noticeable or small change, affecting a limited part of the view that may be obliquely viewed or partly screened and/ or appearing in the background of the view. This category may include rapidly changing views experienced from fast-moving road vehicles or trains.
Very Low	A small or negligible change to the view that may be obliquely viewed and mostly screened and/or appearing in the distant background or viewed at high speed over short periods and capable of being missed by the casual observer.

6.4 Types of landscape and visual effect

6.4.1 The EIA Regulations[3] require that the level of effect is described in terms of its 'type' or 'nature' of effect (whether the effect is permanent and temporary, direct and indirect, beneficial, neutral and / or adverse and or cumulative). These terms are defined below.

Temporary (short-term), long-term and permanent

6.4.2 The time period over which an effect may occur is referred to as temporary and short term (0 to 5 years), medium term (5-10 years) long term (10-25 years), or permanent.

Direct or indirect effects

6.4.3 Direct effects relate to the host landscape and concern both physical and perceptual effects on the receptor. Indirect effects relate to those landscapes and receptors which separated by distance or remote from the Project and therefore are only affected in terms of visual or perceptual effects. The Landscape Institute also defines indirect effects (page 156 of GLVIA 3) as those which are not a direct result of the development but are often produced away from the site as a result of a sequence of interrelationships or a complex pathway.

[33] The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017

Beneficial, adverse or neutral

6.4.4 The landscape and visual effects may be beneficial, neutral, or adverse. The assessment assumes that the nature of the effects would be 'adverse' unless otherwise stated however, not all change, including high levels of change, is necessarily adverse. The LVIA considers aesthetic factors such as the visual composition of the landscape in the receptor's view together with the Project. The Project may or may not be reasonably accommodated within the scale and character of the landscape as seen from the receptor location as follows:

- In Landscape Terms:
  - Beneficial landscape effects would require development to add to the landscape quality and character of an area and would entail landscape mitigation and enhancement, combined with good landscape and architectural design quality.
  - Neutral landscape effects would include changes that neither add nor detract from the quality and character of an area' including development that may be reasonably accommodated within the scale and capacity of the landscape in the context of landscape management and change, and negligible magnitudes of change.
  - Adverse landscape effects may include the loss of landscape elements such as mature trees and hedgerows as part of construction or development and changes to key characteristics that are at variance with the baseline landscape character.
- In Visual Terms:
  - Beneficial or positive effects may include removal of detracting features, addition of landscape mitigation and/or enhancement. Well-designed built structures resulting in a proposed development that could be accommodated within the scale and landscape setting or context and/or which can be reasonably assessed as enhancing a visual receptor's view;
  - Neutral visual effects include changes that neither add nor detract from the quality and character of an area or view including development that appears reasonably well accommodated within the scale and setting or context and typically results from very low magnitudes of change; and
  - Adverse or negative effects may result from the proposed development for a variety of reasons – for example the introduction of numerous pylons on the skyline from a promoted viewpoint that are perceived as incongruous or the introduction of a substation where the removal of extensive high valued hedgerows and woodland cover cannot be fully mitigated by new planting.

6.5 Cumulative Landscape and Visual Effects

Types of cumulative effect

6.5.1 Landscape and visual effects may also be cumulative with other relevant consented projects, or applications for developments in the planning system.

6.5.2 The assessment of cumulative landscape or visual effects is essentially the same as for the assessment of the primary or 'stand-alone' landscape or visual effects, in that the level of effect is determined by assessing the sensitivity of the receptor and the magnitude of change, although the cumulative assessment considers the magnitude of

change posed by multiple developments. Chapter 7 of GLVIA 3 notes that this is an evolving area of practice, but provides the following definitions sourced from the most recent established guidance (*Guidance: Assessing the Cumulative Impact of Onshore Wind Energy Developments*, Scottish Natural Heritage, 2012)[4] in response to wind farm development at paragraph 7 as follows:

6.5.3 Cumulative effects are defined as *"…the additional changes caused by a proposed development in conjunction with other similar developments or as the combined effect of a set of developments taken together".*

6.5.4 Types of cumulative effect are defined as follows:

- Cumulative Landscape Effects:

  Where more than one development may have an effect on a landscape element, landscape character or landscape designation through either an 'additional' or 'in combination' effect.

- Cumulative Visual Effects:

  The cumulative or incremental visibility of similar types of development that may combine to have a cumulative visual effect on the view or visual amenity. These can be further defined as follows:

  - Simultaneous or combined: where two or more developments may be viewed from a single fixed viewpoint simultaneously, within the viewer's field of view and without requiring them to turn their head[5];
  - Successive or repetitive: where two or more developments may be viewed from a single viewpoint successively as the viewer turns their head or swivels through 360°; and
  - Sequential: where a number of developments may be viewed sequentially or repeatedly at increased frequency, from a range of locations when travelling along a route within the Study Area.

6.5.5 A cumulative landscape or visual effect simply means that more than one type of development is present or visible within the landscape. Other forms of existing development and land-use such as woodland and forestry, patterns of agriculture, built form, and settlements already have a cumulative effect on the existing landscape that is already accepted or taken for granted. These features often contribute strongly to the existing character, forming a positive or adverse component of the local landscape.

6.5.6 The preliminary cumulative study area has been defined as extending in a 3km radius from the Project within the north-west of York, Tadcaster and Monk Fryston Study Areas to potentially capture other projects where significant effects with the Project could theoretically overlap. Other, under-construction, consented and planning application developments up to 6km from the draft Order Limits have been identified as part of a long list of potential cumulative development in line with PINS advice note 17. This list and been reviewed and refined to identify a short list of those development which could have a significant effect in cumulation with the Project (**Table 4.5, Chapter 4**). Only developments which are of a scale considered likely to contribute to a significant

[4] Scottish Natural Heritage. Assessing The Cumulative Impact of Onshore Wind Energy Developments 2012. (Online) Available from: https://tethys.pnnl.gov/sites/default/files/publications/SNH-2012-CumulativeOnshoreWind.pdf (Accessed 05/10/2021).
[5] Note: A person's field of view is variable but is approximately 90° when facing in one direction.

cumulative effect in 'addition' or in 'combination' with the Project will be scoped for inclusion in the cumulative assessment.

Evaluation of cumulative landscape and visual effects

6.5.7 The level and significance of a cumulative landscape effect is determined in the same manner as for the LVIA, i.e. through a combination of sensitivity and magnitude of change. The resulting level of cumulative effect may remain at the same level of effect or increase to a higher level of effect as follows:

- A significant effect from the Project is predicted in addition or combination with another significant effect attributed to other development(s). The effect is still termed significant and cumulative, but is a greater level of effect than for either development individually;
- A significant effect from the Project is predicted in addition or combination with another non-significant effect attributed to other development(s). The effect is still termed significant and cumulative, but is attributed to the Project and is a greater level of effect than for either development individually;
- A non-significant effect from the Project is predicted in addition or combination with another significant effect attributed to other development(s). The effect is still termed significant and cumulative, but is attributed to the other development(s) and is a greater level of effect than for either development individually; and
- A non-significant effect from the Project is predicted in addition or combination with another non-significant effect attributed to other development(s). The effect is still termed cumulative and is a greater level of effect than for either development individually; the combined effect however, may or may not be significant.

6.6 Significance evaluation

6.6.1 The level of landscape and visual effects will be determined with reference to landscape or visual sensitivity and the magnitude of landscape or visual change experienced. For each receptor the evaluation process will be informed by use of a matrix as shown in **Table 6C.9**, below.

Table 6C.9 Evaluation of Landscape and Visual Effects

Sensitivity:	**Magnitude of change:**			
	High	**Medium**	**Low**	**Very Low**
High	Major (Significant)	Major/Moderate (Significant)	Moderate*	Minor
Medium	Major/Moderate (Significant)	Moderate*	Minor	Minor/Negligible
Low	Moderate*	Minor	Minor/Negligible	Negligible

*Note: Moderate levels of effect may or may not be significant subject to the assessor's opinion which shall be clearly explained.

6.6.2 In line with the emphasis placed in GLVIA 3 upon application of professional judgement, the adoption of an overly mechanistic approach through reliance upon a matrix as presented in **Table 6C.9** will be avoided. This will be achieved by the provision of clear and accessible narrative explanations of the rationale underlying the assessment made

for each landscape and visual receptor, over and above the outline assessment provided by use of the matrix. Matrices for landscape and visual effects are provided as a summary in support of the narrative explanations. Wherever possible, cross references will be made to baseline figures and/or to photowire and photomontage visualisations in order to support the rationale.

6.6.3 In accordance with the EIA Regulations, it is important to determine whether the predicted effects are likely to be 'significant'. Significant landscape and visual effects, in the assessor's opinion, resulting from the proposed development would be all those effects that result in a 'Major', 'Major/ Moderate' or potentially a 'Moderate' level of effect and any exceptions would be clearly explained. In particular a more detailed rationale will be provided for ascribing whether an effect would be 'significant' or 'not significant', or where the assessment concludes that the level of effect would be 'Moderate' and therefore 'potentially significant'.

6.6.4 GLVIA 3 at paragraph 3.34, requires that descriptions are provided for each of the level of effect categories to make it clear what they mean. Due to the multiple judgements made for components of sensitivity and magnitude for every receptor, these descriptions can only ever be generic and for clarity typical examples are provided in **Table 6C.10** below. All receptor effects contained in summary tables should be read in conjunction with the detailed narrative assessment set out in the ES Chapter and accompanying appendices.

Table 6C.10 Description of Level of Effects

Level of Effect	Description of Landscape Effect	Description of Visual Effect
Major	Typically recorded where a high or medium magnitude is experienced by a high or medium sensitivity receptor resulting in a greater than Moderate level of effect. For example, extensive loss of highly valued key characteristics within a statutory designated landscape including new pylons and overhead lines being at considerable variance with baseline landscape character. The effect would be significant.	Typically recorded where a high or medium magnitude is experienced by a high or medium sensitivity receptor resulting in a greater than Moderate level of effect. For example, extensive views from a public footpath of multiple new pylons and overhead lines in the foreground and middle ground that represent prominent new features in a landscape of high scenic value. The effect would be significant.
Moderate	Typically recorded where a medium magnitude is experienced by a medium sensitivity receptor resulting in a Moderate level of effect. For example, a new substation may result in notable loss of key characteristics in an undesignated landscape and may lead to a partial change in landscape character. The effect may or may not be significant.	Typically recorded where a medium magnitude is experienced by a medium sensitivity receptor resulting in a Moderate level of effect. For example, a localised view from a golf course of a new substation in the foreground or middle ground of a landscape of moderate scenic value. The effect may or may not be significant.

Level of Effect	Description of Landscape Effect	Description of Visual Effect
Minor	Typically recorded where a Low magnitude is experienced by a Low sensitivity receptor resulting in a Minor level of effect. For example, the introduction of new pylons that have a limited influence on an adjoining landscape character area due to intervening topography. The effect would be not significant.	Typically recorded where a Low magnitude is experienced by a Low sensitivity receptor resulting in a Minor level of effect. For example, an oblique and partial view of new pylons, experienced from people travelling at speed on main roads through built-up areas. The effect would be not significant.
Negligible	Typically recorded where a Very Low magnitude is experienced by a Low sensitivity receptor, resulting in a Negligible effect. For example, barely perceptible changes to an urban fringe landscape character area already significantly affected by infrastructure. The effect would be not significant.	Typically recorded where a Very Low magnitude is experienced by a Low sensitivity receptor, resulting in a Negligible effect. For example, a background change in view that would be barely perceptible and experienced by people playing team sport. The effect would be not significant.

Appendix 6D
Landscape Character Baseline

6D.1: Key Characteristics of Vale Farmland with Plantation Woodland and Heathland Regional Landscape Character Area from the North Yorkshire and York Regional Landscape Character Study (2011)[6]

- A patchwork of low lying, predominantly arable fields, often delineated by a network of mature hedgerows and interspersed with patches of regular-shaped mixed and coniferous plantation woodlands;
- Large heathlands are key features on sandy soils;
- Distant visual containment is provided by higher Landscape Character Types to the east and west;
- Strong sense of openness throughout much of this Landscape Character Type;
- Scattered settlement pattern of towns, villages and farmsteads within the landscape around the main historic City of York (which forms part of the Urban Landscapes Primary Landscape Unit); and
- A network of trunk roads linking the larger settlements and towns.

6D.2: Key Characteristics of River Floodplain Regional Landscape Character Type from the North Yorkshire and York Regional Landscape Character Study (2011)

- A series of flat, low lying, relatively narrow river corridors which flow through the different types of Vale Farmland Landscape Character Types within the Study Area;
- The 'Ings' - flood meadows maintained by traditional hay making activities;
- Landscape pattern comprises a mixture of flood meadows, neutral grasslands and floodplain mires;
- Halls and manor houses are key landscape features;
- River engineering features such as Levees assert a human influence over the landscape;
- Power stations, pylons and former collieries are present in parts of this Landscape Character Type; and
- The A1 (M) introduces a source of noise and visual intrusion in several places.

6D.3: Key Characteristics of Magnesian Limestone Ridge Landscape Character Type from the North Yorkshire and York Regional Landscape Character Study (2011)

- A low ridge of gently rolling landform which is covered by a pattern of fertile farmland and well wooded estates;

[6] North Yorkshire County Council. North Yorkshire and York Landscape Characterisation Project 2011. (Online) Available from: https://www.cravendc.gov.uk/media/8643/north-yorkshire-and-york-landscape-character-assessment.pdf.

- Landform is intersected by a series of relatively intricate dry valleys;
- Wooded limestone gorges, caves and crags are key landscape features;
- The prominent transport corridor of the A1(M) which runs through the southern section of this Landscape Character Type;
- Large-scale arable fields dominate the landscape, facilitating long distance views, extending as far as Kilburn White Horse on the edge of the North York Moors National Park;
- Intimate scale and grain of the landscape derived from complex topography and land use patterns;
- Several historic country houses and associated designed landscapes, often containing mature veteran trees;
- Limestone quarries are a relatively common landscape feature; and
- Use of limestone as a building material which creates a unified character.

6D.4: Key Characteristics of Huby and Shipton Vale Local Landscape Character Area from the Hambleton Landscape Character Assessment and Sensitivity Study (2016)

- A simple, open landscape of flat floodplain, open and homogenous with only occasional undulations and localised higher ground;
- Drainage ditches and modified becks cross the landscape, with areas prone to flooding;
- Very large arable fields, though linear field patterns remain intact in places. Smaller-scale pasture fields persist around villages;
- Blocks of conifer plantation are the main woodland cover. Hedges are gappy and sparse, with some field trees;
- Some native woodland along watercourses, and areas of wetland on undrained soils;
- Large estate landscapes with extensive parkland and distinctive architecture;
- A busy landscape of roads, railway and other infrastructure, with the influence of York in the south experienced through heavier traffic flows; and
- An open landscape, though views are filtered by multiple layers of trees. An intensive rural area with a lack of intimacy.

6D.5: Key Characteristics of Ouse Floodplain Local Landscape Character Area from the Hambleton Landscape Character Assessment and Sensitivity Study (2016)

- A series of wide rivers, long and meandering, set in a broad expansive floodplain which continues west into neighbouring Harrogate;
- Some notable woodland associated with the river, particularly associated with designed landscapes at Beningbrough, Myton and Helperby;
- Evidence of modifications and engineering works in the floodplain, notably of long, raised flood banks and drainage channels;

- Field size and shape varies, but is primarily arable; and
- Clear sense of being in a flat and low-lying landscape, with openness of views dictated by vegetation.

6D.6: Key Characteristics of the Scagglethorpe Moor Mixed Farmland Local Landscape Character Area from the Harrogate District Landscape Character Assessment (2004)

Geology, soils and drainage

- Sherwood sandstone solid geology overlain with silt and clay drift geology; and
- Slowly-permeable, seasonally-waterlogged, stoneless, clayey and fine loamy over clayey surface water gley soils.

Landform and drainage pattern

- Flat landform below 15m AOD;
- The River Foss forms the eastern boundary of the Character Area (and of the District). Several minor tributaries and associated ditches along field boundaries are characteristic ; and
- A large proportion of the area is in floodplain.

Land use, fields, boundaries, trees and wildlife

- Grade 4 agricultural land intensively managed for arable and livestock production including several large scale poultry units;
- Medium sized fields bound by hedges, post and wire and post and rail fencing;
- Large mixed plantation called Red House Wood plus a few small deciduous plantations;
- Red House Wood is Ancient Semi-Natural woodland; and
- Few individual trees and hedgerow remnants associated with areas of grassland and built form.

Settlement, built environment and communications

- No major settlement, large scale scattered farmsteads including poultry sheds.

6D.7: Key Characteristics of the Lower Nidd Grassland Local Landscape Character Area from the Harrogate District Landscape Character Assessment (2004)

Geology soils and drainage

- Sherwood sandstone solid geology overlain with silt and clay drift geology plus alluvium along the riverbed; and
- Slowly-permeable, seasonally-waterlogged, stoneless, clayey and fine loamy over clayey surface water gley soils.

Landform and drainage pattern

- Flat landform below 15m AOD; and
- The River Nidd plus few minor associated drainage ditches along field boundaries.

Land use, fields, boundaries, trees and wildlife

- Improved grassland fields, grade 4 agricultural land;
- Area of parkland with the Priory at Nun Monkton;
- Small to medium-sized fields some typical of parliamentary enclosure plus older field systems around settlement;
- Lots of hedgerows of various condition often reinforced with post and wire fencing where needed for stock control;
- Woodland clumps plus few trees along field boundaries including oak, sycamore and ash; and
- Surviving ridge and furrow.

Settlement, built environment and communications

- The main settlements are Nun Monkton and Moor Monkton; and
- Traditional building materials include red brick and tile or slate plus occasional Magnesian limestone buildings and walls to properties.

6D.8: Key Characteristics of the West Selby Limestone Ridge Local Landscape Character Area from the Selby District Council Landscape Character Assessment (2019)

- Low ridge of Magnesian limestone with large scale rolling arable farmland;
- Irregularly shaped, large scale arable fields, defined by hedgerows and field margin buffers with intermittent hedgerow trees, or occasionally ditches;
- Strong presence of large areas of calcareous woodland to the west of the character area, providing a sense of semi-enclosure;
- Major transport links dissect this landscape, including the main trunk roads A1, A63, and A64, and railway lines;
- Local influences include parkland landscapes and mineral sites for limestone extraction; and
- Sparse settlement pattern outside the town of Tadcaster and small villages, with few isolated properties and farmsteads.

6D.9: Key Characteristics of the Open Arable Farmland, East Bramham Local Landscape Character Area from the Leeds Landscape Character Assessment (2011)

- Open gently rolling farmland;
- Large regular arable fields;
- Sparse tree cover;
- Low gappy hedgerows;

- Isolated mixed plantations;
- Wide grass verges; and
- Large farm buildings and houses.

Appendix 6E
Landscape Character Sensitivity Assessment

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

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

Value criteria	Commentary[7]	Value
Landscape designations	There are no national or local landscape designations within the LCA and study area.	Medium
Landscape condition and intactness	The LCA is defined by a "*patchwork of low lying predominately arable fields delineated by mature hedgerows*" with patches of woodlands. There is a "*strong sense of openness*" throughout the area. Towns villages and farmsteads are scattered across the area, including the villages of Nether Poppleton, Upper Poppleton and Skelton. The assessment notes "*Despite the presence of villages and towns, there is a sense that this is a predominately rural landscape".* Within the part of the LCA in the study area there is network of main roads including A19, A59 and B1363, the East Coast Mainline Railway (ECMR) and overhead transmission lines. The extant assessment identifies that management of the area should focus on restoring the landscape *"through enhancing and replacing lost hedgerows, planting trees, protecting and enhancing broadleaf woodland".*	Medium
Scenic quality	Within the LVIA study area much of the LCA consists of a rural landscape of ordinary aesthetic appeal, which typically has an open level of enclosure. Small patches of woodland are scattered across the landscape, which provide a sense of	Medium

[7] All references in *italics* throughout Table 6C.1 are taken from the North Yorkshire and York Landscape Characterisation Project (2011) page 171-174[6]

Value criteria	Commentary[7]	Value
	intimacy and enclosure in places. The assessment advises the conservation of *"open views along and across the river floodplains towards adjacent Landscape Character Types".* The overall scenic quality is detracted by the A19, A59 and B1363 and the East Coast Mainline Railway.	
Rarity and representativeness	This is not considered to be a particularly important example of a lowland intensively farmed arable landscape. Rare landscape features are not a key characteristic of the landscape.	Low
Conservation interest and associations	Within the LVIA study area there are a number of conservation interests. There is a single Grade 1 listed building in Skelton (Church of St Giles), and several Grade 2 listed properties in Nether Poppleton, Upper Poppleton and Hessay. There are conservation areas within Nether Poppleton and Upper Poppleton around the historic cores of the villages. With regard to nature conservation there is the Moorlands Woodland Nature Reserve west of Wigginton. There are no Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), Special Protected Area (SPAs), Special Area of Conservation (SACs) or Ramsar sites within the LCA and LVIA study area.	Medium
Recreation value	National Cycle Route (NCR) 65 and the York & Selby long distance footpath are routed through the LCA and study area and there is a local public rights of way network that connects villages to the wider countryside. The larger villages have small public parks including Millennium Green in Nether Poppleton and the Forest of Galtres and Skelton Park Golf Clubs are also located in this LCA.	High
Perceptual aspects	Whilst there is local variation, the arable farmland typically has moderate levels of remoteness and tranquillity, reduced near settlement edges and where it is crossed by major transport corridors including the A19, A59 and B1363 and the East Coast Mainline Railway, where the audible influence of road traffic and trains, regular movement and background noise is typically localised in extent.	Medium
Overall value	The landscape is undesignated, and criteria range from 'High' (recreation value) 'Medium' (conservation interests, associations, designations, condition, scenic quality and perceptual aspects), to 'Low' (in terms of rarity and representativeness). The overall value is therefore assessed as Medium.	**Medium**

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

Overall Sensitivity

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

Overall Sensitivity to the Project:

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

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

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

Value criteria	Commentary	Value
Landscape designations	This *'narrow flood plain landscape'*[8]. contains no national or local landscape designations within the study area.	Medium
Landscape condition and intactness	The river corridor is a meandering channel, typically ~50m wide and flanked by narrow and intermittent strips of riparian planting with frequent willow trees. Overton Wood is a c.50 hectare mixed woodland plantation just to the north of the River Ouse, and elsewhere there is a simple pattern of arable and pastoral fields divided by intermittent clipped hedgerows and hedgerow trees. Engineered berms to minimise flooding of farmland are present, particularly along the north-eastern edge of the river corridor. The extant assessment identifies at Table 5.43 that *"Potential for landscape enhancements includes widening of riparian strips to provide the foundation of a green network in this area".* Frequent flooding is noted with "*an increased need to construct, maintain and repair flood defences along the riverside".*	Medium
Scenic quality	The landscape is very flat with a *"sense of exposure"*. The landscape typically lacks intimacy and high voltage powerlines cross the River Ouse north-west of Overton, with low voltage powerlines on wooden poles passing underneath and running parallel to the river (see Viewpoint 4). Settlement is limited but the LCA includes the villages of Overton and Beningbrough and there are occasional scattered farmsteads, but more frequently on slightly higher ground in adjoining character areas.	Medium
Rarity and representativeness	This is not a rare landscape type or considered to be a particularly important example of a lowland river corridor (Beningbrough Hall parkland within the Ouse	Low

[8] All references in *italics* throughout Table 6C.2 are taken from the North Yorkshire and York Landscape Characterisation Project (2011)[6]

Value criteria	Commentary	Value
	Floodplain LCA is assessed separately). Rare landscape features are not a key characteristic of the landscape.	
Conservation interest and associations	There are several listed buildings and structures within the settlements of Overton and Red House and a moated Scheduled Monument north-west of Red House. With regard to nature conservation, there are no SSSIs, SPAs, SACs or Ramsar sites within the LCA and LVIA study area. The historic 'Ings' (water meadows) have largely been lost to intensive arable agriculture.	Medium
Recreation value	Public rights of way are routed along the length on the river corridor on both banks and short spurs of these routes are well connected to nearby settlements and minor roads. The River Ouse also accommodates fishing and is part of a Ripon to York paddling trail promoted by British Canoeing[9]. Other recreational water uses may occur.	High
Perceptual aspects	Further from the East Coast mainline railway and larger villages at the western edge of the LCA, the landscape is increasingly tranquil with no aural or visual disturbance from major roads. High voltage pylons and lower voltage lines on wooden poles are highly visible and the engineered bank of the River Ouse and high intensity arable agriculture all combine to reduce the sense of naturalness.	Medium
Overall value	The landscape is undesignated, and criteria range from 'High' (recreation value), to 'Medium' (designations, condition, intactness, conservation interests, associations and perceptual aspects) to 'Low' (in terms of rarity and representativeness). The overall value is therefore assessed as Medium.	**Medium**

Susceptibility criteria	Commentary	Susceptibility
Physical characteristics	This is a very flat, low lying landscape with an open to intermediate level of enclosure afforded by typically gappy hedgerows with occasional trees. The scale of the landscape is medium, reducing in scale closer to settlements including Beningbrough and Overton where field sizes are reduced in size and landcover is	Low

[9] British Canoeing, Paddling Trail: River Ure & Ouse: Ripon to York, Multiday Trail (online) Available at: https://www.britishcanoeing.org.uk/uploads/documents/Rivers-Ure-Ouse_-Ripon-to-York-Multiday-Trail.pdf

Susceptibility criteria	Commentary	Susceptibility
	more typically permanent grassland. A 275kV overhead line crosses the River Ouse north-west of Overton. There is a simple, pattern of arable fields with engineered berms close to the river to minimise flooding of farmland and field boundaries are typically rectilinear with drainage ditches running perpendicular to the river.	
Visual characteristics	The skyline character is described in the published assessment as a *"flat horizon, interrupted by mature tree cover*." The existing 275kV pylon lines to the north-west of Overton break the skyline and lower voltage lines on wooden poles contribute, to a lesser extent, to the impact of vertical man-made infrastructure on the LCA. It is noted that whilst there are some open views are varying length, the very flat topography and character of the meandering River Ouse with intermittent bankside tree cover, results in views that are frequently interrupted and curtailed. Field boundary hedgerow trees and Overton Wood restrict intervisibility with the adjoining LCA's (i.e. Huby and Shipton Vale Farmland LCA, Scagglethorpe Moor Mixed Farmland LCA and the River Floodplain LCA).	Medium
Perceptual characteristics	Field survey observations made whilst obtaining viewpoint photography note the localised adverse influence on tranquillity of the East Coast mainline at the eastern end of the LCA and activity associated with the larger villages of Nether and Upper Poppleton that adjoin the LCA to the south. High voltage overhead power lines cross the River Ouse and lower voltage lines on wooden poles are also present.	Medium to High
Overall Susceptibility	The physical, visual and perceptual characteristics combined indicate a 'Medium' overall susceptibility.	**Medium**

Sensitivity

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

Overall Sensitivity to the Project:

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

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

Relevant Figures
Figures 6.2 to 6.7 and 6.19 and Photoviewpoints 1, 7, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17

Value criteria	Commentary	Value
Landscape designations	There are no national or local landscape designations.	Medium
Landscape condition and intactness	This is a *"simple, open"*[10]. landscape and the predominant intensive arable landcover includes *"gappy and sparse"* hedgerows with *"some field trees"* and limited woodland cover. Overton Wood is a c.50-hectare mixed woodland plantation located south-west of Shipton and elsewhere woodland is typically restricted to smaller copses and belts. The extant assessment identifies at 5.254 that "*The focus should be on restoring landscape structure through new woodland and hedgerow planting to reinforce character and enhance green infrastructure*" and notes that upgrading of overheads lines *"could affect landscape character".* The rural landscape is disrupted by the A19 road corridor, East Coast Mainline (ECML) railway and overhead lines.	Medium
Scenic quality	This is a *"simple, open"* landscape of ordinary aesthetic appeal and has an open to intermediate level of enclosure. The landscape typically lacks intimacy and locally prominent major transport corridors include the A19 and ECML railway and high voltage overhead lines.	Medium
Rarity and representativeness	This is not considered to be a particularly important example of a lowland intensively farmed arable landscape. Rare landscape features are not a key characteristic of the landscape.	Low
Conservation interest and	The village of Shipton-by-Beningbrough contains a number of Grade II listed buildings. In addition, there are several scattered Grade II listed farm buildings in	Medium

[10] All references in *italics* throughout are taken from the LUC. Hambleton Landscape Character Assessment and Sensitivity Study (2016) (Online) Available at: https://www.hambleton.gov.uk/downloads/file/921/hambleton-landscape-character-assessment-and-sensitivity-study

Value criteria	Commentary	Value
associations	the landscape to the north and north-east of Shipton-by-Beningbrough. No Scheduled Monuments are present. There are no SSSIs, SPAs, SACs or Ramsar sites within the LCA and study area.	
Recreation value	A section of National Cycle Route (NCR) 65 passes through this LCA and follows minor roads including Overton Road, Shipton Low Road, Beningbrough Lane and New Road. Beyond NCR65 there is generally a low to medium density of local Public Rights of Way (PRoWs), increasing in number closer to Shipton.	Medium
Perceptual aspects	This is an intensive arable landscape, crossed by major transport corridors including the A19 and East Coast Mainline and well connected to the north-east edge of the York conurbation. The transport corridors together with the village of Shipton, limit the feeling of remoteness and tranquillity with the audible influence of road traffic and trains a source, albeit localised, of regular movement and background noise. Baseline light sources include traffic on the nearby A19, street lighting along the A19 within the nearby settlements of Shipton-by-Beningbrough and Skelton and occasional trains on the ECML.	Medium
Overall value	The landscape is undesignated, and criteria range from 'Medium' (conservation interests, associations, designations, condition, scenic quality, recreational and perceptual aspects), to 'Low' (in terms of rarity and representativeness). The overall value is therefore assessed as Medium.	**Medium**

Susceptibility Criteria	Commentary	Susceptibility
Physical characteristics	A flat, low-lying landscape with an open to intermediate level of enclosure afforded by often gappy hedgerows and occasional blocks and belts of native woodland and plantation woodland. The scale of the landscape is typically medium to large, reducing to a medium scale closer to Shipton where field sizes are reduced in size. Major transport routes and energy infrastructure include the A19, the electrified East Coast Mainline and a 400kV overhead line crosses the landscape north and north-east of Shipton. Beyond Shipton and the aforementioned infrastructure, the rural landscape features are arranged around scattered	Low

Susceptibility Criteria	Commentary	Susceptibility
	farmsteads with a simple, pattern of arable fields with typically regular boundaries and occasional drainage ditches.	
Visual characteristics	The skyline is described in the published assessment as *"generally undefined in this flat landscape and usually broken by hedgerows and scattered mature hedgerow trees"*. It is noted that the existing 400kV overhead line to the north and north-east of Shipton breaks the skyline in places, although the lack of landform variation and field boundary vegetation often restricts views. It is noted that *"views into the area are available from higher ground to the north"*, however the higher ground of the Howardian Hills Area of Natural Beauty (AONB) is located over 7km to the north of the LVIA study area and consequently due to intervening distance and vegetation there is a weak visual relationship with the LCA within the study area. In consideration of these factors, the Huby and Shipton Vale Farmland LCA can be summarised as an open to partially enclosed landscape offering some visual containment and filtering of views and moderate levels of intervisibility to surrounding landscapes. Regular trains along the East Coast mainline and traffic along the road network, in particular the busy A19, have localised adverse impacts on the rural landscape.	Medium
Perceptual characteristics	Field survey observations made whilst obtaining viewpoint photography note the localised influence of the A19 and East Coast Mainline, which pass through the LCA. Baseline light sources include traffic on the nearby A19, street lighting along the A19 within the nearby settlements of Shipton-by-Beningbrough and Skelton and occasional trains on the ECMR. The proximity to settlements and influence of human activity results in an LCA which displays limited levels of remoteness and naturalness and is heavily influenced by modern arable farming methods which have reduced semi-natural habitats.	Medium
Overall Susceptibility	The physical, visual and perceptual characteristics indicate a 'Medium' overall susceptibility.	**Medium**

Overall Sensitivity

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

Overall Sensitivity to the Project:

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

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

Relevant Figures
Figures 6.2 to 6.7 and 6.19 and Photoviewpoint 8

Value criteria	Commentary	Value
Landscape designations	Beningbrough Hall is a Grade II Registered Park and Garden of dating from the 18th Century or earlier and is owned by the National Trust. The parkland is bounded by a bend of the River Ouse to the west and south, farmland to the west and the village of Newton-on-Ouse and more farmland to the north.	High
Landscape condition and intactness	The parkland planting has a good time depth, with veteran parkland trees in varying states of decline and more recent tree and woodland planting. Ongoing management is undertaken by the National Trust to maintain Beningbrough Hall parkland as a visitor attraction.	High
Scenic quality	This is a landscape of high aesthetic appeal and a close relationship exists between the historic buildings and structures within the grounds and designed vistas, approaches and walks within the parkland landscape.	High
Rarity and representativeness	Beningbrough Hall, completed in 1716 is described as one of the *"finest Baroque houses in the region"*[11] and the evolution of the gardens over several hundred years include a walled garden, ha-ha, many mature parkland trees and Grade I listed clock and bell pylons.	High
Conservation interest and associations	The principal building of Beningbrough Hall is Grade I listed and there are several other listed buildings and structures within the grounds. The National Trust formed a partnership with the National Portrait Gallery in 1979 which facilitated the display of important 18th century portraits in the Hall[12], which in addition to the gardens, parkland and architecture, is a more recent association that promotes Beningbrough as a visitor attraction. With regard to nature conservation, there are no specific designations within the Landscape Character Type (LCT).	High

[11] Historic England. Benningbrough Hall (2021) (Online) Available at: https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1001057
[12] National Trust. A Brief History of Benningbrough Hall (2021) (Online) Available at: https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/beningbrough-hall/features/a-brief-history-of-beningbrough

Value criteria	Commentary	Value
Recreation value	Part of National Cycle Route (NCR) 65 passes through the centre of Beningbrough Park and the route also passes along New Road which defines the northern and western boundary of the LCT. In addition, a public footpath follows the same route as NCR 65 through the centre of the park and additional public footpath routes follow the course of the River Ouse along the southern and western boundary of the LCT. As a National Trust owned tourist destination, it is understood that Beningbrough attracts over 150,000 paying visitors a year[13].	High
Perceptual aspects	This is a tranquil and peaceful LCT, situated over 2km west of the East Coast Mainline and distant from major road corridors. The presence of mature perimeter shelterbelts and tree cover provides a secluded character to the LCT with high levels of tranquillity.	High
Overall value	The landscape is designated as a Grade II RPG, and all criteria are assessed as 'High'. The overall value is therefore assessed as High.	**High**

Susceptibility criteria	Commentary	Susceptibility
Physical characteristics	This is a flat, low lying landscape closely associated with the River Ouse. There is a modest rise in elevation to the centre of the LCT where Beningbrough Hall is located. A good level of enclosure is afforded by shelter belts and tree planting to the perimeter of the LCT. Redhouse Wood is a c.50-hectare block of woodland c.0.6km south of the LCT and as a backdrop, it indirectly contributes to the well wooded character of the LCT. The landscape varies from medium-scale parkland to smaller scale landscapes near the Hall, including the more intimate landscape of the walled garden.	High
Visual characteristics	The skyline is dominated by mature tree cover, both within and beyond the LCT, with glimpses of the agricultural landscape beyond in places, particularly in winter. The influence of modern built development and infrastructure is limited, with very restricted glimpses, in winter, of the existing XC and XCP overhead line c.1.2km south of the LCT (see **Photoviewpoint 8**). The Hall has an elevated location, however surrounding mature parkland trees and belts of woodland to the site	High to Medium

[13] Available online at: https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/beningbrough-hall/features/a-brief-history-of-beningbrough

Susceptibility criteria	Commentary	Susceptibility
	perimeter restrict ground level intervisibility with the wider landscape beyond the parkland, even in winter. In consideration of these factors, the LCT can be summarised as an enclosed landscape offering a high degree of visual containment, even in winter, and low levels of intervisibility with surrounding landscapes as demonstrated by the baseline view **(Photoviewpoint 8)**.	
Perceptual characteristics	Field survey observations made whilst obtaining viewpoint photography note the relative lack of traffic on the minor roads that flank the LCT and the peaceful and tranquil character of the parkland. The small villages of Nun Monkton and Newton-on-Ouse adjacent to the LCT include older properties and post-war residential development on a linear street layout but being inward facing settlements, have limited indirect influence on the LCT and are separated from the Beningbrough parkland by mature tree cover. Vertical man-made infrastructure including street lighting columns close to the LCT are typically absent.	High
Overall Susceptibility	The physical, visual and perceptual characteristics combined indicate a 'High' overall susceptibility.	**High**

Sensitivity

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

Overall Sensitivity to the Project:

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

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

Relevant Figures
Figures 6.2 to 6.7 and 6.19 and Photoviewpoints 4 and 18 (from adjacent character area)

Value criteria	Commentary	Value
Landscape designations	There are no national or local landscape designations within the LVIA study area.	Medium
Landscape condition and intactness	This *"narrow flood plain landscape"*[14] is centred on the River Ouse, a meandering channel, typically ~50m wide and flanked by narrow and intermittent strips of riparian planting with frequent willow trees. Overton Wood is a ~50 hectare mixed woodland plantation just to the north of the River Ouse and elsewhere woodland cover is limited and the landscape is dominated by a simple pattern of arable and pastoral fields divided by intermittent clipped hedgerows and hedgerow trees. Engineered berms to minimise flooding of farmland are present, particularly along the north-eastern edge of the river corridor. The extant assessment identifies that *"Potential for landscape enhancements includes widening of riparian strips to provide the foundation of a green network in this area".* Frequent flooding is noted with '*an increased need to construct, maintain and repair flood defences along the riverside".*	Medium
Scenic quality	The landscape is very flat with a *"sense of exposure*." The landscape typically lacks intimacy and high voltage powerlines cross the River Ouse north-west of Overton, with low voltage powerlines on wooden poles passing underneath and running parallel to the river (see **Photoviewpoint 4**). Settlement is limited, although the LCA includes the villages of Overton and Beningbrough and there are occasional scattered farmsteads, but more frequently on slightly higher ground in adjoining character areas.	Medium
Rarity and representativeness	This is not a rare landscape type but representative of a typical lowland river corridor, noting that the Beningbrough Hall parkland within the Ouse Floodplain LCA is assessed separately.	Medium

[14] All references in *italics* throughout are taken from the Hambleton Landscape Character Assessment and Sensitivity Study by LUC (2016)[10]

Value criteria	Commentary	Value
Conservation interest and associations	There are several listed buildings and structures within Overton and Red House and a moated Scheduled Monument north-west of Red House. With regard to nature conservation, there are no SSSIs, SPAs, SACs or Ramsar sites within the LCA and LVIA study area. The historic 'Ings' (water meadows) have largely been lost to intensive arable agriculture.	Medium
Recreation value	Public rights of way are routed along the length on the river corridor on both banks and short spurs of these routes are well connected to nearby settlements and minor roads. The River Ouse also accommodates fishing and is part of a Ripon to York paddling trail promoted by British Canoeing[15]. Other recreational water uses may occur.	High
Perceptual aspects	Further from the East Coast mainline railway and larger villages at the western edge of the LCA the landscape is increasingly tranquil with no aural or visual disturbance from major roads. The visibility of high voltage pylon pylons and lower voltage lines on wooden poles and the engineered banks, with high intensity arable agriculture reduces the sense of naturalness.	Medium
Overall value	The landscape is undesignated, and criteria range from 'High' (recreation value), to 'Medium' (designations, condition, intactness, conservation interests, rarity and representativeness, associations and perceptual aspects). The overall value is therefore assessed as Medium.	**Medium**

Susceptibility criteria	Commentary	Susceptibility
Physical characteristics	This is a very flat, low lying landscape with an open to intermediate level of enclosure afforded by often gappy hedgerows with occasional trees. The scale of the landscape is typically medium, reducing in scale closer to settlements including Beningbrough and Overton where field sizes are reduced in size and landcover is often permanent grassland. The 275kV XCP overhead line crosses the River Ouse north-west of Overton. There is a simple, pattern of arable fields with engineered	Low

[15] Available online at: https://www.britishcanoeing.org.uk/uploads/documents/Rivers-Ure-Ouse_-Ripon-to-York-Multiday-Trail.pdf[9]

Susceptibility criteria	Commentary	Susceptibility
	berms close to the river to minimise flooding of farmland and field boundaries are typically rectilinear with drainage ditches running perpendicular to the river.	
Visual characteristics	The skyline character is described in the published assessment as a *"flat horizon, interrupted by mature tree cover*." The existing 275kV XCP overhead line to the north-west of Overton break the skyline and lower voltage lines on wooden poles contribute, to a lesser extent, to the vertical man-made infrastructure that is visible. It is noted that whilst there are some open views are varying length, the very flat topography and character of the meandering River Ouse with intermittent bankside tree cover, results in views that are frequently interrupted. Field boundary hedgerow trees and Overton Wood restrict intervisibility with the adjoining LCA's (i.e. Huby and Shipton Vale Farmland LCA, Scagglethorpe Moor Mixed Farmland LCA and the River Floodplain LCA).	Medium
Perceptual characteristics	Field survey observations made whilst obtaining viewpoint photography note the localised adverse influence on tranquillity of the East Coast mainline at the eastern end of the LCA and activity associated with the larger villages of Nether and Upper Poppleton that adjoining the LCA to the south. High voltage overhead power lines cross the River Ouse and lower voltage lines on wooden poles are also present.	Medium to High
Overall Susceptibility	The physical, visual and perceptual characteristics combined indicate a 'Medium' overall susceptibility.	**Medium**

Sensitivity

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

Overall Sensitivity to the Project:

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

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

Relevant Figures
Figures 6.2 to 6.7 and 6.19

Value criteria	Commentary[16]	Value
Landscape designations	Whilst the landscape is described as containing *"some features of interest"* it is not covered by any national or local landscape designations.	Medium
Landscape condition and intactness	This is a simple *"fairly uniform large-scale landscape"* with a mix of *"improved grass and arable land intensively managed for grazing, cereal production and several poultry units"*. The extant assessment states that "*Fields are large and bound by stockproof fencing which is gradually replacing or reinforcing surviving fragments of hedgerow*" and notes that the neglect of hedges has resulted in their fragmentation and the loss of hedgerow trees. Woodland is typically sparse with the exception of Redhouse Wood, a 44-hectare mixed woodland plantation east of Moor Monkton. The area has no large roads running or railways running through, but overhead lines are present. The assessment details "*Pylons are highly visible discordant features"* and notes the openness of the area makes electricity pylons, more prominent.	Medium
Scenic quality	This is a *"uniform* [and] *simple"* landscape of ordinary aesthetic appeal which has an open level of enclosure. The landscape typically lacks intimacy and locally prominent features including poultry sheds, other large scale farm buildings and high voltage overhead lines detract from the scenic quality.	Medium
Rarity and representativeness	This is not considered to be a particularly important example of a lowland intensively farmed arable landscape, although Redhouse Wood contains "*ancient semi-natural woodland*".	Medium
Conservation interest and associations	Within the LCA there are two Grade II listed buildings and a single Scheduled Monument within the Red House Estate, east of Redhouse Wood. There are no SSSIs, SPAs, SACs or Ramsar sites within the LCA and LVIA study area.	Medium

[16] All references in *italics* are taken from LUC. Harrogate Landscape Character Assessment and Sensitivity Study (2004) (Online) Available at https://www.harrogate.gov.uk/downloads/file/1536/landscape-character-assessment-introduction

Value criteria	Commentary[16]	Value
Recreation value	There are several PRoWs distributed across the area, including routes through Rehouse Wood, that connect to the wider network and the villages of Moor Monkton and Nether Poppleton beyond the LCA.	Medium to High
Perceptual aspects	This is an intensive arable landscape, with no settlements and a low density of farmsteads scattered across the area. The large open fields and sparse built form results in a moderate feeling of remoteness and tranquillity. Detracting aspects include the existing 275kV XCP overhead line and indirect influences of traffic along the A59 to the south of the LCA.	Medium
Overall value	The landscape is undesignated, and criteria range from 'Medium-High' (recreation value) to 'Medium' (conservation interests, associations, condition, intactness, scenic quality, rarity, representativeness, and perceptual aspects). The overall value is therefore assessed as Medium.	**Medium**

Susceptibility criteria	Commentary[17]	Susceptibility
Physical characteristics	This is a flat, low lying landscape with an open level of enclosure derived from medium to large scale fields with low clipped hedgerows, post and wire fencing and limited woodland cover. There are no major transport routes through the area. The 275kV XCP overhead line crosses east-west through the centre of the LCA. The rural landscape features are arranged around scattered farmsteads with a simple, pattern of arable fields that vary in shape. The scale of the landscape is typically large, and the openness of the area makes detractors such as electricity pylons more visible although in places, principally in the vicinity of Redhouse Wood, woodland cover reduces intervisibility.	Low
Visual characteristics	The visual characteristics in the published assessment are described as *"open with extensive views"* due to the flat topography, large fields, *"neglected hedgerows"* and generally sparse woodland cover, noting some enclosure is afforded by Redhouse Wood. Frequent modern agricultural buildings and poultry sheds are assimilated into the landscape with varying degrees of success, noting	Medium

[17] All references in *italics* are taken from the Harrogate Landscape Character Assessment and Sensitivity Study by LUC (2004)[16]

Susceptibility criteria	Commentary[17]	Susceptibility
	some structures form locally prominent buildings due to the open nature of the landscape. The 275kV XCP overhead line to the east of Moor Monkton passes through the centre of the LCA and is prominent in views from some public rights of way and minor roads.	
Perceptual characteristics	Field survey observations noted the lack of settlements although the frequent scattered farmsteads and intensive nature of modern agriculture results in an LCA which only displays a moderate level of remoteness. Naturalness is heavily influenced by modern large-scale farm buildings and the dominance of modern agriculture that has reduced semi-natural habitats.	Medium
Overall Susceptibility	The physical, visual, and perceptual characteristics combined indicate a 'Medium' overall susceptibility.	**Medium**

Sensitivity

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

Overall Sensitivity to the Project:

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

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

Relevant Figures
Figures 6.2 to 6.7 and 6.19 and Photoviewpoint 29

Value criteria	Commentary[18]	Value
Landscape designations	There are no national or local landscape designations within the LCA.	Medium
Landscape condition and intactness	The relatively open '*broad, flat, floodplain*' landscape includes the final section of the River Nidd before its confluence with the River Ouse. The area is a "*broad flat floodplain"* managed as permanent grassland. Rectangular fields are described as "*monochrome"*, noting "*low hedges are clipped and well-tended in contrast with the taller, often neglected, hedges*" that compensate for a lack of tree cover within the fields. The river corridor close to settlements and the periphery of the villages of Moor Monkton and Nun Monkton contain frequent mature trees. The extant assessment identifies guideline for management including "*maintain the regular field pattern*" promoting hedgerows and hedgerow trees. The area is disrupted by the A59 road corridor to the south, and the 275kV XC overhead line passes through the south-east part of the LCA.	Medium
Scenic quality	The uniformity of the fields and lack of distinctive features lends an ordinary quality to the landscape, however closer to the river the aesthetic appeal is elevated, with the extant assessment describing parts of the landscape adjacent to the river as *"beautiful*". Local detractors include the A59 road corridor to the south, and the 275kV XC overhead line passes through the south-east part of the LCA. The extant assessment also states that *"Modern housing has detracted from vernacular and impacts upon the character of villages and their setting"* around Moor Monkton and Nun Monkton.	Medium to High
Rarity and representativeness	This is not a rare landscape type or considered to be a particularly important example of a grassland floodplain.	Low

[18] All references in *italics* are taken from the Harrogate Landscape Character Assessment and Sensitivity Study by LUC (2004)[16]

Value criteria	Commentary[18]	Value
Conservation interest and associations	Within the LCA there are several scattered Grade II listed buildings located around Moor Monkton and Nun Monkton, no Scheduled Monuments are present. With regard to nature conservation, there are no SSSIs, SPAs, SACs or Ramsar sites within the LCA and LVIA study area.	Medium
Recreation value	The area is well-served by a network of public footpaths, there are routes between Moor Monkton and Nun Monkton, and through grassland adjacent the River Nidd.	Medium
Perceptual aspects	This is a floodplain grassland landscape, with two small settlements (Moor Monkton and Nun Monkton) and a number of farmsteads scattered across the area. The large open fields and sparse built form in parts result in some areas with moderate feeling of remoteness and tranquillity, in other areas these attributes are detracted by overhead lines (east), the settlements (north) and audible influence of the A59 traffic (south).	Medium
Overall value	The landscape is undesignated, and criteria range from 'Medium-High' (scenic quality), to 'Medium' (conservation interests, associations, designations, condition, recreational and perceptual aspects), and 'Low' (in terms of rarity and representativeness). The overall value is therefore assessed as Medium.	**Medium**

Susceptibility criteria	Commentary[19]	Susceptibility
Physical characteristics	This is a flat, low lying, medium scale landscape with an open to intermediate level of enclosure, afforded "*by poor tree cover"*, settlements of Moor Monkton and Nun Monkton and "*Small to medium-sized fields".* Major transport routes and energy infrastructure include the A59, and a 275kV overhead line crosses the landscape south-east of Moor Monkton. Beyond settlements and the aforementioned infrastructure, the rural landscape features are arranged around the River Nidd and scattered farmsteads with a simple pattern of grassland fields with typically regular boundaries and occasional drainage ditches. In consideration of these factors the susceptibility of the LCA is reduced due to the combination of flat topography, limited tree cover and the influence of man-made infrastructure including the 275kV XC overhead line and A59 corridor.	Low

[19] All references in *italics* throughout Table 6C.7 are taken from the Harrogate Landscape Character Assessment and Sensitivity Study by LUC (2004) Area 98[16]

Susceptibility criteria	Commentary[19]	Susceptibility
Visual characteristics	It is noted that "*Beyond the settlements and the river, tree cover is relatively poor and the visibility of pylons detracts from certain views"* and the A59 along the southern edge of the LCA is a busy route that is widely visible at the southern end of the LCA due to the openness of the landscape.	Medium
Perceptual characteristics	Field survey observations made whilst obtaining viewpoint photography note the localised influence of the A59 and 275kV XC overhead line. The proximity to settlements and influence of human activity results in an LCA which displays limited levels of remoteness and naturalness, away from the river corridor is heavily influenced by a regular pastoral field pattern and very limited semi-natural habitats.	Medium to High
Overall Susceptibility	The physical, visual and perceptual characteristics combined indicate a 'Medium' overall susceptibility.	**Medium**

Sensitivity

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

Overall Sensitivity to the Project:

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

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

Relevant Figures
Figures 6.8 to 6.13, 6.15, 6.20 and 6.21 and Photoviewpoints 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28

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

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

Susceptibility criteria	Commentary	Susceptibility
Physical characteristics	The assessment notes the area may have a lower susceptibility to change, due to the undulating landscape and that "*new features would likely be screened by intervening topography*", the large-scale landscape and medium to large fields also reduce susceptibility. The assessment also notes that "*elevated locations will be more sensitive*". There are major transport routes and high voltage powerlines already present, the Monk Fryston substation, a wind turbine, rail lines and the main road corridors of the A1 (M), A162, A659, and A64.	Low
Visual characteristics	The LCA has varied visual characteristics, more elevated areas have more open views, and low-lying areas or areas in close proximity to the settlements are typically more enclosed. In the published assessment skylines are described as *"wooded and undeveloped"* and *"indistinct".* The field study noted that high voltage powerlines break the skyline in many places, although prominence is strongly influenced by distance and elevation of the viewing location given the undulating nature of the landform. In consideration of these factors, the West Selby Limestone Ridge LCA is best described as having varied, visual containment, intervisibility and visual susceptibility.	Medium
Perceptual characteristics	Field survey observations noted there is a rural character resulting in some locations of the LCA which displays levels of remoteness, and tranquillity. This sense of tranquillity and remoteness is reduced by a network of major transport routes running through the area, and energy infrastructure. As perceptual characteristics are already impacted in large parts, remoteness and tranquillity are reduced and the landscape is less susceptible to new development.	Medium
Overall Susceptibility	The physical, visual and perceptual characteristics combined indicate a 'Medium' overall susceptibility.	**Medium**

Sensitivity

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

Overall Sensitivity to the Project:

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

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

Relevant Figures
Figures 6.8 to 6.10 and 6.20

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

Value criteria	Commentary	Value
	large-scale open fields, results in areas away from the peripheral road corridors and central 275kV XD overhead line having a moderate feeling of remoteness and tranquillity.	
Overall value	The landscape is undesignated, and criteria range from 'Medium' (designations, condition, intactness, scenic quality, recreational and perceptual aspects), to 'Low' (in terms of conservation interests, associations, rarity and representativeness). The overall value is therefore assessed as Medium.	**Medium**

Susceptibility criteria	Commentary	Susceptibility
Physical characteristics	This is an undulating landscape with an open level of enclosure, rural landscape features are arranged around scattered farmsteads, woodlands occur in small blocks, intermittent hedgerows define "*medium to large fields*", with the "*field pattern often fragmented and the scale of the landscape increased*" by the removal of these hedgerows.	Low
Visual characteristics	The area has an open level of enclosure afforded by "*medium to large*" agricultural fields and by the lack of hedgerow trees and woodland, the extant assessment notes neglected and removed hedgerows have increased the scale of the landscape and allowing "*long, uninterrupted views from areas of higher ground".* The field survey noted farm buildings, the existing 275kV XD overhead line and the A1(M) when visible are prominent visual features. In consideration of these factors, the LCA has moderate to high levels of intervisibility to surrounding landscapes.	Medium
Perceptual characteristics	Field survey observations noted there are rural influences and the lack of settlements and influence of human activity results in an LCA which displays moderate levels of remoteness and tranquillity. These characteristics are impacted by the audible influence of the A1(M) and A64 to the south and visually impacted by the 275kV XD overhead line. Additionally, the naturalness is heavily influenced by modern arable farming methods which have eliminated most semi-natural habitats.	Medium
Overall Susceptibility	The physical, visual and perceptual characteristics combined indicate a 'Medium' overall susceptibility.	**Medium**

Sensitivity

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

Overall Sensitivity to the Project:

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