

Landscape + Visual Appraisal

Land Of Barnsley Road, Upper
Cumberworth , Kirklees

Prepared by PGLA Landscape Architects
for Vivly Living

Final Report | December 2025

p g l a | landscape
architects

QUALITY CHECKED

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1.INTRODUCTION

PURPOSE OF THE DOCUMENT

- 1.1. PGLA Landscape Architects have been commissioned by Vivly Living to provide a Landscape and Visual Appraisal to analyse the potential effects that a proposed residential development at land off Barnsley Road, Upper Cumberworth, Kirklees may have on the surrounding landscape and visual amenity.
- 1.2. This study will consider the potential effects in regard to a proposal for an outline planning application for 123 new dwellings on a green belt site under a land promotion agreement on Barnsley Road, Upper Cumberworth. All details except access will be conditioned for a Reserved Matters Application. The proposed development will be set within the existing and enhanced landscape framework.
- 1.3. The appraisal investigates landscape and visual issues relating to the Site and its setting through a combination of desktop research and field survey work.
- 1.4. The Appraisal aims to:
 - Establish a clear understanding of the Site and its setting in respect of landscape character and visual amenity;
 - Appraise the existing landscape in terms of value, condition and considers the relationship of the Site with the adjacent settlement;
 - Establish an understanding of the proposed development in terms of its relation to landscape character and visual amenity;
 - Identify any potential direct and indirect effects of the proposed development upon the landscape;
 - Identify potential effects on visual receptors;
 - Determine mitigation measures necessary to reduce/eliminate any potential adverse effect on the landscape or visual amenity arising as a result of the proposed development;
 - Identify opportunities for landscape based opportunities and enhancement measures; and
 - Establish the likely potential residual effects of the proposed development.

APPRAISAL METHODOLOGY

- 1.5. The methodology and approach adopted for this study is as used in best practice when preparing Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments and Environmental Impact Assessments. Therefore the baseline study and identification of key visual receptors has been progressed in accordance with the approach and methodology put forward in the Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments, Third Edition, 2013 published by the Landscape Institute and IEMA.
- 1.6. This Appraisal has three objectives:
 - To determine the potential effects that the impact of the development will have on the landscape character and also the visual amenity around the Site and in the wider setting;

- To provide recommendations that will minimise any adverse visual effects of the development; and
- To provide recommendations that will ensure optimum integration of the Site within the wider landscape setting.

- 1.7. The process follows a standard approach and a thorough site and context analysis was undertaken during March 2024.
- 1.8. PGLA carried out a desk based research exercise prior to visiting the Site and conducted a visual assessment in the field to identify the potential effects that the proposed development may have on the character of the existing landscape and visual amenity.
- 1.9. The findings of this exercise are laid out in the following text aided by diagrams, plans and photographic panoramas that have been produced in accordance with Landscape Institute guidelines for Type 1 visualisations.
- 1.10. Section 2 considers the baseline conditions i.e. the landscape character that the Site is located within and an overview of landscape related policies. This information is used as a baseline and as a benchmark to measure the potential effects.
- 1.11. Section 3 describes the condition of the existing Site and analyses the constraints and opportunities for future development. It also considers the proposals for the Site and identifies any potential effects on the landscape and the visual amenity.
- 1.12. Section 4 analyses the potential landscape and visual effects that may be caused by the impact of the development.
- 1.13. Section 5 considers the landscape strategy and mitigation that can be implemented to reduce any foreseeable adverse effects and also enhance the setting of the Site.
- 1.14. Section 6 considers the residual effects and Section 7 provides the conclusions of the report.

SITE VISIT AND EQUIPMENT

- 1.15. A visual analysis of the Site from the surrounding area, including public footpaths and residential areas, was conducted on 20th June 2025 to understand the interfaces of the Site within its landscape setting, context and the existing settlement around it. The Appraisal identifies key characteristics of the existing landscape and outlines its capacity to accommodate the development.
- 1.16. The assessment was carried out during late spring / early summer when the majority of deciduous trees and vegetation, on and surrounding the Site, had full leaf cover giving the best case scenario in terms of screening effects. The deciduous trees, hedgerows and under-storey shrubs will therefore decrease their screening effect during the late autumn / winter months.
- 1.17. Photographs were recorded using a Canon RF 50mm fixed focal length lens on a full frame Canon EOS R5 45mp digital camera.
- 1.18. Panoramic views were created by taking a series of overlapping photographs (overlapping by 30-50% as recommended for Type One Visualisations in the Landscape Institute guidelines).

STUDY AREA

- 1.19. The study area for the assessment of landscape and visual effects of the proposed development as shown in the figures, generally cover an area extending up to approximately 1.5-3km from the centre of the area proposed for development on the Site.

SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

- 1.20. The approximate Site location is National Grid Reference SE 21001 08562 and the elevation is 238m AOD. The Site is located to the south west of Barnsley Road, which is in Upper Cumberworth, Kirklees, and sits between the villages of Denby Dale and Shepley, which is to the south of the village of Lower Cumberworth.
- 1.21. The proposed development Site covers 5.53ha (13.67 acres) of green belt land, and houses surround the Site on its western, northern, and eastern sides. The Site mostly consists of open grassland, with three farm buildings located in the southwest corner. Three mature trees stand in the central area, with more trees growing along the southern and eastern boundaries. To the south, the land gently slopes down toward Dearne Park woodland and the River Dearne. The Site sits outside flood risk zones 2&3.
- 1.22. Kirklees Council is the local planning authority and this appraisal has taken into account the landscape related policies and documentation relating to landscape character and the visual amenity. Green Belt is primarily a spatial designation but the appraisal has considered the visual consequences affecting the openness of the Green Belt where appropriate.

DEVELOPMENT DESCRIPTION

- 1.23. The proposals seek to provide a residential development that will include:
 - the demolition and removal of existing buildings within the site boundary;
 - a new access point of Barnsley Road with appropriate landscape treatments that allow for visibility splays;
 - the introduction of 123 new two-storey homes of mixed tenure;
 - the retention of existing boundary vegetation and infilling of hedgerows where necessary along all boundaries;
 - introduction of mixed native hedgerows to enhance the existing boundaries especially on the northern and southern perimeters;
 - native and ornamental trees will be planted to reflect the local landscape characteristics;
 - introduced landscape buffers to mitigate potential adverse effects;
 - a sensitive, high quality green infrastructure network that maintains and improves biodiversity in the area, whilst retaining as much of the existing hedgerows where possible.

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER & LANDSCAPE RELATED DESIGNATIONS

2.1. The following documents have been reviewed as part of our desktop study, which assists in setting the context for the statement.

- The Character of England Landscape, National Character Area 37: Yorkshire Southern Pennine Fringe, prepared by Natural England.
- The Character of England Landscape, National Character Area 38: Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield, prepared by Natural England.
- Magic website (Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside) prepared by DEFRA and Natural England.
- Kirklees District Landscape Character Assessment, prepared by LUC, July 2015.
- Landscape Institute Technical Guidance Note 06/19 'Visual Representations of Development Proposals, 17 September 2019.
- Landscape Institute Technical Guidance Note 02/21 'Assessing Landscape Value outside National Designations'.

NATIONAL LANDSCAPE CHARACTER

2.2. The Landscape Character of England is divided into a series of National Character Areas (NCA), prepared by Natural England, representing broad tracts of landscape which share common characteristics.

2.3. The Site is located within two of the National Character Areas, (NCA) 37: Yorkshire Southern Pennine Fringe and also NCA 38: Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield.

2.4. This is demonstrated in Figure 1 - National Landscape Character Area.

2.5. The key characteristics of NCA: 37 are:

- A transitional landscape dissected by steep-sided valleys, dropping from the high gritstone hills in the west to lower land in the east, and thus creating an important backdrop to the many industrial towns and villages within and beyond the NCA.
- Sandstones and gritstone beds of Millstone Grit (Namurian) age underlying smooth hills and plateaux in the west. These are overlain in the east by beds of sandstone, siltstone and mudstone of Coal Measures age.
- Rivers creating a deeply dissected landscape, with high plateaux cut by steep-sided valleys, and fanning out in 'fingers' across valleys of the NCA.
- Treeless hill tops with tracts of rough grazing and extensive areas of enclosed pasture to the west, but with broadleaved woodland on steeper valley sides, giving the impression of a well-wooded landscape, especially to the north and west of Sheffield.
- Predominantly pastoral farming, especially in western areas, with a shift to more arable land in the drier eastern areas.
- Boundary features that change from distinctive patterns of drystone walls on the upland hills, to hedgerows becoming the predominant field boundary in the east.

- Close conjunction between rural landscapes and the rich industrial heritage of the urban areas, including settlements associated with the textile industry, with large mills and tall chimneys, and large factories and forges associated with the iron, steel and manufacturing industries.
- Urban development constrained within valley floors and up side slopes, with location and layout strongly influenced by the landform.
- Industrial wealth revealed in magnificent civil architecture in town centres, notably Bradford, Halifax, Huddersfield and Sheffield, and several stately homes with designed parklands.
- Evidence of bronze-age and Roman habitation still present on uplands, and old pack-horse routes that once joined settlements across the Pennines still in place, or now forming modern major road routes.
- Extensive and dramatic views from higher land out over lower-lying land to the east, even from within urban areas.
- Several reservoirs contained within narrow valleys contributing a distinct character as well as providing popular places to visit.
- Small patches of fragmented priority habitats providing important refuges locally for wildlife. Grassland mosaics are particularly important in supporting waders and the twite that breeds on adjacent moorland areas; lowland woodland is also an important feature.
- In places a dense network of roads and urban development, with many road, rail and canal routes crossing the NCA, and a high density of footpaths throughout.

2.6. The key characteristics of NCA: 38 are:

- A low-lying landscape of rolling ridges with rounded sandstone escarpments and large rivers running through broad valleys, underlain by Pennine Coal Measures.
- Local variations in landscape character reflecting variations in underlying geology.
- Several major rivers flow through the rural and urban areas of the NCA, generally from west to east in broad valleys.
- A mixed pattern of built-up areas, industrial land, pockets of dereliction and farmed open country.
- Small, fragmented remnants of pre-industrial landscapes and more recent creation of semi-natural vegetation, including woodlands, river valley habitats and subsidence flashes, with field boundaries of clipped hedges or fences.
- Many areas affected by urban fringe pressures creating fragmented landscapes, some with a dilapidated character, separated by substantial stretches of intact agricultural land in both arable and pastoral use.
- A strong cultural identity arising from a history of coal mining, steel making and other heavy industry which resulted from the close relationship between

underlying geology and resource availability, notably water power, iron ore and coal.

- Features of industrial heritage such as mills, goits, tips, old railway lines, canals and bridges are evident, along with former mining villages.
- Many large country houses and estates established by wealthy industrialists in the 18th and 19th centuries and ancient monuments create focal points and important recreational opportunities within the landscape, such as Bretton Hall, Wentworth, Woodhouse, Temple Newsam, Nostell Priory, Bolsover Castle and the ruins of Codnor Castle.
- Extensive urbanisation, such as in the major cities of Leeds and Sheffield, with terraced and back-to-back housing and grand 19th-century municipal buildings and churches at their centres, now surrounded by extensive housing and industrial development.
- Widespread influence of transport routes, including canals, roads and railways, with ribbon developments emphasising the urban influence in the landscape.
- An extensive network of multi-user trails on former railway lines and canal towpaths, such as the Trans Pennine Trail and the Ebor Way.
- Continuing development pressure including land renewal and regeneration projects, especially along river corridors and around towns.

LOCAL LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENTS

2.7. The character descriptions within the National Landscape Character documents tend to be very broad as they address the characteristics over a regional level. We have therefore focused on the local landscape character studies by Kirklees Council for the benchmark of determining potential impacts arising from the proposed development.

2.8. Kirklees District Landscape Character Assessment, July 2015, finds that the Site falls within two Landscape Character Types E - Rural Fringes and G - Wooded Rural Valleys. Each type is broken down into smaller character areas and these are E6 - Fenay Beck Valley Rural Fringes and G10 - River Dearne Valley respectively.

2.9. See Figure 2 - Local Landscape Character. Below are relevant extracts of the Landscape Character Assessments.




LCA E6: Fenay Beck Valley Rural Fringes

2.10. This LCA is formed of rural fringe land located to the south-west of Huddersfield and centred on the Fenay Beck Valley. The LCA is fully contained within Kirklees District.

2.11. The key characteristics are as follows:



Topography, geology and drainage

- Gently undulating plateau ranging from between approximately 150 and 280 metres altitude.
- The LCA is located above the Holme and Fenay Beck River Valleys, rising up in the east towards Emley Moor.
- Local variations in topography create some areas of more complex landform

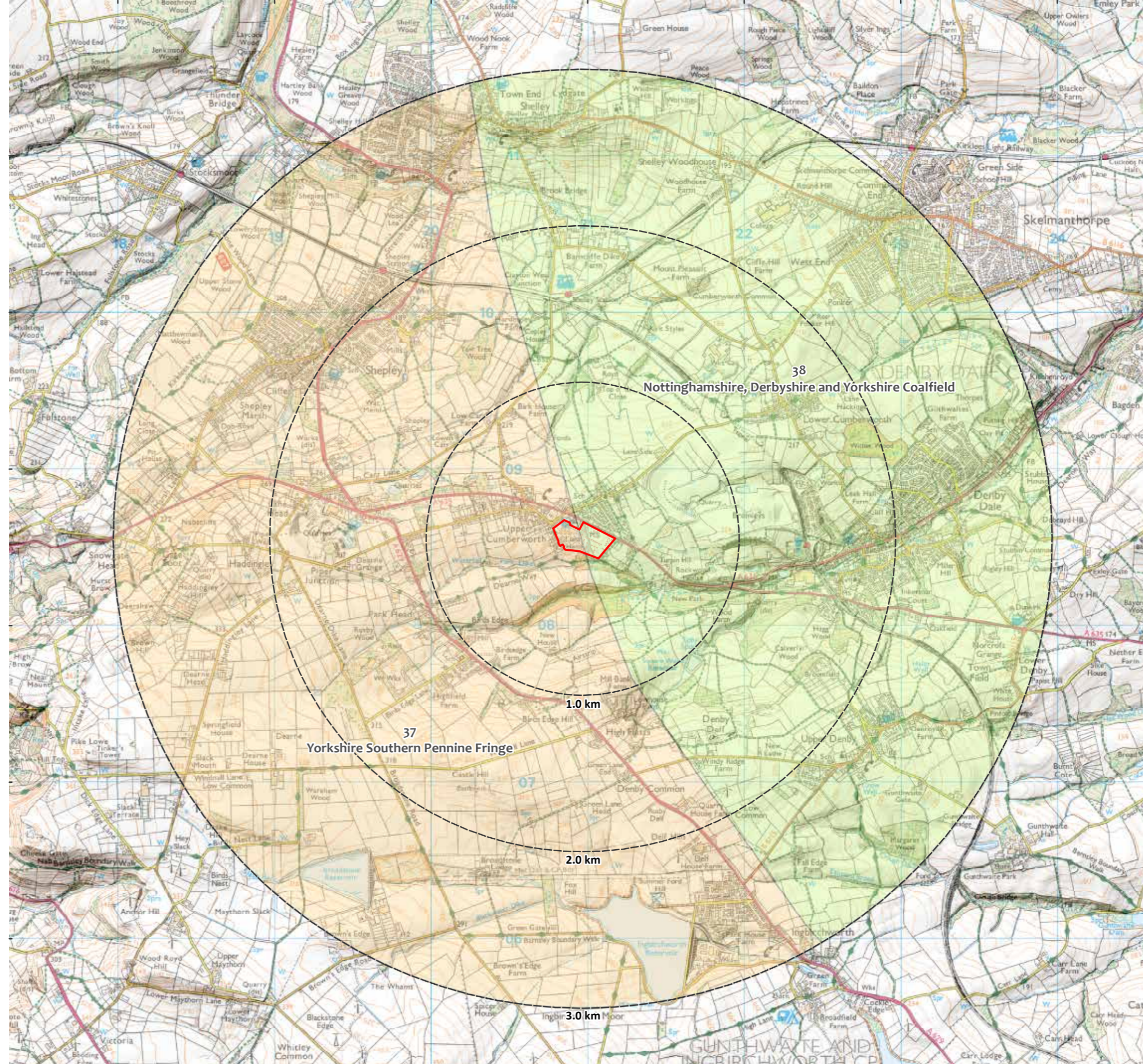
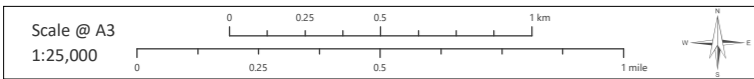
-  Site Boundary
-  Development
-  Study Area (from site centre)

National Character Area

Natural Area Name - Coal Measures

-  Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield
-  Yorkshire Southern Pennine Fringe

Data source
<https://naturalengland-defra.opendata.arcgis.com/>

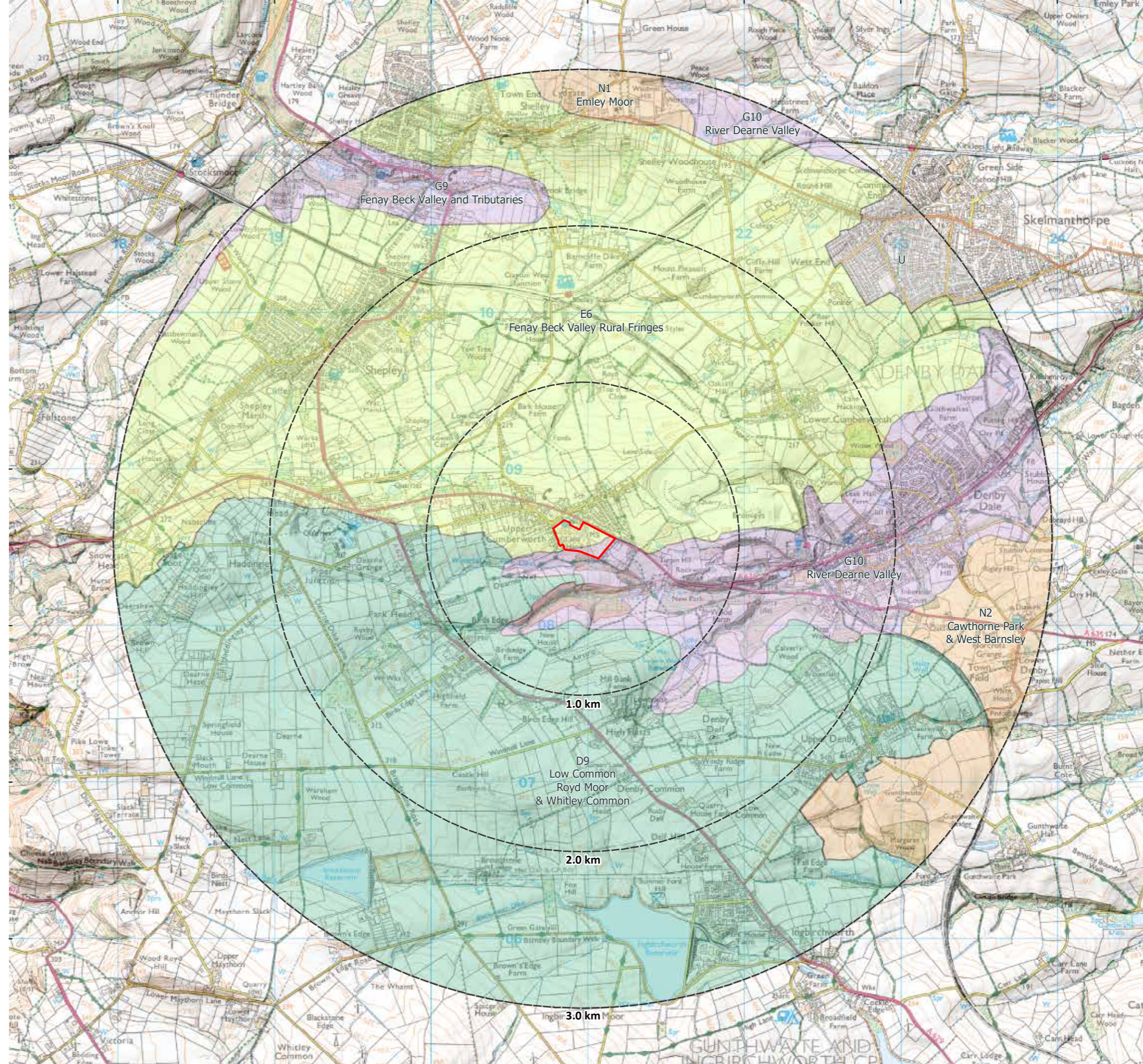
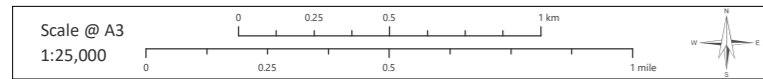


- Site Boundary
- Development
- Study Area (from site centre)

Local Landscape Character Type

- Fenay Beck Valley Rural Fringes
- Moorland Fringes / Upland Pastures
- Rolling Wooded Farmland
- Urban
- Wooded Rural Valleys

Data source - Kirklees District Landscape Character Assessment 2015
<https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/planning-policy/pdf/supportingDocuments/climateChange/Kirklees-Landscape-Character-2015.pdf>



including deeply incised valleys with small tributaries and watercourses which flow towards Fenay Beck.

Woodland cover

- Large blocks of tree and woodland cover found on slopes, particularly in the north east of the LCA. Most are broadleaved woodlands, although there are occasional mixed woodlands with small scale coniferous plantations.
- Shelterbelts and mature in-field and boundary trees contribute to a well-wooded character.

Land use and field patterns

- Land cover patterns are small scale and relatively complex, and vegetation cover is varied.
- Small grassland pastures are enclosed by gritstone walls as well as some hedgerow boundaries.

Semi-natural habitats

- There are areas of acid grassland, scrub, hay meadow and wet pasture found amongst the improved grassland.
- Numerous areas of locally important woodland contribute to naturalistic character, including Upper Park Wood and Wither Wood.

Archaeology and cultural heritage

- A strong historic landscape character with traditional stone-built cottages, farm buildings and historic villages.
- The nationally important Castle Hill Fort, to the north-west of the LCA, occupies a prominent position to the south of Huddersfield. In the same location, the Victoria Tower Monument is a widely visible landmark in views from across the District.

Settlement and road pattern

- Dense network of minor roads and narrow winding lanes, which radiate out from the A629 which traverses the Fenay Beck Valley.
- Larger settlements in the south and east, expanding from a historic core (Highburton, Shepley and Skelmanthorpe).
- Elsewhere groups of dwellings are clustered into small villages and the landscape includes numerous scattered farms/individual rural houses.

Views and perceptual qualities

- Mostly a settled and rural landscape, often with long views north across the district and beyond, as a result of elevation.
- There are high levels of inter-visibility with Emley Moor (LCA N1). There are also distant views to the Peak District National Park from higher ground near Shelley.

LCA G10: River Dearne Valley

2.12. This LCA is comprised of the steep, settled valleys of the River Dearne and its tributaries, located in the south east corner of Kirklees District.

2.13. The key characteristics are as follows:

Topography, geology and drainage

- Relatively broad valleys associated with the upper parts of the River Dearne and its tributaries.
- Underlying bedrock of Millstone Grit dating from the Upper Carboniferous period, overlain by the Pennine Lower Coal Formation which is characteristic of much of the wider area.
- The River Dearne is joined by smaller tributaries including Baildon Dike, Nine Clogs Dike and Park Gate Dike join the River Dearne.

Woodland cover

- A high level of broadleaved woodland cover, particularly on the slopes adjacent to watercourses and to the west of Denby Dale (where it is the dominant land cover).
- Mature in-field trees are a common feature on agricultural land, adding to the wooded character.

Land use and field patterns

- Fields are mostly small scale, forming a variety of regular and irregular patterns.
- Land use also varies; the mix of arable and pastoral fields creating a mosaic of colours and textures which change with the season.
- An assortment of field boundaries is also evident, with a mixture of hedges, fencing and traditional stone walls.

Semi-natural habitats

- The area's extensive woodlands are of important nature conservation interest.
- The semi-natural riparian woodland and wetland habitats associated with the watercourses are also of nature conservation value.

Archaeology and cultural heritage

- Strong industrial heritage, mostly relating to coal and the textile industry including the production of wool and silk.
- The Kirklees Light Railway runs from Clayton West, and is restored from a section of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway which was opened in 1879.
- Listed Buildings are found throughout the LCA, and include mills, churches and halls.
- The eastern part of the LCA contains part of the Bretton Hall Registered Park and Garden which continues into Wakefield and Barnsley districts.

Settlement and road pattern

- The primary settlements in this LCA are Clayton West and Denby Dale, which both grew as a result of the 18th and 19th century coal and textile industries.
- The main road servicing this area is the A636, which runs along the valley floor. This road meets the main A635 west of Denby Dale.

Views and perceptual qualities

- The main valley floor is densely settled and has a peri-urban feel.
- The tributary sections of the LCA are generally more tranquil and rural and are only crossed by minor roads.
- Most of the valley is visually enclosed by the sloping valley sides and the significant woodland cover, although there are some more extensive views to the south over Barnsley District from higher slopes.

2.14. The Landscape Character Assessment also provides information on the evaluation of the landscape and this is considered in the Landscape Sensitivity section below.

SITE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER

2.15. The landscape character of the Site's location generally accords with the descriptions within the national and local landscape character assessments as summarised above. However, due to the scale of the Site and its location being adjacent to the existing settlement edge of Upper Cumberworth the above descriptions generally apply to the much broader character area. The relevant sections and descriptions of the landscape character studies has been taken into account in preparation of the landscape proposals.

NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY

2.16. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) provides guidance relating to planning and new development in England. Since March 2012 the NPPF has replaced the Planning Policy Guidance (PPG's) and Planning Policy Statements (PPS's). The NPPF distils the content of these documents into a single comprehensive and concise document and now represents relevant planning policy at a national level.

2.17. The original version of the 2012 NPPF has been revised since and the latest iteration was published in February 2025. The revised Framework contains 17 sub-sections and the following sections are considered to be of particular relevance to this assessment; Section 12: Achieving Well-Designed Places; and Section 15: Conserving and Enhancing the Natural Environment.

Section 12: Achieving Well Designed Places

2.18. Paragraph 131 states 'The creation of high-quality, beautiful and sustainable buildings and places is fundamental to what the planning and development process should achieve. Good design is a key aspect of sustainable development, creates better places in which to live and work and helps make development acceptable to communities.'

2.19. Paragraph 135 c states that policies and decisions should ensure that developments 'are sympathetic to local character and history, including the surrounding built environment and landscape setting.'

Section 15: Conserving and Enhancing the Natural Environment.

2.20. Paragraph 187 states 'Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:

a) protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils (in a manner commensurate with their statutory status or identified quality in the development plan);

b) recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services – including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, and of trees and woodland;

c) maintaining the character of the undeveloped coast, while improving public access to it where appropriate.'

2.21. The NPPF is supplemented by Planning Practice Guidance, which incorporates elements of relevance to this Landscape Statement. In addition to design related recommendations, the Planning Policy Guidance also incorporates issues related to the Natural Environment that reinforces the NPPF's commitment to recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside and supports the use of landscape character assessment as a tool for understanding local distinctiveness and the use of Natural England's guidance on landscape character assessment.

2.22. These planning principles relevant to landscape and visual amenity have been considered throughout the landscape strategy and design process.

LOCAL POLICY - KIRKLEES DISTRICT COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN

2.23. The Local Plan is the statutory development plan and its purpose is to set out the policies necessary to achieve the strategy and how much new development there should be in the district and where it will go. The Local Plan covers the administrative area of Kirklees Council except for that part within the Peak District National Park. The Plan covers the period 2013 – 2031.

2.24. The Local Plan has been reviewed and any policy guidance in relation to landscape and visual amenity has been taken into consideration. The accompanying Planning Statement provides further details on planning policy that is relevant to the development.

2.25. The following are key planning policies that are of relevance to the application in relation to landscape and visual matters. Policies of relevance include:

- Section 19: Green Belt & Open Space
- Section 11: Design
- Section 13: Natural Environment including policies:
- Policy LP30: Biodiversity & Geodiversity
- Policy LP 31: Strategic Green Infrastructure Network (See River Dearne corridor on Map 5 of Local Plan)
- Policy LP 32: Landscape
- Policy LP33: Trees

2.26. The above policies have been taken into account when assessing the likely effects of the development on matters relating to landscape and visual impact.

LANDSCAPE RELATED DESIGNATIONS

2.27. Figures 3 and 4 demonstrate the national and local designations within the vicinity of the proposed development site. The Site is not within any environmental or landscape designations such as nature reserves, SSSI's, however it is adjacent to ancient woodland on its southern boundary. Furthermore the Site sits within the spatial designation of the Green Belt.

2.28. Figure 4 demonstrates that the Site is within relative proximity to River Dearne Green Infrastructure Network. This includes the ancient woodland that is part of the Dearne Park and therefore there is potential for the landscape planting within the proposed development to play a role in meeting the policy LP31 objectives.

2.29. There are no Listed Buildings within the Site or adjacent to its boundaries and the Site is not within the Conservation Area that covers part of the village to the north of the Site. There are a number of listed buildings within the wider vicinity of the Site and these are shown on Figure 3.

LANDSCAPE SENSITIVITY OF THE SITE AND SETTING

2.30. This Appraisal deems the sensitivity as being medium based on the following determining factors, i.e. landscape condition, landscape value and susceptibility.

Landscape Value

2.31. In order to assess the Landscape Value of the site guidance was taken from Landscape Institutes Technical Guidance Note 02/21 'Assessing Landscape Value outside National Designations'.

2.32. The Site does not fall within any national landscape or ecologically designated areas and does not contain any distinctive features or elements of cultural interest, but it is within the spatial designation the Green Belt - (See comment below on the Green Belt Review.)

2.33. The Site is contained within a large irregular shaped agricultural field that was growing arable crops at the time of survey. In general the Site is visually contained to most boundaries by dense vegetation of woodland and boundary hedges as well as the surrounding built form of housing where the boundaries are adjacent to various fences and hedges. The northern boundary that aligns Barnsley Road and section of the boundary to the south west are not aligned with vegetation and are therefore visually open.

2.34. The fields and associated field boundary vegetation are typical of those found in the wider area and these elements are in varying degrees of condition, combination of species and density. The vegetation contributes to the local green infrastructure network and provides ecological value.

2.35. The field pattern has probably been altered in the past to remove internal hedges to provide for intensive farming practices. The Site contains local characteristic features but none of which are considered particularly important examples and none that are considered to be rare and generally are typical of the local landscape character. Stephen Wood is an ancient woodland to the south east of the Site and contributes high value to the setting of the Site.

2.36. The boundaries comprise of a mix of sporadic hedges and trees that adjoin the open countryside and a variety of fences that are in varying condition adjacent to the existing dwellings of the Upper Cumberworth settlement edge.

2.37. There is no public access or public rights of way across the Site and therefore currently provides no recreational value. The closest public footpath is DEN82/10 that runs at a lower level to the Site outside of the south eastern boundary.

2.38. The Site provides a sense of the rural countryside that extends out to the south and west but this is tempered by the presence of housing in Upper Cumberworth as well as the traffic that passes by on Barnsley Road and the landscape contains no dramatic or striking landform or landcover. The surrounding vegetation in the wider landscape screens many views in and out of the Site and contains no, or contributes towards any memorable or distinctive views of landforms. Stephen Wood provides a robust and distinctive edge to the southern setting of the Site.

2.39. There is no noticeable evidence that the landscape is connected with notable people, events or the arts. The agricultural land within the Site is used for arable crops and has a low and limited value / natural function.

2.40. The Site and its Setting does not form part of any national or local designation but is within the spatial designation of the Green Belt. Therefore, it is deemed that Landscape Value of the Site and Setting is **medium**, as the ancient woodland to the south provides a localised high value to the setting but overall the features and functions of the Site slightly contributes to the overall local character and natural heritage but contains no distinctive or noteworthy landscape qualities.

Landscape Susceptibility

2.41. In terms of susceptibility to change the Site and setting is deemed to be **medium** as undue consequences are unlikely to arise from the proposed development as the Site is adjacent to the existing settlement edge of Upper Cumberworth, and the proposals do not include any intrusion into the higher valued Stephen Wood to the south .

Landscape Sensitivity

2.42. Therefore, the overall sensitivity of the landscape is considered to be **medium**.

GREEN BELT REVIEW 2017








2.43. Kirklees carried out a Green Belt Review¹ which outlines the strategic nature of the Kirklees Green Belt in terms of the role it plays within the wider metropolitan green belt of West Yorkshire, and the varying degree to which the green belt within different parts of the district fulfils a green belt role and function. The Site that is subject to this appraisal is identified as UC3.

Contribution to the Reasons of the Green Belt

2.44. The report and study took a number of criteria into consideration and compared against several sites and the conclusion for this Site was a low level score of 2 in terms of contribution to the reasons of the Green Belt and provided the following summary, "Potential for rounding off between Lane Head Farm and Barnsley Road. Southern boundary would need to avoid impact on protected trees at Stephen Wood."

2.45. This report has commented on the likely effects that may arise on the visual aspect of the openness of the Green Belt and the Planning Statement offers more analysis on the impact the proposed development may have on the spatial designation of the Green Belt.

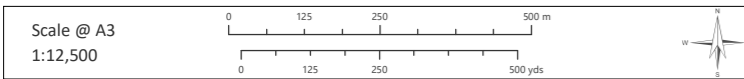
1 Kirklees Local Plan Submission Documents SD19 Green Belt Review – April 2017

-  Site Boundary
-  Development
-  Study Area (from site centre)
- Listed Buildings**
-  Grade II
-  Class 2 Archaeological Site
-  Conservation Area
-  Scheduled Monument

The following datasets have been included for consideration on this map.
If a dataset does not appear on the map or in the legend, it is not located within the study area.

DATASET	SOURCE
Conservation Areas	Historic England / Kirklees Council
Country Parks	Natural England
Listed Buildings	Historic England
National Landscapes (formerly AONB)	Natural England
Registered Battlefield	Historic England
Registered Parks and Gardens	Historic England
National Parks	Natural England
Scheduled Ancient Monuments	Historic England
Traditional Orchards	Natural England
World Heritage Sites	Historic England
Woodpasture & Parkland	Natural England

Local heritage assets
<https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/planning-policy/local-plan.aspx#>



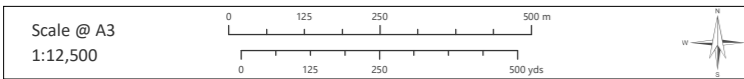
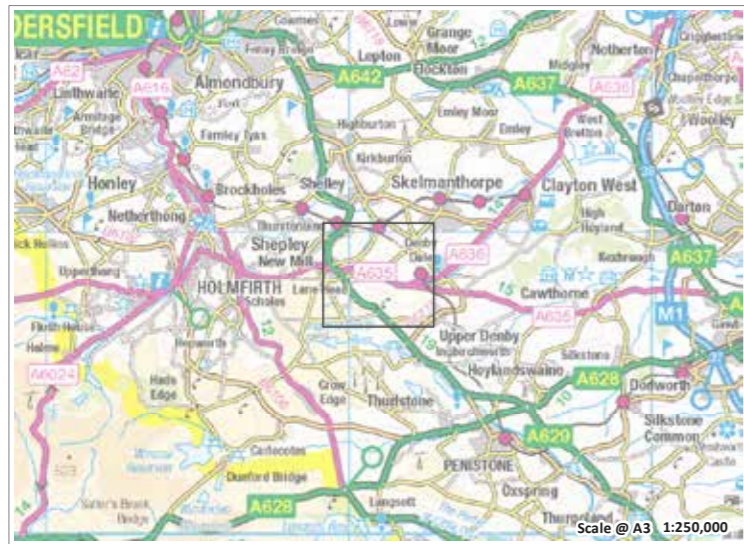
1018554
Late prehistoric enclosed settlement on Castle Hill
550m north of Broadstone Lodge

-  Site Boundary
-  Development
-  Study Area (from site centre)
-  Ancient Woodland Inventory
-  Green Belt (Liverpool, Manchester and West Yorks.)
-  Local Wildlife Site

The following datasets have been included for consideration on this map.
If a dataset does not appear on the map or in the legend, it is not located within the study area.

DATASET	SOURCE
Ancient Woodland Inventory	Natural England
Biosphere Reserves	Natural England
Green Belt	Data.gov.uk (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government)
Heritage Coast	Natural England
Important Bird Area	RSPB
Limestone Pavement Orders	Natural England
Local Nature Reserve	Natural England
National Nature Reserve	Natural England
Ramsar Site	Natural England
RSPB Reserve	RSPB
Site of Special Scientific Interest	Natural England
Special Areas of Conservation	Natural England
Special Protection Area	Natural England

Local wildlife sites
<https://mapping.kirklees.gov.uk/connect/analyst/mobile/#/main?mapcfg=Local%20Plan%20Public>



3. EXISTING SITE & PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

EXISTING SITE

- 3.1. The approximate centre of the Site is located at National Grid Reference SE 21001 08562 and at 238m AOD.
- 3.2. The Site is located off Barnsley Road, which is in Upper Cumberworth, Kirklees and occupies a strategic position at the interface between Upper Cumberworth's built environment and its surrounding countryside.
- 3.3. The northern boundary is framed by Barnsley Road, where village houses constructed from stone are situated. The western edge borders Carr Hill Road and Park Lane, home to additional local houses and former farm buildings.
- 3.4. The eastern boundary is defined by a narrow path at a lower level running alongside a stone wall, connecting Dearne Park and Barnsley Road. The southern portion slopes towards Dearne Park's mature woodland, which obscures half of the view towards the open land to the south. Low stone walls and fencing stand alongside some of the Site boundaries, creating a distinct sense of place. The location of the Site is a peri-urban transition between the built form of the village and the open countryside.
- 3.5. The Site is gently undulating with a fall to the north from the south and the wider topography within the study area is demonstrated in Figure 6.
- 3.6. Access to the Site is currently taken from Lane Head Farm in the west of the Site and the proposal require a new access from Barnsley Road and the existing farm access would be closed off by enclosure from the new housing and re-mediated with new landscape treatments.
- 3.7. There are no public footpaths within the Site boundary and the closest runs alongside the south eastern boundary at a lower level. Figure 7, Access and Circulation, demonstrate the Public Rights of Way and promoted routes within the locality.
- 3.8. The Site photographs and Figure 5, Site Appraisal Plan demonstrates the current condition of the Site along with the constraints and opportunities.
- 3.9. The Site is located within Kirklees Council and this Appraisal has taken into account the landscape related policies and documentation relating to landscape character and the visual amenity.



Onsite Viewpoint A



Onsite Viewpoint B



Onsite Viewpoint C



Onsite Viewpoint D



Onsite Viewpoint E



Onsite Viewpoint F



Onsite Viewpoint G



Onsite Viewpoint H



Onsite Viewpoint I