

Addendum

Eye & Dunsden Parish Landscape Character Assessment and Proposal for a Local Valued Landscape June 2026

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The *Eye & Dunsden Parish Landscape Character Assessment and Proposal for a Local Valued Landscape (E&DLCA&PLVL)* was commissioned in 2020. Since then, the industry has published additional guidance on assessing landscape value. This Addendum sets out how the methodology followed for the E&DLCA&PLVL is still relevant, how it relates to the more recent published guidance and how it connects to the more recent (2024) report: *NHLI6 Local Landscape Designation Review for South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse* which assessed the value of the landscape within the Parish and also concluded similar results.
- 1.2 The *Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment 3rd Ed (GLVIA3)* as published by the Landscape Institute and IEMA (Institute of Environmental Management & Assessment), is still regarded as a source of guidance within the landscape industry. The guidance as set out within GLVIA3 was used for the survey work for the E&DLCA&PLVL and in particular for the assessing the value of the landscape (including the landscape value factors as set out within Box 5.1, page 84 GLVIA3) within the parish.
- 1.3 The landscape character assessment for the E&DLCA&PLVL also follows on from the approach as undertaken for the character assessment within the neighbouring *Shiplake Neighbourhood Plan*, which became part of the South Oxfordshire District Council Development Plan on the 28th of July 2022. This plan covers the period up to 2035, which has now been adopted by South Oxfordshire DC.

2.0 Similarities between GLVIA3: Box 5.1 and TGN02/21

- 2.1 For the assessment of local landscape value, the E&DLCA&PLVL used a list of factors that can help in the identification of valued landscape as detailed within 'Box 5.1' from the *Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment 3rd Ed (GLVIA3)*. The more recent guidance - TGN 02/21 *Assessing Landscape Value Outside National Designations* also sets out a range of factors that can also be considered when identifying landscape value, which the TGN 02/21 states broadly covers the same factors within Box 5.1. TGN 02/21 range of factors to assess landscape value (that can be considered) are listed within their Table 1. TGN 02/21 - Para 2.4.4 states: *As with Box 5.1 in GLVIA3, Table 1 is not intended to be an exhaustive list of factors to be considered when determining the value of landscapes, but to provide a range of factors and indicators that could be considered. This TGN is intended to be complementary to GLVIA3.*

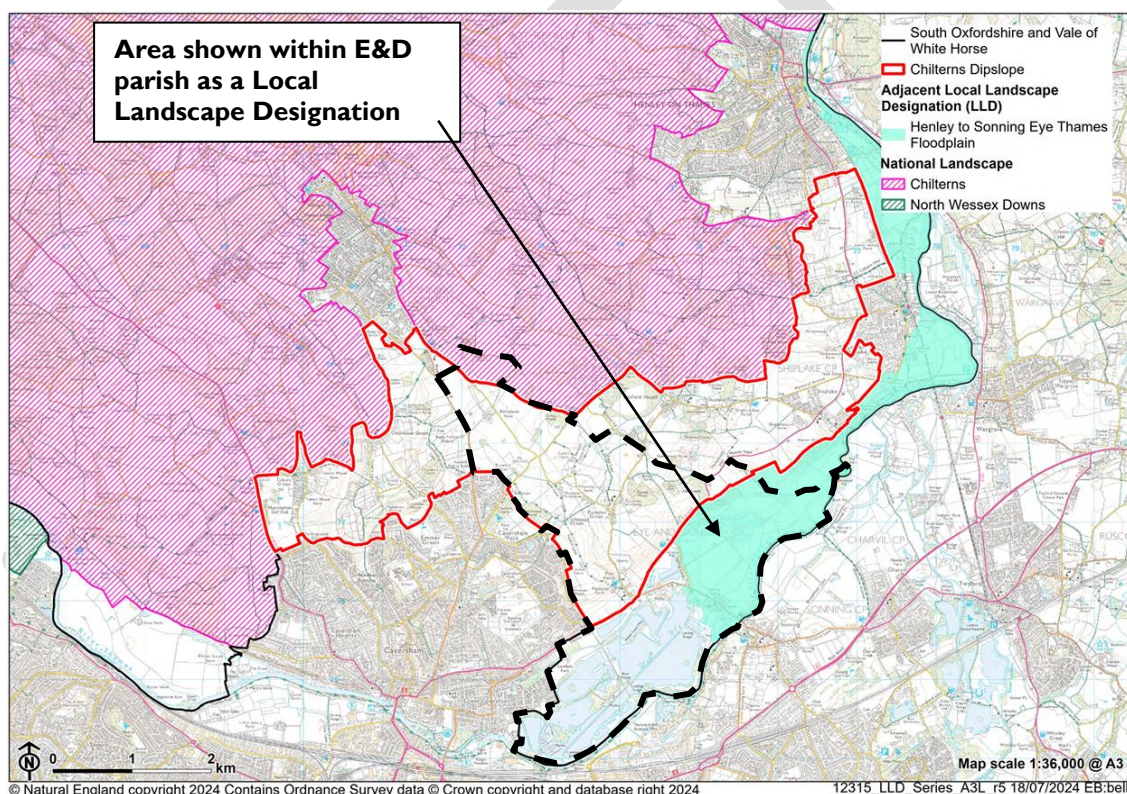
3.0 Local Landscape Designation Review for South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse September 2024

- 3.1 Since 2020 when the E&DLCA&PLVL was undertaken, South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse Council have also updated their original 2017 Landscape Character Assessment, with – *NHL04 Landscape Character Assessment for South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse* (September 2024, prepared by LUC) and also produced a 'valued landscape assessment' for the district: *NHLI6 Local Landscape Designation Review for South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse September 2024* (prepared by LUC) NHLI6: LLDRSO&VWH.

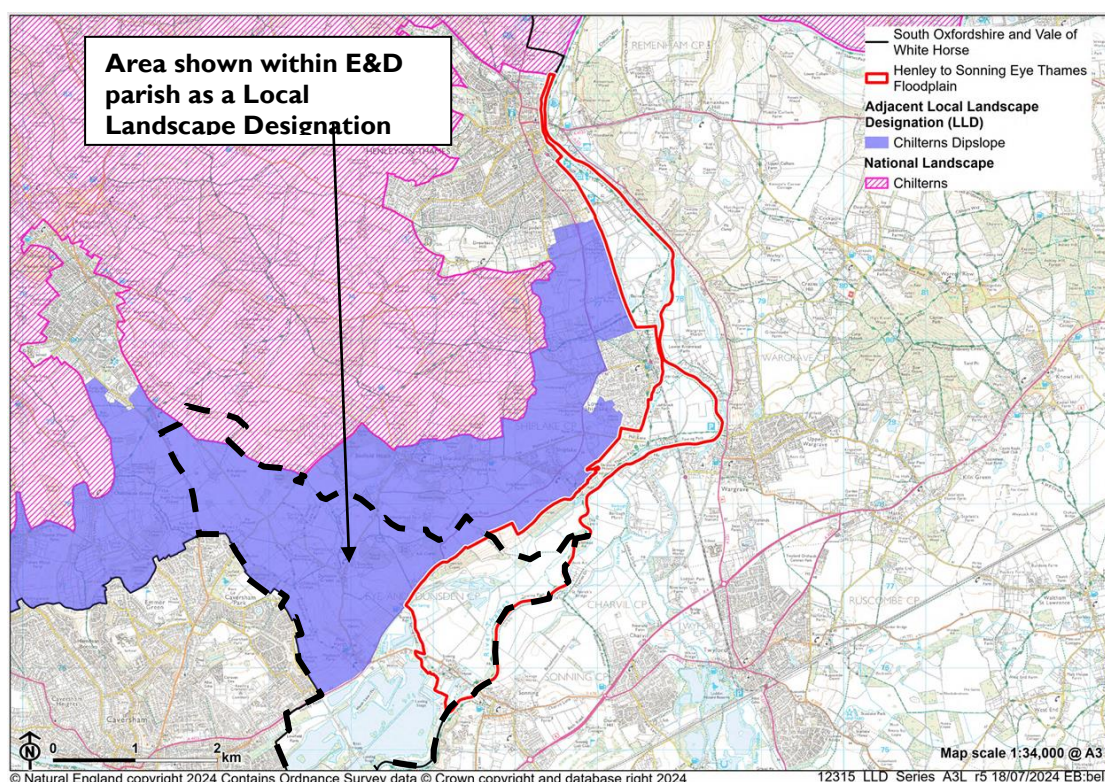
3.2 This landscape value assessment (NHLI6: LLDRSO&VWH) referenced the TGN 02/21, however did not include the same list of value factors as set out within the TGN. Their value assessment concluded that the Eye and Dunsden Parish contained two areas of landscape value which have then been proposed as 'Local Landscape Designations', as follows:

- Henley to Sonning Eye Thames Floodplain which aligns with the E&DLCA&PLVL: PLCA1: *River Thames and Meadows* except for a small indentation on the north western edge (Figure LAA1)
- Chilterns Dipslope which aligns with the E&DLCA&PLVL: PLCA3A and PLCA3B: *Dunsden Open Dipslopes and Thames River Valley Side*, and PLCA4: *Dunsden Semi-enclosed Dipslopes and Thames River Valley Side* (Figure LAA2)

3.3 The two above areas proposed within the NHLI6: LLDRSO&VWH are also illustrated below. The Eye & Dunsden parish boundary is shown as a dashed black line



(Figure LAA1) Extract from NHLI6: LLDRSO&VWH illustrating the Local Landscape Designation for the Henley to Sonning Eye Thames Floodplain (green) which aligns with E&DLCA&PLVL: PLCA1: *River Thames and Meadows*, except for a small indentation on the north western edge



(Figure LAA2) Extract from NHL16 LLDRSO&VWH illustrating the Local Landscape Designation for the Chilterns Dipslope (purple) which aligns with the E&DLCA&PLVL: PLCA3A and PLCA3B: *Dunsden Open Dipslopes and Thames River Valley Side*, and PLCA4: *Dunsden Semi-enclosed Dipslopes and Thames River Valley Side*

4.0 Summary

- 4.1 The production of the E&DLCA&PLVL was undertaken within the summer of 2020, following the guidance to help identify valued landscapes as set out within 'Box 5.1' from the Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment 3rd Ed. In 2021 the Landscape Institute published a Technical Guidance Note 02/21 *Assessing Landscape Value Outside National Designations* which complemented this original list of factors, with the TGN also stating the factors were broadly the same.
- 4.2 TGN 02/21 also stated that the factors for assessing landscape value are only to be considered and are not a definitive list. Therefore, Box 5.1 from the GLVIA3 can also remain an acceptable range of factors to assess landscape value.
- 4.3 In 2024, Landscape Use Consultants (LUC) prepared on the behalf of the district a landscape value assessment: *NHL16 Local Landscape Designation Review for South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse September 2024*. This document referenced the TGN02/21 guidance and concluded that PLCA1 (except for a small part on western edge), PLCA3A, PLCA3B and PLCA4 as set out within E&DLCA&PLVL are valued landscapes and support a Local Landscape Designation.

NOTE

- It should be noted, that the new Draft National Planning Policy Framework (2026) has introduced significant changes, whereby any reference to "valued landscapes" outside of

designated areas has been removed. In landscape terms, this places more emphasis on landscape quality and landscape character. The revised NPPF is expected to be published this summer before the 16th of July 2026. As set out within Box 5.1 of the GLVIA3, landscape quality and landscape character area also considered within a landscape value assessment

Documents Referenced

- *Eye & Dunsden Parish Landscape Character Assessment and Proposal for a Local Valued Landscape (E&DLCA&PLVL)*
- *NHL16: Local Landscape Designation Review for South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse September 2024. (NHL16 LLDRSO&VWH)*
- *Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment 3rd Ed (GLVIA3)*
- *TGN 02/21 Assessing Landscape Value Outside National Designations*
- *Shiplake Parish Landscape Character Assessment and Contribution of the Open Land to the Separation of the Settlements of Lower Shiplake and Shiplake Cross, April 2021*