

Local Development Framework for Bradford

Landscape Character Supplementary Planning Document

Introduction and Methodology

October 2008



City of Bradford MDC

www.bradford.gov.uk

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ब्राडफोर्ड डिस्ट्रिक्ट (Bradford District) एर लोक्याल डेवेलपमेन्ट फ्रेमवर्क (Local Development Framework – स्थानीय उन्नयन काठामो) एर अनेकगुलो कागजपत्र वा दलिलपत्रेण एकटि हलो एहि तथ्यापत्राटि। एहि तथ्यापत्रेण विषयबस्तु कमिउनिटिंर लोकदेर कोनो भाषाय बूढाते चाहिले अथवा लिखित अनुवाद चाहिले नहुवा ता ब्रेइले (अक्षलिपिते), मोटा हरफे किंवा क्यसेटे रेकर्ड करे चाहिले, अनुग्रह करे लोक्याल डेवेलपमेन्ट फ्रेमवर्क ग्रुप (Local Development Framework Group)-के (01274) 434050, (01274) 434544 वा (01274) 434606 नांमारे फोन करण।

यह दस्तावेज़ उन बहुत से दस्तावेज़ों में से एक है जिनसे मिलकर ब्रैडफोर्ड डिस्ट्रिक्ट का लोकल डिवेलपमेंट फ्रेमवर्क बनता है। यदि आप इस दस्तावेज़ की जानकारी का हिन्दी अनुवाद या इसे ब्रेल, बड़े अक्षरों या टेप पर प्राप्त करना चाहते हैं, तो कृपया लोकल डिवेलपमेंट फ्रेमवर्क ग्रुप से (01274) 434050, (01274) 434544 या (01274) 434606 पर सम्पर्क करें।

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આ દસ્તાવેજ ઘણાંમાં નો એક છે કે જે બ્રેડફોર્ડ ડિસ્ટ્રિક્ટ નાં સ્થાનિક વિકાસ ની રૂપરેખા બનાવે છે. જો તમને આ દસ્તાવેજનાં લખાણનું પ્રાદેશિક ભાષાઓમાં ભાષંતર કરાવવાની અથવા તેનો અર્થ સમજવાની જરૂર જણાય, અથવા તમને તેની જરૂર બ્રેલ, લાજ પ્રિન્ટ કે પછી ટેપ ઉપર હોય, તો મહેરબાની કરી લોકલ ડિવેલપમેન્ટ ફ્રેમવર્ક ગ્રુપનો (01274) 434050, (01274) 434544 અથવા (01274) 434606 પર સંપર્ક કરો.

یہ دستاویز بریڈفورڈ ڈسٹرکٹ کے مقامی ترقیاتی لائحہ عمل سے متعلقہ دستاویزات میں سے ایک ہے۔ اگر آپ کو اس دستاویز کا زبانی یا تحریری ترجمہ کسی بھی کمیونی زبان میں درکار ہو یا آپ اسے بریل، لارج پرنٹ یا ٹیپ میں چاہتے ہیں تو براہ مہربانی لوکل ڈیولپمنٹ فریم ورک گروپ سے ٹیلی فون نمبر: 01274 434544، 01274 434050 یا 01274 434606 پر رابطہ کریں۔

FOREWORD

This Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) formalises the existing Landscape Character Assessment documents, which were initially produced by the City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council in 2000 to inform policies within the Replacement Unitary Development Plan (RUDP) adopted in October 2005.

The Landscape Character SPD provides an existing statement of the landscape of the Bradford District along with its distinctive attributes and features, which are desirable to preserve and enhance. There are 10 landscape character areas within the Bradford District. Each Landscape Character Assessment details the condition of the landscape and the sensitivity of the landscape to change, along with providing a set of policy guidelines for development. These documents form the basis of this Supplementary Planning Document.

Bradford Council will expect developers who wish to submit a planning application for a development within a landscape character area, to take account of this SPD.

To achieve maximum benefit for all its users, this SPD contains two additional components, which comprise of a non-technical **User Guide** and **Landscape Character Design Guidance**. Each of these components are intended to help the user within the planning process and ultimately achieve good, sympathetic design proposals which both protect and enhance the character and appearance of the District's natural landscapes.

The **User Guide** can be found overleaf; and the **Design Guidance** can be found in Appendix 4 of this document and within each subsequent volume.

Landscape Character SPD - USER GUIDE

The Landscape Character Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) supplements policies NE3 and NE3A of the Replacement Unitary Development Plan. Whilst this is not a statutory document, it is a material consideration and will be assessed against any proposal.

The objectives of the SPD are to protect and enhance the character, appearance and features which are important to the landscape and encourage an integrated approach to development which includes consideration for landscape issues. It also provides advice for developers in the submission of planning applications, and also helps in the determination of these applications.

The SPD comprises of 11 documents, these are:

Introduction and Methodology
Volume 1: Airedale
Volume 2: Esholt
Volume 3: Pennine Upland
Volume 4: Rombalds Ridge
Volume 5: South Bradford

Volume 6: Thornton & Queensbury
Volume 7: Tong Valley
Volume 8: Wharfedale
Volume 9: Wilsden
Volume 10: Worth and North Beck Valleys

The Introduction and Methodology document provides the context for the SPD and outlines the purpose, background, planning policy context, and the landscapes of the Bradford District. Each Landscape Character Area Volume (1-10) set out the Landscape Character Assessment for each Landscape Character Area (Eg Tong, Esholt).

Landscape Character Assessment	Each Volume is a written and visual assessment of the Landscape Character Area which describes, analyses and evaluates the landscape.
Landscape Character Area	A geographic area with a consistent character and identity.
Landscape Character Type	An smaller area within a Landscape Character Area which characterises a particular type of landscape (e.g: Floodplain, wooded valleys etc)

HOW TO USE THE SPD:

- 1 Identify if the site is in a Landscape Character Area (from Appendix 4: Introduction and Methodology), if so which one?
- 2 Select the relevant Volume and read sections 1 to 5 to get an understanding of the characteristics of the area.
- 3 Identify the Landscape Character Type(s) to which the site falls within (from the enclosed Map) and refer to the relevant section within the volume.
- 4 Take account of the Policy Guidelines at the end of the Landscape Character Type(s) section.
- 5 Ensure that any proposal has taken into account the criteria set out within the Design Guidance (within the Appendix of each document) and can demonstrate these within the proposal.

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* N.B: Each Landscape Character Assessment is a separate accompanying document set out in volumes.

- Volume 1: Airedale
- Volume 2: Esholt
- Volume 3: Pennine Upland
- Volume 4: Rombalds Ridge
- Volume 5: South Bradford
- Volume 6: Thornton / Queensbury
- Volume 7: Tong Valley
- Volume 8: Wharfedale
- Volume 9: Wilsden
- Volume 10: Worth & North Beck Valley

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) sets out the approach that will be taken by the City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council with regard to the implementation of Policies NE3 and NE3A of the Replacement Unitary Development Plan for the Bradford District. The document will provide guidance for developers in terms of the Council's approach to landscape conservation, enhancement and management.
- 1.2 The Countryside Agency (2002) stated that '*Landscape Character Assessment is a tool which can make a significant contribution to 'environmental protection' and 'prudent use' as a cornerstone for sustainable development.*'¹
- 1.3 Supplementary Planning Documents are not part of the statutory development plan, but provide supplementary guidance to policies and proposals contained in Development Plan Documents (DPDs), or in this case, the Replacement Unitary Development Plan (RUDP).
- 1.4 This Supplementary Planning Document forms part of the Local Development Framework (LDF) for the Bradford District and expands Policies NE3 and NE3A of the Replacement Unitary Development Plan, which was adopted in October 2005. When determining planning applications, the Council will treat this document as a material consideration, therefore developers must ensure that they have read and understood the issues raised in this document before submitting a planning application.
- 1.5 There are six strategic objectives of this SPD. They are to:
- a. Protect and enhance the character, appearance and features important to the landscape.
 - b. Recommend appropriate landscape management and land use planning strategies, and to suggest guidelines to assist in achieving those strategies.
 - c. Encourage an integrated approach to development which includes comprehensive consideration of landscape issues.
 - d. Determine the most appropriate management strategy in terms of conservation, restoration and reconstruction.
 - e. Provide a basis for determining the landscapes capacity and sensitivity to accommodate particular types of change.
 - f. Help developers in their submission of planning applications and the formalisation of development proposals.

¹ Countryside Agency & Scottish Natural Heritage (2002 landscape Character assessment. Guidance for England and Scotland.

2.0 PURPOSE & STATUS

- 2.1 The purpose of this Supplementary Planning Document is to identify the distinct landscape types within the Bradford District by describing their key characteristics and natural, historical and cultural features. The document provides a structured evaluation of each landscape type which includes a landscape strategy along with policy guidelines for conserving and enhancing the character of an area.
- 2.2 The document will provide a framework for the formulation and assessment of planning applications and other landscape conservation and management strategies within these areas.
- 2.3 The SPD has been prepared in accordance with Planning Policy Statement 12: Local Development Frameworks (PPS 12) published in 2004. Although not part of the statutory development plan, PPS 12 states that Supplementary Planning Documents should relate to a policy or policies within the local plan. Thus the Landscape Character SPD will supplement policies NE3 and NE3A of the Replacement Unitary Development Plan (rUDP) for the Bradford District, and as such will be taken into account as material consideration when determining planning applications. These policies can be found in Section 4.0 of this document.
- 2.4 In time, the Local Development Framework (LDF) will replace the replacement Unitary Development Plan. This document provides an elaboration of the rUDP and forthcoming LDF policies which concern landscape character.
- 2.5 When assessing planning applications in, adjacent to, or having an impact on the character of the landscape, proposals should be reviewed against the relevant landscape character areas statements. Sites near the boundary of a Landscape Character Area should take into account the implications of the proposal on any adjacent character area.
- 2.6 Bradford Council will expect developers who wish to submit a planning application for a development within a landscape character area, to take into account of this SPD. Appendix 4 of this document provides '*Design Guidance*' for developers and sets out a number of requirements that should be fulfilled or taken into account when applying for planning submission. A list of useful contacts is also provided within this appendix.

3.0 BACKGROUND & CONTEXT

- 3.1 *"Landscape is about the relationship between people and place. It provides the setting for our day-to-day lives. The term does not mean just special or designated landscapes and it does not only apply to the countryside. Landscape can mean a small patch of urban wasteland as much as a mountain range, and an urban park as much as an expanse of lowland plain. It results from the way that different components of our environment – both natural (the influences of geology, soils, climate flora and fauna) and cultural (the historical and current impact of land use, settlement, enclosure and other human interventions) – interact together and are perceived by us."*²
- 3.2 The identification and classification of areas of the countryside for their 'landscape value' has long been a part of the planning system, dating back to the creation of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) from the mid 1940's. By the 1970's emphasis was placed upon 'landscape evaluation' and the concept of value within land-use planning, this compared the value of one landscape with another. Between the mid 1980's to the mid 1990's the focus shifted towards the assessment of the landscape, recognising the role for both objectivity and subjectivity.
- 3.3 The process of landscape characterisation and assessment was spearheaded in England by the work of the Countryside Agency, and a map was produced which subdivided England into character areas. The Bradford District lies within three of these area:
- 36 South Pennines
 - 37 Yorkshire Southern Pennine Fringe
 - 38 Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield
- 3.4 Since the publication of the Character Map of England, further guidance has been issued; firstly the publication of the Rural White Paper in 2000 which established the key issues in respect of landscape character and included proposals to conserve and enhance the rural landscape on the whole and the diversity and abundance of wildlife. This was followed by the Countryside Agency's publication 'Landscape Character Assessment – Guidance for England and Scotland' in 2002, which set out the context and specific guidance on how to carry out landscape assessments.

² Countryside Agency & Scottish Natural Heritage (2002 landscape Character assessment. Guidance for England and Scotland.

Bradford District Landscape Character Assessment

- 3.5 In January 1998 the Landscape Design Unit was commissioned by Transportation and Planning to carryout a Landscape Character Assessment of the Bradford District as part of the Unitary Development Plan review.

Objectives of the Landscape Character Assessment

- 3.6 The overall objectives as defined in the original brief are:-
- a. To record, describe and analyse the landscape character of the District;
 - b. To recommend appropriate landscape management and land use planning strategies and to suggest guidelines to assist in achieving those strategies;
 - c. To provide a basis for the formulation of plans, policies, and proposals for the landscape of the District;
 - d. To guide Planning Officers in their work in the determination of planning applications;
 - e. To guide all Council Departments, developers and members of the public in their allocation of resources and decision making in relation to management of the existing landscape and landscape change.

Scope

- 3.7 In line with the Countryside Commission's Character Programme the study is:-
- **Comprehensive:** covering the whole of the Bradford District apart from the urban cores and major urban settlements.
 - **Consistent:** using methods and approaches that are compatible with neighbouring Authority's landscape assessments and Countryside Commission data.
 - **Descriptive:** identifying the key characteristics of the Bradford landscape
 - **Analytical:** seeking to understand how the landscape has evolved into its present state.
 - **Contextual:** providing a landscape framework for policy making.

3.8 Outputs

- a) **A map.** Each Landscape Assessment is underpinned by a Landscape Character Area Map, which defines areas of landscape with an identifiable individual character.
- c) **Landscape descriptions.** Each defined Character Area is supported by an illustrated description and analysis of its landscape character.
- d) **Landscape strategies.** A series of strategy recommendations for the fabric of the landscape and for development taking place within the landscape is presented within each assessment.

4.0 PLANNING POLICY CONTEXT

4.1 Bradford Council has endorsed the Countryside Agency's definition of landscape, which acknowledges that as well as the visual appearance of the landscape, there are a variety of other elements which affect the way in which it has been formed, evolved and continues to be experienced and valued within society. This is geology, topography, archaeology, historic and cultural influences and associations.

4.2 In respect of the landscape, the Council's overall objective is to conserve and enhance the character, diversity, uniqueness and amenity of the landscape areas for its own sake and to improve degraded areas. This approach represents a move away from local landscape designations, to a character-based approach to landscape policy in line with national and regional planning policy guidance.

National Planning Policy Context

4.3 National planning policy is contained within Planning Policy Guidance (PPG), or since 2004, in Planning Policy Statements (PPS's).

4.4 Planning Policy Statement 1: Delivering Sustainable Development endorses the protection and enhancement of the natural and historic environment along with the quality and character of the countryside. It states that local authorities should seek to promote and/or reinforce local distinctiveness through clear policies and SPD's.

4.5 The key objectives of Planning Policy Statement 7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas is to raise the quality of life and the environment in rural areas; to promote more sustainable patterns of development; to promote the development of the English Regions by improving their economic performance so that all are able to reach their full potential; to promote sustainable, diverse and adaptable agricultural sectors. The Government encourages Local Planning Authorities to utilise Landscape Character Assessments to provide sufficient protection for these locally, highly valued areas.

Regional Planning Policy Context

4.6 Regional Planning Policy is provided within the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) for the Yorkshire and Humber region. A core approach of this strategy (YH1) aims to 'Protect and enhance the region's environmental resources including areas of international and national importance'. Policy ENV 8 seeks to safeguard and enhance the biodiversity and geological heritage of the region to ensure that the 'natural environment functions as an integrated network of habitats'. Policy ENV 10 (Landscape) seeks to protect and enhance landscapes that contribute to the distinctive character of the region.

Replacement Unitary Development Plan

- 4.7 Policies NE3 and NE3A of the Replacement Unitary Development Plan for the Bradford District set out the Council's approach to the protection and enhancement of the Landscape Character Areas:

POLICY NE3 STATES:

WITHIN THE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS, AS INDICATED BELOW AND SHOWN ON THE PROPOSALS MAP, DEVELOPMENT WILL BE PERMITTED IF IT DOES NOT ADVERSELY AFFECT THE PARTICULAR CHARACTER OF THE LANDSCAPE:

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------------------|
| • AIREDALE | • THORNTON & QUEENSBURY |
| • ESHOLT | • TONG VALLEY |
| • PENNINE UPLAND | • WHARFEDALE |
| • ROMBALD RIDGE | • WILSDEN |
| • SOUTH BRADFORD | • WORTH AND NORTH BECK VALLEY |

POLICY NE3A STATES:

WITHIN THE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS IDENTIFIED IN POLICY NE3 DEVELOPMENT LIKELY TO AFFECT THE APPEARANCE OF THE LANDSCAPE WILL BE ASSESSED HAVING REGARD TO THE EXTENT TO WHICH IT WOULD:

- CAUSE UNACCEPTABLE VISUAL INTRUSION:
- INTRODUCE OR REMOVE INCONGRUOUS LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS:
- CAUSE THE DISTURBANCE OR LOSS OF OR HELP TO MAINTAIN:
 - (1) LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO LOCAL DISTINCTIVENESS;
 - (2) HISTORIC ELEMENTS WHICH CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TO LANDSCAPE PATTERNS AND LANDFORM;
 - (3) SEMI-NATURAL VEGETATION WHICH IS CHARACTERISTIC OF THAT LANDSCAPE TYPE;
 - (4) THE VISUAL CONDITION OF THE LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS.

Local Development Framework

- 4.8 As part of the preparation of the emerging Local Development Framework for Bradford, the Council must provide a robust evidence base for which to base its long-term proposals for the District. A number of pieces of work have been or are currently being produced either internally or externally, which will form part of the evidence base. These documents cover a range of topical issues from housing, employment to flood risk and gypsy and travellers accommodation. Further details of these documents can be found on the Council's website or by contacting the Local Development Framework group.

Sustainability Appraisal

- 4.9 Under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, all Supplementary Planning Documents must be subject to a Sustainability Appraisal to ensure that the implementation of guidance in the SPD will not have an adverse effect on the environment and will identify to what extent the social, economic and environmental principles of sustainable development are achieved.
- 4.10 The Sustainability Appraisal incorporates guidance from the European Commission (Directive 2001/42/EC) which requires formal Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of certain plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.
- 4.11 A Sustainability Appraisal Report has been produced to support this SPD.

5.0 EXISTING FRAMEWORK OF LANDSCAPE CLASSIFICATION, DESIGNATION AND POLICY

- 5.1 The City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council has an existing framework of designations and policy relating to the environment all of which has an influence on the landscape in its entirety. Designations and policies have a hierarchy from International to National, Regional, District wide and local.
- 5.2 The district has a similar covering of policies and designations for nature conservation, geology, and the built heritage/archaeological sites all of which contribute to the quality of the landscape.
- 5.3 At the district wide level, the City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council's Replacement Unitary Development Plan (RUDP), which was adopted in October 2005, is the current basis on which planning applications are determined. The relevant policies in the RUDP include UDP2 and UDP3, which aim to restrain development in the countryside, but where development does occur, to ensure it maintains or enhances the character of the wider environment and heritage assets, environmental resources and biodiversity.

5.4 Landscape Designations

- 5.4.1 There are no international or European landscape designations within Bradford. Areas of England and Wales whose landscape and natural beauty are considered to be of national importance are designated as either National Parks or Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Bradford district does not contain either of these designations.
- 5.4.2 Although not statutory designations, the joint publication between the Countryside Commission and English Nature, the Character Map of England sub-divides the district into three main character areas; the South Pennines, the Yorkshire Southern Pennine Fringe and the Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield. These are described in Section 6.0. These characteristics provide an important strategic framework for issues affecting the natural and cultural landscape.

5.5 Green Belt

- 5.5.1 The Green Belt has been defined in accordance with the government guidance on green belts. This was first set down in Circular 42/55 and was been carried forward into Circular 14/84 and Planning Policy Guidance Note 2 (PPG2) Revised January 1995.

PPG2 sets down five main purposes for the Green Belt:

- To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas
- To safeguard the surrounding countryside from further encroachment

- To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another
- To preserve the special character of historic towns
- To assist in urban regeneration

5.5.2 The adopted Replacement Unitary Development Plan (rUDP) identifies extensive areas of Green Belt across the District in accordance with Government guidance, with only two rural areas at the western and northwestern extremities of the District being excluded. The detailed boundaries are shown on the adopted rUDP proposals maps.

5.5.3 The following RUDP policies should also be referred to in relation to the Green Belt: GB1; GB2; GB3; GB4 and GB5.

5.6 Landscape Character Areas

5.6.1 Within the District's Green Belt and other rural areas there were areas of high quality landscape which the UDP plan that defined and protected areas as Special Landscape Areas (SLA's).

5.6.2 Special Landscape Areas have been replaced in the RUDP by the Landscape Character Areas approach, which relate to the wider landscape and not just those areas deemed special.

5.6.3 The concept of the Special Landscape Areas and Landscape Character Areas are distinct from that of the Green Belt. Within the Green Belt emphasis is placed on the principle of development. Special Landscape Areas placed emphasis on the visual aspect of development on the character of the landscape and its vernacular architecture.

5.6.4 The following RUDP policies should also be referred to: NE3 and NE3A. Both these policies aim to control development so that development does not adversely affect the local landscape, especially relating to development, which will enhance local distinctiveness and the intrinsic qualities of the countryside.

5.7 Urban Greenspace

5.7.1 Within the built up areas there exists a range of open spaces of significant amenity and recreational value. The urban green spaces have a variety of functions and uses and are of various sizes. The major urban green spaces provide a green framework for the regeneration of the urbanised parts of the District and are large enough to bring the character of the countryside into the town.

5.7.2 The following RUDP policies should also be referred to: OS1; OS7 and OS8.

5.8 BIODIVERSITY DESIGNATIONS

- 5.8.1 The District possesses a great diversity of areas of nature conservation, which are important for their scientific value and as an educational resource. These include moorland, woodland and wetland habitats and significant geological features. The main designated sites are shown on Figure 1 - Ecology Map.

Special Protection Areas (SPA)

- 5.8.2 Areas designated by the UK Government under the European (EU) Directive for Wild Birds (known as Wild Bird Directive) 79/409. These are areas of international importance for the assemblage of a variety of rare and declining breeding bird populations. This designation has been given to the South Pennine Moors. Within this area, the upland moors around Haworth and Rombalds are within the Bradford District.

Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)

- 5.8.3 These are strictly protected areas that are designated under the EC Habitats Directive for habitat types and species identified within Annexes I and II of the Directive. The listed habitat types and species are those considered to be most in need of conservation at a European level (excluding birds). These are of international importance. This designation has been given to the South Pennine Moors. Within this area the upland moors around Haworth and Rombalds are within the Bradford District.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

- 5.8.4 Designated by English Nature under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (amended 1985) as land of national importance by reason of any of its flora, fauna, geological or physiographical features. Numerous sites are identified in the Biodiversity Tables of the ten landscape character areas and receive protection within the rUDP policy.

Site of Ecological or Geological Importance (SEGI)

- 5.8.5 Formally Sites of Scientific Interest (SSSIs), these are sites designated by local authorities as areas of regional (i.e. West Yorkshire) importance for nature conservation. These are non statutory but are mapped and referred to in the adopted rUDP and protected under Policies NE7, NE8 and NE9 of the Replacement UDP.

Regionally Important Geological Sites (RIGS)

- 5.8.6 Designated by county-based local interest groups under the direction of English Nature. These have the same status as SEGIs.

Local Nature Reserves (LNR)

- 8.5.7 These are statutory designations made by principal local authorities under Section 21 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949. Such sites are for both people and wildlife; and are places with wildlife or geological features that are of special interest locally. Bradford's first Local Nature Reserve was designated on 28th June 2008, this site is located within the South Bradford Character Area.

Third Tier Sites

- 5.8.8 The local authority designates these as areas of local importance for nature conservation, for their community/access value as much as any scientific or biological interest. It is a non-statutory designation but is referred to in the adopted rUDP and mapped as an appendix to the supplementary planning guidance on nature conservation (Nature Conservation Strategy).

THE BUILT HERITAGE

- 5.9 The District possesses a rich architectural and archaeological heritage, which is highly valued for its contribution to the environment as a whole. The District's industrial heritage of mills and associated commercial development from the late 18th and 19th Centuries is particularly important and reflects the area's dominance in the textile trade.

World Heritage Site – Saltaire

- 5.10 UNESCO inscribed Saltaire as a World Heritage Site on 16th December 2001. It is one of 27 in the United Kingdom. World Heritage Sites are inscribed because of their outstanding universal value. The universal value of Saltaire is firstly based on an important interchange of human values in architecture, technology and the early concepts of Town Planning. Secondly, Saltaire is an outstanding example of an architectural and technological ensemble that illustrates a significant stage in human history. Saltaire is a remarkable complete and well-preserved industrial village constructed in the second half of the 19th century. Today, its textile mills, public buildings and workers' housing continue to operate as a living and working community. It is the duty of the international community as a whole, to co-operate in its protection. Saltaire has a Management Plan in place to direct this function.

A Buffer Zone extends around Saltaire World Heritage Site and its wider 'zone of visual influence' that incorporates distant views to and from the site. It includes a substantial amount of land including Shipley Town Centre, the largely residential areas to the north, including Green Belt up onto Baildon Moor. The Buffer Zone covers parts of three Landscape Character Areas, namely **Airedale**, **Rombalds Ridge** and **Wilsden**.

Buildings of Architectural and Historical Interest - Listed Buildings

- 5.11 Within the District there are now around 5800 buildings listed by the Secretary of State as being of architectural or historic interest. These make a vital contribution to the heritage of the District. They are protected from demolition by planning legislation and national planning policy as set out in PPG15, which encourages efforts to be made to ensure their retention sometimes by seeking and accepting alternative uses.

Conservation Areas

- 5.12 Fifty-seven Conservation Areas have been designated within the Bradford District. (NB. The number is likely to increase over time). The purpose of designation is to conserve and enhance the special architectural or historic character of the historic areas and their surroundings. Certain additional planning controls apply in Conservation Areas. Additionally there is a presumption against demolition of buildings. The felling or lopping of trees also requires approval.
- 5.13 The Government requires that each Conservation Area should have an up-to-date assessment, which is reviewed within a five-year period. The Design and Conservation Team within Planning Service have produced comprehensive Conservation Area Assessments for each Conservation Area within the District. These documents detail the areas historic development, topography and setting, traditional buildings materials, architectural and historic qualities, open spaces, natural elements, permeability and streetscape. The assessments also provide guidance of how to maintain and enhance the areas unique qualities. The team are currently in the process of reviewing their Conservation Area Assessments to meet the requirements of the Governments Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPI's). Where appropriate, relevant assessments should be referred to and taken into consideration as part of the decision making process for any landscape or development proposal.

Battlefield Site

- 5.14 The non-statutory Battlefield Register compiled by English Heritage has the status of a material consideration in determining planning applications. The most significant historic event that took place within the District was the Battle of Adwalton Moor, in Tong, on 30th June 1643. It is considered to be one of the most important battles of the Civil War and is only one of 7 Registered Battlefield within the Region. The remaining topography of the site, in particular the hedgerows running across the fields rising up to the hillside to which Royalists initially fell back, are still clearly evident and likely to have been features of the 1643 scene.

Historic Parks and Gardens

- 5.15 In England the official listing of gardens began with the National Heritage Act 1983 which brought English Heritage into existence and which amended the Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act 1953 so as to enable the new authority to compile a non statutory register of gardens and other land which appears to be of special historical significance. There are 12 sites within the District that are included in the Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in England.
- 5.16 The District also contains four recognised Local Historic Parks and Gardens. These sites are of local interest, (not included on the national register) which display evidence of designated landscapes that are of local interest and any proposals, which affect the site or setting, should demonstrate a clear understanding of the original design and layout.

Archaeology

- 5.17 Archaeological remains are a non-renewable resource, often very fragile and vulnerable to damage and destruction. Bradford possesses a rich archaeological heritage, particularly in the north of the District. It is important that this heritage is adequately protected.

The replacement UDP aims to protect three categories of archaeological areas, identified by the West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Services (WYAAS), which are registered in the County Sites and Monuments Record. These are:

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| Class I | Scheduled Ancient Monuments and their settings. These are nationally recognised. |
| Class II | Areas of Special Archaeological Value, where evidence exists to indicate the presence or probability of remains of archaeological value. |
| Class III | Areas of Archaeological Value, where evidence exists to indicate the presence or probability of remains of archaeological value. |

- 5.18 The following replacement UDP policies should also be referred to: BH18 and BH19.

The Conservation Areas and Scheduled Ancient Monuments are shown on Figure 2: Cultural Heritage Map.

Other Frameworks

- 5.19 The Standing Conference of South Pennine Authorities (SCOSPA) published a regional based Landscape Assessment, Landscape Guidelines and Countryside Design Summary for the South Pennines, which include the majority of Bradford's non-urban areas.

In addition, SCOSPA has also prepared an Integrated Management Strategy and Conservation Action Plan for the South Pennine Moors SPA (see Biodiversity Designations), which emphasises the conservation importance of the moorland landscape.

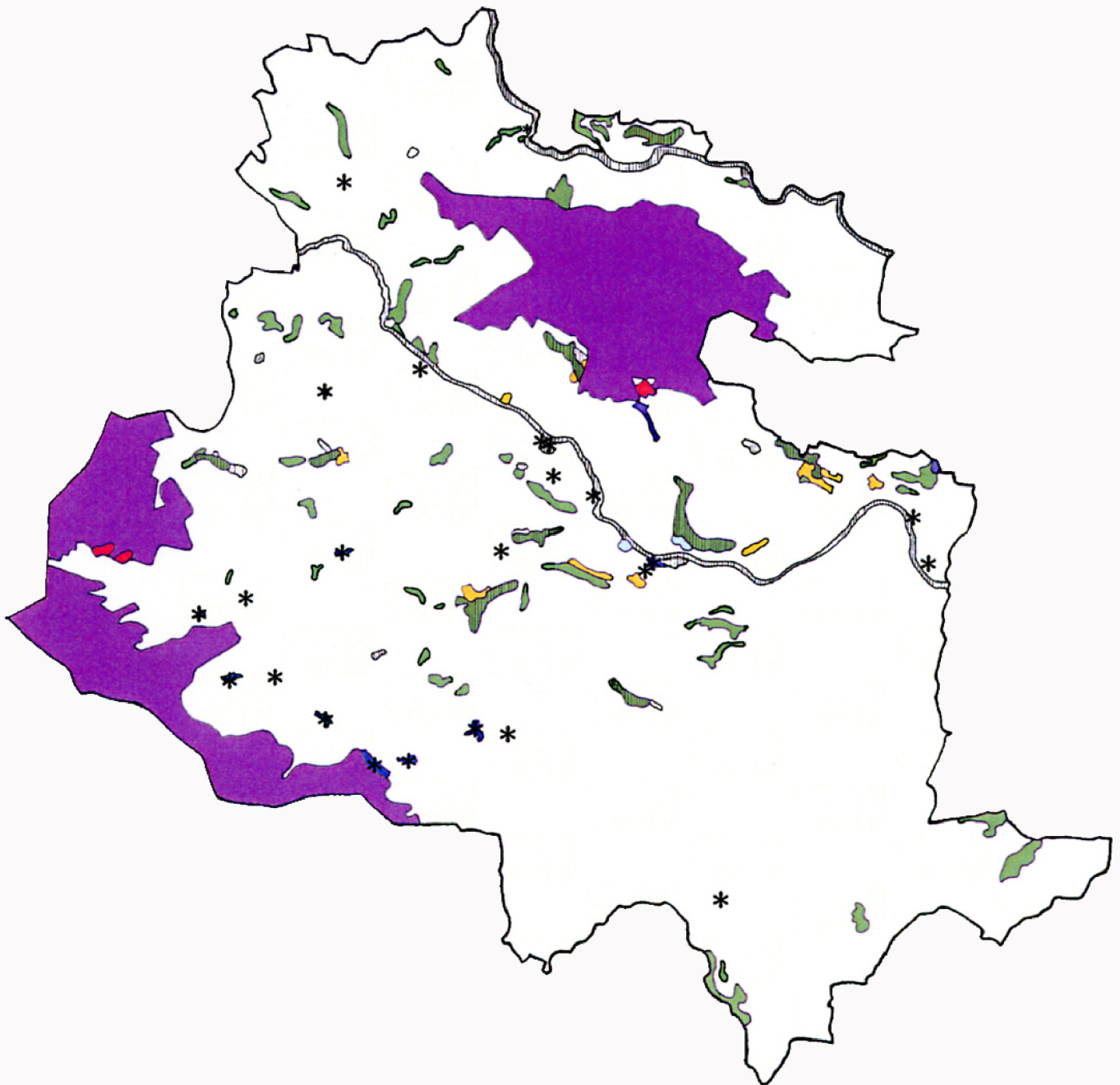
The Forest of Bradford Initiative and the Woodland Strategy (1992) aim to undertake strategic measures to increase general tree cover with the District and guide appropriate areas for action.

Wider Policy Context

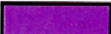
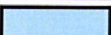
- 5.20 Planning Policy Statement 1: Delivering Sustainable Development seeks to protect and enhance the quality, character and amenity value of the countryside and urban areas as a whole. Protection should be given to those areas that have been recognised for their landscape value. Planning Policy Statement 7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas encourages local authorities to maintain or extend local landscape designations to protect areas from unsustainable development and to also enhance local distinctiveness of the areas and preserve the intrinsic qualities of the countryside.

The Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) for the Yorkshire and the Humber region (adopted May 2008) provides the Regional Planning Policy context. This Plan will be used as material consideration within the Planning process. The Plan maintains the need for Local Authorities to recognise and protect the distinctive landscape character of the region. Policies LCR1 (C, 1, 5) and ENV 10 within the Plan should be referred too.

Figure 1
ECOLOGY

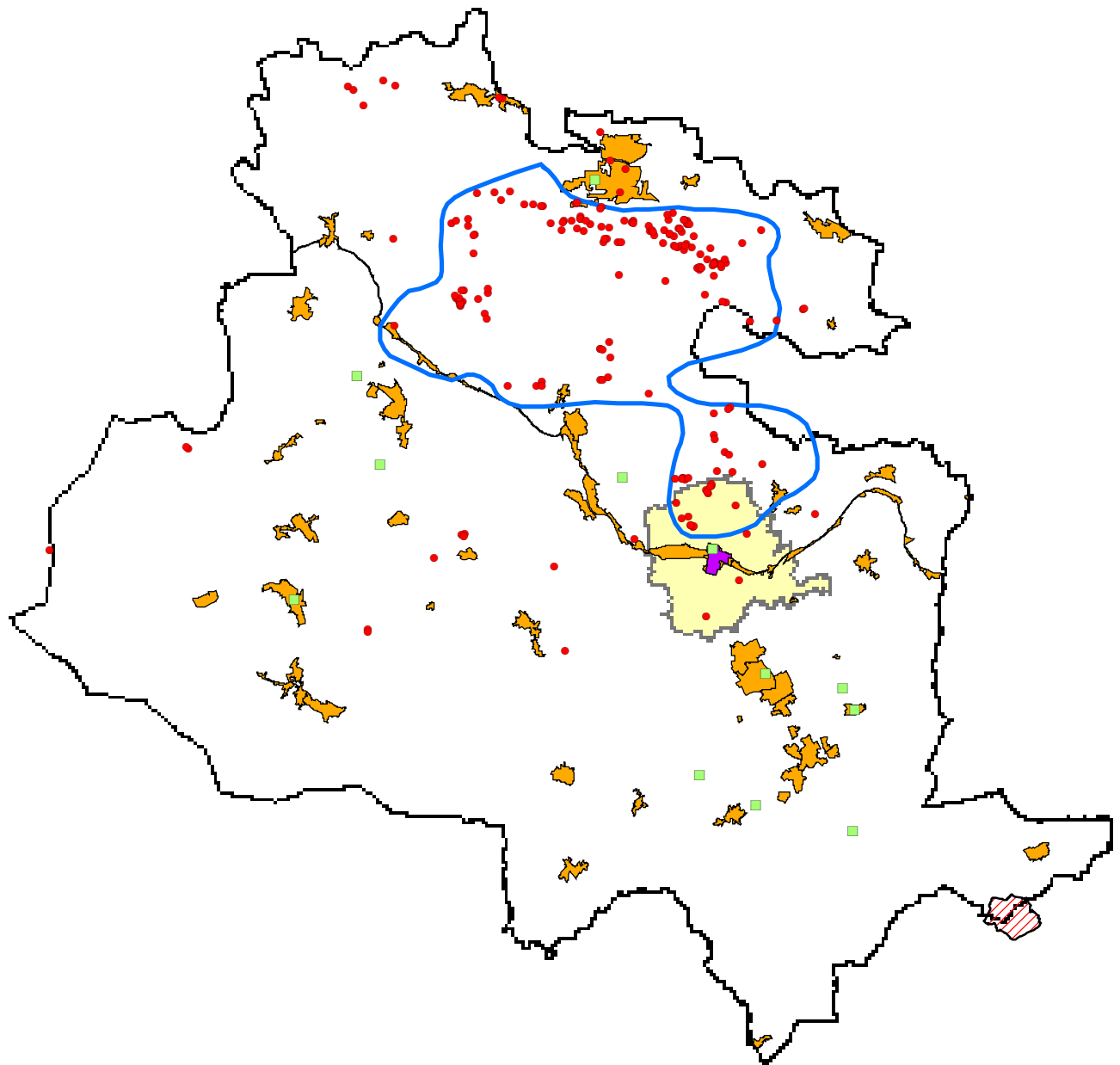


Key

-  Special Protection Areas / Special Areas of Conservation
-  Sites of Special Scientific Importance
-  Sites of Ecological / Geological Importance
-  Semi-natural broadleaved woodland & major broadleaved plantations
-  Blanket bog
-  Known grassland of biological diversity
-  Wetlands

0 1 2 3 4 5 Kilometers

Figure 2
CULTURAL HERITAGE



Key

-  Conservation areas
-  Scheduled Monuments *195 scheduled items total - mostly within the line*
-  Historic Parks & Gardens
-  Historic Battlefield Site - Adwalton Moor
-  World Heritage Site - Saltaire
-  World Heritage Site buffer zone

0 1 2 3 4 5
Kilometers

6.0 GENERAL LANDSCAPE CHARACTER OF BRADFORD

Natural Character Areas

6.1 The landscape of the Bradford District has been broadly influenced by its physical characteristics such as geology, soils and climate (especially glaciation) and subsequent modification by man in terms of land use.

6.2 The Joint Countryside Commission/English Nature 'Character Map of England' subdivides the District into three main character areas:

- 36 South Pennines
- 37 Yorkshire Southern Pennine Fringe
- 38 Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield

6.3 A small area in the north of the District lies within the YORKSHIRE DALES Character Area 21, but has limited influence on the landscape character of the Bradford District.

Southern Pennines

6.4 This area lies between the Peak District National Park and the Yorkshire Dales National Park. A sweeping landscape of upland moor and pasture, over 7 million people live within 1 hours drive of the South Pennines and the demands for transport, mineral extraction, power transmission and generation, urban encroachment, recreation sport and tourism have shaped the character accordingly. The heavily populated valleys contrast with the marginal economic viability of the uplands where the dual economy of part-time farming subsidised by other occupations prevails. Sheep grazing and small dairy/beef herds are the main agricultural occupations; stonewalls and small fields reflect the fluctuating moorland/grassland fringe. The moorland plateau gives extensive views over the lower lying towns, which reduces the sense of isolation. Whilst the quarries and vertical elements such as wind turbines, transmitter masts and pylons are often prominent and detract from landscape quality, there are also a strong industrial heritage of buildings and other remnants of the wool and cotton industries.

Yorkshire Southern Pennine Fringe

6.5 This character area represents the transition of the Pennine Uplands to the lower undulating landscape of the Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield, characterised by gritstone industrial settlements in the valleys surrounded by pastoral agriculture in the foothills. The gritstone buildings and stone walls of the pastures give a visual unity to the landscape. Mills, factories and towns associated with the main transport routes lie in the valley bottoms. Tall mill chimneys and terraces are packed into the valley bottoms and rise up the hillside. Pylons and masts are prominent on the

skylines. The industrial archaeology gives the area a strong historical character and visual identity.

Nottinghamshire Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield

- 6.6 This is a large area of densely settled countryside embracing major industrial towns. It has a low lying, rolling landform with escarpments and broad valley resulting from sloping alternate bands of wet shales and dry sandstones. This area is dominated by extensive urban influences and rapid expansion of industry, settlement and transport networks. Likewise the rural areas suffer from urban fringe influences and the resulting landscape is downgraded – the soils are relatively poor and the graded pastures are bounded by a mixture of walls, occasional hedgerows and post and wire fencing. ‘Horticulture’ is a popular activity among the complex mosaic of land uses, ribbon development and transport route dominated landscape. Broad-leaved woodlands, often large and fragmented, are relatively common.

- 6.7 The Countryside Commission’s character areas have been determined at a national level and are therefore broad-brush descriptions of large areas of countryside. The boundaries between these are not distinct and often occur gradually over several kilometres.

Section 9.0 of this report however, defines the character of Bradford in more detail at a local scale by subdividing the district into 10 Character Areas on the basis of their overall characteristics and the recurring pattern of landscape elements contained within them.

These Landscape Character Areas are defined on a geographical basis and named according to local terminology for ease of identification and recognition by a wide range of people.

- 6.8 The area covered excludes the urban core of Bradford City Centre, Shipley, Keighley and Ilkley. It also excludes all ‘inset’ areas defined as ‘urban’ or ‘village’ in the rUDP. It is intended that these areas will be the subjects of settlement studies at some future date.
- 6.9 It is important to recognise that the Bradford Metropolitan District Council boundary constitutes an artificial boundary in landscape terms. In many cases landscape character areas and landscape types would extend into adjoining local authorities, a good example being the Pennine Upland.

It is also necessary to take account of Landscape Assessment, Strategy and Guidelines that have been carried out by the adjoining Districts of Leeds, Calderdale, Kirklees, Pendle, Craven and Harrogate, where they adjoin the Bradford District boundary.

Significant development proposals close to the boundary are likely to have an effect on inter-visibility into adjoining Districts, which will require consultation.

There are also small enclaves of landscape on the eastern boundary within the urban core e.g. around Fagley and Greengates which have a greater affinity with the landscape types identified in Leeds City Council's Landscape Assessment.

7.0 EVOLUTION OF THE NATURAL LANDSCAPE

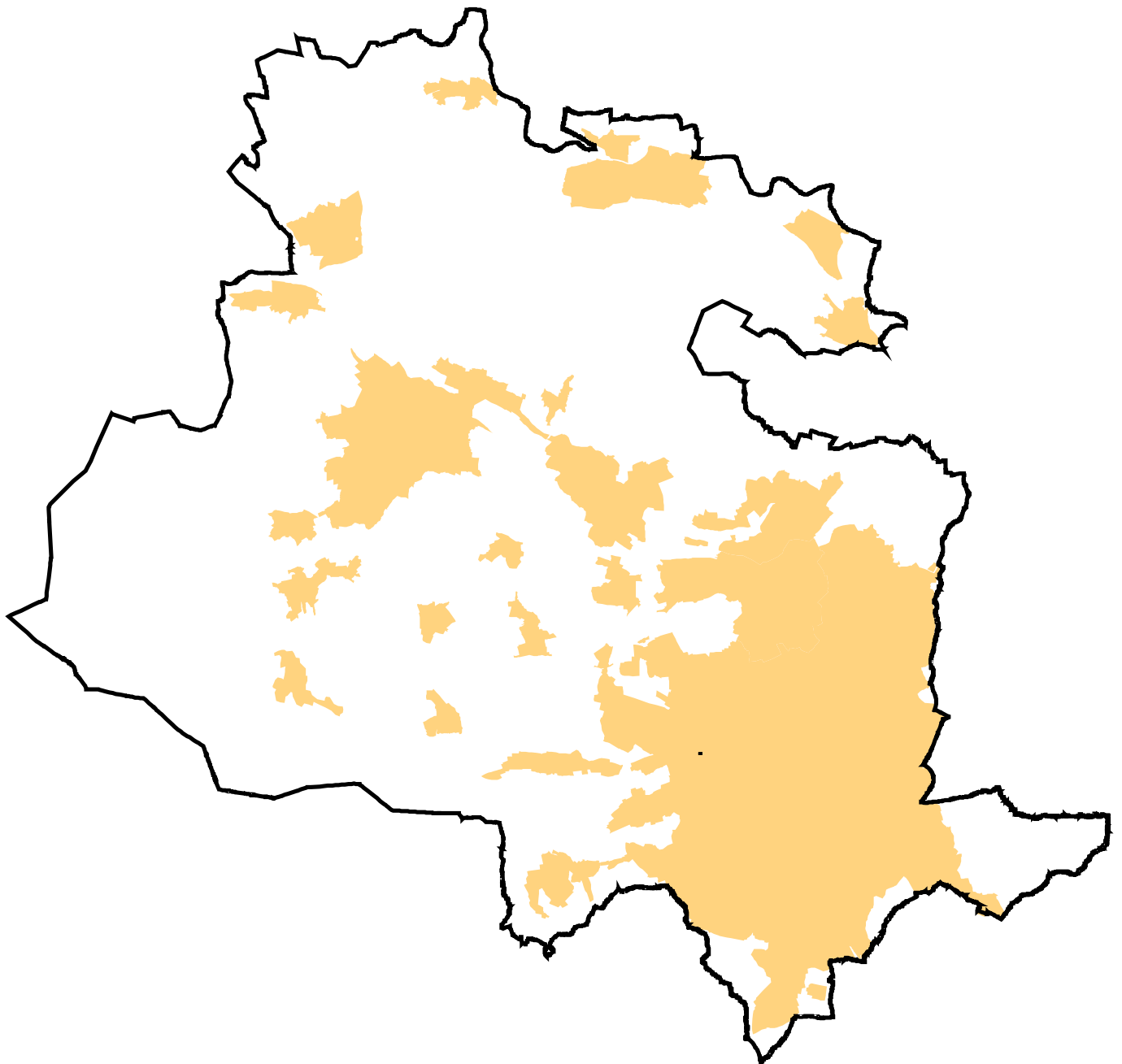
7.1 INTRODUCTION

- 7.1.1 The landscape of Bradford is the product of the interaction of both physical and human influences. This chapter describes the main physical influences including topography, geology, soils, climate and biodiversity.
- 7.1.2 The City of Bradford Metropolitan District comprises about 370 km². Only about one third of the District is built up but this area contains about 86% of the population. See Figure 3 – Settlement Map. The main population areas of Bradford, Keighley, Shipley, Bingley and Ilkley are separated by areas of agricultural land, isolated villages, areas of undeveloped moorland, woodland and parkland. See Figure 4 - Landcover Map.
- 7.1.3 The District is characterised by dramatic contrasts from the fringes of the South Pennines in the west to the Wharfe Valley in the east.

7.2 LANDFORM

- 7.2.1 The District comprises a series of escarpments of plateaux with elevations up to 455m O.D., and a general decrease in the height of plateau in the east. The escarpments are dissected by the Rivers Aire and Wharfe and a number of smaller rivers, including Bradford Beck and the River Worth. The valley sides are commonly very steep, in contrast to the flat nature of the valley bottoms. The main urban areas and transport routes occur within the valley floor of the district. Within these urbanised areas the topography has often been altered artificially, with large areas of made ground, disturbed ground and excavation.
- 7.2.2 Geographically, the area is considered to be part of the upland Pennine peneplain generally slopes eastward complicated by valley incisions, and a series of step like features marking breaks in slope.
- 7.2.3 Rivers tend to flow eastwards following the actual slope of the land along major fault lines. See Figure 5 - Landform Map.

Figure 3
SETTLEMENT



Key



Population Centres

0 1 2 3 4 5 Kilometers

Figure 4
LANDCOVER

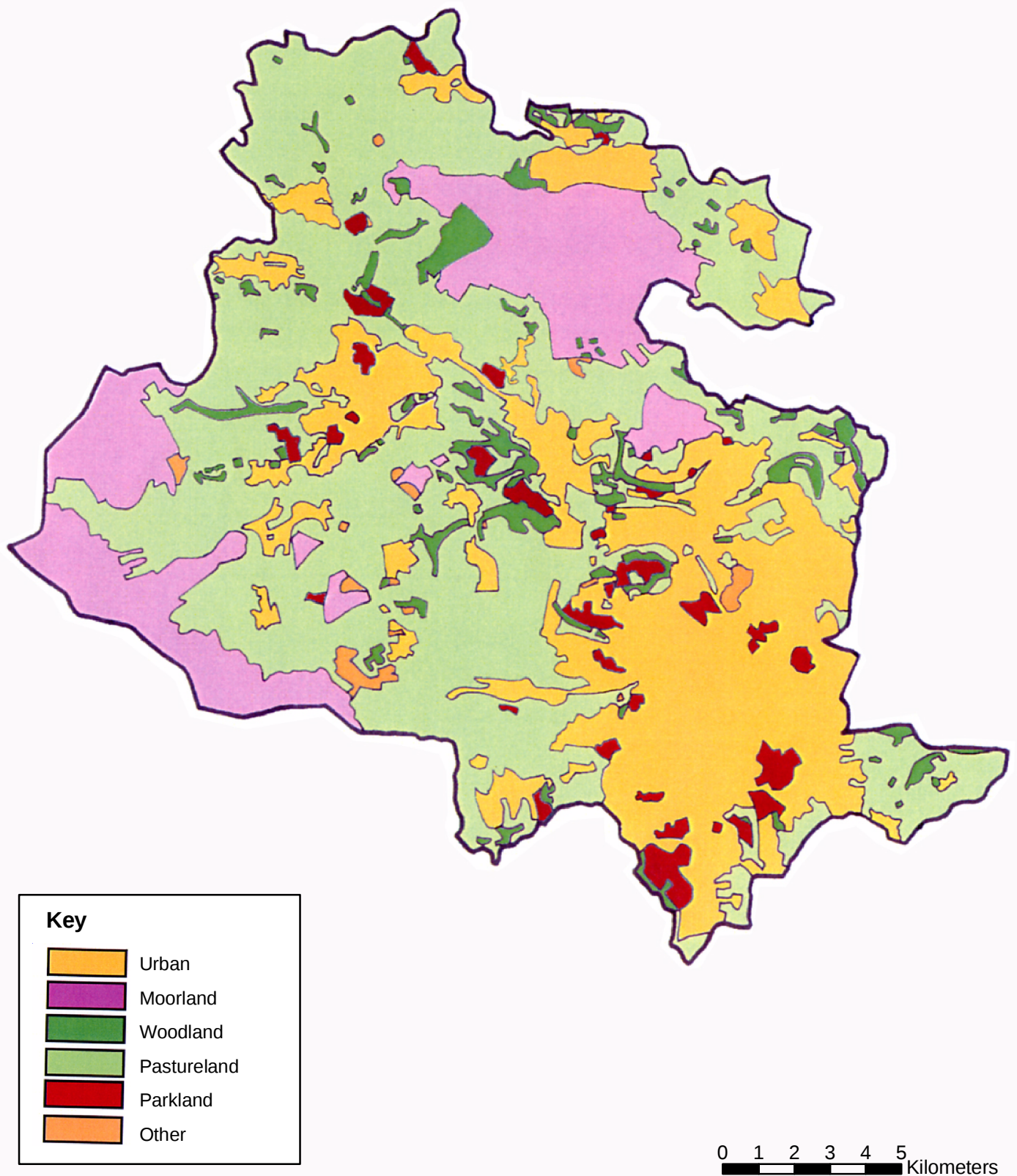
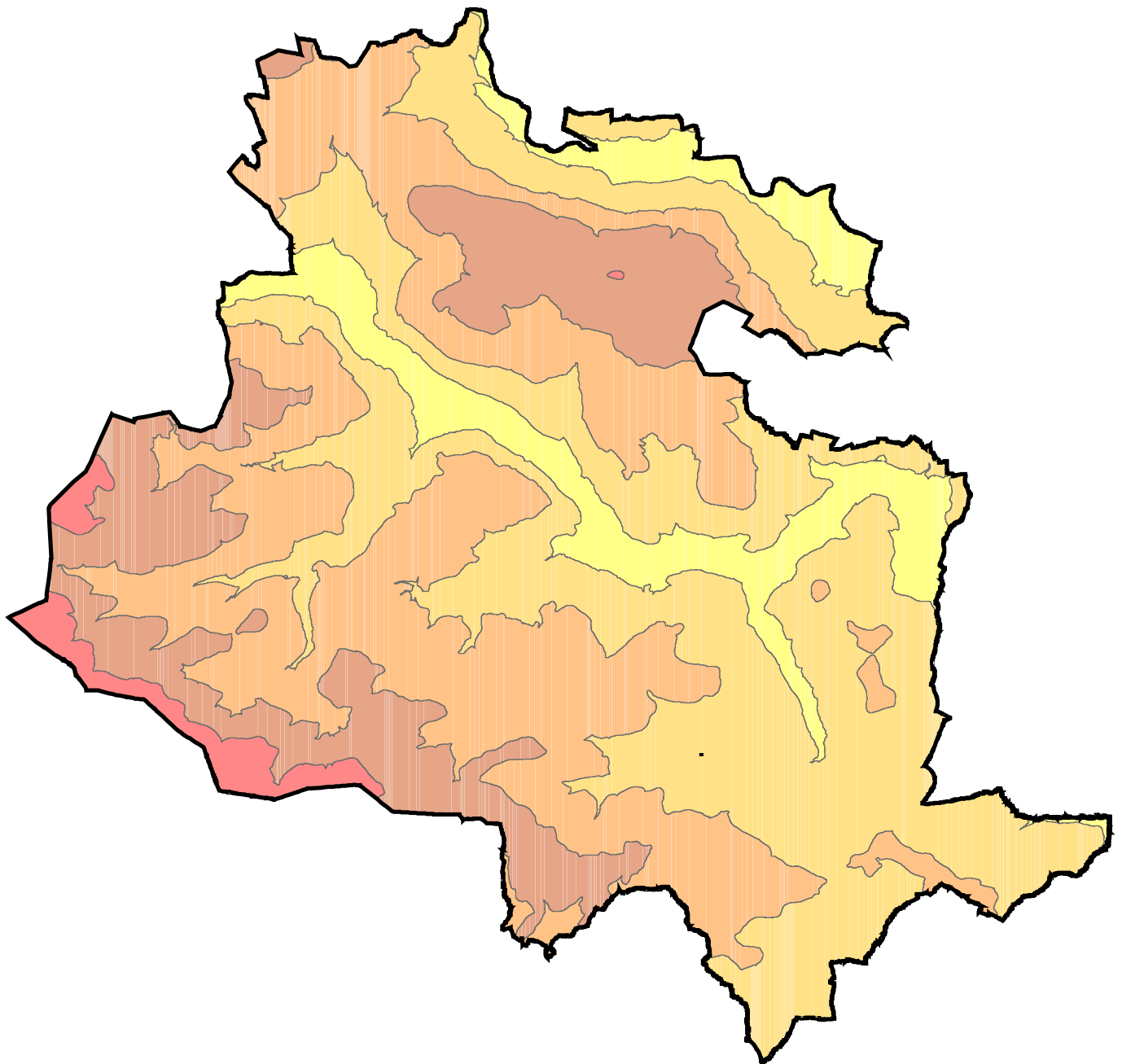


Figure 5
LANDFORM



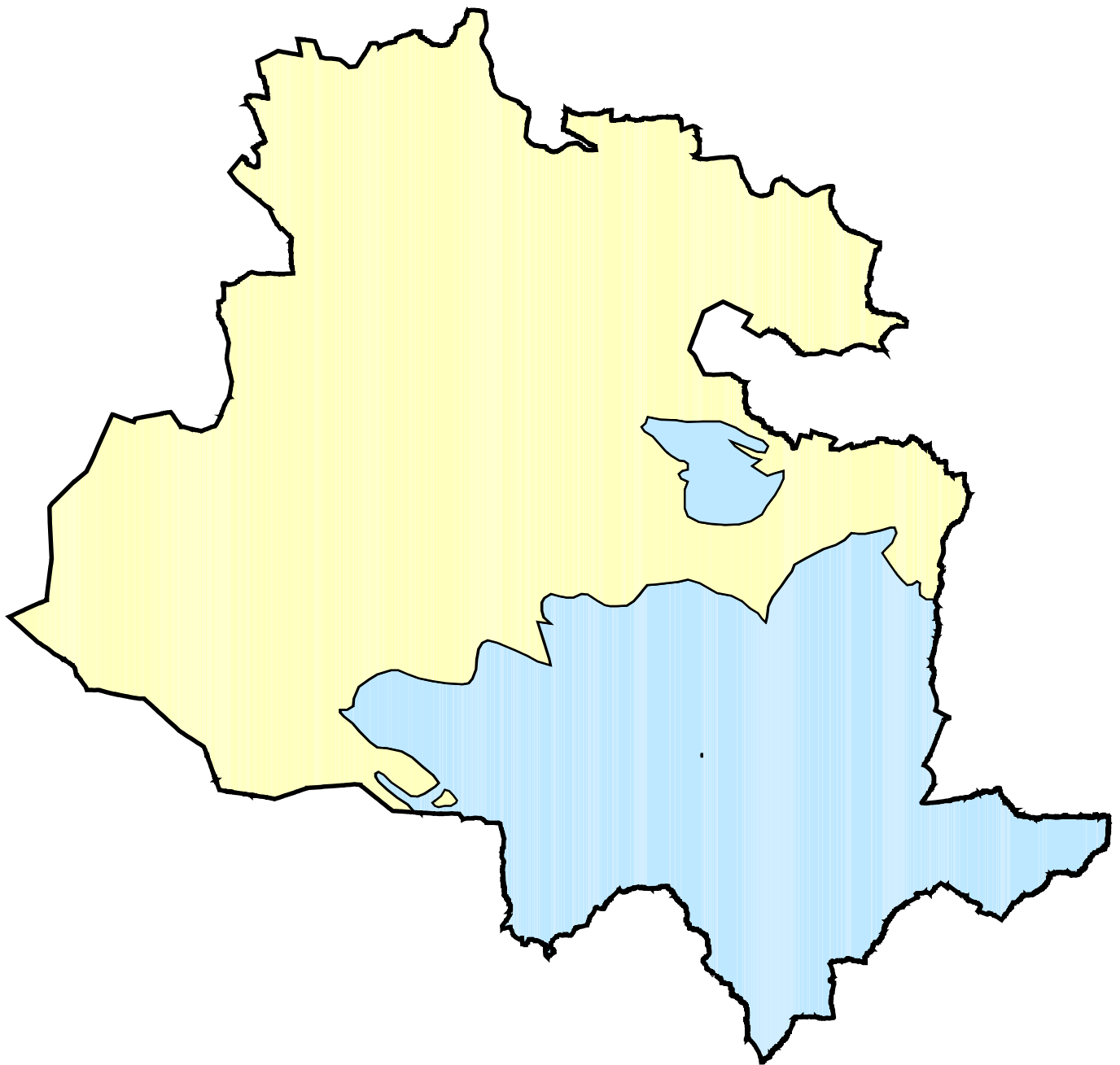
Key

Height above sea level in metres

-  0 - 100m
-  100 - 200m
-  200 - 300m
-  300 - 400m
-  over 400m

0 1 2 3 4 5 Kilometers

Figure 6
GEOLOGY



Key

-  Coal Measure
-  Millstone Grit

0 1 2 3 4 5 Kilometers

7.3 GEOLOGY

7.3.1 The bedrock is composed entirely of rocks deposited during the Upper Carboniferous period, about 315 to 310 million years ago.

7.3.2 The south east of the District, including the main Bradford conurbation and the outlier of Baildon Moor is underlain by Coal Measures. The District is located at the northern margin of the exposed Yorkshire Coalfield.

7.3.3 The coal measures are underlain by the Millstone Grit, which outcrops over most of the north and west of the District and has been used extensively for building stone.

Formation of the Millstone Grits:

7.3.4 During the Upper Carboniferous period northern England lay within a large subsiding basin. Extensive delta system were fed with sediments eroded from the surrounding land surfaces to the north and this material was deposited in layers to eventually form massive blocks of Millstone Grit. Frequent changes in sea level affected the nature of the sediments with coarse grits and sand deposited near the river mouths forming hard gritstones. At other times fine silts and sands accumulated at shallow deltas forming softer shales as bands within the gritstone. There is consequently great variation in the gritstone geology. Many of the sandstones are coarse-grained grits and now form prominent escarpments or edges, for example, Addingham High Moor.

7.3.5 The dominance of the Millstone Grit is not only limited to the underlying geology. Its use has shaped the whole of the landscape we see today. The rock has been mined for centuries and has provided the material for the network of

7.3.6 Dry stone walls enclosing the pasture land and for the distinctive architecture of villages, towns and cities in the district. See Figure 9 - Geology Map.

Formation of the Coal Measures:

7.3.7 The deltas gradually silted up during the Carboniferous period and areas of swamp and woodland developed, although these were periodically flooded by the still fluctuating sea levels. This pattern of growth and destruction led to the formation of layers of coal embedded in between shales and grits.

7.3.8 The Coal Measures present in the District consist of about 590m thickness of embedded mudstone, siltstone and sandstone with subordinate coal, seatearth and ironstone deposited about 310 million years ago. Erosion subsequently removed much of the coal

measurers from higher areas to the north and west of the District leaving a distinctive divide between the Millstone Grits and the Coal Measures.

- 7.3.9 The Coal Measures have been extensively exploited notably during the 19th Century, not only for coal, but also for fireclay, brickclay and ironstone.
- 7.3.10 Although mining of these resources in Bradford was not at the same scale as the further south in the coalfield, it has had great effect in shaping the landscape, notably in triggering adjacent industrial growth.

Creation of the Pennine Mountain Ridge

- 7.3.11 The period of deposition of material to form the Millstone Grits and Coal Measures was completed some 280 million years ago and was followed by folding of the earth's crust. The asymmetric anticline created the upstanding mountain ridge, which, although considerably eroded, still dominates the District today.

Glacial Activity

- 7.3.12 The present day topography is largely the result of glacial activity some two and a half million years ago which modified and moulded the landscape.
- 7.3.13 The District has probably been affected by three separate glacial periods, and at its maximum advance the ice sheet reached a line from Keighley Moor to Low Moor, and would have covered both valleys and upland areas. Dramatic fluctuations in temperature caused the valley glaciers to advance and retreat several times during the last Ice Age alone. The valleys of the modern rivers Wharfe and Aire broadly coincide with buried drift filled channels locally in excess of 50m deep.
- 7.3.14 As the ice retreated during the interglacial period and finally at the close of the ice age the erosive power of the glacial meltwater had a dramatic effect on the landscape. Apart from forming the deep U shaped valleys of the Wharfe and Aire, meltwaters breached ice dams and created deep gorges termed glacial overflow channels. These are present in many upland areas of Bradford and on valley sides. Typically these features have an E-W to SE-NW trend parallel to the ice front with steep sides and flat bottoms. Examples can be seen at Newsholme Dean and around Cottingley Beck.
- 7.3.15 As the ice trapped the river flow, terraces were cut, the most noticeable being the three separate river terraces of the Wharfe. Landslips are also evident in the final landform of today, the majority of which are a product of the end of the glacial period some 10,000 years ago. Many landslips formed as a result of downslope movements in saturated, deeply weathered, partially frozen materials on the glacially over-steepened slopes.

Probably the most famous example, known as a topple rock fall is the Cow and Calf Rocks, whilst shallow rotational slides can be seen all along the Aire and Wharfe Valley sides.

Drift Geology

- 7.3.16 About 60% of the District is covered by drift (natural superficial) deposits, most of which are a product of glacial and post glacial activity. Boulder clay is the main glacial deposit in the District forming an extensive featureless spread, generally less than 5m in thickness. The exceptions are the Aire and Wharfe valley bottoms where thickness exceeding 50m are known to exist. Various alluvial deposits of sand and gravel are evident throughout the District, for example at Keighley in the Aire Valley where deposits are up to 17m thick. Silty sand pebbles and gravels can also be seen exposed on the riverbank of the Wharfe and have previously been exploited creating the Ben Rhydding gravel pits, now a Site of Ecological or Geological Interest (SEGI).

Formation of Peat

- 7.3.17 Both lowland and upland peat are present in the District. Lowland peat forms isolated patches within poorly drained enclosed hollows such as Binlgey South Bog and glacial meltwater channels such as Pitty Beck. Upland peat forms extensive thin layers on the upland areas in the west of the District such as Keighley and Oxenhope Moors. The deposits are mainly less than 1 m in thickness and have accumulated in response to acid soils, low temperatures, poor aeration due to water logging and low evaporation rates suppressing the decomposition of dead plant material.

7.4 SOILS

- 7.4.1 Soils which form the final layer on the landform reflect the interaction of solid and drift geology, altitude, climate and past human land use. Generally local soils are poor and naturally acid, due to the high silica content of the parent material, lack of neutralising minerals such as lime, and due to the high rainfall. The often relatively low temperatures in the District result in slow rates of soil formation, whereas the high rainfall leaches out soluble minerals such as calcium from the soil.
- 7.4.2 Thin soil tends to develop on steep slopes due to the progressive downslope creep of soils as they develop.
- 7.4.3 Although areas of higher quality soils that could support arable farming are to be found in the Wharfe Valley, they are not extensive enough to be economically viable.

- 7.4.4 As a result most rural land is either permanent grass for pasture, or rough pasture or moorland.

7.5 CLIMATE

- 7.5.1 With a difference of 300m between the highest western part of the District and the low areas of the city centre, relief plays a major part in influencing local climate, affecting rainfall, the temperature and the number of hours of sunshine. Bradford has an annual rainfall of 34.15 inches, an annual mean temperature of 8.8 C with 1242 hours of bright sunshine. These figures indicate a much less favourable climate especially for agriculture, than that to the east of the county in, for example, the Vale of York.
- 7.5.2 The Pennines act as a climatic barrier, so that Bradford lies in the rain shadow of the upland mass and therefore benefits a lesser extent from the warming effects of the prevailing westerly winds. With a growing season defined as months over 6.1 C, Bradford has a growing season of about seven months in the lower lying areas and about six months over 275m.
- 7.5.3 The poor soils combined with this harsh climate restricted Bradford to small-scale, isolated agricultural settlements prior to the industrialisation of the 19th Century.

7.6 BIODIVERSITY

- 7.6.1 "...the diversity within habitats and ecosystems, the diversity of species and the interaction between species and their habitat..."³
- 7.6.2 The biodiversity of the Bradford District is not only varied but also contains good quality habitats and an interesting range of wildlife, including many internationally, nationally and regionally notable species of flora and fauna.
- 7.6.3 Of particular note are the internationally important South Pennine Moors, a Special Protection Area of nearly 21,000 hectares (of which 4489 hectares are located within the Bradford District). This area is significant for the variety and rarity of its bird life, including the merlin and golden plover, which is supported by the diverse and extensive upland plant communities. The South Pennine Moors are also a Special Area of Conservation designated for the variety of the upland habitat mosaic.
- 7.6.4 The main habitats through the Bradford District can be categorised as:-

³ Source = UK Bio Diversity Action Plan: 1994

Moorland

- 7.6.5 The large areas of peat covered moorland give rise to a rich mosaic of habitats, including **blanket bog, heather moors, wet heaths and 'in-bye'**⁴ land. These areas are remote and less likely to suffer from development pressure but they are fragile ecosystems and can easily be affected by pollution or changes in management brought about by declining agricultural activity.

Woodland

- 7.6.6 Only 4.6% of the Bradford District is covered by woodland, compared with the national average of 10%, although a large area is exposed moorland and upland, which would limit the growth of trees. Many of the woodlands are recently planted (within the last 150 years) but there are numerous examples of steep sided valleys and cloughs whose base-poor and acid soils support the remnants of **ancient woodland**, characterised by the oak/birch woodlands of South Pennines, many of which have an ecologically diverse ground flora.

Grasslands

- 7.6.7 Much of Bradford's landscape is covered by grassland surrounded by the traditional gritstone walls. They are a mixture of improved, semi-improved and natural grasslands depending on the character of the underlying soils, the topography and management influences. **Acidic grassland** communities tend to be found on the exposed uplands and are generally species poor by nature. Although these are often classed as permanent pasture, many have been limed and fertilised to improve their grazing capacity; consequently, they have a greener, visually improved appearance but are ecologically poorer than the diverse meadows. The lower lying pastures in the valleys tend to be **neutral short-growing grassland communities** which have been improved and can be managed as short-term leys; some of these have a greater species diversity and were possibly former **hay meadows**. These have more interest for nature conservation and are increasingly rare. Surprisingly, Bradford has a larger proportion than Kirklees or Calderdale⁵. Wet grasslands are increasingly rare in Bradford District and are often under pressure for land improvement and drainage schemes. However, they can contain a great variety of plant communities suited to damp conditions.

⁴ Enclosed moorland of wet rush pasture which is also important as feeding and breeding areas for upland birds.

⁵ Bradford Grassland Survey 1996

Wetlands

- 7.6.8 The characteristic landform of the Bradford District has been carved as a result of the Ice Age, with glacial overflow channels and cloughs (steep sided tributary valleys) forming the frameworks for the water collection from the uplands. Many of these overflow channels now form valuable wetlands. Numerous reservoirs also collect water from the uplands which are not only an important water catchments area but these water bodies and the surrounding wetlands also provide important wintering and breeding habitats for the wide variety of wildfowl and waders. Small streams, springs and wet flushes flow from the uplands into the Rivers Worth, Aire and Wharfe. The Leeds and Liverpool Canal also acts as a valuable wildlife corridor across the District and a network of neglected mill ponds – a legacy of Bradford's industrial heritage – have been re-colonised by amphibians. In addition there are a few fragments of lowland raised mire, which are ecologically valuable but fragile and threatened habitats.

Wildlife

- 7.6.9 Bradford District contains a wide variety of wildlife, according to the range of habitats. In particular, have healthy populations of deer and badger. The deer numbers are increasing and are generally migrating from the north towards Calderdale in the south west and also east along the Leeds and Liverpool Canal⁶, badgers are also well presented throughout the District and successfully protected against persecution. A range of bird species can be found in all habitats throughout, especially on the moorlands, as stated above. Bats are found in roosting sites such as trees, buildings (old and new), old parkland and bridges, especially over rivers. Amphibians and reptiles, however, are limited to the common species; great crested newts are unknown in the Bradford area. West Yorkshire was the northern limit for some butterflies and insects, however with global warming some species have increased their range northwards and the loss of diverse grasslands generally will have a long-term effect on these populations, with subsequent consequences throughout the ecosystem as a whole.

⁶ Bradford Deer Survey 1996

7.6.10 Biodiversity Assets

Designation		No	Area/Details
Special Protection Area (SPA)	SPA	1 No	4489 ha – South Pennine Moors
Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	SAC	1 No	4489 ha – South Pennine Moors
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	SSSI	4 No	South Pennine Moors, Bingley South Bog, Trench Meadows. Yeadon Brick Works
Sites of Ecological/ Geological Interest (SEGI)	SEGI		
Ecological		21 No	340ha – Leeds/Liverpool Canal and River Wharfe
Geological		16 No	
Third Tier Sites		Over 100 No	Yet to be verified

8.0 THE CULTURAL HISTORY OF BRADFORD DISTRICT

Introduction

- 8.1 In the earliest years human settlement of the area was slow, sporadic and unexceptional. There was a period when the district had an importance of global significance as the birthplace of modern industrial development. The landscape of the area has been influenced by man to the extent that little can be classified as truly 'natural' whilst most of the twentieth century built development has long since parted company with 'tradition'.

Early Settlers 0-3000BC

- 8.2 The earliest inhabitants were Mesolithic hunters arriving before 300 BC. The landscape at the time consisted of dense birch and pine forest covering the highlands with marshy swamps in the valleys. It was inhospitable, with limited opportunities for colonisation. Consequently the hunter-gathers lived a semi nomadic life, living off the land and having little impact on it. They kept mainly to what are today the moorland areas, away from the dangerous and uncomfortable wetlands.

Neolithic Period 3000-1700BC

- 8.3 The first real settlers were Neolithic farmers who arrived around 3000 BC. By this time the woodlands had begun to include species such as oak and alder. Remains from this period suggest that the farmers would clear the ground of woodland by burning. Crops could then be grown until the soil was exhausted, the area would then be grazed, preventing natural regeneration and keeping the ground open. The process would begin again, resulting in more and more open areas amongst the woodland. Climatic changes meant that during the harsher winter months the farmers would be forced down from the higher uplands gradually bringing their influence further down the valley sides. Tools and implements would be wood, bone, stone and flint.

Bronze/Iron Age 1700-500BC

- 8.4 Around 1750 BC there was a major technological breakthrough. Man discovered how to make tools from metal, in particular axes. With a bronze (or later an iron) axe, trees could be felled with ease compared with the flint axes of the past. This led to substantial forest clearance of the upland areas. The thin soils of these upland areas were exposed to heavy rainfall and washed down from the highlands, removing the nutrients necessary for regeneration of the woodlands and creating the open moorlands that we consider a 'natural' feature of the landscape today.

As Bronze Age settlements became more established tracks between them were worn along the terraces below the exposed moor tops. River crossings began to appear where necessary, although the swampy valleys still remain largely unpopulated.

Celts, Romans and Saxons 500BC-1066AD

- 8.5 By the time the Celts arrived in 500 BC the highland areas had been rendered treeless, infertile and inhospitable wastelands. Consequently the Celts lived further down the hillsides, continuing the practice of clearing and farming.

Although the Romans took control of the area soon after their invasion their influence on the landscape of the district was minimal and their occupation was limited to military outposts at strategic positions, notably the Ilkley river crossing.

Norman Invasion 1066AD

- 8.6 Following their invasion the Normans gradually colonised the country bringing with them a more sophisticated society organised on a large scale. William (the Conqueror) rewarded his followers with very large holdings of land. These 'manors' included great areas of the remaining woodlands known as 'forests' for hunting (or poaching) and much of the areas cleared on the hillsides know as 'vaccaries' for beef production.

Medieval Times

- 8.7 During the centuries that followed a much more communal society developed.

Ordinary people wanting to farm had no option but to take and enclose the moorland wastelands. Marginal conditions forced them to work together to cultivate the soil. Stones and rocks were often gathered up and thrown to the edge of the area to be cultivated, establishing their use to demarcate field boundaries.

Mills were needed to grind flour. Often these would be built by the lord of the manor near a river crossing which allowed easy access from both sides of the valley and the use of the water as a power source.

The overall effect was that people became much more dependent upon each other. Communities began to establish at focal points, initiating a patter of hamlets, villages and market towns.

Forced on by the need for lime to farm the acidic soils of the region and salt to preserve meat the transport and communication network expanded in line with this development and pack horse trails were established through the region connecting it to Ireland in the west and Europe to the east.

Dual Economy

- 8.8 Rural life could be very hard, seasonal and unpredictable. Larger farmsteads would often be divided up between descendants making smaller less viable units or they would be inherited by the eldest son, leaving his siblings without an independent livelihood. The former tendency has left a legacy in the district, of a patchwork of small farming units each with its own modest dwelling.

There was then, a need for some alternative occupation to farming in the area. The land and climate was not ideal for the farming of beef or cereals. Sheep however were eminently more suited to the conditions.

The underlying geology of layers of shale and gritstone topped with the mass of moorland peat meant that there was an abundance of clean soft water emanating from the ground, at all levels, throughout the year.

The combination of these elements was perfect for the production of woollen textiles. As the medieval period progressed the dual economies of agriculture and textile production flourished.

Landowners became wealthy and even humble people leasing, buying or simply occupying unclaimed land prospered.

The demand for land (for sheep grazing as well as subsistence farming) increased and smallholdings further down the slopes (particularly south facing eg. Aire Valley) were established creating further new areas of improved pasture.

Common land became scarce and overgrazed as the trend for enclosing land spread, The lowland countryside took on the patter of scattered dwellings surrounded by pasture, overlaid with a network of walls, tracks and paths amongst the greatly reduced oak woodlands.

Textile Industries and the Industrial Revolution

- 8.9 The textile industry flourished to the extent that by the end of the fourteenth century it formed the backbone of the local economy.

As the demand for cloth grew both in quantity and quality much effort was put into improving efficiency of production. Technological innovations such as the Spinning Jenny, the Mule and Arkwright's Loom meant that the industrial expansion occurred on an unprecedented scale and great fortunes were made.

Spinning and weaving was initially still carried out at home but as more complicated finishing techniques were required new buildings were built for the first time specifically for industrial purposes.

Waterpower was used extensively, the fast running streams from the moors providing ideal sources. Reservoirs still a major features of the upland landscape today began to appear in the hillsides to regulate water for the mills.

As time when on larger buildings were needed to house the new machinery and workforce. These would often be located in the valley bottoms where advantage could be taken of good communications and the larger watercourses both in the techniques themselves, and as a source of power and for transport.

Stone quarries appeared, scarring the landscape as they fed the textile industry's appetite for materials for buildings and walls to enclose the land needed for rearing more sheep. Stone, both grit stone for buildings and 'York stone' setts for flags and paving continued to be the almost sole materials used in rural locations right through to the early decades of the twentieth century.

Bustling lowland towns quickly developed with separate communities from the scattered hamlets of the uplands and what had begun as a cottage subsidiary industry was well on its way to becoming mechanised industry of international proportions.

Steam Power

- 8.10 Following the invention of the steam engines in the early 19th Century steam began to take over from water a power source. Coal mining and coal transport became increasingly essential as the mills consumed huge quantities of the black stuff. In an attempt to control pollution tall chimneys were built which are still a notable feature in the landscape today.

Bigger mills were needed to house new and more machinery and by the end of the 19th Century they were enormous imposing buildings, which became the focal points for large communities of urban workers living in the towns, which grew around them.

In the mean time, as the demand for wool to supply the mills and produce to feed the town workers increased, the agricultural community also flourished. The pressure for expansion was great and with the Parliamentary Enclosure Acts of the 18th Century much land along the moorland fringes was enclosed. The total area of land used for agricultural peaked at the time. Miles of dry stone walls were used to demarcate field boundaries, which are an essential element in the rural landscape of the district today.

Transport

- 8.11 Communication and transportation expanded hand in hand with the textile trade. Initially turnpike roads were established with toll houses and coaching inns. As engineering techniques developed first canals were cut through and railways laid along the valleys, turning them into crucial transport corridors. Aqueducts, viaducts, tunnels and bridges became important and in some cases monumental features in the landscape. Later as demand exceeded local supply raw and building materials, foodstuffs and fuel were brought in and cloth carried out, to destinations all over the world.

The increase in efficiency of the transport industries (both locally and internationally) combined with changes in fashion led to a turnaround in the fortunes of the agricultural community. Cotton and linen became both more popular and more readily available and were gradually used more and more in place of wool. This meant a decrease need for sheep which in turn led to the abandonment of much of the area of marginal land and previously grazed. In the upland regions today it is common to see neglected fields, ruined walls and derelict buildings, the legacy of 'King Cotton'.

By the beginning of the 20th Century the textile industry was at its peak. The district (if not the workers) prospered and it has been said that there were more millionaires in Bradford per square mile than anywhere in the world!

Twentieth Century

- 8.12 The bubble had to burst and towards the beginning of the twentieth century the textile industry began to falter. As the British Empire declined and the industries of other countries began producing their own cloth overseas trade fell off. Man-made fabrics were invented and became increasingly popular, eating further into the market for the area's textiles. The general slump in both the world and national economies of the 1920s and 30s exacerbated the situation and business after business closed. Decline and dereliction became commonplace and the textile industry collapsed.

As the textile industry declined the transport networks suffered. In particular the canal companies, which had already lost much of their freight to the railways, began to close. The railways themselves were not as badly affected as they had an alternative customer, not available to the canals, the passenger. Despite this, commercial freight on the railway became less and less and many lines closed.

The new champion of the transport industry was the internal combustion engine. From the 1950 onwards road building in the country in general was considered to be of primary

importance. Great effort was put into developing the road network in the district often bringing noise, disturbance and pollution to previously quiet locations.

As the road network was extended and expanded, public road transport was improved and car ownership increased. This meant people no longer had to live within walking distance of their workplace. It was regarded as the ideal to move out of the inner city and much of the populace moved out to occupy the once rural hillsides once again either in the new council estates or swelling the hamlets and villages with suburban style development.

Much of this building and development of the latter part of the twentieth century has been carried out using modern techniques and materials (tarmac and concrete), which are cheap, easy to use and efficient. Generally they are not indigenous to the area and neither are the national standardised approaches to construction of buildings and roads. This has meant a loss of local distinctiveness and character.

Electricity supply infrastructure has had a particular impact on the landscape of the region with pylons marching across the countryside like giant aliens.

In recent years there has been an increase in tourism and recreation in the landscape, which is having a discernible impact on the landscape in terms of changing land use (e.g. Golf courses), new infrastructure requirements (e.g. countryside car parking) and the pressures of over use and erosion.

FORCES FOR CHANGE

- 8.13 There are a number of direct and indirect forces that could have an impact on the natural landscape in the future. It is important that this Landscape Character SPD acknowledges and recognises these forces and the potential impacts that these may incur on the Landscape Character Areas of the Bradford District. A number of these forces have been identified and are discussed below:-

Climate Change and Mitigation Measures to Address Climate Change

- 8.14 Climate change is one of the greatest challenges to face our planet. What is unique about climate change is that it needs action at global, national, local and individual levels to attempt to offset these changes. Changes within the climate have led to increased temperatures and wetter winters; additionally sea levels have risen and extreme weather events such as flooding and drought are occurring more frequently.

- 8.15 Within landscape character the component attributes of the landscape are shaped to varying degrees by climatic conditions. The climate influences both natural (for example vegetation, land use patterns and associations of species and habitats) and cultural (for instance the siting and style of settlement) landscapes attributes. The most effective and fundamental means of managing the interactions between climate change and landscape change is at a higher level through managing and reducing the carbon dioxide emissions that contribute to climate change. Bradford Council has aimed to address this issue through its corporate Climate Change agenda. Mitigating measures in the form of renewable energy sources will also contribute towards landscape change, as described below.

Flood Management

- 8.16 As a result of a changing climate, many areas are experiencing flooding on an unprecedented scale. Within the Bradford District a proportion of the landscape is within the floodplain of the rivers Aire and Wharfe and already experience flooding, particularly within the winter months. It is recognised that flooding has a direct impact upon the landscape character areas and this could also change a number of elements within. It is important that mitigation measures are considered and put into place to manage this natural occurrence to protect the natural landscape and people who live in these affected areas. An updated Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) will be undertaken by the Council to provide background evidence for the Core Strategy.

Renewable Energy Initiatives

- 8.17 The Government are committed to renewable energy initiatives with a target of 15% of the UK energy to come from renewable sources by 2020, to help offset CO2 emissions and the depletion and high cost of fossil fuels. There are a number of renewable energy sources, including wind power, solar energy and biomass production to fuel power stations. Within the Bradford District, wind powered turbines are likely to have the greatest effect as over half the districts land mass has wind speeds suitable for wind turbines. The District currently contains a small number of individual wind turbines, and the largest wind farm is just over the District boundary at Ovendon Moor in Calderdale, which consists of 23 No. 49m high turbines. This can be seen from many areas within the district. There is however potentially immense pressure on the districts landscapes to accommodate more turbines in the future with the trend being for taller structures in excess of 100m. Whilst this pressure is recognised, it is essential that any proposal be fully assessed in terms of its visual impact to ensure that it would not be at detriment to the landscape and its setting.

Housing Expansion and associated Infrastructure

- 8.18 Bradford District has a growing population; based on ONS population projections this is anticipated to grow by 109,700 to 594,300 by 2029. In addition to this growth, the Regional Spatial Strategy for the Yorkshire and Humber region has set a minimum requirement for the Bradford District to accommodate approximately 50,000 new homes by 2026. At present Bradford Council and its partners are currently in the process of planning for this future growth in terms of providing homes, jobs, healthcare, education, shops and open spaces to cater for the needs of the current and growing population. This will be achieved through the Core Strategy document and in more detail within the Allocations Development Plan Document (PDP), which forms part of the emerging Local Development Framework for Bradford.
- 8.19 This level of future growth will, to a greater or less extent, have an impact on the natural landscapes of the District. Further work will need to be undertaken to analyse the sensitivity and capacity of the landscape as a whole in order to accommodate all types of future development. It will be the role of this SPD to fulfil its six strategic objectives in order to ensure that any development(s) do not have an adverse impact on the character of the landscape or its setting.

9.0 THE LANDSCAPE TYPES OF BRADFORD

9.1 INTRODUCTION

Understanding the Landscape

- 9.1.1 This study seeks to understand the landscape as a basis for formulating strategies to guide and manage human activities within the landscape. Though every place in the landscape has its own distinct and unique identity, there are patterns within the landscape at every scale, which emerge on close analysis.

Landscape Types

- 9.1.2 Patterns within the Bradford District have been identified on two levels, as referred to in the methodology. At one level, the district can be broken down into ten specific, distinct, and unique landscape character areas that are all very different from each other, e.g. Airedale, Wharfedale, and Tong Valley, etc. At another, more detailed, level, there are areas of land very similar to each other that recur throughout the District, (and in theory throughout the country), for example moorlands, wooded valleys, and settlements. These are the generic landscape types.

For example, the landscapes of Keighley Moor, Rombalds Moor, and Baildon Moor are very similar. Similar conditions exist in each landscape, and they have been subjected to similar influences resulting in the moorland landscapes we see today. These moorland landscapes are different from pasture, and woodland landscapes for example, because of their particular area-wide characteristics and their particular patterns of landscape features. These differences can be described objectively so that if a person from outside the study team read the description of moorland and was then asked to locate other occurrences of moorland it would be reasonable to expect them to conclude that Oxenhope Moor, for example, was also moorland.

The identification and definition of Bradford's ten landscape types was carried out through the completion of field study forms and photographic records on site; and their subsequent analysis through discussion and debate within the study team. The analytical process of classifying the landscape in this way enables a very thorough understanding of the structure of the landscape to be reached.

The Issues

- 9.1.3 Some landscape types have been easier to identify than others. The Gritstone Moorland is a particularly characteristic landscape with fairly distinct boundaries. Likewise the wooded valleys, wooded inclines, settlements, and floodplain pastures are relatively

easy to identify in the landscape because the boundaries correspond to sudden, sharp, changes in topography or landcover.

However, the rest of the landscape often has very gradual, subtle, changes in landscape character, for example the pasture landscapes. These landscapes do vary dramatically, for example the pastures above Steeton are very different to those in the Tong Valley, which are very different to those between Denholme and Thornton. But the boundaries between these areas of very different character are often difficult to map because there is not strong visible boundary on the ground. This is an inherent quality of some landscapes and should inform the way that the inevitably exact lines on maps are interpreted and used in the future.

Summary Table of Distinguishing Landscape Elements

- 9.1.4 Table 1 was drawn up in order to provide a summary of the most easily perceivable landscape characteristics and elements that distinguish the ten different landscape types from each other. This has provided an easy reference point in the field to help with the classification of units of landscape; and has also enabled the landscape types to be confirmed, or refined where necessary, in term so the significance or presence of clearly visible elements in the landscape. This table forms (page 43) part of the documented, and reproducible basis for the following strategic parts of the report. Hopefully this table will enable people to understand the methodology of this study and see how the results have been obtained.

It should be understood that the purpose of this table is to show how one landscape type can be distinguished from another, and not comprehensively describe each landscape type. Consequently the list of landscape elements down the left hand side is not a comprehensive list of all the landscape elements present in every landscape type, nor are the elements weighted in importance in any way. The elements listed have been chosen simply because they are those that most easily enable a person to distinguish between the ten landscape types.

Description of the Landscape Types

9.1.5 Section 9 of this Report provides a detailed description of each of the Landscape Character Areas. The following pages provide a brief description of each Bradford's ten landscape types. Each sheet has the same broad outline:

- A. **Summary sentence** – includes the area-wide characteristics.
- B. **Distribution** – the distribution in the Bradford District.
- C. **Landscape elements** – patterns of landscape elements that help define the landscape type, expanding on the information in the Summary Table.
- D. **Further information**
- E. **Photograph** – shows a typical view of the landscape type.

TABLE 1: LANDSCAPE TYPES IN THE BRADFORD DISTRICT										
	Gritstone Moorland	Upland Pasture	Mixed Upland Pasture	Wooded Valleys	Wooded Incline	Enclosed pasture	Parkland	Floodplain pasture	Industrial Corridor	Settlement
Characteristics differentiating between landscape types	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.5	6.6	6.7	6.8	6.9	6.10	6.11
PHYSICAL FEATURES										
Altitude	HIGH	HIGH						LOW	LOW	
Landform				INCISED	SLOPES	SLOPES		FLAT		
Context	BELOW MOOR			WATER			ESTATE	NEAR RIVER		
Enclosure	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	ENCLOSED	ENCLOSED	ENCLOSED	ENCLOSED			
FIELDS										
Fields		●	●	○	●	●		●		
Field pattern		●	●		○	●		●		
Walls		●	●	○	○	●		●		
Hedges			○			○		●	○	
Fences			○					○	○	
TREE COVER										
Woodland Blocks				●	●	●	○			
Tree Clumps			●	○	○	●	●	●		○
Isolated Trees			●	○	○	○	●	○		
BUILDINGS										
Farmsteads		○	○		○	○				
Building Groups			○			○				
Detached residential			○			●				
Settlement										●
Industrial									●	○
OTHER ELEMENTS										
Quarries	○		○							
Recreation			○			○	○			○
Telegraph Poles			○		○	○				○
Pylons			○		○	○			○	
INFRASTRUCTURE										
Major Roads									●	●
Roads			○			○		○	●	●
Lanes			○			○				
Tracks	○	○	○			○				○
Car movement			○			○		○	●	●
Car parks									○	○
Traffic signs			○						○	●
Street lights			○						○	●
Kerbs			○						○	○
Street furniture										○
● Dominant features ● Significant features ○ Features that may be present The dominance or otherwise of certain elements in each landscape type is representative of the typical state of that landscape type but may not exactly match the state of every occurrence of the type.										

9.2 GRITSTONE MOORLAND



Summary

- 9.2.1 The moorland landscape is typified by its wild open character; its uninterrupted views; its apparent, if not actual, naturalness; and by its extent and uniformity; as well as its subtlety of colour and texture.

Distribution

- 9.2.2 The underlying geology of the Millstone grit has created high level plateaux through the north and west of the District. (Baildon Moor is different in that it rests on the coal measures geology). The landform is flat to gently rolling, with dramatic features of exposed gritstone in the form of crag outcrops and prominent groups of large boulders.

Landscape Elements

- 9.2.3 This landscape type is unique in the Bradford District because of the very limited range of landscape elements that are present, and in particular because of the lack of sub-division into fields or other units of land. It is the vegetation of these moorland areas that gives them so much of their character; with varying proportions of heather, moorland grasses, bilberry, and bracken. The contrast in colour between the dark heather, green grasslands, and bright green flashes of bilberry is particularly characteristic. There are also striking seasonal changes, notably the carpet of purple when the heather flowers;

the changing shades of the green grasslands, and the coppery brown shades of the dying bracken.

All the moorlands in the District exhibit the above characteristics to varying degrees, and it is often the degree of mans intervention which differentiates between the areas of moorland.

Further Information

- 9.2.4 A significant, and very visible feature of the moors is the stone quarrying that has gone on over the past centuries to provide the building stone for nearby towns and cities, and that still continues today. Agricultural practices such as sheep grazing, plantation woodlands, and the burning of heather to support grouse shooting continue to have a major influence on the texture of the landscape. More recently wind turbines and telecommunication towers, along with an increasing demand for a range of recreational activities have created new impacts on the character of the landscape.

9.3 UPLAND PASTURE



Summary

- 9.3.1 A smooth, open treeless, landscape, dominated by bold linear patterns of dry stone walls.

Distribution

- 9.3.2 Upland pasture occurs on flat to gently rolling, high ground; either just below the gritstone moorland as in Airedale and the Worth and North Beck Valley, or covering the rolling tops of ridges of land between the valleys, for example Steeton Moor, and Addingham Moor.

Landscape Elements

- 9.3.3 Upland pasture has a very simple, pure, farmed character, with very few other elements adding to the fields, walls, farmsteads, and tracks. Some farmsteads have tree groups associated with them, and there can be a few isolated trees present. Quarries, craggy outcrops, wooded cloughs, and lanes occasionally occur, but in general the landscape elements are very consistent, and very limited.

There are no other buildings apart from those necessary to support the farming of the land; and the land area is almost exclusively given over to farming. In this sense, there is a clear, quite intense, relationship between man and the landscape. It is a relationship that has been maintained over many centuries, and is evidently a balanced and very

sustainable relationship, which is becoming increasingly, valued as traditional 'unspoilt' landscape.

Further Information

- 9.3.4 Being on high ground, it is an exposed landscape, subject to adverse weather conditions. It has a strong sense of remoteness partly because of its location on high ground near the moors; partly because of the lack of any urbanising elements; and partly because of the very specific, rural lifestyle in evidence, which is so different from that of the majority of the population.

9.4 MIXED UPLAND PASTURE



Summary

- 9.4.1 An open landscape with rectangular pasture fields enclosed by drystone walls, and having some trees. Contains a wide variety of other landscape elements, giving the landscape a much more mixed character than the upland pasture, with more human influences.

Distribution

- 9.4.2 This is the predominant landscape type on the uplands south of Airedale and west of Bradford.

Landscape Elements

- 9.4.3 Mixed Upland Pasture essentially has the same structure as Upland Pasture, with roughly the same ratios of drystone walls, fields, and farmsteads. However, mixed upland pasture contains various other elements resulting from the more diverse range of human activities taking place here. Though the landscape, by land area at least, is still dominated by upland pasture for sheep grazing, it is not exclusively dedicated to farming. This means the pattern of drystone wall field boundaries is far less dominant, and far less striking, than exists in the upland pasture.

There is a wider range of buildings present including stone terraces, detached houses, public houses, churches, hamlets, and small villages. There are roads, lanes, traffic signs, cars, telegraphs poles, and pylons. Perhaps most noticeable there are trees in the mixed upland pasture. The tree cover is not as dominant as in the Enclosed Pasture,

but there are isolated trees and tree clumps present giving the landscape a rougher, more textured feel than the smooth, simple upland pastures.

Further Information

- 9.4.4 In the Worth and North Beck Valley area in particular the landscape can change very gradually from mixed upland pastures on the valley sides to upland pastures at the head of the valley or on the ridged land between valleys. There are a lot of cases where the boundary line between the two landscape types is very difficult to define on the ground, even though the area of land either side can be seen to be different in character.

The specific range of landscape elements that are present in any particular area of mixed upland pasture very much depends on its character area. For example in Thornton/Queensbury networks of pylons and substations are significant elements in the landscape; whereas in Airedale they do not exist to the same extent, and the human influences in the mixed upland pasture are on a smaller scale.

9.5 WOODED VALLEY



Summary

- 9.5.1 These are narrow, linear, incised, wooded valleys cut into the landscape by the branching patterns of streams. This results in a very enclosed environment where the topography has strictly governed the landcover to produce a very strong and distinctive feature in the wider landscape.

Distribution

- 9.5.2 Wooded valleys are fairly evenly distributed throughout the Bradford district with only most prominent in the Worth and North Beck Valleys and Wilsden character areas where they form a very dominant part of the essential character.

Landscape Elements

- 9.5.3 Wooded valleys generally contain a very limited range of landscape elements. Wooded is the dominant element in all of them with some fields and walls present in most cases, and generally no housing present. Isolated trees and tree clumps often occur as well as the woodland, and the stream has often been dammed in some way to form reservoirs or weirs.

Further Information

- 9.5.4 The wooded valleys are all very different in their particular character, having been variously affected by water management structures, transport corridors, or recreational facilities. Chellow Dene contains a golf course, Harden Beck contains a viaduct, and the Worth Valley has sewage works within it. Most of the large structures within the valleys date from the nineteenth century, and twentieth century use of the valleys has been restricted to recreation, water management and some farming.

9.6 WOODED INCLINE



Summary and Distribution

- 9.6.1 Visually prominent blocks of mainly native broad-leaved woodland stretching along the sloping sides of Bradford's open valleys.

Landscape Elements

- 9.6.2 The large-scale patchwork patterns of rough, dark green woodlands, with smoother, grass green fields, overlaid on the subtle topographical variations of the slopes are a very bold and attractive sight.
- 9.6.3 The woodland canopy forms the dominant landscape element, but it does contain within it small pockets of fields and occasionally golf courses, which can occupy up to 25% of the land area. There are virtually no public highways in the wooded incline and only the occasional farmstead, though pylons and telegraph poles are often evident.

Other Information

- 9.6.4 Woodland is perceived as a very 'natural' landscape because it is the landcover that would have existed before man arrived here, and the landcover that results when man ceases to work the land. It can provide a very concentrated experience of the natural

world in that it can be valuable habitat for a wide variety of wild plants, birds, animals and the enclosure of the trees hides views of other land more influenced by man.

Prior to the industrial revolution the indigenous woodland of the area would have consisted of pine and birch wood on the high moors; ash, oak, and elm on the lower valley sides; with alder carr and willow in the marshy valley bottoms. Some of Bradford's woods do have a connection to this natural or 'ancient' woodland e.g. Shipley Glen, Middleton Woods, and Buck Wood and have a very rich diversity of wildlife.

Much of the woodland that exists in the District today is mixed broadleaved woodland planted in the last century, or coniferous plantation woodland. A lot of it has become over mature and in recent years efforts have been made to encourage traditional management techniques and the phased planting of indigenous species. Most of the woodlands are council owned which means long-term strategies and management regimes can be more easily implemented.

9.7 ENCLOSED PASTURE



Summary and Distribution

- 9.7.1 Enclosed pasture has a strong sense of enclosure brought about by the framework of small woods and tree groups that cross the pasture farmland. It is generally found on lower lying concave slopes of Bradford's open valleys.

Landscape Elements

- 9.7.2 Fields are the dominant element within this landscape, woodland blocks trees clumps, isolated trees, walls (or hedges in the Tong, Esholt, and Silsden area), field pattern and detached residences all featuring as significant elements. Field sizes vary, and fields are often irregularly shaped, with boundaries generally running along the contours.

Traditional stone farmsteads and other dwellings regularly punctuate the landscape; together with the varying styles of modern detached houses, bungalows, and barn conversions which have been gradually introduced over the past decades. Occasional large new farm buildings and structures have arisen from the amalgamation of farm holdings.

Further Information

- 9.7.3 The modern development often detracts from the character of the landscape because the scale, architecture, and materials are not sympathetic to the traditional architecture and lead to a weakening of the landscape character. However, all these buildings appear relatively well hidden as you travel along the small number of lanes and road within the enclosed pasture, because the tree cover effectively limits views of the landscape to small parcels of fields at a time.

9.8 PARKLAND



Summary

- 9.8.1 Broad open grassland dominated landscape which lacks small scale field enclosure and contains woodland and mature fields trees.

Distribution

- 9.8.2 Parkland is often associated with existing or former large country house estates; the largest example with the district is the Bingley St Ives estate near Bingley. Some golf course landscapes have been classified as parkland – notably where they have retained the open landscape and mature trees cover a significant area.

Landscape Elements

- 9.8.3 Open grassland in the form of pasture or recreation dominate this landscape type, distinguished from the other pasture landscapes by the lack of small scale field enclosure.

Woodland, small tree groups and mature individual parkland trees are a landscape element, which features strongly. There is a broad range of mixed deciduous and coniferous trees, many of which are ornamental in nature.

Further Information

- 9.8.4 Parkland is generally an enclosed landscape due mainly to extensive tree cover. Settlement is limited in many cases the original country house remains although modified for alternative uses such as golf club houses or company headquarters.

9.9 FLOODPLAIN PASTURE



Summary

- 9.9.1 A very distinct, flat, open landscape with relatively large, rectilinear fields enclosed by hedges, occupying the low-lying floodplains of Bradford's open valleys.

Distribution

- 9.9.2 This landscape type is very distinctly defined by the particular physical characteristics of the floodplain. It's flat topography, its fertile alluvia soils and in particular the fact that the land is often flooded by the river, mean that there are virtually no buildings in the floodplain, though it is common to find sewage works as a significant landscape element.

Landscape Elements

- 9.9.3 Major transport links running through the valleys have traditionally been located on the edge of the floodplain because of the dangers of flooding. Roads canals and railways are all found here, sometimes bisecting the older pasture fields on raised banks above the washland flood level. The movement from trains, canal boats and vehicles is a significant feature of this landscape.

The fields and pattern of fields are the dominant element in the landscape, with hedges (or walls on the lower slopes at the edge) being significant. There are a few tree clumps,

usually associated with stream and beck tributaries crossing the floodplain to join the river, and belts of trees associated with the river corridor itself, as well as some isolated trees.

Further Information

- 9.9.4 Part of the attractiveness of the floodplain pasture is being able to see the way development and land use is clearly related to the natural environment. There are also historic landscape features such as old pollarded trees. But this traditional, relatively small scale and balanced rural character is under increasing pressure from larger scale infrastructure, industry and housing developments which threaten to weaken the relationship between development and the natural environment.

9.10 INDUSTRIAL CORRIDOR



Summary

- 9.10.1 An enclosed, low lying landscape dominated by industrial development and the corridors of transport infrastructure necessary to support it.

Distribution

- 9.10.2 There are five occurrences of this landscape type throughout the district and they fall into one of the following three sub-sections of the industrial corridor classification.

Urban Industrial Heritage

- 9.10.3 Bradford's urban core and the settlement of Baildon are separated by a strip of very concentrated industrial development running along the bottom of the river valley and parallel to the canal, railway and roads. The landscape clearly displays the evidence of successive industrial enterprises and technologies over the past centuries through the buildings, chimneys, and transport infrastructures that are present today. It still contains many working factories, but the core of older industrial structures now forms a basis for recreation and tourism developments, which build on Bradford's unique industrial heritage.

Aire Valley Industry

- 9.10.4 Pockets of relatively modern industrial buildings, and ancillary infrastructure in the floodplain of the River Aire, close to the settlements of Keighley and Bingley.

Motorway Based Industry

- 9.10.5 This area of industrial corridor is in the South Bradford character area adjacent to the urban core. Unlike the other areas of industry throughout the district, the industry in this area has no historical or current link with the traditional transport corridors of canals and railways; and has no need to be located beside a river. Many of the modern, large, rectangular, and colourful industrial, (including 'factory outlet' retail units) buildings are located alongside the M606 motorway.

This industry and the motorway that serves it influence and dominate the rest of the degraded pasture landscape to such a great extent that it has been included in the industrial corridor landscape type. This surrounding land is an urban fringe landscape with a mix of fields, pylons, tips, golf courses, roads, lanes, tree clumps, hedges, and farms. The whole area has a discordant and fragmented character.

9.11 SETTLEMENT



Summary

- 9.11.1 It is a very enclosed landscape, which exists where there is an area of land dominated by large numbers of mainly residential buildings, such that views within it are restricted primarily to sequences of short views contained by building groups.

Distribution

- 9.11.2 Within the Bradford District settlements are absent from the high moorland areas; being concentrated mainly on the lower slopes of Airedale, Wharfedale and the Worth Valley. In the Wilsden area small villages nestle into the upper tributary valleys of Harden Beck, compared to Thornton and Queensbury, which sit perched on ridgelines.

Landscape Elements

- 9.11.3 Settlements contain a complex mix of buildings, which are generally arranged along roads, and so have the effect of dividing the area into a particular pattern of predominantly linear spaces. There are further, very intricate, sub-divisions of space into areas, which are understood to be the public domain, to those, which are perceived as strictly private areas. This is partly sensed through a complex, subconscious and subtle mix of signals within the detail of the physical landscape; and it is particularly crucial in settlements, where a lot of people are living and working in a relatively small space.

The majority of the land is covered with hard, built, and designed features. Roads, traffic signs, pavements with kerbs, shop signs, street lights, car movement and people all form significant elements in the landscape. There are relatively small areas of vegetated land restricted mostly to private gardens hidden from view. However trees and green open spaces are often very significant elements in settlements where they do occur; and generally enhance the character of the area by balancing and contrasting with the built form. Tree cover can be particularly important in linking the settlement harmoniously with the surrounding countryside and creating settlement edges that relate well to the adjacent landscape.

Further Information

- 9.11.4 Most settlements have grown and developed over many centuries, providing for the many diverse and changing needs of the villagers. In this respect they often have a wealth of interesting buildings, spaces, and features which create a fascinating, if sometimes confusing, dynamic, physical tapestry of human existence in that particular geographical place.

10.0 APPROACH & METHODOLOGY

General Approach

- 10.1 The general approach used for the landscape assessment draws upon the guidance of the Countryside Commission's Landscape Assessment Guidance (CCP423), which acknowledges the validity of both objective and subjective criteria in the evaluation process.
- 10.2 The approach recommends the objective recording of a range of natural and cultural features which influence landscape character followed by a more subjective analysis on the way these features interrelate to form landscapes of different characters and quality.
- 10.3 This general approach was refined by reference to further Countryside Commission advisory publications, and other landscape evaluation studies which used the Countryside Commission approach.

Methodology

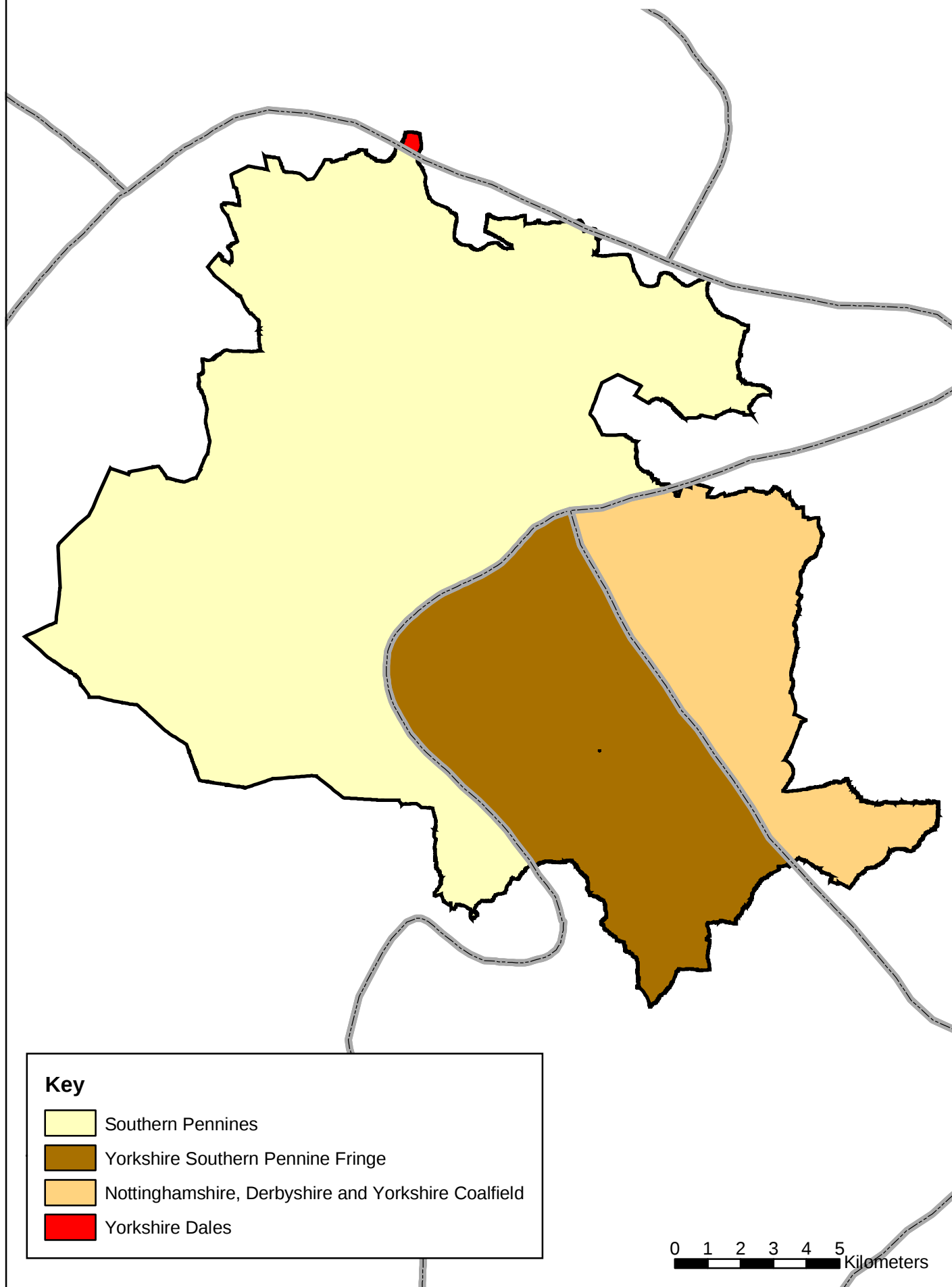
- 10.4 The methodology we adopted follows a progression through a number of stages:-
- Stage 1 - Desk Study
 - Stage 2 - Field Work
 - Stage 3 – Description / Analysis
 - Stage 4 – Strategy / Guidelines

Stage 1: Desk Study

- 10.5 The first task was to determine the scale of the study and the level of detail appropriate for a District wide study. To help with this task, a review of existing literature was carried out aimed at identifying best practice from previous studies, in particular those referred to, or guided by, the Countryside Commission. Appendix 1 lists the main sources of reference.
- 10.6 The Countryside Commission's "The Character of England" provided the baseline information for the broad determination of landscape character. The countryside Character Programme has divided England into 181 defined areas of landscape, each with a cohesive, individual and identifiable character. The following defined areas of landscape character fall within the Bradford Metropolitan District. See Figure 7.
- Southern Pennines
 - Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield
 - Yorkshire Southern Pennine Fringe
 - Yorkshire Dales (small area only)

Figure 7

COUNTRYSIDE COMMISSION CHARACTER AREAS



10.7 These largely correspond with English Nature's Natural Area Profiles, which include the following defined areas. See Figure 8 – English Nature Natural Area Profiles

- The Southern Pennines
- The Coal Measures
- The Yorkshire Dales

Section 6.0 describes these national character areas in more detail.

10.8 Background information in both written and mapped form was gathered from numerous other sources to produce a map-based analysis of both the natural and cultural dimensions of the District. A particularly useful tool at this stage was the aerial photograph survey of the district.

10.9 Following this information gathering exercise the following maps were produced on a 50,000 base plan, and guided the initial desk study.

Natural Dimension: (Section 7.0 provides a written commentary on these maps).

- Countryside Commission Character Areas
- English Nature Natural Area Profiles
- Geology
- Landform
- Ecology
- Slope Stability

Cultural Dimension: (Section 8.0 provides a written commentary on these maps).

- Cultural Heritage
- Planning Framework
- Field Enclosure
- Settlements

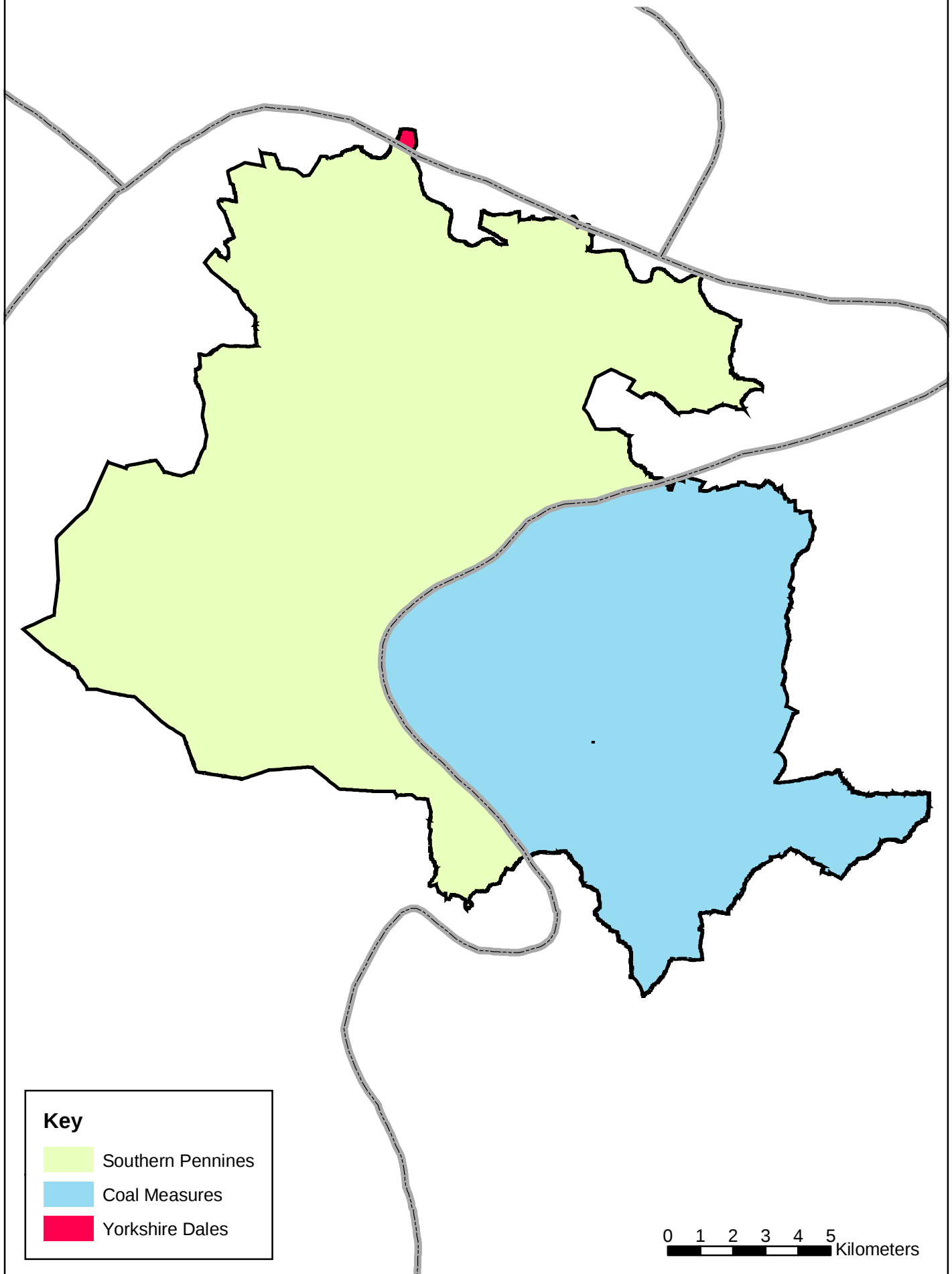
10.10 Once this research had been completed the resultant maps and written information were analysed. From this analysis broad differences in landscape character were identified (largely based on geology, topography and landcover) and the District divided into draft Landscape Character Areas.

Whilst these draft Character Areas were felt to have a clear overall identity it was also acknowledged that they contained within them at a more detailed level a number of

identifiable areas of land that were very similar to each other, such as moorland or wooded valleys, that occur throughout the District. These areas are referred to as landscape types.

A draft of Landscape Types was also produced prior to commencing fieldwork.

Figure 8
ENGLISH NATURE
NATURAL AREA PROFILES



Stage 2: Field Work

- 10.11 The purpose of the field work was to refine the boundaries of the Character Areas and to record in more detail the Landscape Types within these areas. In order to remain structured and systematic in the field a standardised survey form was used. This was refined from the Countryside Commission's forms.

Whilst allowing for objective recording of the character and elements of the landscape, the form also allowed for the recording of emotional and subjective responses to landscape character (see appendix 2 for sample form).

- 10.12 Prior to the fieldwork commencing in earnest, a familiarisation tour of the district was undertaken to trail the survey forms; to confirm that the list of different landscape types was appropriate; and to agree key locations for the field survey.
- 10.13 The field survey team comprised six people, working in rotating pairs to give as balanced a view as possible. The draft Wharfedale Character Area was chosen to refine and co-ordinate survey methods and to ensure unity of Landscape Type identification.
- 10.14 In addition to the recording of information on the standard forms, the fieldwork also included mapping of landscape types and compiling a photographic record. Regular feedback meetings were held to analyse information and ensure continuity. Aerial photographs and the desktop plans were used for accuracy to identify areas not accessible from ground locations. Over 100 survey forms were completed in locations throughout the district leading to detailed mapping at 1:25000 scales.

Stage 3: Description/Analysis

- 10.15 The results of the desk study and fieldwork were compared and analysed and the following outputs were determined.
- Ten generic Landscape Types were determined within the District. These are described in section 9.0 of this study.
 - Ten Landscape Character Areas were also finalised. These are described and analysed in section 11.0 of this study.
 - A more detailed analysis was also produced for each Local Landscape Type within the Character Areas. This information is also documented in Section 11.0 of this report.

Stage 4: Strategy and Guidelines

10.16 In addition to assessing the landscape, it was also necessary to provide a basis for the formulation of landscape policies. The methodology adopted involved consideration of pertinent factors and sensitivity indicators. This led to the identification of landscape strategies for each Local Landscape Type. These strategies in turn informed the conclusions on strategy for the Landscape Character Areas.

10.17 The four main strategies identified were:-

- **Conserve:** where landscape character is strong, in good condition and has features, which distinguish the area from other areas.
- **Restore:** where the underlying character is still reasonable strong but the overall structure and individual elements and features are in decline.
- **Enhance:** where the underlying character is weak with no clear defining structure, and where positive action is needed to create an improved landscape structure.
- **Create:** where there is opportunity for a radical change to the existing landscape.

A matrix was used to refine and focus the strategy based on Condition and Character. See Figure 9 below.

The information on Character Area Strategy and Local Landscape Type Strategy is also documented in section 11.0 of this study.

Figure 9: Landscape Strategy Matrix

Condition	Good	STRENGTHEN	Strengthen and Conserve	CONSERVE
	Declining	Strengthen and Enhance	Conserve and Enhance	Conserve and Restore
	Poor	CREATION	Restore and Enhance	RESTORE
		Weak	Moderate	Strong
		Character		

11.0 THE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS OF BRADFORD

Introduction

- 11.1 Each Character Area is essentially defined by its distinct and sometimes unique characteristics. Some of these characteristics are objective – for example geology, topography and land cover:-

Some are subjective, but still perceptible – for example sense of enclosure, scale and texture. Character Areas have been named on a geographical basis using local terminology for ease of identification and recognition by a wide range of people.

The ten Character Areas as outlined in Section 6.0 are as follows:-

1. Airedale
2. Esholt
3. Pennine Upland
4. Rombalds Ridge
5. South Bradford
6. Thornton/Queensbury
7. Tong Valley
8. Wharfedale
9. Wilsden
10. Worth and North Beck Valleys

See Figure 10 - Character Areas Map

- 11.2 Of the ten areas, two correspond to the major broad, deep, glacial river valleys of the **AIRE** and **WHARFE**, running parallel to each other approximately NW-SE, separated by a third character area of higher land in between forming the **ROMBALD'S RIDGE** and connecting Baildon Moor to Ilkley Moor and beyond towards Grassington and the Yorkshire Dales. The settled and industrialised wooded valleys contrast with the open empty windswept moorland and sparsely settled farmland of the Rombald's Ridge. Airedale is extensively developed yet retains a strong though fragmented green character with its wooded slopes and remnants of pastoral agriculture on the valley sides. The settlements in Wharfedale have well defined edges with substantial woodlands and tree cover giving the valley a more enclosed and 'lush' character.

Figure 10
CHARACTER AREAS



0 1 2 3 4 5 Kilometers

Three smaller character areas lie immediately next to Bradford's urban core. These areas are **ESHOLT**, **TONG VALLEY** and **SOUTH BRADFORD**. They all show more common links to the Coal Measurers character area in the complexity of their elements and more urbanised influences, with low lying, rolling landform and fragmented woodland cover.

The four remaining character areas are all pasture dominated landscapes with typical stone wall boundaries overlooked by bleak windswept moorland on higher exposed land, affording long views and intersected by small intimate wooded valleys or cloughs. **THE WORTH** and **NORTH BECK VALLEYS** character area has a stepped profile with valley bottoms crowded with settlement and a patchwork of pastures on the upper slopes. It is surrounded to the NW and SW by the **PENNINE UPLAND** character area of high unenclosed moorland, isolated farmsteads, a treeless landscape with high nature conservation value where resources exploitation such as mineral extraction wind and water power generation and recreation have left their mark on the landscape. The **WILSDEN** and **THORNTON/QUEENSBURY** character areas, although similar in that they contain small/medium villages within a farmed landscape sloping to the east, are dominated by urban/sub-urban influences. Differences in landform, altitude and layout however do occur to make them distinct. The Wilsden character area is more domesticated, with improved enclosed pastures, smaller villages and more woodland cover.

- 11.3 As explained in the methodology section, each Character Area contains a number of landscape types as described in section 6 of the study. When these are described and assessed within the context of a Character Area they are referred to as Local Landscape Types.

Layout of Each Character Area Chapter

- 11.4 Each chapter is divided into two parts. The first part deals with the overall Character Area and has the following standard format.
- i. **Description** of the overall qualities and components of the Character Area.
 - ii. **Analysis** – of sensitivity to change; important features, and detractors within the Character Area.
 - iii. **General Conclusions** – based upon the above analysis, and also drawing upon the relevant policy guidelines from each of the Local Landscape Types.

11.5 The second part deals with the local landscape types and falls into two sections:

A. Landscape Strategy

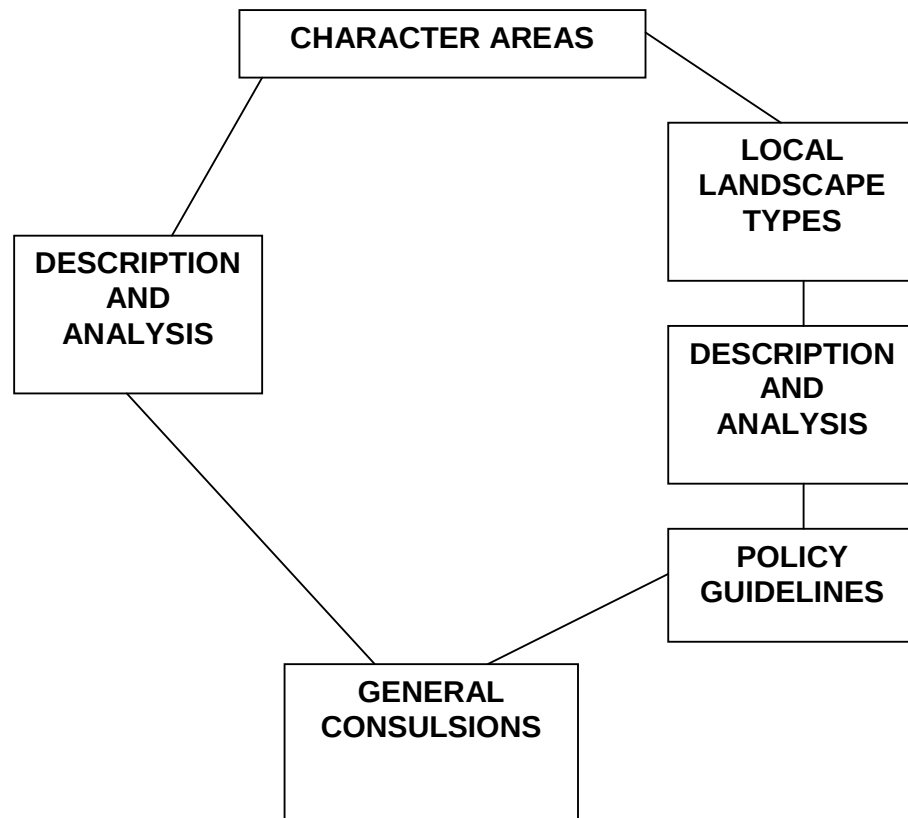
- i. Description
- ii. Analysis – of strength of character and condition
- iii. Policy Guidelines – for the conservation or improvement of the Local Landscape Type.

B. Potential for Development

- i. Description of traditional settlement pattern
- ii. Sensitivity Analysis – based on strength of character, historic continuity, visually prominence and enclosure.
- iii. Policy Guidelines – on the potential of the Local Landscape Type to accommodate future built development or infrastructure works.

11.6 Figure 11 – shows the relationship between these two levels of information.

Figure 11 Relationship between Character Areas and Local Landscape Types



APPENDIX 1: MAIN REFERENCE SOURCES

Bradford Metropolitan District Council 1998	Unitary Development Plan
City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council	Supplementary Planning Guidance on Nature Conservation
City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council	Woodlands Strategy
Countryside Commission	Village Design CCP 501
Countryside Commission 1993	Design in the Countryside CCP 418
Countryside Commission 1998	Planning for Countryside Quality CCP 529
Countryside Commission 1991	The Nidderdale Landscape CCP 330
Countryside Commission	Character of England Map
Countryside Commission 1996	Countryside Design Summaries CCP 502
Countryside Commission 1993	Landscape Assessment Guidance CCP 423
Countryside Commission 1991	The North Pennines Landscape CCP 318
Countryside Commission 1994	The Cannock Chase Landscape CCP 469
SCOSPA 1999	Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines
SCOSPA 1989	The Fabric of the Hills
Chris Blandford Associates (Final Draft 18/11/96)	Countryside Character Programme. Joint Character Area Description
Woolerton Truscott 1993	Landscape Appraisal of Harrogate District
Institute of Geological Sciences 1968	British Regional Geology – The Pennines and Adjacent Areas

English Nature Natural Area Profiles 1997	The Coal Measures Pennine Dales Fringe Yorkshire Dales Southern Pennines
Landscape Institute/Institute of Environmental Assessment	Guidelines of Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
DOE.PPG7 (revised February 1997)	The Countryside – Environmental Quality and Economic and Social Development
DETR 1998	Planning for Sustainable Development
Ordnance Survey Maps	
Bradford (West Yorkshire) Pathfinder 682	SE 03/13 1:25000
Halifax Pathfinder 691	SE 02/12 1:25000
Keighley and Ilkley	SE 04/14 1:25000
Lower Wharfedale & Washburn Valley Explorer 27	1:25000
South Pennines Outdoor Leisure 21	1:25000

APPENDIX 2: FIELD SURVEY FORM

FIELD SURVEY FORM

To assess a landscape you are in or at (circle which one)

Location: _____ Date: _____

Viewpoint: _____ Direction of view _____

Annotated Sketch:

Brief description or any notes/comments:

APPENDIX 2: FIELD SURVEY FORM (Cont'd...)**LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS OBJECTIVE CHECK LIST:**

Circle the dominant element(s) in the landscape or add.

Enclosure:

Landform:							
	Plateau	Ridgeline	Flat	Street	Vertical	Incline Valley	
	River Plain	Shelf	Slope	Rolling	Undulating Plain		
Buildings / Structures:							
	Farm	Church	Ruins	New Build	Houses	Manor House	
	Castle	Masts	Pylons	Towers	Lighting Columns		Tents
	Caravans	Bridge	Sewage Works		Industrial	Commercial	Retail
Enclosure:							
	Walls	Fences	Hedges	Banks			
Trees / Vegetation							
	Woodland	Plantation	Shelterbelt	Tree Clumps		Isolated Trees	
	Hedge Rows		Ancient Woodland				
Water:							
	Sea	River	Waterfall	Rapids	Pond	Lake	Canal
Transport:							
	Motorway	Trunk Road	A Road	B Road	Track	Bridleway	Footpath
	Cycleway	Railway	Flight path				
Landcover							
	Pasture	Arable	Car Park	Quarry	Wasteland	Parkland	Moorland
Landscape Condition:							
	Wild	Managed	Degraded	Spoilt	Poor	Not Bad	Good
	Excellent						
Recreational:							
	Walking	Horse Riding		Cycling	Sailing	Historical	Golf Course
Fauna:							
	Cows	Sheep	Goats	Chickens	Horses	Llamas	
Noise:							
	Birdsong	Traffic	Aircraft				
Historical and Cultural							
	Hamlets	Commons	Bracken	Stone Walls		Rough Grass	Irregular Fields
	Mixed Hedges		Heathland	Ridge and Furrow		Canals	
	Narrow Lanes		Hedge Banks			Historic Sites	Parkland
	Hedgerow Trees		Archaeological remains			Ancient Woodland	
	Ecological sites		Scrub				

APPENDIX 2: FIELD SURVEY FORM (Cont'd...)

Subjective Check List:

Scale:	Small	Medium	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Very enclosed	Enclosed	Open	Very Open
Interest:	Complex	Varied	Simple	
Movement:	Dead	Calm	Busy	Frantic
Colour:	Monochrome	Some Colour	Colourful	Garish
Rarity:	Ordinary	Rare	Unique	
Emotiveness:	Boring	Bland	Interesting	Invigorating Threatening
Pleasure:	Very unpleasant	Unpleasant	Pleasant	Very pleasant

APPENDIX 2: FIELD SURVEY FORM (Cont'd...)**Landscape Condition:****Most Appropriate Management Strategy****Conservation:****Restoration:****Reconstruction:****STRATEGY OPTIONS****KEY:****Enhancement Potential****High**☐**Moderate**☐**Low**☐

Condition	Good	STRENGTHEN	Strengthen and Conserve	CONSERVE
	Declining	Strengthen and Enhance	Conserve and Enhance	Conserve and Restore
	Poor	CREATION	Restore and Enhance	RESTORE
		Weak	Moderate	Strong
Character				

APPENDIX 3 GLOSSARY OF TERMS USED

Analysis	The process of breaking the landscape down, usually in descriptive terms, into its components parts in order to understand how it is made up.
Approach	The step-wise process by which a landscape assessment is undertaken.
Assessment	An umbrella term used to encompass all the many different ways of looking at, describing analysing and evaluating landscape.
Biodiversity	The diversity of species and the interaction of species and their habitat.
Carr	A marshy copse.
Character	A distinct pattern or combination of elements that occurs consistently in a particular landscape.
Character area	A geographic area with a consistent character and identity.
Characteristic	An element that contributes to local distinctiveness (e.g. narrow winding lanes; ancient hedgerows on banks; vernacular building styles).
Classification	A process of sorting the landscape looks like. This is usually carried out in a systematic manner but may also include personal reaction to the landscape.
Element	A component part of the landscape (e.g. roads, hedges, woods).
Evaluation	The process of weighting up and attaching a value to landscape by reference to specified criteria.
Feature	A prominent, eye-catching element (e.g. wooded hilltop; church spire).
In-Bye Land	Enclosed land below the open fell, often surrounding farm buildings.

Land cover	Combinations of slope and elevation that produce the shape and form of the land surface.
Landscape, meaning of	The term Landscape refers primarily to the visual appearance of the land, including its shape, form and colours. It also reflects the way in which these various components combine to create specific patterns and pictures that are distinctive to particular localities. However, the landscape is not a purely visual phenomenon, because its character relies closely on its physiography and its history. Hence, in addition to the scenic or visual dimension of the landscape, there are a whole range of other dimensions, including geology, topography, soils, ecology, archaeology, landscape history, land use, architecture, and cultural associations. All of these factors have influenced the formation of the landscape, and continue to affect the way in which it is experienced and valued.
Method	The specific approach and techniques used for a given landscape assessment.
Objective	Objects or things actually existing, in the landscape and not the thoughts or feelings of the viewer.
Peneplain	Flat plateau of land caused by geological erosion.
Perception	The psychology of seeing and attaching value and meaning to landscape.
Preference	The liking by people of one particular landscape over another.
Seatearth	Fossil soil horizons associated with coal seams.
Subjective	Reactions to the landscape, which include the thoughts and feelings of the viewer.
Sustainable Development	Managing the countryside in ways that meet current needs without compromising the ability of generations to meet theirs.
Technique	Specific tool for landscape assessment (e.g. land cover analysis)

Urban fringe	The area of open countryside immediately adjoining settlements of development.
Visual envelope	The extent of visibility to or from a specific area or feature.

APPENDIX 4:

**LANDSCAPE CHARACTER
SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT**

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER DESIGN GUIDANCE

OCTOBER 2008

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Aim of the Design Guidance

Whilst the Landscape Character Supplementary Planning Document aims to preserve and enhance the character of defined areas in Volumes 1 to 10 that accompany this document, it is important to note that appropriate development may occur within these areas. The adoption of a systematic approach to development as outlined in this guidance will help encourage good design and integration of development into the landscape, thereby maintaining and enhancing its character and value for the benefit of future generations.

These guidance notes set out the approach that will be taken by Bradford Council with regard to the implementation of Policies NE3 and NE3A of the adopted Replacement Unitary Development Plan for the Bradford District. These notes are intended as guidance for developers; they do not replace any other planning obligations that may relate to a site. Where an Environmental Assessment is required, for example, the contents of this guidance will form part of the scoping exercise.

1.2 The Landscape Context

Landscape results from the way that different components of our environment - both natural (the influences of geology, soils, climate, flora and fauna) and cultural (the historical and current impact of land use, settlement, enclosure and other human interventions) – interact together and are perceived by us.

All landscapes, whether in urban or rural locations, have interest, meaning and value to those who live and work within them or visit them. They have locally distinctive character that sets them apart from the rest. Landscapes also have, to varying degrees, value for wildlife and the diversity of vegetation which is a significant factor in determining that value. This SPD provides a comprehensive overview of all aspects of the landscape that characterises each of the 10 Landscape Character Areas and should be referred to as part of this process.

The Council recognises that the inherent characteristics of a landscape are vital factors in giving it local distinctiveness, and that in order to maintain this distinctiveness these characteristics must be retained and enhanced wherever possible.

1.3 The Role of Developers in the Landscape Process

In order to achieve successful integration of development into the landscape and restoration, retention and enhancement of local landscape character the Council expects developers to follow a systematic approach as outlined on the following pages. The objective is to ensure that the aims of development are consistent with the principles of sustainability, landscape enhancement and nature conservation. Proper consideration of landscape issues should not be seen as a financial burden but as a positive benefit in terms of its value to a development.

The size of a proposed development and/or the relative sensitivity of the site will dictate the extent of details expected to be provided. The Council will seek to advise developers of its expectations within the early stages, through pre-application advice and discussions. Notwithstanding this, the principles contained within these guidance notes should still be relevant to anyone involved in the development process whether on a large or small scale, and will be applicable to all development.

There are three main sections to this guidance note which must be taken into consideration as part of any proposal. These are:

- Preliminary Work
- Design Principals
- Landscape Management and Maintenance

2.0 PRELIMINARY WORK

2.1 Site Survey and Appraisal

At the stage of pre-application discussion, applying for outline or full planning permission, or when undertaking a feasibility study on which the Council's views are sought, the applicant or developer will be expected to carry out and submit an accurate site survey and comprehensive site appraisal to include:

Context	A description and analysis of the surrounding areas, including hard and soft landscapes, buildings etc. and an indication of important links and inter-relationships, described in the character assessments.
Levels/contours	A diagram illustrating the levels and contours of the site.
Landform	A statement of the slopes, orientation of the site etc.
Existing features	A statement of existing trees, hedgerows, other significant areas of vegetation, water, ditches, boundary treatments, significant structures, areas of hard surfaces etc.
Visual Qualities	- A statement and/or photographs to illustrate the views in/out of the site, quality of view/s, general character, local distinctiveness, any dominant features etc. - A zone of visual influence may be required for prominent development proposals in the landscape
Designations	An identification and assessment of any local designations which are applicable to the site, to include: ▪ Special Protection Area (SPA) ▪ Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) ▪ Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) ▪ Site of Ecological and Geological Importance (SEGI) ▪ Regionally Important Geological Sites (RIGS) ▪ Local Nature Reserves (LNR) ▪ Bradford Wildlife Area (BWA) ▪ Sites of Nature Conservation Importance ▪ Tree Preservation Orders (TPO's) ▪ Saltaire World Heritage Site (and buffer zone) ▪ Listed Buildings ▪ Conservation Areas ▪ Scheduled Ancient Monuments ▪ Historic Parks and Gardens

	▪ Archaeological sites ▪ Battlefield Sites ▪ Registered Cemeteries ▪ Rights of Way
Setting	- A statement of the impact on the setting of any designations as listed above.

2.2 Outline Landscape Plan

2.2.1 The site survey and appraisal leads to the next element of the feasibility or application stage when the developer will be expected to draw up and submit an outline landscape plan for the development site, to form the basis of a detailed scheme to be submitted at a later stage. This is to ensure that landscape matters are being considered at the outset as an integral part of the development.

2.2.2 The outline plan should contain general information on the landscape approach to the site, including:-

General Information & Landscape Approach	1) How the proposal will not adversely affect local character and distinctiveness of the Landscape Character Area.
	2) The treatment of site boundaries
	3) The retention of existing landscape features
	4) Intended access points and circulation routes
	5) The main 'structural' planting and significant areas of hard landscaping to be incorporated within the development
	6) Details of any existing trees or other landscape features which it is proposed to remove or retain including protection measures.

2.2.3 Conditions which are imposed on the subsequent granting of planning permission will be related to the outline landscape plan which is submitted. However, it is expected that this plan should not over-constrain the submission of subsequent details, but rather establish the broad principles of the landscape design approach.

3.0 LANDSCAPE DESIGN

3.1 Landscape Design Principles

3.1 Before development commences on site, the developer will be required to submit, and have approved by the Council, a detailed landscape design for the site. This should be based on the survey and appraisal and be consistent with the overall context described in the Outline Landscape Plan, unless convincing arguments can be put to the contrary.

3.2 The detailed layout should address the following issues:

Landscape Design Principals	1) The layout and design should be appropriate to the area and establish a built environment of quality and variety, which integrates retaining local distinctiveness of the built form within the landscape.
	2) Consideration should be given to the use and form of space when planning the site
	3) The layout should maintain and enhance the diversity and character of the established vegetation on the site and utilises it where appropriate for shelter and passive enjoyment and habitat creation. <i>Reference should be made to the Postcode Plant Database:</i> http://www.nhm.ac.uk/nature-online/life/plants-fungi/postcode-plants/
	4) Where appropriate the layout should provide an integrated, attractive and safe environment for pedestrians, cyclists and those with disabilities
	5) Consideration should be given to 'designing out crime' – e.g. by not creating screening which could conceal anti-social or criminal activity, or by using thorny 'deterrent' shrubs to prevent access onto the site.
	6) Where appropriate (i.e. mainly for housing developments) there may be a requirement to provide recreational open space within the layout and consideration should be given to integrating any such provision into the development
	7) Consideration should be given to the maintenance of hard and soft landscaping in the future
	8) The surface water drainage system should minimise run-off and utilise natural and sustainable drainage systems where appropriate. The use of innovative green technology such as green roofs needs to be considered.

3.2 Landscape Design Details

3.2.1 The detailed landscape design should **include**:

Landscape Planting Plan	1) Botanical names, including genus, species and varieties of all proposed trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants
	2) Planting sizes of all proposed plants
	3) The proposed positions and spacing of plants
	4) The species mix percentages for grass seeds
	5) Accurately plotted positions of trees, shrubs, other vegetation and features to be retained and precise details of their means of protection during the construction period
	6) The position of existing trees and other significant landscape features which is proposed to remove
	7) All maps and plans should have on them a north point and appropriate scaling
	8) Weed control measures including maintaining areas prior to planting, herbicide treatment, mulch specification and depth.
	9) Topsoil specification, depths for all the above, grade of topsoil in accordance with the current B.S 3882 and proposed additives / ameliorants.
	10) Slope stabilisation methods
	11) Management plans including objectives and aftercare maintenance proposals
Treatment of Existing Trees	12) Tree retention and felling plan; all to be cross referenced to a tree condition survey in accordance with the current B.S. 5837
	13) Protective fencing during construction (type and positioning)
	14) Tree surgery proposals, cross referenced to trees on a plan and any tree survey details
Hard Landscape Plan	15) Paint or wood stain colours should be included for all appropriate materials
	16) Surfacing materials and kerbs / edge restraints, with existing and proposed levels
	17) Boundary treatment, including walls and fences, retailing walls, internal plot fences
	18) Utility routes, including draining, depth, special measures and any easements
	19) Special constructions, e.g. tree pit surrounds, planters, steps, ramps, retaining structures, public art
	20) Lighting and Street furniture, including protection against vehicle impact, e.g. bollards, tree guards, temporary / permanent fencing, low walls etc.
	21) Location and design of refuse and sub-station storage screens and enclosures.

3.2.2 The detailed landscape design should **take account** of:

Landscape Design Details	1) The use of species, materials and street furniture which reflect local character
	2) The use of recycled materials and materials from sustainable sources
	3) The incorporation of existing plants and other features
	4) The use of plants to create screening and microclimatic conditions through shade, shelter etc
	5) The use of plants and public art to create local focal points
	6) A selection of plant species to provide year-round interest
	7) A selection of plants to encourage wildlife where appropriate
	8) The suitability of plants for the location (e.g. their ultimate size and habit, tolerance of soil conditions and shade, root spread, long-term ease of management etc
	9) A specification and depth of topsoil for different types of planting
	10) The use of larger tree stock to resist vandalism
	11) Future maintenance needs of, and access to, hard and soft landscaped areas for e.g. litter clearance
	12) Landform, and the treatment and use of sloping ground, taking account of the needs of people with impaired mobility
	13) Drainage and the need to conserve drain water
	14) Means of defining boundaries
	15) The creation of an overall character and unifying landscape structure for the development
	16) The integration of the development into the surrounding landscape (e.g. the transition from residential to agricultural use).

4.0 LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE

4.1 Maintenance Considerations

The success of any landscape scheme will, to a significant extent, be determined by the standard of maintenance undertaken following implementation of the scheme. Consideration must therefore be given to how the works are to be maintained in the future to ensure that the original design is effectively turned into an attractive landscape.

For hard landscaped areas, the maintenance programme should incorporate actions to keep all materials and street furniture in a good, safe and attractive condition. Consideration should be given to keeping areas free of litter and other debris. Methods of keeping paving free from chewing gum and walls free from graffiti should also be considered.

For soft landscaped areas, consideration should be given to watering in the early stages where necessary. Excessive weed growth can inhibit the development of young plants and measures must be considered whereby weeds are suppressed by the use of mulching techniques. These can include the use of mulch mats around individual plants, textile membranes over planting beds or shredded bark or other suitable loose material to a depth of at least 50mm. The use of chemical herbicides should be kept to a minimum to ensure that accidental damage to plants does not occur through inappropriate application.

4.2 Maintenance Responsibilities

All landscape schemes will require an on-going commitment to management. Planning conditions may impose a limited period of maintenance or replacement of failed plants to ensure initial establishment is in place from the start.

Responsibility for future maintenance should be clarified at the earliest opportunity, with parties aware of their maintenance obligations. Where public areas are created, consideration should be given to how these will be maintained in the future. If the Council is to be asked to take ownership of such areas for future management, this should be made clear within the early stage in the development process and transfer of land will only be agreed in accordance with current Council policies. This may involve agreements under the Town and Country Planning Act and the payment of a commuted sum by the developer.

The recycling of green waste is encouraged on site (and off site) to encourage the use of composting or composting of green waste off site, rather than it being mixed with general waste.

4.3 Management Plans

For larger schemes it may be appropriate, or may be required as part of a condition of planning approval, that a management plan be prepared. Such a plan will contain details of how maintenance is to be carried out, who will be responsible for carrying it out and how frequently it will need to be carried out. A management plan is particularly relevant where the responsibility for maintenance will rest with a different party after works have been completed, and it is essential that the management plan is understood by the recipient prior to responsibility being handed over.

5.0 FURTHER ADVICE & CONTACTS

- 5.1 If you require further advice, information or clarity regarding any aspect of this document or the requirements as part of a planning application relating to the landscape, please direct your contact to the Landscape Design Unit who will be able to assist you.

5.2 COUNCIL CONTACTS:

Landscape Design Unit

The Landscape Design Unit have a wide range of specialist skills and experience of the following areas of professional practice: landscape and environmental design; environmental master planning; landscape planning; project management; communications.

Landscape Officer

Landscape Design Unit

8th Floor Jacobs Well

Manchester Road

Bradford BD1 5RW

Telephone: (01274) 433542

Fax: (01274) 734516

Email: john.hogg@bradford.gov.uk

5.3 OTHER USEFUL COUNCIL CONTACTS:

Local Development Framework

The Local Development Framework (LDF) Group produced the Replacement Unitary Development Plan (2005) and is currently in the process of producing the family of documents which will form the Bradford District Local Development Framework (LDF).

Telephone: (01274) 432499

Fax: (01274) 433767

email: ldf.consultation@bradford.gov.uk

Development Services

Development Services processes planning applications and provides advice on planning matters. The Bradford District is divided into a number of area teams for development service purposes.

All of the different planning teams can be contacted by telephoning the following switchboard number: **(01274) 434605**, or by emailing any enquires to the addresses given below.

- **Bradford West:** *includes Heaton, Manningham, Thornton, Clayton, Queensbury, Great Horton and Buttershaw.*
e-mail: planning.enquires@bradford.gov.uk
- **Bradford City Centre**
e-mail: planning.enquires@bradford.gov.uk
- **Bradford East:** *includes Thackley, Idle, Greengates, Eccleshill, Fagley, Bowling, Odsal, Low Moor and Wyke.*
e-mail: planning.enquires@bradford.gov.uk
- **Shipley:** *includes Shipley, Bingley, Baildon, Idle, Thackley, Wrose, Harden, Denholme, Cullingworth and Wilsden.*
e-mail: planning.Shipley@bradford.gov.uk
- **Keighley:** *includes the Worth Valley, Keighley, Riddlesden, Silsden and Steeton.*
e-mail: planning.Keighley@bradford.gov.uk
- **Ilkley:** *includes Ilkley, Addingham, Burley-in-Wharfedale and Menston.*
e-mail: planning.ilkey@bradford.gov.uk

Design and Conservation

The Design and Conservation Team advises on matters relating to urban design, listed buildings and conservation areas. To view a Conservation Area Assessment or find out if a building is listed, visit: www.bradford.gov.uk/Conservation for more information.

Telephone: (01274) 434605

e-mail: conservation@bradford.gov.uk

Building Control

Building Control can provide you with all you want to know about buildings, building work, safe environments and how to organise public events safely. The Building Control Service has two offices in the District:

Bradford Tel: (01274) 433807

Keighley Tel: (01535) 618010

Countryside and Rights of Way

Tel: (01274) 432666

e-mail: rightsofway@bradford.gov.uk

Waste and Minerals Planning and Trees

Minerals - Tel: (01274) 433770

email: minerals.planning@bradford.gov.uk

Trees - Tel: (01274) 434297

e-mail: trees@bradford.gov.uk

5.4 OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS

Arboricultural Association (Directory of Consultants & Contractors)

The Arboricultural Association seeks to advance the science of arboriculture for the public benefit.

Ampfield House	Tel: 01794 368717
Romsey	Fax: 01794 368978
Hampshire	Web: www.trees.org.uk
S051 9PA	Email: admin@trees.org.uk

British Association of Landscape Industries (BALI)

The British Association of Landscape Industries is the UK's representative trade association for firms undertaking landscaping, both interior and exterior, a wide range of associated suppliers to the industry. With a landscape contracting membership of over 700, BALI is continually raising standards throughout an industry that is all too often tarred with a 'cowboy' reputation.

Landscape House	Tel: 0870 770 4971
Stoneleigh Park	Fax: 0870 770 4972
Warwickshire	Web: www.bali.co.uk
CV8 2LG	Email: contact@bali.org.uk

Landscape Institute – (Directory of Landscape Architects)

The Landscape Institute is the Royal Chartered body for landscape architects in the UK. There are over 5,000 members who work across a range of organisations such as local authorities, government agencies and private practice. They are involved in a broad range of tasks including masterplanning, environmental assessment, public consultation and design.

33 Great Portland Street	Tel: 020 7299 4500
London	Fax: 020 7299 4501
W1W 8QG	Web: http://www.landscapeinstitute.org/
	Email: mail@landscapeinstitute.org

Natural History Museum

The Natural History Museum promotes the discovery, understanding, enjoyment and responsible use of the natural world. The website provides a useful link to a Plant Postcode Database which generates lists of native plants and wildlife for any specified postal district in the UK. Visit this tool by using the following web link:

<http://www.nhm.ac.uk/nature-online/life/plants-fungi/postcode-plants/>

West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service (WYAAS)

At the heart of the Advisory Service's work is the West Yorkshire Historic Environment Record. This Record is the basis for a wide range of Information on West Yorkshire's Heritage, developed by the Service's specialist staff for a variety of audiences, as well as being the basis for its Education Services. It is also the foundation for the Planning and Development Advice provided by the Service, the framework for which is set out in the Service's Policies and Strategies. The Advisory Service actively encourages voluntary-sector engagement, and provides Useful Contacts for those wishing to begin exploring West Yorkshire's past.

West Yorkshire Historic Environment Record
Registry of Deeds
Newstead Road
Wakefield WF1 2DE

Tel: 01924 306797
Fax: 01924 306810
Web: www.arch.wyjs.org.uk
Email: wyher@wyjs.org.uk

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Local Development
Framework Group

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