

LANCASTER DISTRICT LAND ALLOCATIONS
DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT

REVIEW OF KEY URBAN LANDSCAPE
ALLOCATIONS IN LANCASTER DISTRICT

Review Stage 1:
Assessment of Key Urban Landscapes

November 2012

LANCASTER DISTRICT LAND ALLOCATIONS DPD

REVIEW OF KEY URBAN LANDSCAPE ALLOCATIONS IN LANCASTER DISTRICT

Review Stage 1: Assessment of Key Urban Landscapes

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PREFACE

- i. This report by Woolerton Dodwell was commissioned by Lancaster City Council. It forms part of a review of areas within Lancaster District identified under 'saved' Local Plan Policy E31 as Key Urban Landscape. The policy states that these areas will be conserved and important natural features safeguarded, and that development in such areas will only be permitted where it preserves the open nature of the area and the character and appearance of its surroundings. The purpose of the review is to help inform consideration of the continued appropriateness of the Key Urban Landscape allocation in the Land Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD), which forms part of the Local Development Framework (LDF) for Lancaster District.
- ii. The review was undertaken in two stages. This Stage 1 report identifies 19 areas of Key Urban Landscape and provides an assessment of the character of each area. The Stage 2 report draws on the Stage 1 report to consider the character and qualities of each area of Key Urban Landscape in relation to a range of evaluation criteria that are relevant to the identification of valued landscapes for designation. Together the two reports provide a suitable basis for Lancaster City Council's consideration of Key Urban Landscape and the extent to which such areas should continue to be allocated as a form of local landscape designation in the Land Allocations DPD.
- iii. A further element of Woolerton Dodwell's commission involved the preparation of landscape assessments for five emerging strategic site options within the District that have been identified as having potential to accommodate significant future development. The purpose of the landscape assessments is to help inform Lancaster City Council's consideration of future growth options and ultimately the allocation of sites in the Land Allocations DPD.

REVIEW OF KEY URBAN LANDSCAPE ALLOCATIONS IN LANCASTER DISTRICT:

Review Stage 1: Assessment of Key Urban Landscape Allocations

BACKGROUND

Project Brief

- 1.1 Lancaster City Council requires advice on the continued appropriateness of its Key Urban Landscape allocation - a form of local landscape designation - in the Local Plan. Key Urban Landscapes are areas of open land protected by Policy E31 'saved' within the existing Lancaster District Local Plan (Strike-Through Edition September). The policy states that these areas will be conserved and important natural features safeguarded. Development in such areas would only be permitted where it preserves the open nature of the area and the character and appearance of its surroundings. The City Council wishes to review these areas in order to determine their continued appropriateness in the Land Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD).

Overview of Current Guidance and Practice

- 1.2 Current UK guidance on local landscape designation¹ was published jointly by Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) and Historic Scotland (HS) in 2004. The guidance notes that there are three main policy purposes of local landscape designation. These are: as an accolade; as a means to focus policies and objectives; and as a tool for management. The guidance was prepared to assist local authorities in reviewing their local landscape designations, for it was recognised that current designations had often been made many years ago and frequently lack robust justification for their importance such that the designations cannot be considered to be 'fit for purpose'.
- 1.3 A number of reviews have now taken place in Scotland based on the SNH/HS guidance, notably for the City of Edinburgh Council² (2010) which involved a mix of urban and rural landscapes, and for Fife Council³ (2008) and for the Scottish Borders Council⁴ (2011) which largely involved rural landscapes. The City of Edinburgh review focussed on a selection of open spaces considered to make a significant contribution to the wider landscape (and townscape) of Edinburgh, while the rural Councils considered all of the

¹ Scottish Natural Heritage /Historic Scotland Guidance on Local Landscape Designation
<http://www.snh.org.uk/pdfs/publications/heritagemanagement/GuidanceonLocalLandscapeDesignations.pdf>

² The City of Edinburgh Council Landscape Character Assessment and Review of Local Landscape Designations
http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/1044/landscape-character_assessment
http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/1951/review_of_local_landscape_designations

³ Fife Local Landscape Designation Review
[http://publications.1fife.org.uk/uploadfiles/publications/c64_FifeLocalLandscapeDesignationReview\(Nov2008\)1.pdf](http://publications.1fife.org.uk/uploadfiles/publications/c64_FifeLocalLandscapeDesignationReview(Nov2008)1.pdf)

⁴ Scottish Borders Council
http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/downloads/file/1794/annex_1_luc_local_landscape_designations_review

landscape within the Council's area, drawing on comprehensive assessments and descriptions of landscape character.

1.4 The full review process typically involves:

1. Preparation of baseline assessments that describe and illustrate the character and qualities of areas of landscape under consideration, noting the features that contribute to character including views and scenic qualities, the presence of cultural heritage assets and associations, features that contribute to public enjoyment, and relative naturalness /wildness.
2. Evaluation of the areas of landscape under consideration, based on assessments of their character and qualities. The evaluation process typically involves the rating of landscapes (on a high, medium or low basis) according to agreed criteria. The ratings are subsequently converted to numeric scores. In some cases weightings were applied to certain criteria considered to be particularly important to the purposes of designation as defined by individual local authorities.
3. Identification of candidate areas for local landscape designation from the highest scoring landscapes.
4. Further review of the candidate landscapes to examine their value for designation and in terms of practical considerations (such as size), support from the Council and the community etc. This process often leads to a refinement of the list of candidate areas and also to the amendment of area boundaries.
5. Preparation of a designation report for the final list of candidate landscapes, including Statements of Importance for each area that describe their location and boundaries and the particular features that make the landscape special. In some cases the Statements of Importance also include a 'Forces for Change' statement which identifies the threats which could result in an adverse impact on the proposed local landscape designation, and recommendations for landscape management.
6. Public Consultation on the designation report with its final list of candidate landscapes, followed by amendments as needed to reflect the outcome of consultation.

LOCAL LANDSCAPE DESIGNATIONS WITHIN LANCASTER DISTRICT

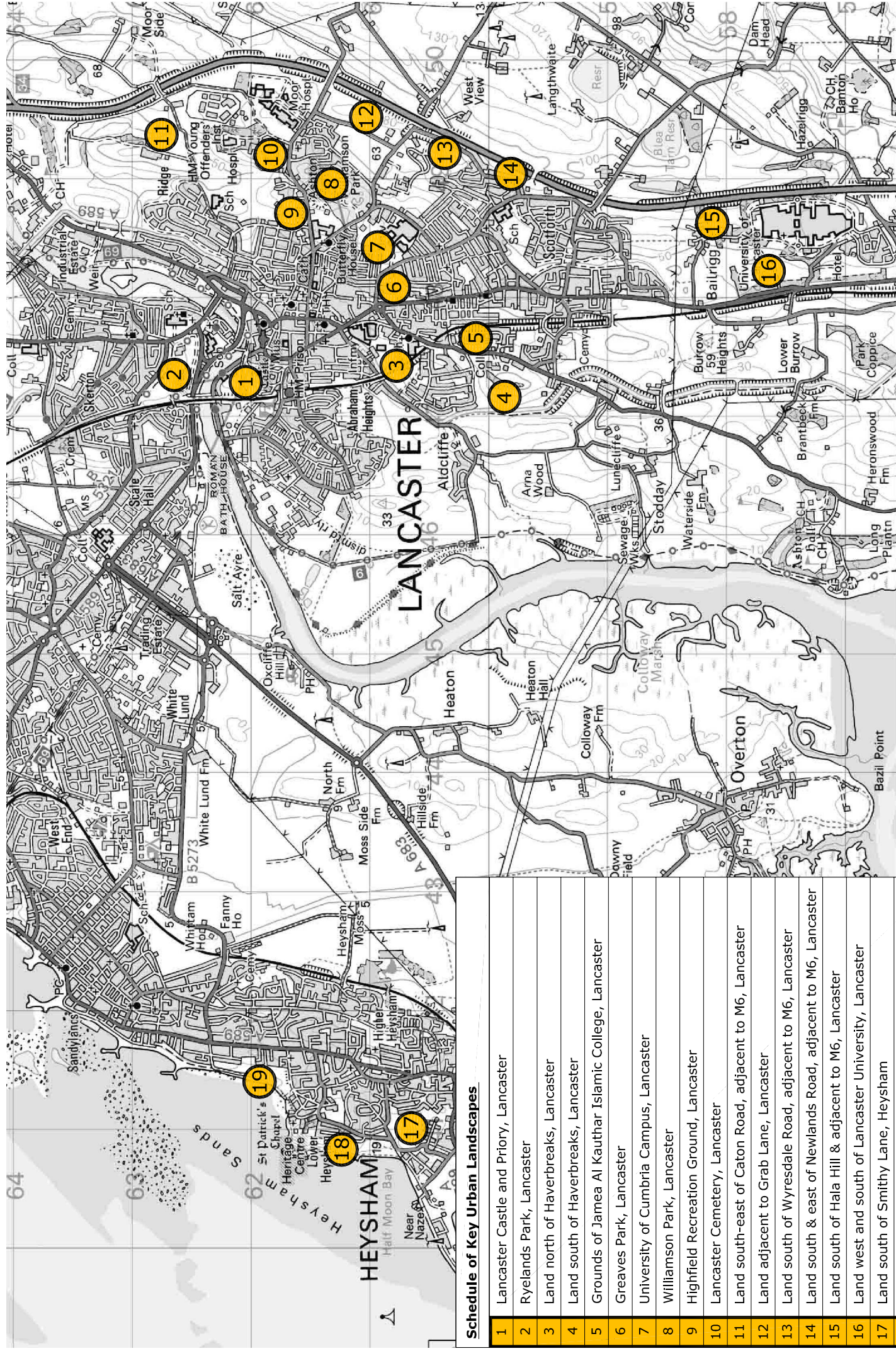
- 1.5 The Lancaster District Local Plan Proposals Map indicates the areas designated Key Urban Landscape under saved policy E31. The supporting text to saved policy E31 refers to three main types of Key Urban Landscape: the Urban Coastline, the Lancaster Eastern M6 Corridor and Open Land of Key Townscape Importance. It also describes, in general terms, the role played by each type of Key Urban Landscape in contributing to the setting of the District's urban area, which comprises the main built-up area of Lancaster, Morecambe and Heysham.

- 1.6 However the reasons for the selection of the Key Urban Landscapes were not formally recorded by the City Council when the areas were originally identified. Consequently there is no clear evidence as to why these areas are considered to be important; such evidence is needed to underpin and justify their designation as Key Urban Landscapes.
- 1.7 Currently there is no detailed assessment of the character and qualities of the landscapes Lancaster District that could help inform the review of Key Urban Landscapes. Although two existing landscape character assessments^{5 6} contain useful baseline information regarding Lancashire's landscapes, these county-wide studies do not provide a sufficiently detailed basis for a review of local-scale Key Urban Landscapes. It has therefore been necessary to assess the character and qualities of Lancaster District's areas of Key Urban Landscapes in order to establish baseline information as a first step in the review process.
- 1.8 A number of Key Urban Landscapes are indicated on the Lancaster District Local Plan Proposals Map for protection under saved policy E31. Some are individual areas that follow the boundaries of a park, for example, while others are extended tracts of land that have required sub-division into discrete areas in order to facilitate the assessment and review process. The following Key Urban Landscapes have been identified:

- 1 Lancaster Castle and Priory, Lancaster
- 2 Ryelands Park, Lancaster
- 3 Land north of Haverbreaks, Lancaster
- 4 Land south of Haverbreaks, Lancaster
- 5 Grounds of Jamea Al Kauthar Islamic college, Lancaster
- 6 Greaves Park, Lancaster
- 7 University of Cumbria campus, Lancaster
- 8 Williamson Park, Lancaster
- 9 Highfield Recreation Ground, Lancaster
- 10 Lancaster Cemetery, Lancaster
- 11 Land south-east of Caton Road, adjacent to M6, Lancaster
- 12 Land adjacent to Grab Lane, Lancaster
- 13 Land south of Wyresdale Road, adjacent to M6, Lancaster
- 14 Land south & east of Newlands Road, adjacent to M6, Lancaster
- 15 Land south of Hala Hill & adjacent to M6, Lancaster
- 16 Land west and south of Lancaster University, Lancaster
- 17 Land south of Smithy Lane, Heysham
- 18 Heysham Head and The Barrows, Heysham
- 19 Land north of Knowlys Road, Heysham

⁵ Lancashire County Council Lancashire Landscape Character Assessment
<http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/environment/landscape/landscapecharacass/cover.asp>

⁶ Lancashire County Council Lancashire Historic Landscape Character Assessment
<http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/corporate/web/index.asp?siteid=4398&pageid=20338&e=e>



MAP 1: LOCATIONS OF LANCASTER DISTRICT'S KEY URBAN LANDSCAPES

Schedule of Key Urban Landscapes

1	Lancaster Castle and Priory, Lancaster
2	Ryelands Park, Lancaster
3	Land north of Haverbreaks, Lancaster
4	Land south of Haverbreaks, Lancaster
5	Grounds of Jamea Al Kauthar Islamic College, Lancaster
6	Greaves Park, Lancaster
7	University of Cumbria Campus, Lancaster
8	Williamson Park, Lancaster
9	Highfield Recreation Ground, Lancaster
10	Lancaster Cemetery, Lancaster
11	Land south-east of Caton Road, adjacent to M6, Lancaster
12	Land adjacent to Grab Lane, Lancaster
13	Land south of Wyresdale Road, adjacent to M6, Lancaster
14	Land south & east of Newlands Road, adjacent to M6, Lancaster
15	Land south of Hala Hill & adjacent to M6, Lancaster
16	Land west and south of Lancaster University, Lancaster
17	Land south of Smithy Lane, Heysham
18	Heysham Head and The Barrows, Heysham
19	Land north of Knowlys Road, Heysham

- 1.9 Map 1 indicates the broad locations of the 19 Key Urban Landscapes. The Lancaster District Local Plan Proposals Map should be referred to for more detailed information concerning the location and extent of these areas.

ASSESSMENT OF KEY URBAN LANDSCAPES IN LANCASTER DISTRICT

- 1.10 This review of Lancaster District's Key Urban Landscapes involves the first stage of the review process that is set out in paragraph 1.4 above ie it provides assessments of the character and qualities of land within each of the 19 Key Urban Landscapes identified above. The assessments reflect a combination of:
- **Desk study review** of the Key Urban Landscapes to identify existing characterisation, mapped information, natural heritage, cultural heritage, access information etc as available and relevant to Key Urban Landscape areas. Key information sources include: OS mapping, Lancashire County Council's MARIO website⁷, Lancaster City website⁸, GoogleEarth website⁹, English Heritage website¹⁰ and 'The Buildings of England – Lancashire: North' by Clare Hartwell and Nikolaus Pevsner.¹¹
 - **Field Assessment:** field visit to confirm/revise desk top assessment of landscape character of each Key Urban Landscape and to assess aesthetic qualities.
 - **Analysis:** Synthesis of desk-top and field assessment of landscape character for each Key Urban Landscape, including identification of local landscape character type, reference photograph, brief character description and a summary of the landscape assessment recorded on a proforma.
- 1.11 Several local landscape character types were identified by the assessment. Coastal grassland, Coastal scrub and Informal urban open green space characterise Key Urban Landscapes located within the District's Urban Coastline. The Lancaster Eastern M6 Corridor and Open Land is generally characterised by the Rolling or sloping farmland type with areas of Valley farmland and Campus green space. Within the main urban area, the Open Land of Key Townscape Importance type includes Formal urban open green space, Informal urban open green space and Campus green space.
- 1.12 Landscape assessments prepared for each of the 19 Key Urban Landscapes are included in Appendix 1. These provide an overview of the characteristics of individual Key Urban Landscapes and form part of Lancaster City Council's evidence base for the District's Land Allocations DPD. The assessments will be used by the Council to review individual areas of Key Urban Landscapes in order to determine their continued appropriateness in the Land Allocations DPD, and to inform future policy responses.

⁷ Lancashire County Council's MARIO website <http://mario.lancashire.gov.uk/agsmario/>

⁸ Lancaster City Council website <http://www.lancaster.gov.uk/>

⁹ GoogleEarth

¹⁰ English Heritage National Heritage List for England
<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/protection/process/national-heritage-list-for-england/>

¹¹ Lancashire: North: Pevsner Architectural Guides: Buildings of England (Clare Hartwell 2009)

APPENDIX 1

KEY URBAN LANDSCAPES: Landscape Character Assessments

- 1 Lancaster Castle and Priory, Lancaster**
- 2 Ryelands Park, Lancaster**
- 3 Land north of Haverbreaks, Lancaster**
- 4 Land south of Haverbreaks, Lancaster**
- 5 Grounds of Jamea Al Kauthar Islamic college, Lancaster**
- 6 Greaves Park, Lancaster**
- 7 University of Cumbria campus, Lancaster**
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- 16 Land west and south of Lancaster University, Lancaster**
- 17 Land south of Smithy Lane, Heysham**
- 18 Heysham Head and The Barrows, Heysham**
- 19 Land north of Knowlys Road, Heysham**

Key Urban Landscape: Land adjacent to Lancaster Castle and Priory, Lancaster	Map ref: 1
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Lancashire Landscape Character Type	Lancashire Historic Landscape Character Type	Lancaster Local Landscape Character Type
Urban: Suburban Historic Core	Modern settlement Ancient and post-Mediaeval settlement	Formal Urban Open Space Informal Urban Open Space

Location and Character Description:

This area surrounds Lancaster Castle and the Priory Church of St Mary and forms an integral part of the settings for these important heritage assets. It rises southward from St George's Quay, forming a high bluff (39.4m AOD) above the river Lune on which the Castle and Priory Church are prominently located on the city's skyline. This is the oldest part of Lancaster; a first century Roman fort once stood on the hill and its earthworks and other features including a bathhouse still remain within land to the north of the Castle and Priory Church. The Castle has been used to hold law courts from C12th and historically as a prison; it closed as a prison in March 2011.

The area varies in character. Immediately surrounding the Castle and Priory church are the Castle precincts, a relatively formal open space with stone paving, broad grass verges and banks and large broadleaf specimen trees that extends into the walled churchyard. Pevsner remarks that *'especially valuable in prospect and aspect is the grassy enclave around castle and church.'*

To the north of the Castle precincts, land known as Vicarage Field slopes down to a footpath / cycleway that curves around the flanks of the hill on the alignment of a former branch railway line. It has an informal character with grassland that includes earthworks remains of the Roman fort and many mature trees that are established along the path and adjacent to Vicarage Lane, now a public footpath. Pevsner refers to this area as *'open glebe land'* and notes that *'this and the adjoining churchyard and castle precinct form a green setting for the city's most ancient settlement area'.*

To the north of the footpath / cycleway is Quay Meadows, a roughly triangular area that is bounded to the west by the West Coast Mainline railway and to the north and east by St George's Quay. It includes mature perimeter woodland belts and playing fields, and occasionally provides a viewing area for outdoor events including firework displays.

The whole area is identified as Urban Greenspace under Local Plan Policy E29.

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER	
Typicality	<i>Landscape features or combination of features that recur throughout the area</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	Other areas of land in Lancaster and Lancashire have similar features i.e. woodland, open grassland, elevated landform, but none have such dominant buildings as Lancaster Castle and the Priory Church.
Rarity / Uniqueness	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are rare or unique within the assessment area as a whole.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	Elevated landform and the highly distinctive landmarks of Lancaster Castle and the Priory Church on the skyline create a landscape that is rare within Lancaster and Lancashire.
Condition	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are in a good state of repair</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing condition/quality 	Parts of the area south of the footpath / cycleway are developing into scrubland with long grass, self set saplings and some Japanese knotweed.
LANDSCAPE QUALITIES	
Scenic Qualities	<i>Landscapes with strong visual, sensory and perceptual impacts and experiential appeal</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Character/qualities 	The elevated landform, tree cover and landmark historic buildings combine to create high scenic quality.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prominence /Visibility 	The elevated Priory Church emerging from woodland is a prominent & distinctive landmark in views across Lancaster from major transport routes north of the River Lune.
Enjoyment	<i>Landscapes of importance as local greenspace as tranquil areas and/or for countryside recreation. May contain viewpoints and landmarks</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation routes 	Vicarage Lane public footpath (Fp 26) crosses the land and connects Priory Church to St George's Quay. The footpath/cycleway forms part of the city's Strategic Cycle Network. .
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation areas 	Quay Meadows playing fields is a designated Outdoor Playing Space under policy R1 Land south of the footpath/cycleway is used for informal recreation and provides opportunities for wide views towards Morecambe Bay and the Lakeland Hills.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport routes 	The area is accessed from Lancaster city centre via Castle Hill and Castle Park, from St George's Quay, via Lancaster railway station and via a network of footpaths and cycleways.
Culture	<i>Landscapes rich in archaeology, built heritage, literary, artistic and other cultural associations and local history.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic landscape character 	Includes the site of a Roman fort, bathhouse and an exposed 4th century fort wall. Classified as Ancient and post-Mediaeval settlement and Modern settlement.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed Buildings, Parks and Gardens of SHI 	Lancaster Castle and the Priory and Parish Church of St Mary are Grade I listed buildings. The Priory Church, churchyard and land south of the footpath/cycleway is also a Scheduled Monument. A range of other grade II listed structures including funerary monuments.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation Areas 	Conservation Area (Lancaster)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Associations 	The open land to the north of the Castle and Priory Church is former glebe land associated historically with the Priory Church. Thomas Harrison, architect was responsible for the 'new buildings' within Lancaster Castle built 1788-1796, also Skerton Bridge and many other buildings now Listed Grade I and II*. The Castle was the location of the Lancashire Witch trials of 1612 and of the alleged IRA pub-bombers (Birmingham Six) in 1975.
Naturalness	<i>Landscapes with extensive semi-natural habitat, a lack of human presence and perceived qualities of wildness</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity 	Mature tree belts and scrub are of some biodiversity value.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geodiversity 	Castle Hill may be a drumlin with a bedrock core.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remoteness 	Not remote – located within an urban area
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tranquillity 	The area has some limited tranquillity in contrast to its urban context.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildness 	Not wild - The area is managed as amenity land
FORCES FOR CHANGE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible pressures on landscape integrity 	Potential development pressures affecting key views of the Castle and its setting Under-management of Vicarage Field land (SM) with potential for harm to buried remains Increased recreational pressures likely following development of Castle as a resource in Lancaster's heritage tourism offer, as identified in the Council's Cultural Heritage Strategy.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancement potential 	Change in grassland management regime to enhance biodiversity

Key Urban Landscape: Ryelands Park, Lancaster	Map ref: 2
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Lancashire Landscape Character Type	Lancashire Historic Landscape Character Type	Lancaster Local Landscape Character Type
Urban: Suburban	Modern recreation Modern ornamental	Formal Urban Open Space

Location and Character Description:

Located to the north-west of Lancaster town centre and north of the river Lune, Ryelands Park is bounded by Torrisholme Road to the north, Morecambe Road to the south, Owen Road to the east and to the west by the West Coast Mainline railway. It now extends to more than 16 hectares, having been enlarged several times in the past. The eastern part of the park was the original setting to Ryelands House and Lodge when built in 1836 as the private residence for Jonathan Dunn, twice mayor of Lancaster. Further land to the west of Ryelands House was added subsequently and by c.1890 an extensive parkland had been laid out, with more elaborate gardens and walks close to the house beyond which there were perimeter tree belts and specimen trees, serpentine walks and carriage drives. Later still, several fields located adjacent to the railway line in the northern part of the area were incorporated within the park. Ryelands House became the home of James Williamson (later Lord Ashton) in 1895. Edwardian / Victorian additions are reflected in structures such as the ornamental bandstand that is a distinctive feature of the Park.

Much of the formal structure and layout of the Park remains today. The eastern part that includes Ryelands House is characterised by extensive grasslands with many mature broadleaf trees in belts and stands and as individual specimens. The western part is much more open in character and accommodates several grass sports pitches. The western edge of the park that rises towards the railway is less intensively managed and more naturalistic in character. Ryelands Park is a significant recreational resource that provides routes for walking and cycling, changing facilities, all-weather multi games area and football pitches. It is also used as a location for community entertainment events e.g. travelling circus and fun fair. Ryelands Park is currently the subject of a community project led by Lancashire County Council and Lancaster City Council that aims to improve the Park for the benefit of local people.

The whole area is identified as Urban Greenspace under Policy E29.

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER	
Typicality	<i>Landscape features or combination of features that recur throughout the area</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	There are other parks in Lancaster and more widely in Lancashire that were laid out as the landscaped grounds to former mansion houses and which are characterised by expanses of grass and trees.
Rarity / Uniqueness	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are rare or unique within the assessment area as a whole.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	Ryelands Park is unusual in Lancaster as a centrally located park with large open areas of flat land which make it the location of choice for community entertainment events e.g. traveling circus, fun fair and shows.
Condition	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are in a good state of repair</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing condition/quality 	The landscape features within the park generally appear to be adequately maintained although some structures eg the bandstand are dilapidated .
LANDSCAPE QUALITIES	
Scenic Qualities	<i>Landscapes with strong visual, sensory and perceptual impacts and experiential appeal</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Character/qualities 	Parkland character with mature perimeter tree belt, broad grasslands and historic buildings is of good scenic quality
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prominence / Visibility 	Locally visible from residential areas and urban roads; tree belts seen from elevated viewpoints e.g Lancaster Castle and Williamson Park.
Enjoyment	<i>Landscapes of importance as local greenspace as tranquil areas and/or for countryside recreation. May contain viewpoints and landmarks</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation routes 	There are footpaths across the park that link the communities of east and west Skerton and a circular path to the perimeter. Part of the city's Strategic Cycle Network runs along the Park's western boundary.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation areas 	The park is well used for formal sports activities and informal recreation. Most of it is a designated Outdoor Playing Space under policy R1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport routes 	The Park is accessed via urban roads that run along the perimeter of the park:.
Culture	<i>Landscapes rich in archaeology, built heritage, literary, artistic and other cultural associations and local history.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic landscape character 	Classified as Modern Recreation and Modern Ornamental the park has its origins in its role as the landscape setting to Ryelands House.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed Buildings, Parks and Gardens of SHI 	Ryelands House (grade II), Ryelands Lodge (grade II)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation Areas 	None.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Associations 	James Williamson, later Lord Ashton, a local self-made millionaire who manufactured oil cloth and linoleum and who was the benefactor of many of Lancaster's public buildings, monuments and parks, including Williamson Park and the Ashton Memorial Lancaster Architects Paley and Austin who extended Ryelands for Lord Ashton
Naturalness	<i>Landscapes with extensive semi-natural habitat, a lack of human presence and perceived qualities of wildness</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity 	No significant biodiversity apart from that provided by mature trees
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geodiversity 	No significant geodiversity.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remoteness 	Not remote – located within an urban area
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tranquillity 	Not tranquil due to noise and movement intrusion from the A6, A683 and the West Coast Mainline railway, and the sporting activities of park users.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildness 	Not wild - The area is a formal urban park.
FORCES FOR CHANGE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible pressures on landscape integrity 	Under-use and/or under-management of landscape resources and structures, vandalism, leading to reduction in quality of the landscape. Changes arising from community-led improvements to Park may adversely affect the character of the landscape and settings of Listed Buildings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancement potential 	Programme of tree and woodland renewal and conservation of built heritage features. Opportunities to improve the Park in ways that will increase its use by local people, and to improve biodiversity.

Key Urban Landscape: Land adjacent to Lancaster Canal, north of Haverbreaks	Map ref: 3
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Lancashire Landscape Character Type	Lancashire Historic Landscape Character Type	Lancaster Local Landscape Character Type
Urban: Suburban	Modern settlement	Rolling/ sloping farmland Campus Greenspace

Location and Character Description:

This area of land lies adjacent to and south-east of Lancaster Canal and to the north and east of Haverbreaks estate, and is divided into north-eastern and south-western parts of varied character by the West Coast Mainline railway. Much of the land was once part of extensive grounds to the former Springfield Hall (now demolished) which extended between the Canal and Ashton Road. The northern part of the Hall's grounds was developed as Lancaster's Royal Infirmary.

The north-eastern part of the area extends between the Canal and Ashton Road and is campus greenspace, comprising the buildings and grounds of Ripley St Thomas School. North of the current school buildings land falls gently towards the Canal and includes grass and all-weather sports pitches separated by planted embankments, and with trees established along boundaries with the railway line and Infirmary. A broad belt of mature trees on land adjacent to Lancaster Canal interrupts views into the area from the Canal's towpath. Also within the School's grounds is a rectangular walled garden that survives from Springfield Hall.

Land to the south-west of the railway line forms part of the side slopes of a drumlin landform and falls relatively steeply from 45m AOD to approximately 22m AOD beside the Canal. It is a tract of open grazing land sub- divided by fencing and with a series of distinctive terraces that run across its slope. Trees are established along the north-eastern boundary with the railway line, and the Haverbreaks housing estate is immediately adjacent to the south.

The whole area is identified as Urban Greenspace under Policy E29.

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER	
Typicality	<i>Landscape features or combination of features that recur throughout the area</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	Agricultural areas of land under urban influence and recreation grounds associated with schools recur in and on the fringes of Lancaster.
Rarity / Uniqueness	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are rare or unique within the assessment area as a whole.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	The terraced landform differentiates the area of agricultural land from other areas on the fringes of Lancaster.
Condition	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are in a good state of repair</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing condition/quality 	The land appears to be generally well managed but timber post and wire fencing in the south-western part detracts from landscape quality.
LANDSCAPE QUALITIES	
Scenic Qualities	<i>Landscapes with strong visual, sensory and perceptual impacts and experiential appeal</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Character/qualities 	The scenic qualities of the open south-western part of the area are enhanced by panoramic views over Lancaster's historic urban core seen across the canal from footpath FP48. Mature trees enhance the north-eastern area (Ripley St Thomas school).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prominence / Visibility 	All of the land is visible from the West Coast Mainline railway. Land to the south of the railway is visible from the Lancaster Canal towpath and from footpath FP48 and is overlooked by properties on Aldcliffe Road and on the Haverbreaks estate.
Enjoyment	<i>Landscapes of importance as local greenspace as tranquil areas and/or for countryside recreation. May contain viewpoints and landmarks</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation routes 	Public footpath FP48 runs along the southern boundary between Ashton Road and Aldcliffe Road, crossing the Lancaster Canal via a footbridge. The Lancaster Canal towpath is an attractive cycling and walking route, part of the city's Strategic Cycle Network.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation areas 	The northern part includes land used for formal sports/recreation by Ripley St Thomas school but is not open for general public use. Southern part is privately owned farmland. The adjacent Lancaster Canal is an Informal Recreation Area identified under Policy R9.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport routes 	The area is accessed from Ashton Road and from Aldcliffe Road (via a Canal footbridge)
Culture	<i>Landscapes rich in archaeology, built heritage, literary, artistic and other cultural associations and local history.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic landscape character 	The area is classified as Modern Settlement and in C19th much of it was part of extensive grounds to the former Springfield Hall.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed Buildings, Parks and Gardens of SHI 	Ripley School Building (grade II), School Chapel (grade II*), Gate Lodge (grade II) & Entrance Gateway (grade II)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation Areas 	The canal-side tree belt established within the grounds of Ripley St Thomas School lies within the Aldcliffe Road Conservation Area to the north.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Associations 	Norval Helme MP, the oilcloth manufacturer and owner of Springfield Hall. Thomas Ripley, a native of Lancaster and a merchant of Liverpool in whose memory the Ripley Hospital orphanage was founded on land to the south of Springfield Hall. Also associated with Lancaster architects Paley and Austin and the successor firm Paley Austin and Paley who designed the Listed Grade II* school chapel.
Naturalness	<i>Landscapes with extensive semi-natural habitat, a lack of human presence and perceived qualities of wildness</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity 	No significant biodiversity apart from that provided by mature trees
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geodiversity 	Southern part of land is part of a drumlin and is of some geomorphological interest
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remoteness 	Not remote – located within an urban area
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tranquillity 	Tranquillity is compromised by school activities and by West Coast Mainline railway .
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildness 	Not wild - The area is managed as productive farmland and as a school campus.
FORCES FOR CHANGE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible pressures on landscape integrity 	Changes in farming practices and potential for agricultural use to become unviable. Pressure for school and/or residential expansion if suitable access can be achieved.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancement potential 	Woodland planting to reduce visual impact of Haverbreaks estate and opportunity to increase biodiversity of land, especially adjacent to the canal.

Key Urban Landscape: Land south of Haverbreaks, Lancaster	Map ref: 4
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Lancashire Landscape Character Type	Lancashire Historic Landscape Character Type	Lancaster Local Landscape Character Type
Low Coastal Drumlins	Ancient enclosure	Rolling/ sloping farmland

Location and Character Description:

This area of land is located in the south-western part of Lancaster, between Ashton Road and the Lancaster Canal and to the south of Haverbreaks Road. It was part of Royal Albert Farm that was ancillary to the former Royal Albert Hospital; patients worked on the farm with the aim of making the Hospital self-sufficient in produce. The former Hospital, now the Jamea Al Kauthar Islamic College lies to the east on the opposite side of Ashton Road. Former farm buildings, which lie outside of the area, have been radically remodeled and now form part of the NHS Pathfinders Drive complex.

The land is open rolling farmland in use as grazing pasture. It forms the eastern and northern sides of a distinctive drumlin landform that rises to 55 m AOD and is part of a swarm of low coastal drumlins that characterize much of the land surrounding Lancaster. The farmland is interrupted by occasional groups of mature trees and single specimens. It is also enhanced by lines and belts of mature trees established on the top of the drumlin, within the adjacent NHS site, which emphasise the landform. In the southern part of the area, fields are enclosed in an ancient pattern that is defined by tree-less hedgerow. In the northern part that borders Haverbreaks Road, the field pattern has been lost and the land has an open, parkland-like character. There are also some more recent farm buildings located on the upper west-facing slopes of the drumlin.

The whole area is identified as Urban Greenspace under Policy E29.

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER	
Typicality	<i>Landscape features or combination of features that recur throughout the area</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	Agricultural land on drumlins under urban influence recurs in and on the fringes of Lancaster.
Rarity / Uniqueness	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are rare or unique within the assessment area as a whole.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	The distinctive tree line on top of the drumlin differentiates this area of land from similar areas.
Condition	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are in a good state of repair</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing condition/quality 	The land appears to be well managed and landscape features are mature.
LANDSCAPE QUALITIES	
Scenic Qualities	<i>Landscapes with strong visual, sensory and perceptual impacts and experiential appeal</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Character/qualities 	The combination of distinctive drumlin landform, groups of mature trees in proximity to the Lancaster Canal has attractive scenic qualities.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prominence / Visibility 	Most of the land is visible from the Lancaster Canal towpath . Also seen from Ashton Road, from NHS Pathfinders Drive complex and from properties on the Haverbreaks estate.
Enjoyment	<i>Landscapes of importance as local greenspace as tranquil areas and/or for countryside recreation. May contain viewpoints and landmarks</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation routes 	There are no recreation routes across the land. The adjacent Canal towpath is an attractive cycling and walking route and part of the city's Strategic Cycle Network
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation areas 	In private ownership. The adjacent Lancaster Canal is an Informal Recreation area identified under Policy R9..
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport routes 	Ashton Road (A588) provides the main access to the land , together with Haverbreaks Road. Lancaster Canal forms the west boundary but does not provide access to the land.
Culture	<i>Landscapes rich in archaeology, built heritage, literary, artistic and other cultural associations and local history.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic landscape character 	The land is classified as Ancient Enclosure the pattern of field enclosure has survived from the Medieval period
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed Buildings, Parks and Gardens of SHI 	No listed buildings within the land, but potentially within settings of Listed Buildings within the adjacent NHS site (including barns and other buildings on the former Royal Albert Farm) and of the former Royal Albert Hospital, now the Jamea Al Kauthar Islamic College Listed Grade II*.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation Areas 	No Conservation Area
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Associations 	Land was ancillary to the former Royal Albert Hospital.
Naturalness	<i>Landscapes with extensive semi-natural habitat, a lack of human presence and perceived qualities of wildness</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity 	No significant biodiversity apart from that provided by mature trees and hedges.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geodiversity 	As part of a drumlin field the landform is of some geomorphological interest
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remoteness 	Not remote – located on the edge of an urban area.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tranquillity 	A degree of tranquillity in the western and southern parts, adjacent to Lancaster Canal, but not to the east and north where traffic on Ashton Road and urban influences are evident.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildness 	Not wild - The area is managed as productive farmland.
FORCES FOR CHANGE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible pressures on landscape integrity 	There may be pressure for expansion of adjacent NHS site and for residential development Changes in farming practices may influence character.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancement potential 	Woodland planting on north boundary to reduce visual impact of Haverbreaks estate and opportunity to increase biodiversity of land adjacent to the canal.

Key Urban Landscape: Grounds of Islamic College, Ashton Road, Lancaster	Map ref: 5
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Lancashire Landscape Character Type	Lancashire Historic Landscape Character Type	Lancaster Local Landscape Character Type
Urban: Suburban	Modern settlement	Campus greenspace

Location and Character Description:

This area of Key Urban Landscape is located on Ashton Road, in the south-western part of Lancaster. It comprises the gardens and grounds of the former Royal Albert Hospital which extend to more than 8 hectares. The hospital, a Grade II* listed building, was once an asylum for the mentally ill. It was closed in the mid 1990's and since 1996 has been in use as the Jamea Al Kauthar Islamic College for girls. The school grounds are securely enclosed and are not open to members of the public.

The school lies to the west of the West Coast Main Line railway line and to the north of a recent housing estate. Its grounds lie to the west and north of the main school buildings and principally comprise broad areas of amenity grass lawns that slope down towards a stone boundary wall along Ashton Road. Perimeter belts of mature broadleaf trees and shrubs limit views both into and from the school grounds, which also contain many specimen trees and tree groups.

The whole area is identified as Urban Greenspace under Policy E29.

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER	
Typicality	<i>Landscape features or combination of features that recur throughout the area</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	Other academic institutions have similar landscape features i.e. trees and grassed areas but do not have dominant building on elevated ground with the architectural merit of the school building.
Rarity / Uniqueness	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are rare or unique within the assessment area as a whole.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	The combination of landscape features is not uncommon for academic institutions in Lancaster.
Condition	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are in a good state of repair</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing condition/quality 	The land appears to be well managed and landscape features are mature.
LANDSCAPE QUALITIES	
Scenic Qualities	<i>Landscapes with strong visual, sensory and perceptual impacts and experiential appeal</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Character/qualities 	The land provides a setting for the school buildings which are the focus of occasional glimpsed views from Ashton Road.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prominence / Visibility 	The perimeter trees and hedges limit views into the interior landscape.
Enjoyment	<i>Landscapes of importance as local greenspace as tranquil areas and/or for countryside recreation. May contain viewpoints and landmarks</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation routes 	The area is not open to the public and is not crossed by any rights of way. Part of the city's Strategic Cycle Network runs along Ashton road, adjacent to the area.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation areas 	The area is not open to the public. Large grassed areas and tennis courts in the grounds for informal recreation / sport.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport routes 	The area is accessed via Ashton Road.
Culture	<i>Landscapes rich in archaeology, built heritage, literary, artistic and other cultural associations and local history.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic landscape character 	The land was laid out as the grounds to the former Royal Albert Hospital and retains much of its original structure.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed Buildings, Parks and Gardens of SHI 	The main part of the school building is a Grade II* Listed Building. The west lodge is a Grade II Listed Building.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation Areas 	Not within a Conservation Area
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Associations 	The hospital was built between 1868 and 1873, and designed by the Lancaster architect E.G. Paley, with later additions by Paley, Austin and Paley.
Naturalness	<i>Landscapes with extensive semi-natural habitat, a lack of human presence and perceived qualities of wildness</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity 	Perimeter tree belts provide some biodiversity value.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geodiversity 	No significant geodiversity.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remoteness 	Not remote – located within the city of Lancaster
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tranquillity 	Not tranquil – bounded by Ashton Road and the West Coast Main Line railway line
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildness 	Not wild due to management regimes and urban context
FORCES FOR CHANGE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible pressures on landscape integrity 	Development pressures to meet future requirements of school could adversely affect landscape character and settings of Listed Buildings.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancement potential 	Programme of tree and woodland renewal and conservation of built heritage features Variations in management regimes to improve biodiversity.

Key Urban Landscape: Greaves Park, Lancaster	Map ref: 6
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Lancashire Landscape Character Type	Lancashire Historic Landscape Character Type	Lancaster Local Landscape Character Type
Urban: Suburban	Modern settlement	Formal Urban Open Space Campus greenspace

Location and Character Description:

The area is located adjacent to the Pointer roundabout to the south of Lancaster’s city centre, between Greaves Road (A6) to the west and Bowerham Road to the north and east. To the south it abuts residential properties on Parkfield Drive and Bellvue Drive. The land once formed the ornamental gardens and extended grounds to two large mansion properties, the Tudor-style Greaves House (a Listed Building) and Parkfield.

The western part is a Conservation Area, characterized by parkland, with extensive areas of amenity grassland, ornamental tree planting in belts and groups, shrub planting and a fenced children’s play area. To the east of Parkside there is also a more naturalistic area of grassland with tree belts that runs roughly north-south through the area and accommodates part of the City’s strategic cycle network. The mansion properties have been converted to new uses; Greaves House is now Greaves Park, a public house and Parkfield is a business centre. The former kitchen garden to Greaves House is now the location of Pointer House student accommodation.

The eastern part of the area, which lies adjacent to Bowerham Road is more elevated and once formed an open parkland setting to Greaves House, with grassland and tree planting in corner groups and belts and as individual specimen trees. It now forms an extensive area of amenity grassland used as playing fields and open space by Bowerham Community Primary and Nursery School.

The whole area is identified as Urban Greenspace under Policy E29.

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER	
Typicality	<i>Landscape features or combination of features that recur throughout the area</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	The open grassed areas, woodland and specimen trees that characterize the area are also typical of other parks/ open space and other academic institutions
Rarity / Uniqueness	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are rare or unique within the assessment area as a whole.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	The open boundaries to Greaves Park are a relatively unusual feature in Lancaster; other parks/ public spaces generally have a defined boundary.
Condition	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are in a good state of repair</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing condition/quality 	The land is well managed and landscape features are in generally good condition
LANDSCAPE QUALITIES	
Scenic Qualities	<i>Landscapes with strong visual, sensory and perceptual impacts and experiential appeal</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Character/qualities 	The combination of woodland, specimen trees and parkland together with historic buildings has attractive scenic qualities.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prominence / Visibility 	Locally visible from urban streets incl. Greaves Road (A6)
Enjoyment	<i>Landscapes of importance as local greenspace as tranquil areas and/or for countryside recreation. May contain viewpoints and landmarks</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation routes 	Part of the City's strategic cycle network runs through the area
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation areas 	There is a securely enclosed children's play area and extensive grassed areas for informal recreation.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport routes 	The area is accessed via Greaves Road (A6) and Bowerham Road which forms part of the cycle link between the city centre and Lancaster University.
Culture	<i>Landscapes rich in archaeology, built heritage, literary, artistic and other cultural associations and local history.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic landscape character 	The land comprises the former gardens and grounds to two large suburban villas including the Tudor-style Greaves House built c. 1843 and Parkfield.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed Buildings, Parks and Gardens of SHI 	Greaves House (now the Greaves Park public house) is a Grade II listed building
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation Areas 	Greaves Conservation Area
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Associations 	None known
Naturalness	<i>Landscapes with extensive semi-natural habitat, a lack of human presence and perceived qualities of wildness</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity 	Woodland, mature trees and unmown grassland within more naturalistic areas are of some biodiversity value.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geodiversity 	No significant geodiversity.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remoteness 	Not remote – located within the city of Lancaster
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tranquility 	The proximity of the A6 and busy Pointer roundabout junction preclude tranquility.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildness 	Not wild due to management regimes and urban context.
FORCES FOR CHANGE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible pressures on landscape integrity 	Changes to the land management and particularly the woodland areas would influence landscape character.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancement potential 	Management of woodland and specimen trees to ensure longevity and maintain age structure.



Lancashire Landscape Character Type	Lancashire Historic Landscape Character Type	Lancaster Local Landscape Character Type
Urban: Suburban	Modern settlement	Campus greenspace

Location and Character Description:

Located in south-east Lancaster, the land lies within the residential suburb of Bowerham, to the east of Bowerham Road and west of Wyresdale Road. It forms part of the campus of the University of Cumbria (St Martin’s College) campus, and wraps around the northern side of campus buildings to form two areas of contrasting character.

To the east is relatively flat land that includes the University’s sports complex, which is accessed from Wyresdale Road and includes a multi-purpose sports hall, floodlit artificial turf pitch, grass football pitch and surrounding areas of amenity grassland. To the west, land slopes down to Bowerham Road and has a parkland like character with formal planting of trees in avenues, lines and groups, set within a broad area of amenity grassland. It is crossed by the main avenue approach drive to the campus and by a historic tree-lined path that connects campus buildings with Bowerham Road.

The whole area is identified as Urban Greenspace under Policy E29.

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER	
Typicality	<i>Landscape features or combination of features that recur throughout the area</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	The grounds of other areas of campus greenspace have similar landscape features i.e. trees, grassed areas and formal recreation facilities.
Rarity / Uniqueness	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are rare or unique within the assessment area as a whole.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	The tree lined footway which climbs the slope together with the strong line of trees adjacent to Bowerham Road give the land a distinct character.
Condition	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are in a good state of repair</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing condition/quality 	The land is well managed and landscape features are mature.
LANDSCAPE QUALITIES	
Scenic Qualities	<i>Landscapes with strong visual, sensory and perceptual impacts and experiential appeal</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Character/qualities 	Avenue trees, specimen tree groups and the rising topography have some scenic qualities.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visibility 	The north west facing slope is open and provides extensive views through the parkland trees over Lancaster and west towards Morecambe Bay and the Lakeland hills.
Enjoyment	<i>Landscapes of importance as local greenspace as tranquil areas and/or for countryside recreation. May contain viewpoints and landmarks</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation routes 	There is an historic tree-lined footway across the campus and a relatively recent footpath link to St Martin's Road but no public rights of way.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation areas 	Identified as Urban Greenspace under Policy E29, there are large grassed areas in the grounds for informal recreation as well as the formal recreation facilities provided by the University's sports complex.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport routes 	The area is accessed principally via Bowerham Road and Wyresdale Road.
Culture	<i>Landscapes rich in archaeology, built heritage, literary, artistic and other cultural associations and local history.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic landscape character 	Classified as Modern Settlement the land was previously the drill ground and barracks of the King's Own Royal Regiment.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed Buildings, Parks and Gardens of SHI 	No listed buildings or parks and gardens of SHI, but some buildings are of local heritage value (see Associations below)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation Areas 	No Conservation Areas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Associations 	The Lancaster campus of the University of Cumbria was previously St Martin's College. The original buildings were built 1876-1880 as the Bowerham Barracks which were the regional depot of King's Own Royal Regiment, closing in 1959. St Martin's was named after a Roman soldier who converted to Christianity.
Naturalness	<i>Landscapes with extensive semi-natural habitat, a lack of human presence and perceived qualities of wildness</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity 	Mature trees are of some amenity value.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geodiversity 	No significant geodiversity.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remoteness 	Not remote – roads and built development adjacent
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tranquillity 	Not tranquil – due to the proximity and noise of road traffic and activity arising from sporting use.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildness 	Not wild – the area is managed as university campus and sporting facilities
FORCES FOR CHANGE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible pressures on landscape integrity 	Possible future expansion plans of University of Cumbria.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancement potential 	Tree management to ensure longevity of parkland features eg avenues and variations in grassland management to improve biodiversity.



Lancashire Landscape Character Type	Lancashire Historic Landscape Character Type	Lancaster Local Landscape Character Type
Urban: Suburban	Modern recreation Modern ornamental	Formal Urban Open Space

Location and Character Description:

Located in the eastern part of Lancaster, Williamson Park is one of the country's finest examples of a Victorian/Edwardian Park. It was formally opened in 1896 and extends to approximately 21.7 hectares in all, including 15.4 hectares in the original part of the park and a further 6.3 hectares of adjacent parkland acquired in 1997.

The park is located on an elevated north-south ridge, the Lancaster Moor, which rises above the city to more than 109 m AOD. Once heavily quarried for its pale sandstone the land was transformed into parkland through an ambitious project commissioned by James Williamson (Snr) that was begun in the 1870's. The original part is now a diverse urban park that includes grassland, rocky outcrops, water features and extensive woodland and tree planting. A comprehensive system of former carriageway drives and paths provides pedestrian and service access throughout the park. The extension area is parkland that formed part of the grounds of the former Moor Hospital. Fine views are available from the ridge, particularly westward across Lancaster with Morecambe Bay and the Lakeland Fells beyond.

Williamson Park is also the setting for a number of outstanding buildings and structures, including Listed Buildings that were constructed over a period of 20-30 years spanning the turn of the 18/19th century. The most prominent is the Ashton Memorial which dominates Lancaster's skyline and was regarded by Pevsner as '*the grandest monument in England*'. Others include the 'Temple' shelter, the Palm House or orangery, the park bandstand, two gatehouse lodges and a number of smaller stone shelters scattered throughout the park. Today the Park provides a range of recreational facilities that include the tropical Butterfly House, café and gift shop, children's play areas, open grassy spaces and numerous woodland walks. The park has also been used as a venue for outdoor performances of summer Promenade Plays staged by the Duke's Theatre, Lancaster, to be reinstated in 2012. Ashton Memorial is open to the public and available for hire for exhibitions, concerts and as a wedding venue

The whole area is identified as Urban Greenspace under Policy E29.

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER	
Typicality	<i>Landscape features or combination of features that recur throughout the area</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster / Lancashire 	Other urban parks in Lancaster and more widely in Lancashire have a similar combination of features - woodland, grassed areas, ornamental planting, paths, historic buildings
Rarity / Uniqueness	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are rare or unique within the assessment area as a whole.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster / Lancashire 	Elevated landform and the highly distinctive landmark of Ashton Memorial on Lancaster's skyline create a landscape that is rare within Lancaster and Lancashire.
Condition	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are in a good state of repair</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing condition/quality 	The Park is generally adequately maintained
LANDSCAPE QUALITIES	
Scenic Qualities	<i>Landscapes with strong visual, sensory and perceptual impacts and experiential appeal</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Character/qualities 	The park's elevated landform, rocky outcrops, tree cover, ornamental planting, lawns, lake with fountain and landmark historic buildings combine to create high scenic quality.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prominence / Visibility 	The area, with its elevated Ashton Memorial located on Williamson Park's wooded ridge is prominent and widely visible.
Enjoyment	<i>Landscapes of importance as local greenspace as tranquil areas and/or for countryside recreation. May contain viewpoints and landmarks</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation routes 	Extensive network of drives, footpaths and cycleways within the park.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation areas 	Park is Urban Greenspace under Policy E29 and is used extensively for informal recreation, and provides many opportunities for panoramic views across the city towards Morecambe Bay and the Lakeland fells in particular. The park is a venue for promenade performances of plays. Children's play area. Viewing Terrace with telescopes. Ashton Memorial is a popular licensed wedding venue.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport routes 	Urban streets provide access from the north and south.
Culture	<i>Landscapes rich in archaeology, built heritage, literary, artistic and other cultural associations and local history.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic landscape character 	Park is regarded as a fine example of a Victorian/Edwardian Park.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed Buildings, Parks and Gardens of SHI 	The Ashton Memorial is Grade I Listed; the park contains a further 8 Grade II Listed Buildings. Also within the KUL boundary are further listed buildings which form part of Standen Park: Church of St Michael's (grade II) and 2 no. late C19 WC cubicles (grade II). The park is also Grade II Listed on the Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation Areas 	Much of the KUL is designated within the Williamson Park Conservation Area.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Associations 	James Williamson, later Lord Ashton, a local self-made millionaire who manufactured oil cloth and linoleum and who was the benefactor of many of Lancaster's public buildings, monuments and parks, including Williamson Park and the Ashton Memorial.
Naturalness	<i>Landscapes with extensive semi-natural habitat, a lack of human presence and perceived qualities of wildness</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity 	Biodiversity within woodland areas, particularly in southern extension to park.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geodiversity 	Upstanding outcrop of resistant Pendle Grit underlies park and contrasts with surrounding post-glacial depositional landscape. Exposed within former quarries that pepper the park it provided Lancaster's locally distinctive building stone.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remoteness 	Not remote – urban roads and built development adjacent
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tranquillity 	Some limited tranquillity in parts,
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildness 	Not wild – located within urban context
FORCES FOR CHANGE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible pressures on landscape integrity 	Development within and outside of the Park would affect existing character and potentially impact on key views of the Ashton Memorial and its setting as seen from surrounding areas Increased recreational demand leading to path erosion etc
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancement potential 	Programme of management works for tree and woodland renewal, conservation of built heritage features. access enhancements and to increase biodiversity..



Lancashire Landscape Character Type	Lancashire Historic Landscape Character Type	Lancaster Local Landscape Character Type
Urban: Suburban	Modern recreation	Formal Urban Open Space

Location and Character Description:

The area is located in the eastern part of Lancaster, below and to the north of Quernmore Road at its junction with Derwent Road. It is characterised by an expanse of open amenity grassland that has been levelled for recreational use and includes a small fenced MUGA play space with a shelter and basket ball equipment located adjacent to Quernmore Road. There is also a small hardstanding with steel frames that once supported children's swings.

The natural landform has been heavily modified and much of it is now a level platform created by cutting into sloping land that falls naturally to the north and north-west. Embankment slopes form boundaries along Quernmore Road and Derwent Road, and a series of man-made terraces rise up to the east towards properties adjacent to Highfield House. Lines of mature trees are established on the embankment slopes and terraces, and close to the southern boundary. There is also broader tree belt on the embankment to the east of the former tennis courts.

The Park Ward allotment gardens are immediately to the north, and to the north-west is a further recreational area containing bowling greens, former tennis courts and tree belts that is currently the subject of proposals as part of a community-led improvement scheme. The playing fields of Lancaster Royal Grammar School lie to the south, with Williamson Park to the south-east, on the opposite side of Quernmore Road. From Highfield Recreation Ground there are attractive views of Ashton Memorial, and also northward across the city towards the Lakeland fells.

The whole area is identified as Urban Greenspace under Policy E29.

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER	
Typicality	<i>Landscape features or combination of features that recur throughout the area</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	The simple layout and limited diversity and ornamentation of land are similar to other urban parks in Lancaster and Lancashire.
Rarity / Uniqueness	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are rare or unique within the assessment area as a whole.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	Distinctive engineered form with embankment slopes and man-made terraces
Condition	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are in a good state of repair</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing condition/quality 	The land is generally well managed but defunct play equipment detracts from quality
LANDSCAPE QUALITIES	
Scenic Qualities	<i>Landscapes with strong visual, sensory and perceptual impacts and experiential appeal</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Character/qualities 	The open character of the green space and availability of attractive views across the city contribute to scenic quality which is further enhanced by the backdrop provided by the Ashton Memorial in Williamson Park.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prominence / Visibility 	Locally visible from urban roads, from the bowling greens and allotments, from Lancaster Royal Grammar School and from properties adjacent to Highfield House.
Enjoyment	<i>Landscapes of importance as local greenspace as tranquil areas and/or for countryside recreation. May contain viewpoints and landmarks</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation routes 	Public footpath FP47 runs across the south-west part of the area, between Quernmore Road and Derwent Road. The area is unfenced and openly accessible.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation areas 	Identified as Urban Greenspace under Policy E29, there are large grassed areas for informal recreation, a multi-use games area. Immediately adjacent to the area are 2 bowling greens in active use.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport routes 	Quernmore Road and Derwent Road provide the principal means of access
Culture	<i>Landscapes rich in archaeology, built heritage, literary, artistic and other cultural associations and local history.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic landscape character 	Modern recreation, post 1st edition OS mapping.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed Buildings, Parks and Gardens of SHI 	None.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation Areas 	Not within a Conservation Area, but adjacent to the Williamson Park Conservation Area.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Associations 	None known.
Naturalness	<i>Landscapes with extensive semi-natural habitat, a lack of human presence and perceived qualities of wildness</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity 	No significant biodiversity – managed as improved amenity grassland
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geodiversity 	No significant geodiversity.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remoteness 	Not remote – urban roads and built development adjacent
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tranquillity 	Not tranquil - due to noise and movement of road vehicles and use for play activity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildness 	Not wild – located within urban context .
FORCES FOR CHANGE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible pressures on landscape integrity 	Changes to the land management for recreation and provision of facilities.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancement potential 	Change in grassland management regime and further planting to enhance biodiversity

Key Urban Landscape: Lancaster Cemetery, Quernmore Road, Lancaster	Map ref: 10
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Lancashire Landscape Character Type	Lancashire Historic Landscape Character Type	Lancaster Local Landscape Character Type
Urban: Suburban	Modern recreation	Formal Urban Open Space

Location and Character Description:

Lancaster Cemetery is located on Quernmore Road in the eastern part of Lancaster and is a roughly square area of land set aside and enclosed for burials. Ridge Lea hospital abuts the cemetery to the north with HMYOI Lancaster Farms to the north-east and Williamson Park to the south. Surrounded by a stone wall the cemetery extends to approximately 8 hectares and contains many fine examples of Victorian Memorial Art including finely engraved tombstones in the Gothic or Art Nouveau styles. It is considered to be *‘a good example of an early High Victorian (1855) public cemetery for a provincial town’* and *‘the District’s finest Victorian cemetery’*.

Lancaster cemetery is located on the side and top of a drumlin landform. Much of it is gently undulating land that rises to 90m AOD; however the western side is more steeply sloping. A broad carriage avenue leads from the main gates, dividing the cemetery in two and rising towards a formal circular platform at the highest point of the site that is crossed by axial paths and has a war memorial at its centre. A circular road surrounds the platform and serves three small chapels that are laid out in a geometric form. The formality of this area, which is the focus of the site, contrasts with the less formal layout of the remainder of the cemetery, where various geometric forms are used and serpentine subsidiary paths softening the outline of the western area.

Amenity grass forms the setting for gravestones and monuments, interrupted by tree and shrub planting that confers a character similar to that of private estate parkland. Structural planting is provided by mature broadleaf trees in clumps and remnant avenues within the site and as perimeter belts, species include beech, oak, and sweet chestnut. This is supplemented by yews, dark foliated evergreens and more ornamental flowering shrubs including azaleas. Long views west over the city and the Lune valley are available from the western part of the cemetery.

The whole area is also identified as Urban Greenspace under Policy E29.

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER	
Typicality	<i>Landscape features or combination of features that recur throughout the area</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	Other areas of amenity land and parkland have similar components within the landscape including formal elements and designed planting.
Rarity / Uniqueness	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are rare or unique within the assessment area as a whole.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	The cemetery is considered to be Lancaster's finest Victorian cemetery.
Condition	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are in a good state of repair</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing condition/quality 	The land is well managed and landscape features are intact.
LANDSCAPE QUALITIES	
Scenic Qualities	<i>Landscapes with strong visual, sensory and perceptual impacts and experiential appeal</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Character/qualities 	The simple layout of grass, specimen trees, perimeter plantings and Victorian memorial art give the cemetery a particular scenic quality and appeal that is enhanced by the backdrop provided by Williamson Park.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prominence / Visibility 	Locally visible from Quernmore Road and Stone Row Head although interior views are largely screened from view by perimeter tree planting.
Enjoyment	<i>Landscapes of importance as local greenspace as tranquil areas and/or for countryside recreation. May contain viewpoints and landmarks</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation routes 	No public rights of way, but the area is accessible via the main carriage drive and a network of informal paths that run throughout the cemetery.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation areas 	The cemetery is designated Urban Greenspace and is open to the public for informal recreation and enjoyment. Lancaster Civic Society provides monthly guided walks.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport routes 	Quernmore Road provides the main means of access to the cemetery.
Culture	<i>Landscapes rich in archaeology, built heritage, literary, artistic and other cultural associations and local history.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic landscape character 	Classified as Modern recreation in terms of its historic character, the cemetery dates from 1855 and its layout survives intact and in good condition including the trio of chapels and duo of gateways.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed Buildings, Parks and Gardens of SHI 	3 no. cemetery chapels (grade II), West Lodge (grade II), Crimean War Memorial (grade II). Cemetery is also a Registered Park & Garden (grade II)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation Areas 	None.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Associations 	The cemetery is of significance as the final resting place of many eminent Lancastrians. It is also associated with the prominent Lancaster architect Edward Paley who designed the chapels and who was probably also responsible for the lodges.
Naturalness	<i>Landscapes with extensive semi-natural habitat, a lack of human presence and perceived qualities of wildness</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity 	No significant biodiversity.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geodiversity 	As part of a drumlin field the landform is of some geomorphological interest.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remoteness 	Not remote – M6 nearby and built development adjacent
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tranquillity 	The cemetery has a relatively tranquil character due to the nature of its land use and its separation from Lancaster's main urban area.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildness 	Less intensively managed areas of the cemetery have a degree of wildness
FORCES FOR CHANGE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible pressures on landscape integrity 	Under-management of cemetery grounds and monuments.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancement potential 	Opportunity to vary grassland management regime to enhance biodiversity.

APPENDIX 1

KEY URBAN LANDSCAPES: Landscape Character Assessments

- 1 Lancaster Castle and Priory, Lancaster**
- 2 Ryelands Park, Lancaster**
- 3 Land north of Haverbreaks, Lancaster**
- 4 Land south of Haverbreaks, Lancaster**
- 5 Grounds of Jamea Al Kauthar Islamic college, Lancaster**
- 6 Greaves Park, Lancaster**
- 7 University of Cumbria campus, Lancaster**
- 8 Williamson Park, Lancaster**
- 9 Highfield Recreation Ground, Lancaster**
- 10 Lancaster Cemetery, Lancaster**
- 11 Land south-east of Caton Road, adjacent to M6, Lancaster**
- 12 Land adjacent to Grab Lane, Lancaster**
- 13 Land south of Wyresdale Road, adjacent to M6, Lancaster**
- 14 Land south & east of Newlands Road, adjacent to M6, Lancaster**
- 15 Land south of Hala Hill & adjacent to M6, Lancaster**
- 16 Land west and south of Lancaster University, Lancaster**
- 17 Land south of Smithy Lane, Heysham**
- 18 Heysham Head and The Barrows, Heysham**
- 19 Land north of Knowlys Road, Heysham**

Key Urban Landscape: Land south-east of Caton Road and west of M6	Map ref: 11
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Lancashire Landscape Character Type	Lancashire Historic Landscape Character Type	Lancaster Local Landscape Character Type
Drumlin field Low coastal drumlins	Ancient enclosure Modern recreation Post-Mediaeval enclosure	Rolling/ sloping farmland

Location and Character Description:

Located west of the M6, north of Quernmore Road, and south of A683 Caton Road, this area of land is characterised by a rolling landscape of drumlins that have a distinctive north-south orientation. In the northern part of the area low, coastal drumlins form minor hills that rise from approximately 25m to 45m AOD, while to the south the drumlins are larger in scale, reaching 80m at Ridge Lea. Minor valleys between the drumlins are drained by a network of watercourses that feed in to Newton Beck. Most of the area is farmland, predominantly large fields of permanent pasture with belts and blocks of mixed broadleaf woodland, including long established Long Bank Wood and Ridge Wood. To the north of the area, on the lower drumlins, land is managed as amenity grass and woodland within Lansil Golf Club. Lancaster Canal abuts the area to the north-west.

The area is crossed by Ridge Lane, a farm track and public bridleway which runs eastward to provide access over the M6 motorway. Farmsteads at Ridge Farm and Lancaster Farm (HMYOI) are located off Ridge Lane, together with a pair of farm cottages (Farm View). The land is overlooked from the east by the M6, from the north by Lancaster Business Park, from the west by the Ridge housing estate and adjacent Central Lancaster High School, and from the south by HMYOI Lancaster Farms, the Lancaster Moor Hospital and Lancaster Cemetery.

There are two County Biological Heritage sites on the land – Newton Beck which lies immediately north of the Ridge estate, an area of lowland meadow and scrub woodland, and Long Bank Wood which forms part of Lansil Golf Club, an ancient and semi natural woodland. The Club House and parking area at the golf club is identified as an Outdoor Playing Space under policy R1.

The whole area is identified as a Woodland Opportunity Area under policy E27.

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER	
Typicality	<i>Landscape features or combination of features that recur throughout the area</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	The land is typical of other areas of land on the outskirts of Lancaster on fields of drumlins with similar landscape features i.e hedgerows and woodland copses.
Rarity / Uniqueness	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are rare or unique within the assessment area as a whole.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	While this area is neither unique nor rare within Lancaster, it does provide a contrast with the complexity of built development and infrastructure on Caton Road.
Condition	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are in a good state of repair</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing condition/quality 	The land and its landscape features appears to be well managed and in good condition.
LANDSCAPE QUALITIES	
Scenic Qualities	<i>Landscapes with strong visual, sensory and perceptual impacts and experiential appeal</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Character/qualities 	The rolling landform and woodland cover within this well-managed farmland gives the area a degree of scenic quality which is enhanced by the backdrop provided to the south by Williamson Park and the Ashton Memorial.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prominence / Visibility 	Land is widely visible from the M6, and locally visible from the Ridge estate, Lancaster Canal and from Caton Road although views from Caton Road to the interior are largely screened by landform and woodland.
Enjoyment	<i>Landscapes of importance as local greenspace as tranquil areas and/or for countryside recreation. May contain viewpoints and landmarks</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation routes 	Two bridleways cross the land - Ridge Lane, (BW36) and Moor Lane (BW37).The Lancaster Canal forms an important nearby recreation route, with footpath links from the Ridge estate.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation areas 	Most of the land is in private ownership as farmland or as Lansil Golf Club where the club house/car park are identified as an Outdoor Playing space under R1. There is also a securely fenced outdoor play area (MUGA) and allotments off Ambleside Road, Ridge Estate.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport routes 	Local access is available via the A683 Caton Road to the north-west, Quernmore Road to the south and from local roads serving the Ridge estate.
Culture	<i>Landscapes rich in archaeology, built heritage, literary, artistic and other cultural associations and local history.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic landscape character 	Most of the land is classified as Ancient enclosure
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed Buildings, Parks and Gardens of SHI 	None.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation Areas 	None.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Associations 	No identified associations.
Naturalness	<i>Landscapes with extensive semi-natural habitat, a lack of human presence and perceived qualities of wildness</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity 	The ancient semi natural woodlands and lowland meadow (both County Biological Heritage sites) provide some biodiversity value, however the area is largely managed as farmland and as amenity land (golf course).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geodiversity 	As part of a drumlin field the landform is of some geomorphological interest.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remoteness 	Not remote – M6 and built development adjacent
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tranquillity 	Not tranquil - due to noise and movement of road traffic on M6 and local roads and proximity of the Lancaster Farms HMYOI
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildness 	Not wild - The area is managed as productive farmland and as a golf course.
FORCES FOR CHANGE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible pressures on landscape integrity 	Possible pressure for development if access problems can be resolved. Changes in farming practices and in the management of field boundaries and woods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancement potential 	Scope for increased woodland cover.



Lancashire Landscape Character Type	Lancashire Historic Landscape Character Type	Lancaster Local Landscape Character Type
Drumlin field	Post-Mediaeval enclosure	Valley farmland Rolling/ sloping farmland

Location and Character Description:

This area of open agricultural land lies on the eastern fringes of Lancaster, to the west of the M6 motorway, south of Quernmore Road, north of Wyresdale Road, and to the east of Fenham Carr Lane. The land is subdivided by Grab Lane which runs NNE – SSW between Quernmore Road and Wyresdale Road. To the west of Grab Lane most of the land is low-lying open valley farmland that lies adjacent to the Burrow Beck watercourse and is largely flat and featureless with only occasional trees. Also adjacent to Burrow Beck is Fenham Carr, an area of wet woodland with scrub, bracken rushes and coarse grasses. To the east of Grab Lane land rises towards the M6 motorway, forming the western side slopes and rounded top of a drumlin that reaches approximately 90 m AOD and which forms part of a drumlin field that has a distinctive north-south orientation. Here improved pasture is enclosed mainly by stone walls in a distinctive historic pattern of enclosure. There are also occasional groups of trees and hedges with hedgerow trees.

A ribbon of houses on Quernmore Road is within the area, together with a farmstead, 'Oatlands' that lies adjacent to and east of Grab Lane. The land is overlooked in views from adjacent residential properties at Standen Gate and Standen Park to the north of the area and from properties on Fenham Carr Road to the west. It is also seen in views from the M6 motorway. The land is also overlooked by and provides a largely undeveloped setting for the iconic Ashton Memorial, regarded by Pevsner as '*the grandest monument in England*'. Ashton Memorial rises above a wooded ridge to form part of the city's distinctive skyline, which also includes the nearby Gothic tower of the Moor Hospital.

Fenham Carr is designated as a County Biological Heritage Site.

The whole area is identified as a Woodland Opportunity Area under policy E27.

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER	
Typicality	<i>Landscape features or combination of features that recur throughout the area</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	The land is typical of other areas of land on the outskirts of Lancaster located on a drumlin field with similar landscape features i.e. hedgerows, hedgerow trees, field boundaries and woodland.
Rarity / Uniqueness	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are rare or unique within the assessment area as a whole.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	While this area's intrinsic landscape is neither unique nor rare within Lancaster, its role in providing a 'naturalistic' part of the setting to the Ashton Memorial Grade I Listed Building is rare.
Condition	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are in a good state of repair</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing condition/quality 	Landscape condition shows some evidence of decline with some stone walls in poor repair.
LANDSCAPE QUALITIES	
Scenic Qualities	<i>Landscapes with strong visual, sensory and perceptual impacts and experiential appeal</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Character/qualities 	Open character, variations in landform, the textures of Fenham Carr woodland and the historic pattern of field walls within the area combine to confer intrinsic scenic quality which is significantly enhanced in some views by the backdrop provided by the wooded ridge within Williamson Park and the iconic Ashton Memorial.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prominence / Visibility 	Visible from local roads and residential properties at Standen Gate and Standen Park, Quernmore Road and Fenham Carr Road. Also widely visible from the elevated M6 where views westward across the area of Lancaster's skyline including Ashton Memorial are only occasionally interrupted by tree cover established intermittently on the M6 embankments.
Enjoyment	<i>Landscapes of importance as local greenspace as tranquil areas and/or for countryside recreation. May contain viewpoints and landmarks</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation routes 	None.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation areas 	None.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport routes 	Quernmore Road, Wyresdale Road and Grab Lane provide local access.
Culture	<i>Landscapes rich in archaeology, built heritage, literary, artistic and other cultural associations and local history.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic landscape character 	Much of the land retains a distinctive and regular historic pattern typical of post medieval field enclosure, defined mainly by stone wall boundaries and hedges.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed Buildings, Parks and Gardens of SHI 	None within area. Ashton Memorial Gardens and Williamson Park (RPGSHI Grade II) is adjacent to the west and it contains various Listed Buildings including the Grade I Ashton Memorial– area is within settings of these heritage assets.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation Areas 	None within area. However Ashton Memorial Gardens and Williamson Park Conservation Area is adjacent to the west – area forms part of its setting.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Associations 	No identified associations.
Naturalness	<i>Landscapes with extensive semi-natural habitat, a lack of human presence and perceived qualities of wildness</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity 	Trees and hedgerows provide some biodiversity value, however the area is largely managed as farmland.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geodiversity 	As part of a drumlin field the landform is of some geomorphological interest.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remoteness 	Not remote – M6 and built development adjacent
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tranquillity 	Not tranquil - due to noise and movement of road traffic on M6 and local roads
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildness 	Not wild - The area is managed as productive farmland.
FORCES FOR CHANGE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible pressures on landscape integrity 	Potential for development to affect existing open character and impact on key views of the Ashton Memorial and its setting as seen from within area and from surrounding areas Changes in farming practices and the management of field boundaries
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancement potential 	Scope for increased public access, biodiversity and for increased woodland cover in locations that would not affect key views of the Ashton Memorial Maintenance of stone walls and hedged field boundaries

Key Urban Landscape: Land west of M6, south of Wyresdale Road, Lancaster	Map ref: 13
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Lancashire Landscape Character Type	Lancashire Historic Landscape Character Type	Lancaster Local Landscape Character Type
Drumlin field	Post-Mediaeval enclosure	Rolling/ sloping farmland

Location and Character Description:

This area of land is located on the south-eastern fringes of Lancaster, to the west of the M6 motorway and Newlands Road, south of Wyresdale Road and east of Lancaster Leisure Park. Suburban housing development at Newlands defines the area to the south. The land forms part of the side-slopes of a drumlin landform that rises locally to 93m AOD. To the south of Wyresdale Road is a broad tree-lined verge and several properties adjacent including the single detached property 'Oxendale', the premises of a marquee hire company, and Well House Farm, now a small boutique hotel (The Ashton).

Much of the land is gently rolling or sloping improved pasture. In the north-western part, hedgerows have been lost and the land now has a parkland-like character, with groups and belts of mature broadleaf trees, while to the south-east hedgerows remain to subdivide the land into regular fields in a post-Medieval pattern of enclosure. This area also includes a covered water supply reservoir that is protected behind security fencing. In the southern part of the area, adjacent to the Newlands housing estate, a belt of mature broadleaf trees that lines a watercourse is an important feature in the landscape, physically and visually separating open land from suburban development. Tree cover established on the M6 motorway embankment limits the westward views of passing motorists.

The whole area is identified as a Woodland Opportunity Area under policy E27.

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER	
Typicality	<i>Landscape features or combination of features that recur throughout the area</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	The land is typical of other areas of land on the fringes of Lancaster that are characterised by drumlin landforms, and have similar landscape features i.e. hedgerows, woodland copses.
Rarity / Uniqueness	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are rare or unique within the assessment area as a whole.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	While the character of this area is neither unique nor rare within Lancaster (or Lancashire), it does provide an open green buffer zone between Lancaster and the M6 motorway corridor.
Condition	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are in a good state of repair</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing condition/quality 	The land and its landscape features appears to be relatively well managed.
LANDSCAPE QUALITIES	
Scenic Qualities	<i>Landscapes with strong visual, sensory and perceptual impacts and experiential appeal</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Character/qualities 	Rolling landform, well-managed farmland and tree cover combine to give this area some limited scenic quality.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prominence /Visibility 	Some opportunities for views from the adjacent Lakeland Leisure Park and a small number of properties but otherwise visibility of the land is limited to places along Newlands Road and Wyresdale Road where trees and tall hedges do not intervene in views.
Enjoyment	<i>Landscapes of importance as local greenspace as tranquil areas and/or for countryside recreation. May contain viewpoints and landmarks</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation routes 	None
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation areas 	None.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport routes 	Newlands Road and Wyresdale Road-provide access from the north and east.
Culture	<i>Landscapes rich in archaeology, built heritage, literary, artistic and other cultural associations and local history.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic landscape character 	Mainly lowland farmland with a regular pattern of medium fields with hedge boundaries and woodland copse, typical of post medieval enclosure.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed Buildings, Parks and Gardens of SHI 	None.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation Areas 	None.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Associations 	No identified associations.
Naturalness	<i>Landscapes with extensive semi-natural habitat, a lack of human presence and perceived qualities of wildness</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity 	The tree belt established along the watercourse and other groups and belts of trees provide some biodiversity value, however the area is largely managed as improved farmland.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geodiversity 	As part of a drumlin landform the land is of some geomorphological interest.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remoteness 	Not remote – located on the edge of an urban area
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tranquillity 	Not particularly tranquil due to the proximity to the M6 motorway.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildness 	Not wild - The area is managed as productive farmland adjacent to housing development.
FORCES FOR CHANGE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible pressures on landscape integrity 	Changes in farming practices and the management of field boundaries Potential pressure for expansion of residential development.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancement potential 	Scope for increased woodland cover. Maintenance of hedged field boundaries

Key Urban Landscape: Land south-east of Newlands Road and west of M6	Map ref: 14
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Lancashire Landscape Character Type	Lancashire Historic Landscape Character Type	Lancaster Local Landscape Character Type
Drumlin field	Post-Mediaeval enclosure	Rolling/ sloping farmland

Location and Character Description:

This narrow and elongated parcel of land is located to the west of the M6 motorway and east of Newlands Road / Bowerham Lane, beyond which are the suburban housing estates of Scotforth. It forms part of the side-slopes of a drumlin landform and is characterised by open fields of improved grazing land that slope up to the M6 motorway. The fields are typically enclosed by hedgerows and a roadside wall and generally retain the pattern of enclosure that was established in the post-Medieval period. Belts of broadleaf trees are also present in places, and a short avenue of trees lines the access road to Hala Carr Farm from Bowerham Lane. The land forms a green buffer between the M6 and residential properties on the eastern fringes of Lancaster. It directly abuts the rear of properties on Newlands Road, and is overlooked by properties on Bowerham Lane and from vehicles passing on the M6 motorway.

The whole area is identified as a Woodland Opportunity Area under policy E27.

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER	
Typicality	<i>Landscape features or combination of features that recur throughout the area</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	The land is typical of other areas of land on the fringes of Lancaster that are characterized by drumlin landforms, and have similar landscape features i.e. hedgerows and woodland copses.
Rarity / Uniqueness	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are rare or unique within the assessment area as a whole.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	While this area is neither unique nor rare within Lancaster, it does provide an open green buffer zone that separates the M6 road corridor from the Newlands and Scotforth residential estates.
Condition	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are in a good state of repair</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing condition/quality 	The land and its landscape features appears to be well managed.
LANDSCAPE QUALITIES	
Scenic Qualities	<i>Landscapes with strong visual, sensory and perceptual impacts and experiential appeal</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Character/qualities 	Well-managed farmland and tree cover give this area some limited scenic quality.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prominence / Visibility 	The land is widely visible from the M6, from properties lining Newlands Road and from Bowerham Lane.
Enjoyment	<i>Landscapes of importance as local greenspace as tranquil areas and/or for countryside recreation. May contain viewpoints and landmarks</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation routes 	None
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation areas 	None.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport routes 	Access via urban roads.
Culture	<i>Landscapes rich in archaeology, built heritage, literary, artistic and other cultural associations and local history.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic landscape character 	Mainly lowland farmland with a regular pattern of medium fields with hedge boundaries and woodland copse, typical of post medieval enclosure.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed Buildings, Parks and Gardens of SHI 	None.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation Areas 	None.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Associations 	No identified associations.
Naturalness	<i>Landscapes with extensive semi-natural habitat, a lack of human presence and perceived qualities of wildness</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity 	The woodland belts are of some biodiversity value, however the area is largely managed as improved farmland.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geodiversity 	As part of a drumlin landform the land is of some geomorphological interest.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remoteness 	Not remote – located on the edge of an urban area adjacent to M6.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tranquillity 	The proximity to the M6 motorway reduces any sense of tranquillity.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildness 	The area is managed as productive farmland.
FORCES FOR CHANGE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible pressures on landscape integrity 	Potential pressure for development.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancement potential 	Scope for increased woodland cover.



Lancashire Landscape Character Type	Lancashire Historic Landscape Character Type	Lancaster Local Landscape Character Type
Drumlin field	Modern enclosure Ancient & post-Medieval woodland Modern settlement	Rolling/ sloping farmland

Location and Character Description:

This elongated area of land is located immediately west of the M6 motorway, to the south of Hala Hill road and Blea Tarn Road and north of Hazelrigg Lane. It forms part of a green buffer that separates the southern extent of Lancaster's urban development from Lancaster University to the south, and also defines the eastern and northern extent of built development on the University's campus. The land slopes up towards the M6 motorway from approximately 60 m AOD at its lowest point to 75 m AOD. It lies on the western flank of a drumlin, forming part of a drumlin field that has a distinctive north-south orientation.

The southern part of the area is characterised by belts of long-established mature woodland that physically and visually enclose the campus core and limit views from the north and east. The northern part of the area is a long slope of open grazing land, subdivided into large fields by a combination of tree belts, hedgerows and fencing. There are also patches of gorse scrub adjacent to the motorway boundary. A high voltage overhead electricity transmission line crosses the open farmland in a NW-SE direction and is a prominent feature in the landscape.

The whole area is identified as a Woodland Opportunity Area under policy E27.

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER	
Typicality	<i>Landscape features or combination of features that recur throughout the area</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	The land is typical of other areas of land on the fringes of Lancaster that are characterized by drumlin landforms and with similar landscape features i.e. hedgerows and woodland copses.
Rarity / Uniqueness	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are rare or unique within the assessment area as a whole.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	While this area is neither unique nor rare within Lancaster in character terms, it does provide a buffer between the M6 and Lancaster University campus, and contributes to open land that separates the University from Lancaster's suburbs.
Condition	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are in a good state of repair</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing condition/quality 	The land is well managed and landscape features are mature.
LANDSCAPE QUALITIES	
Scenic Qualities	<i>Landscapes with strong visual, sensory and perceptual impacts and experiential appeal</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Character/qualities 	Well-managed farmland and woodland give this area some limited scenic quality.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prominence/ Visibility 	The land is widely visible from the M6, and is also seen from the M6 overbridge on Blea Tarn Road, from properties in Bailrigg and on the Hala housing estate, Scotforth and from public footpath FP54/FP3 to the west, between the housing estate and Bailrigg hamlet.
Enjoyment	<i>Landscapes of importance as local greenspace as tranquil areas and/or for countryside recreation. May contain viewpoints and landmarks</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation routes 	No public rights of way. A woodland trail runs through the woodland on the north and east boundaries of Lancaster University campus.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation areas 	None.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport routes 	Access provided by campus roads, and by urban roads on the Hala residential estate. Blea Tarn Road to the north is raised on embankment.
Culture	<i>Landscapes rich in archaeology, built heritage, literary, artistic and other cultural associations and local history.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic landscape character 	Areas of Ancient and post-Medieval woodland character remain adjacent to the campus , but lowland farmland is characterized by Modern enclosure.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed Buildings, Parks and Gardens of SHI 	None
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation Areas 	None.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Associations 	No identified associations.
Naturalness	<i>Landscapes with extensive semi-natural habitat, a lack of human presence and perceived qualities of wildness</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity 	Long established woodland belts adjacent to the campus provide some biodiversity value, however the area is largely managed as farmland.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geodiversity 	As part of a drumlin field the landform is of some geomorphological interest.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remoteness 	Not remote – M6 and built development (campus) adjacent
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tranquillity 	Not tranquil - due to noise and movement of M6 road traffic and presence of high voltage electricity lines.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildness 	Not wild - The area is managed as productive farmland.
FORCES FOR CHANGE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible pressures on landscape integrity 	Potential pressure for expansion of residential development and campus development Changes in farming practices and the management of field boundaries
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancement potential 	Scope for increased woodland cover and for measures to increase biodiversity. Management of woodland belts to promote healthy age structure and diversity

Key Urban Landscape: Land west and south of Lancaster University Campus	Map ref: 16
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Lancashire Landscape Character Type	Lancashire Historic Landscape Character Type	Lancaster Local Landscape Character Type
Low Coastal drumlins	Modern enclosure Modern settlement	Campus greenspace

Location and Character Description:

Located east of the A6 and to the west and south of the main campus of Lancaster University, this area of land is an extensive area of former estate farmland, now predominantly amenity grassland, that contains a new sports centre, sports pitches, access roads, a lake, woodland blocks and belts together with individual specimen trees.

The A6 runs along the local valley bottom to the west. Rising up from approximately 40m AOD at the A6 toward the built core at approximately 60 m AOD, there are two minor ridge features which divide the site into distinct parts; the open grassland and woodlands on slopes to the east, and sports pitches that lie to the west, on flat land along the foot of these slopes. On entering the campus from the A6 the visitor passes first through a parkland landscape before winding up the slope through the woodland to reach the built core of the campus.

The whole area is identified as Urban Greenspace under policy E29. Within it, three areas of playing field are also protected under policy R1 as Outdoor Playing Space.

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER	
Typicality	<i>Landscape features or combination of features that recur throughout the area</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	As a parkland landscape which contains open grassland, woodland and sports pitches the land is typical of other areas of amenity land and campus greenspace in Lancaster.
Rarity / Uniqueness	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are rare or unique within the assessment area as a whole.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	The scale of the parkland landscape and the backdrop provided by campus buildings distinguishes the land from other similar areas in Lancaster.
Condition	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are in a good state of repair</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing condition/quality 	The land is well managed and landscape features are mature and generally in good condition.
LANDSCAPE QUALITIES	
Scenic Qualities	<i>Landscapes with strong visual, sensory and perceptual impacts and experiential appeal</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Character/qualities 	This extensive parkland landscape has significant scenic quality, combining a lake and elevated ridges, mature woods and a sports centre in contemporary style.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prominence / Visibility 	Visible in places from the A6 and West Coast Main Line railway although woodland on the west perimeter of the campus interrupts the majority of views. The land is also visible from residential properties in Bailrigg and from the public footpath that crosses the elevated Burrows Heights to the north-west.
Enjoyment	<i>Landscapes of importance as local greenspace as tranquil areas and/or for countryside recreation. May contain viewpoints and landmarks</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation routes 	Includes part of the city's Strategic Cycle Network (footpath/cycleway route to Lancaster). Campus woodland trail and a trim trail.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation areas 	University-owned land not generally open to the public includes playing fields, cricket pitch, tennis courts incl. 3 areas protected under policy R1 Outdoor Playing Space. The whole area is Urban Greenspace (policy E29).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport routes 	Access via the campus roads to the east, from the A6 to the west, from Hazelrigg Lane to the south and via Green Lane which runs through the area.
Culture	<i>Landscapes rich in archaeology, built heritage, literary, artistic and other cultural associations and local history.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic landscape character 	Areas of woodland established on the steep slope which runs north-south across the centre of the site is retained estate woodland dating from the 1850s.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed Buildings, Parks and Gardens of SHI 	Bailrigg House, a Grade II Listed Arts and Crafts style house is immediately adjacent. Its gardens, designed by TH Mawson are within the area.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation Areas 	None.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Associations 	None identified.
Naturalness	<i>Landscapes with extensive semi-natural habitat, a lack of human presence and perceived qualities of wildness</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity 	The woodlands, lake and areas of un-mown grassland are of some biodiversity value; however the area is largely managed for formal and informal recreation.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geodiversity 	As part of a drumlin the landform is of some geomorphological interest.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remoteness 	Not remote – roads and built development adjacent.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tranquillity 	Not tranquil - due to the proximity and noise of A6 and M6 road traffic, and sports activity.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildness 	Not wild - the area is managed as university campus.
FORCES FOR CHANGE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible pressures on landscape integrity 	Potential pressure for future expansion of the University.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancement potential 	A woodland management plan is needed to improve age structure and diversity. Scope for improvements in biodiversity.

Key Urban Landscape: Land south of Smithy Lane, Heysham	Map ref: 17
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Lancashire Landscape Character Type	Lancashire Historic Landscape Character Type	Lancaster Local Landscape Character Type
Urban: Suburban	Post-Medieval enclosure	Coastal scrub woodland and grassland

Location and Character Description:

This area lies to the north-east of Port of Heysham and forms a green buffer that separates the Port's industrial estate from residential properties in Higher Heysham. Its northern part is relatively flat and low-lying in the north, adjacent to Smithy Lane, with land rising towards the south and east. An informal car park occupies the north-western corner of the area, serving visitors to Half Moon Bay. It is the remnant of a much larger parking area, now abandoned, which is being colonised gradually by rough grasses and scrub.

To the south of the car park, much of the western area is characterized by a combination of mixed woodland planting in belts and blocks, by scrub vegetation and areas of unimproved herb-rich grassland. To the east there are three large open fields subdivided by tree belts and broad hedges. Two of the fields are amenity grassland, mown and managed as outdoor playing space. The third, northerly field is in the process of conversion to new allotments - the Heysham Green Fingers Allotment Site – via a community-based project that is supported by the County Council's Environmental and Community Projects Service. In the north-eastern corner of the area is an expanse of open amenity grass that separates residential properties on Delawere Avenue and Heathfoot Avenue from Smithy Lane to the north.

The western part of the area is protected as the Higher Heysham Knoll County Biological Heritage Site.

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER	
Typicality	<i>Landscape features or combination of features that recur throughout the area</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	Areas of planted woodland, scrub and unimproved grassland occur frequently within Lancaster District and within Lancashire.
Rarity / Uniqueness	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are rare or unique within the assessment area as a whole.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	None
Condition	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are in a good state of repair</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing condition/quality 	Woodland blocks and belts appear to be in good condition, but the abandoned parking area, with its large expanse of bitmac surfacing, confers a neglected 'brownfield' character that reduces landscape quality.
LANDSCAPE QUALITIES	
Scenic Qualities	<i>Landscapes with strong visual, sensory and perceptual impacts and experiential appeal</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Character/qualities 	'Brownfield' appearance of abandoned parking area detracts from the natural character and scenic quality of developing scrub and woodland.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prominence / Visibility 	Visible from Smithy Lane, from public footpath FP35 that runs east-west across the area between the western part of Smithy Lane and Delawere Avenue, and from residential properties on Delawere Avenue and Warren Road to the east and housing estates to the north. Also visible from Heysham Head and The Barrows.
Enjoyment	<i>Landscapes of importance as local greenspace as tranquil areas and/or for countryside recreation. May contain viewpoints and landmarks</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation routes 	Public Footpath FP35 runs through the area, part of a wider network of public access in Higher Heysham. There are many informal footpath routes through the western part of the area. Car park within area and café nearby.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation areas 	Apart from the new allotments site, the area is available for informal recreation or as an Outdoor Playing Space (Policy R1)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport routes 	Accessed via local roads off A589
Culture	<i>Landscapes rich in archaeology, built heritage, literary, artistic and other cultural associations and local history.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic landscape character 	Former lowland farmland with regular enclosed fields; the historic pattern of enclosure in the eastern part are still evident. In terms of historic landscape character, now classified as Post-Medieval enclosure
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed Buildings, Parks and Gardens of SHI 	None
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation Areas 	None
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Associations 	None known
Naturalness	<i>Landscapes with extensive semi-natural habitat, a lack of human presence and perceived qualities of wildness</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity 	Western part is designated Higher Heysham Knoll County Biological Heritage Sites
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geodiversity 	None known
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remoteness 	Not remote – due to proximity of development including adjacent residential properties and industrial estates
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tranquillity 	Not tranquil - tranquility within the land itself is undermined by visitor movements (car park), by traffic on Smithy Lane and by the presence of adjacent industrial estates and the Heysham nuclear power stations to the south.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildness 	A limited degree of wildness derived from presence of semi-natural scrub vegetation and wildlife.
FORCES FOR CHANGE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible pressures on landscape integrity 	Potential pressure to provide further industrial estate land or for housing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancement potential 	Further site restoration to reduce 'brownfield' appearance of northern part of area and provide a positive use, and to upgrade quality of car park

Key Urban Landscape: Heysham Head and The Barrows	Map ref: 18
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Lancashire Landscape Character Type	Lancashire Historic Landscape Character Type	Lancaster Local Landscape Character Type
Urban: Historic core Urban: Suburban	Modern recreation	Coastal grassland

Location and Character Description:

This area lies to the north of Port of Heysham and is characterised by undeveloped open coastal grassland, low cliffs and foreshore that extends along the coast of Morecambe Bay. It also includes woodland and the western part of the historic core of Heysham village. The area lies to the north of Smithy Lane and west of Barrows Lane/Main Street which links the Port to Heysham village. Heysham Head is at its northern end, a headland of low sandstone cliffs and rocky beach outcrops that rises inland to 39m AOD at Chapel Hill. To the south of Heysham Head is The Barrows, a broad strip of generally lower lying grassland that fringes Half Moon Bay. On the cliffs at Heysham Head are the ruins of the chapel of St. Patrick, reputed to have been built around AD 750, with several ancient rock hewn graves adjacent. The low cliffs provide opportunities for attractive panoramic views across Morecambe Bay towards the Lake District fells.

The coastal grassland is sub-divided and enclosed by a network of field walls. There are patches of gorse and other scrub, together with an area of coastal woodland on more sheltered land to the west of St Peter's Church. The whole area is in informal recreational use, much of it in the ownership of National Trust. Heysham Head and land fringing Half Moon Bay is a County Biological Heritage Site while offshore, Morecambe Bay is designated SSSI, Ramsar site, SPA, and SAC.

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER	
Typicality	<i>Landscape features or combination of features that recur throughout the area</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	Coastal grassland is typical of other undeveloped areas of coastal land within Lancaster District and Lancashire
Rarity / Uniqueness	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are rare or unique within the assessment area as a whole.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	The low coastal cliffs are rare within Lancaster District and within Lancashire as a whole. s
Condition	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are in a good state of repair</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing condition/quality 	Landscape condition shows some evidence of erosion in places due to recreational use.
LANDSCAPE QUALITIES	
Scenic Qualities	<i>Landscapes with strong visual, sensory and perceptual impacts and experiential appeal</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Character/qualities 	The open and exposed character of Heysham Head and the Barrows, located on the edge of Morecambe Bay, enhanced by historic remains and panoramic views across Morecambe Bay is of high scenic quality but is affected by presence of Heysham power stations nearby
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prominence / Visibility 	Widely visible from Morecambe Bay, from local roads and from the coastal footpath /cycleway (NCR6) that extends northward to Morecambe. The land is also visible from residential property on The Headlands, and more distantly, from Grange over Sands and Ulverston.
Enjoyment	<i>Landscapes of importance as local greenspace as tranquil areas and/or for countryside recreation. May contain viewpoints and landmarks</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation routes 	Many informal footpath routes through the area, including Public Footpath 41 which runs along the coastal edge as an extension to the more formal coastal footpath/cycleway (NCR6) to the north. Public Footpath 33 provides a link between Barrows Lane and the southern end of the area where there is a car park and café. Heritage Centre nearby.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation areas 	The whole area is in recreational use, much of it in the ownership of National Trust. Part of it is identified as an Outdoor Playing Space (Policy R1)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport routes 	Accessed via local roads off A589, and NCR 6.
Culture	<i>Landscapes rich in archaeology, built heritage, literary, artistic and other cultural associations and local history.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic landscape character 	Former lowland farmland with regular fields enclosed by stone walls. In terms of historic landscape character, now classified as Modern Recreation.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed Buildings, Parks and Gardens of SHI 	Scheduled Monuments - the chapel of St. Patrick and the rock-hewn graves. Heysham Head and The Barrows provide an undeveloped and naturalistic setting to the Scheduled Monuments and to the western part of Heysham Conservation Area
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation Areas 	Heysham Conservation Area that contains Listed Buildings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Associations 	Associated with the Irish Saint Patrick who, according to legend, was shipwrecked off the coast of Morecambe and built the chapel on Heysham Head in thanks for his survival.
Naturalness	<i>Landscapes with extensive semi-natural habitat, a lack of human presence and perceived qualities of wildness</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity 	County Biological Heritage Site - Unimproved coastal grassland Scrub and woodland
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geodiversity 	Outcrops of stratified sandstone (Carboniferous Millstone Grit) that form the cliffs at Heysham Head are in contrast to the low drumlins and mosses of the surrounding area.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remoteness 	Proximity of development including adjacent properties at The Headlands
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tranquillity 	Tranquillity within the land itself is undermined by visitor numbers and by the looming presence of the Heysham nuclear power stations to the south.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildness 	A degree of wildness due to exposed coastal location and the experience of wind & waves.
FORCES FOR CHANGE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible pressures on landscape integrity 	Potential pressure for higher levels of recreational use, resulting in further erosion of surfaces and paths. Potential changes in coastal environment – incl. sea level change, marine erosion Potential pressure for development may adversely affect the character of the landscape and the settings of Scheduled Monuments and Listed Buildings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancement potential 	Improvement of footpath network, signage, interpretation



Lancashire Landscape Character Type	Lancashire Historic Landscape Character Type	Lancaster Local Landscape Character Type
Urban: Suburban	Modern settlement	Coastal grassland

Location and Character Description:

This area lies immediately to the north of Heysham village and extends along the coast of Morecambe Bay towards Morecambe, forming a strip of open coastal grassland and foreshore that slopes down towards the Bay. Residential properties on the edge of Heysham overlook the land from the east and it is also viewed from the coastal footpath (FP30)/cycleway (NCR6) that runs north-south along coastal defences to the west. The coastal footpath /cycleway provides opportunities for attractive panoramic views across Morecambe Bay towards the Lake District fells and coastal towns.

The southern part of the area is currently managed for horse grazing. The grassland is unimproved, with occasional patches of scrub, and a combination of wind-sheared former hedgerows and post and wire fencing that provide subdivision into several fields. The northern part is amenity grassland, including an area of mown and improved grass that forms an Outdoor Playing Space adjacent to Whinnysty Lane, and a linear bank of rough grasses and scrub rises to separate the coastal footpath /cycleway from residential properties above, its eastern margin mown to provide an amenity grass verge.

Part of the western margin of the area is a County Biological Heritage Site (Heysham Coastal Grassland) while offshore, Morecambe Bay is designated SSSI, Ramsar site, SPA, and SAC (part).

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER	
Typicality	<i>Landscape features or combination of features that recur throughout the area</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	Coastal grassland is typical of other undeveloped areas of coastal land within Lancaster District and Lancashire
Rarity / Uniqueness	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are rare or unique within the assessment area as a whole.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Lancaster/ Lancashire 	The land provides an undeveloped buffer zone between Morecambe Bay and a substantial area of urban development in Heysham/Morecambe which is rare within Lancaster District (but occurring more widely in Lancashire as a whole).
Condition	<i>Landscape features or combination of features which are in a good state of repair</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing condition/quality 	Poor quality post and wire fencing that encloses land used for horse grazing detracts from landscape quality.
LANDSCAPE QUALITIES	
Scenic Qualities	<i>Landscapes with strong visual, sensory and perceptual impacts and experiential appeal</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Character/qualities 	The open character of the coastal grassland provides an attractive counterpoint in colour and texture to adjacent suburban housing development and a more 'natural' if limited edge to the coast. The coastal footpath /cycleway provides opportunities for attractive panoramic views across Morecambe Bay.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prominence / Visibility 	Visible from Morecambe Bay, Heysham Head, from the edge of Heysham Conservation Area, from residential properties on Knowlys Road and on the western fringes of Heysham, and from the coastal footpath/cycleway (NCR6) The land may also be visible at a greater distance, from Grange over Sands and Ulverston.
Enjoyment	<i>Landscapes of importance as local greenspace as tranquil areas and/or for countryside recreation. May contain viewpoints and landmarks</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation routes 	The coastal footpath (FP30)/cycleway (NCR6) runs north-south through the area.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation areas 	Part of the area is identified as an Outdoor Playing Space (Policy R1). Equipped play area on sea defences adjacent to coastal footpath /cycleway
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport routes 	Accessed via local roads off A589, and via NCR 6.
Culture	<i>Landscapes rich in archaeology, built heritage, literary, artistic and other cultural associations and local history.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic landscape character 	Former lowland farmland with regular fields enclosed by stone walls. In terms of historic landscape character, now classified as Modern Recreation.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed Buildings, Parks and Gardens of SHI 	None
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation Areas 	Adjacent to Heysham Conservation Area
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Associations 	None known
Naturalness	<i>Landscapes with extensive semi-natural habitat, a lack of human presence and perceived qualities of wildness</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity 	County Biological Heritage Site – Heysham Coastal Grassland
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geodiversity 	None known.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remoteness 	Not remote – due to proximity of urban development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tranquillity 	Not particularly tranquil due to vehicle movement on Knowlys Road, walkers and cyclists on the coastal footpath/cycleway, and activities of adjacent residents
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildness 	Not wild
FORCES FOR CHANGE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible pressures on landscape integrity 	Potential pressure for higher levels of equine use – including jumps, stabling etc that could detract from character. Potential pressure for residential development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancement potential 	Improvement of boundary fencing between grassland