

Appendix 3: Detailed Analysis of Inland Area Responses

This appendix details the responses relating to the Inland Area. It firstly looks at comments regarding natural beauty, starting with those in agreement, followed by those in disagreement.

It then considers each of the boundary sections A-J, looking firstly at requests for inclusion of more land, followed by requests to exclude land.

Finally, it considers requests for the inclusion of additional land which lies some distance from the current proposed boundary, including significant areas of additional land.

Natural Beauty: Agreement		
Theme	Representations	Natural England Commentary
<p>A significant number of respondents set out their support for designation of an Inland area of the Wolds as an AONB and provided confirmation of the area's outstanding natural beauty. They have been grouped below into statutory consultee responses, general responses and then collated in relation to the Natural Beauty factors as set out in Natural England Guidance. Many respondents provided general statements which touched on a range of different Natural Beauty factors, having a variety of reasons why the land meet the Natural Beauty Criterion. In these instances, the statements have been grouped based on the main thrust of the response.</p>		
Statutory Consultees	<p>BHLF-3WEG-5PSK-S (East Riding of Yorkshire)</p> <p><i>'It is considered that the Council can be generally supportive of the area proposed for the Yorkshire Wolds AONB. Natural England has worked collaboratively with the Council and in particular it is pleasing to note that the majority of the additional areas identified through the Council's own assessment are now included within the proposed boundary.</i></p> <p><i>Whilst it is perhaps disappointing that the proposed AONB does not cover more of the Yorkshire Wolds in the East Riding, the Council is satisfied that the process for designation has been thorough, and that the definition of 'natural beauty', as adopted for this designation, has been fairly applied.'</i></p>	<p>Commentary</p> <p>Natural England welcomes the support of the statutory consultees and agrees that land within the Inland Area meets the Natural Beauty Criterion for designation as AONB.</p>

Natural Beauty: Agreement		
Theme	Representations	Natural England Commentary
	<p>BHLF-3WEG-5PSW-5 (North Yorkshire Council)</p> <p><i>'We would generally support and agree with the proposed areas to be designated as AONB, both the Inland Areas and Coastal Areas. We agree that the Yorkshire Wolds is an exceptional landscape with value at a local and national level and would welcome inclusion and consideration of this special landscape as an AONB.</i></p> <p><i>...it is our view that the main North Yorkshire areas that are most distinctive and valuable have been included within the proposed designation area, particularly:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• those parts of the coast around Reighton and Speeton;</i> <i>• the northern dramatic scarp between Muston and Settrington extending down to Westow;</i> <i>• and including those main broad chalk interluves [interfluves] (wolds) and deep incised valleys (dales).</i> <p><i>We also support the principle that the proposed Yorkshire Wolds AONB should be extended to run contiguous with the boundary to the Howardian Hills AONB to the west side of the proposed AONB area. This will allow inclusion of the villages of Howsham, Westow and Menethorpe which all lie close to the Howardian Hills AONB boundary and contain buildings of local limestone and vernacular character which sit within a high-quality landscape character.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PVW-8 (York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority)</p> <p><i>'Natural England has provided sufficient evidence for the unique character, heritage and environment of the areas designated as AONB within North Yorkshire. These areas have been shown to meet the requirements of outstanding natural beauty. It should be further noted,</i></p>	

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	<p><i>that since the majority of the designated area is in the East Riding Council area, York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority does not have involvement in this area and as such should not comment on these areas.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5PSS-1 (Hull and East Yorkshire Combined Authority - HEYCA)</p> <p><i>'On behalf of the Hull and East Yorkshire Combined Authority (HEYCA), I am writing to express our support for the designation of the Yorkshire Wolds as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).'</i></p> <p><i>The Yorkshire Wolds represent one of the most distinctive and tranquil landscapes in the country, characterised by dramatic dry valleys, chalk escarpments, rich biodiversity, and cultural heritage. The area's natural beauty is not only a source of pride locally, but also a vital asset for sustainable tourism, environmental education, and wellbeing.</i></p> <p><i>We also wish to highlight the longstanding and proactive role of East Riding of Yorkshire Council in advancing this designation, working closely with Natural England and other stakeholders to support the technical assessments and public engagement processes. Their leadership and commitment have been instrumental in progressing this initiative.</i></p> <p><i>The Combined Authority's Executive Board has unanimously backed the designation proposal, recognising the significant environmental, cultural, and economic benefits it will bring to our region. We believe that AONB status will enhance the protection and management of the Wolds, support nature recovery, and provide new opportunities for community engagement and sustainable development.'</i></p>	

Natural Beauty: Agreement		
Theme	Representations	Natural England Commentary
General support	<p>BHLF-3WEG-5P2X-5 <i>'Must congratulate you on the presentation and proposal. The area of the Yorkshire Wolds is indeed beautiful.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5P2A-E <i>'Although heavily modified by human activity, the essential character of the Wolds is a distinct and intrinsically beautiful area'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5PS2-Z <i>'The area currently under consideration indeed appears to satisfy and fulfil many of the criteria for an AONB'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P9K-Y <i>'The Yorkshire Wolds have long been overlooked and its natural beauty is equal if not better than other areas of the UK that have been designated for many years'</i></p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>Natural England agrees that land within the proposed Inland Area meets the Natural Beauty Criterion for designation as AONB, and that additional evidence provided by respondents, in general and in relation to specific natural beauty factors, supports the findings of the Natural Beauty Assessment.</p> <p>Nevertheless, there are also a number of respondents who hold the opposite view and these are set out under Natural Beauty: Disagreement below.</p>
Landscape Quality	<p>ANON-3WEG-5PKD-A <i>'The Yorkshire Wolds are absolutely beautiful and very unspoilt. There is little industrial activity with the main industry being farming. I doubt there are many areas left as unspoilt in the UK as the Yorkshire Wolds. The topography is amazing particularly around areas such as Thixendale..... In Settrington parts of the village are designated, quite rightly as a conservation area, as it is a good example of a village which formed part of the Birdsall and Settrington Estates..... The local area provides an important archaeological [archaeological] landscape. Evidence of Early settlers from the Neolithic period abound. Local archaeological investigations have revealed evidence of life in</i></p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>Natural England agrees that the additional evidence provided by respondents supports the findings of the Natural Beauty Assessment report.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u> No change</p>

Natural Beauty: Agreement		
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	<p><i>the area during the Bronze and Iron Age, Roman and Anglo Saxon and inhabitations. The deserted village of Wharram Percy provides fascinating evidence of Medieval village life.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PZZ-F <i>'It a wonderful unspoilt part of the world. Unique in its beauty. It needs to be cared for and protected for the future, and the present.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PZR-7 <i>'Its stunning, wild and untouched.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PQP-V <i>'The proposed area is relatively unspoilt by human activity and has a truly remarkable character which is unique to the United Kingdom. The Yorkshire Wolds landscape has changed very little since the Iron Age period. The Yorkshire Wolds landscape was an important place of worship in prehistoric times and there are a number of important scheduled monuments dating back to Neolithic times.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PVH-S <i>'The Yorkshire Wolds are the most northerly chalk upland landscape in Britain and of particular ecological interest as a habitat. The Wolds include the country's most northerly chalk stream. The landscape is, at present, well-preserved without overdevelopment or intrusive visual clutter. The Wolds... In addition to its unique and valuable ecology, the Wolds is also an area of particular archaeological interest, having been highly-populated in the Neolithic era.'</i></p>	

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Scenic Quality	<p>BHLF-3WEG-5P2Q-X <i>‘Beautiful views over open countryside. Natural topography with deep valleys and higher ground for a view for miles. Beautiful flora and fauna.’</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PZ3-8 <i>‘Rolling chalk upland, largely devoted to agriculture or grassland. Areas of woodland. Small villages of distinctive character. Astonishing vistas and sense of space..... The East Yorkshire Wolds is an astonishing landscape; it wasn’t chosen as one of David Hockney’s major projects for nothing. Unlike many southern landscapes, this is relatively unknown and not overwhelmed by development or visitors. One can feel the space as well as see it. Although not enormously high, with nothing much over eight hundred feet in the west, the views are amazing.’</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PZ6-B <i>‘It’s stunningly naturally beautiful.’</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PZT-9 <i>‘Breathtaking and long ranging views from many areas.. Area is not built up, not clogged with traffic and unusual in its topography.’</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P7Y-B <i>‘There is no doubt in my mind that this is an exceptionally beautiful and unique area with a diversity of wildlife, landscape and plants that is (I believe) of national importance.’</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P7Q-3</p>	<p><u>Commentary</u> Natural England agrees that the additional evidence provided by respondents supports the findings of the Natural Beauty Assessment report.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u> No change</p>

Natural Beauty: Agreement		
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	<p><i>'The proposed designated area is every bit as beautiful as the Lincolnshire Wolds, an already recognised as AONB.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P7G-S</p> <p><i>'It's a stunning and beautiful area with some unique features that deserve both national recognition and protection.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P7S-5</p> <p><i>'Unspoilt rolling hills and dales with spectacular vistas.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P56-6</p> <p><i>'Unique dry valleys which do have a natural beauty in their own right.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P5Q-1</p> <p><i>'The area is very beautiful with its rolling wolds and valleys certainly worthy of the AONB status'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5P2W-4</p> <p><i>'The wolds and the area around Flamborough head are very distinctive topographically and agriculturally, creating a landscapes of unusual beauty that is not recognised in other designations....The impact of the underlying geology and farming practices have created a rolling landscape whose unique beauty has recently become more widely appreciated by the work of many artists and photographers, most notably of course, David Hockney.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PQ4-Z</p>	

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	<p><i>'It is a picturesque area with rolling hills and chalk landscapes. The area running along the A166 is particularly beautiful which runs through [through] the villages of Fridaythorpe, and the outskirts of Thixendale.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P7T-6</p> <p><i>'The area has a unique chalk grasslands, being the furthest north in the UK. The area is pretty with undulating countryside, narrow lanes and is popular with walkers.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PQE-H</p> <p><i>'This really is an area of outstanding beauty. Fantastic landscapes and diverse habitats and wildlife. Spectacular views and scenery, all of which must be protected but enjoyed by the public and interested bodies.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PD8-Q</p> <p><i>'It's outstanding and beautiful landscape and skies'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P67-8</p> <p><i>'The Wolds are the most northerly outcrop of Cretaceous Chalk in the British Isles and, as a cuesta, they have both geomorphological integrity and - though of modest relief - are marked by having one of the lowest resident population densities in England. For the people of northern and midland England, as well as for the whole UK, they represent a tranquil haven that has both immense landscape and cultural value.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P6X-9</p>	

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	<p><i>'The Wolds are truly stunning, to live [in], work [in] and visit. In any season, the unrestricted views and huge sky are what [makes] the Wolds so special. The features of the Wolds with its dry dales, drovers roads, unique flora and fauna make it a very special place.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PNH-H</p> <p><i>'The inland Wolds is a unique and special landscape with stunning dry chalk valleys ... The unique chalk landscape and deep valleys of the wolds are breathtaking.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PNG-G</p> <p><i>'It's a beautiful and unspoilt area, enjoyed by many for walking, cycling and horse riding or simply enjoying the vistas and big skies... It's a haven for wildlife in what is a rapidly decreasing area of natural habitat across the county... It is simply beautiful with a unique landscape of rolling hills and dales, lovely wild flowers and diverse grasslands'</i></p>	
Relative Tranquillity	<p>ANON-3WEG-5P7B-M</p> <p><i>'The area speaks for itself with its natural beauty, wonderful topography fantastic views and importantly it's value to people's and nature's well being 'a golden nugget.... The sanctity of the peaceful environment and it's massive impact for health and well being for locals and visitors.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P6H-S</p> <p><i>'Spectacular, unspoilt, peaceful, low noise pollution, high retention of flora and fauna. Dark skies. Big skies.... Peaceful, calmness, big skies, dark skies for watching stars and aurora.'</i></p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>Natural England agrees that the additional evidence provided by respondents supports the findings of the Natural Beauty Assessment report.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change</p>

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	<p><i>Geese and swan migration. Unspoilt natural grass dales with high flora and fauna retention. Little noise pollution [pollution]. Long vistas from Lincolnshire, to Market Weighton, To Blakey Ridge on North York moors, to Bridlington, to Hunmanby and Spurn point.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PS5-3</p> <p><i>'This is an attractive area of quiet countryside whose character should be protected and enhanced for present and future generations to enjoy.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5P2B-F</p> <p><i>'Beautiful scenery in Wolds valleys. Quiet area for walking and appreciating the scenery. Unique landscape. Interesting geological stories. Added protection to SSSI's and RIGs I hope'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5PY1-5 and BHLF-3WEG-5P2Y-6</p> <p><i>'[ANON] strongly supports the two areas proposed for designation including the coastal area between Flamborough Head and Reighton and the inland area near Market Weighton to the south, abutting the Howardian Hills National Landscape to the west and towards Filey to the east. We believe that these areas meet the natural beauty criteria and are also desirable to designate as England's newest National Landscape..... the Yorkshire Wolds has exceptionally dark skies which contribute to the relative tranquillity of the area (a factor related to natural beauty). In 2016, CPRE published interactive Night Blight maps. These are the most detailed ever of Britain's night skies and are based on satellite data captured at 1.30am throughout September 2015. Maps were created for all English counties, districts, National Parks, AONBs and National Character Areas, showing the percentage of each area that falls under nine brightness categories. The mapping</i></p>	

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	<p><i>revealed that only 22% of England has pristine night skies, free of any light pollution. By comparison, 52.4% of the skies above the Yorkshire Wolds NCA fall in this category, with the next darkest category making this 81.9% of the area.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PCF-4</p> <p><i>'I feel privileged to have this landscape on my doorstep. I love other landscape in the UK and abroad but there is something very calming and hospitable about the chalk landscape compared to more rugged and conventionally spectacular terrain.'</i></p>	
Relative Wildness	<p>ANON-3WEG-5PKV-V</p> <p><i>'It is all relatively undeveloped and sparsely populated. The Wolds and the coastline are aesthetically pleasing.'</i></p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>Natural England agrees that the additional evidence provided by respondents supports the findings of the Natural Beauty Assessment report.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change</p>
Natural Heritage	<p>BHLF-3WEG-5PS4-2</p> <p><i>'The Y [Yorkshire] Wolds are a largely undiscovered gem. Dry dales are a geological wonder (via a mysterious post-glacial erosion) and are superior to those of other chalk wolds / downs which have long been AONB..... due to the low population density and typical Y [Yorkshire] Wold villages, together with widely spaced and minor category road network, this area is 'lonely'. calm and superbly open country.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P5S-3</p> <p><i>'The Yorkshire Wolds contains truly beautiful and unique chalk valleys (the most northerly in Europe), with smaill [small] villages mainly</i></p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>Natural England agrees that the additional evidence provided by respondents supports the findings of the Natural Beauty Assessment report.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change</p>

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	<p><i>constructed [constructed] in local chalk. As such, it supports a range of flora and fauna not found in the rest of England... Recognise that the sparse population in the area gives it another level of beauty that most other AONBs cannot achieve.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P5H-R</p> <p><i>'Stunning areas of unique diverse natural geographical features. Fantastic wildlife and fauna and flora'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PZ2-7</p> <p><i>'Its characteristics seem to me to be quite unique. The deep chalk valleys cut through the landscape and provide a sense of remoteness in an otherwise well-farmed landscape. The wildlife interest seems to be reasonably intact. Farming practices in the valleys have enable [enabled] species-rich chalk grassland to flourish in many areas. Where grazing takes place it is not too intensive and shepherding is used to ensure that no area gets overgrazed. The villages are pretty and the people are friendly and welcoming. This may in part be because they are not overwhelmed by visitors like some more popular areas. It is a perfect area for countryside-loving old geezers like me to spend time walking, botanising, looking out for deer, red kites and hares, and generally having a wonderful time... Broadly I feel that the Yorkshire Wolds is a distinctive area of very beautiful countryside with a degree of remoteness from the modern world which is worth preserving and enhancing. There is intensive arable farming of the upland areas, but also room for wildlife in the deep valleys. In a recent visit I saw hares, deer, red kites and yellowhammers, and the profusion of wild flowers in the chalk grassland is remarkable..'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PZV-B</p>	

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	<p><i>'I can say with confidence that the yorkshire wolds is a beautiful part of England. The villages, the rolling hills, the woodland and the wildlife are very special and unique to this area of england. The wolds also include nature reserves recognised by the wildlife trust, full of rare species of flowers, animals and wildlife. It is certainly east yorkshires most beautiful area.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P77-9 <i>'It's a unique areas with it's own feature that needs to be protected and reinstated where possible.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P5C-K <i>'Excellent wildlife, arable land and pastures, very good for mental health. Big skies'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PQZ-6 <i>'The proposed area has good biodiversity and it is important to preserve this... The area is extremely peaceful and has some amazing wildlife... The views are outstanding.</i> <i>The rolling hills are green and full of wildlife... Important and rare wildlife. Medieval villages and historical churches..'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PQK-Q <i>'It is distinctively beautiful with good chalk flora and wildlife such as skylarks and hares.... Variety of landscape, farming, sport (pheasant shooting), hedgerow, woods, gentle and steep slopes, solitude especially in the deep valleys, clear chalk streams. Easily accessible from Hull and the surrounding villages.'</i></p>	

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	<p>ANON-3WEG-5PQW-3</p> <p><i>'The chalk wolds landscape of the Yorkshire Wolds is beautiful and unique. The impact of retreating ice in the ice age has left steep sided flat bottomed valleys which feel very remote and have a grandeur beyond their scale.... The roads and paths in the wolds are very quiet and tranquil and a delight to walk and cycle. Even in the southern wolds which are close to areas of population the roads in the valleys are quiet and planning a safe cycle ride is very easy.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PQN-T</p> <p><i>'Whilst there are a number of chalk downlands in the country, the incised dry valleys are specific to the Yorkshire Wolds'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PQV-2</p> <p><i>'The scenery is stunning having been carved out by glaciers and the water running from the glaciers when they melted the endless balls the choke uplands the woodland the fields they're all combining to make a truly special area of natural beauty'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PDC-2</p> <p><i>'The deep dry valleys of the Wolds are a landscape like no other. These valleys have been carved by glaciers, their soft curves ever changing in the light and shadow of the seasons. Standing at the bottom can be a place of stillness, an almost secret landscape hidden away beneath the high rolling wolds above. But there is life here. I've seen 50 hares in one field, boxing and jumping and chasing as the warmth of the late winter sun tries to break the grip of the morning frost. I've stumbled upon deer, looked them in the eye before they run</i></p>	

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	<p><i>for cover in the thicket. If you stay silent long enough at dusk and you can see Badger and Barn Owl, hear the bark of a Fox, the hoot of a Tawny Owl.</i></p> <p><i>Above Red Kites and Buzzards soar. In early spring the sounds of Yellowhammer, Skylark, Linnet, Robin and Wren accompany your every step. If you're lucky you can still hear the jingling song of a Corn Bunting.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PDV-N <i>'From the diversity of the topography and natural flora and fauna the areas chosen are almost unique to the UK. Mix in with that the way the area is farmed makes for an outstanding area.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PDR-H <i>'These areas have a unique beauty and natural heritage, largely uncelebrated nationally.... Rich and unique natural heritage. Landscape largely unaffected by the Industrial Revolution.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PD1-G <i>'The wildlife, diversity and botany of the area are unrivalled'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PCE-3 <i>'Beautiful scenery, chalkland wildlife habitat'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PCS-H <i>'There are unique geological, natural and archeological [archaeological] features within the proposed boundary that should have extra protection. Many of these are in unspoilt , beautiful settings.'</i></p>	

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	<p>ANON-3WEG-5PCN-C <i>'I wholeheartedly believe that this area has more than enough natural beauty to be designated as a AONB. The mixture of woodland, ancient hedgerows, rolling hills, agricultural land, water bodies, flowers, historical sites, beautiful market towns and quaint villages with unique shops makes the area feel like stepping back in time where one can relax, take time out and enjoy life.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PN3-V <i>'The rural character, and diversity of habitats and chalk streams and chalk grasslands that are rare in the UK.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5PS8-6 <i>'The area fully meets the criteria required to demonstrate natural beauty. Some of these beautiful natural features, such as the steep incisions of the dry chalk valleys are unique to the Yorkshire Wolds in the whole of the UK.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5PSC-H <i>'Dew pond project (Yorkshire Wildlife Trust) in farmed Thixendale. Fragility and diversity of our chalkland flora.... Butterflies in Millington spring area and marbled whites in Thixendale.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5PYX-C <i>'The area within the proposed AONB boundary supports nationally important chalk grasslands, chalk streams, and chalk cliffs; and a number of priority species which are struggling in England:</i></p>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Corn bunting</i> • <i>Yellowhammer</i> • <i>Willow tit</i> • <i>Curlew</i> • <i>Kittiwake</i> • <i>Puffin</i> • <i>Fulmar</i> • <i>Herring gull</i> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PVP-1</p> <p><i>‘There are a number of aspects of this landscape that give it particular natural beauty. Foremost among these are the chalk grasslands linked into a network through the dry valleys of the Yorkshire Wolds.</i></p> <p><i>Deciduous native woodland, for example at Millington and Bugthorpe, deserves recognition and the chance to expand. Despite the often pejorative connotations of ‘scrub’, native scrub in the unfarmed valleys is another valuable habitat adding to the character of the region.</i></p> <p><i>There are good examples of sensitive hedgerow management in the wolds - e.g. Top of Garrowby Estate, Uncleby, Kirkby Underdale, Bishop Wilton – where cutting is on multi-year cycles and gaps in the hedgerows are closed by appropriate laying and planting.</i></p> <p><i>A number of traditional farms – e.g. Langtoft, Givendale - represent the landscape character well and can be a template for the AONB.</i></p> <p><i>Dew ponds are both a cultural asset and a valuable feature for nature, and have scope for further restoration where footprints remain.’</i></p>	

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	<p>ANON-3WEG-5P9N-2</p> <p><i>'Unique landscape: chalk grassland, dry valleys, spacious uplands contribute to panoramic views, wild areas and peaceful places.. The landscape is sufficiently different and distinctive from other areas..'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PKC-9</p> <p><i>'Inland the distinctive landscape presents a dramatic western scarp facing the Vale of York and, to the East, wide vistas of open rolling chalk uplands with large arable fields, dotted with isolated farmsteads, surrounded by mature shelter-belts. These wolds are dissected by a dendritic pattern of steep-sided dry valleys, where many of the unspoilt villages and deserted settlements of historical interest lie, offering much visual interest in patterns of land cover.</i></p> <p><i>The area is relatively tranquil and natural sounds, such as birdsong, are predominant.</i></p> <p><i>There are some breathtaking views from bracing field tops, giving a sense of openness and exposure, while the valleys, which contain large area [areas] of unimproved grassland, have remained largely unchanged for centuries, give a sense of enclosure and isolation, and are mapped as open access.'</i></p>	
Cultural Heritage	<p>ANON-3WEG-5P21-X</p> <p><i>'The area comp[rises] [comprises] ancient landscapes and nationally and internationally important features, which require all the protection that is available. The area contains parcels of land suitable for rewilding and conservation of important species. The peace and tranquility some of the areas afford are priceless resources that everyone needs. The rolling open wolds foster a sense of timeless</i></p>	<p>Commentary</p> <p>Natural England agrees that the additional evidence provided by respondents supports the findings of the Natural Beauty Assessment.</p> <p>Conclusion</p> <p>No change</p>

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	<p><i>freedom and of belonging to something beyond ourselves - important in today's increasingly disconnected world.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P7E-Q <i>'It is beautiful as many artists will tell you....hockney [David Hockney] included..The walking, the clear air, the different soil'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PDQ-G <i>'The natural landscape of this area of Yorkshire is unique and special, but is also culturally iconic to the way that East Yorkshire (and North Yorkshire potentially) wants the rest of the country to perceive it. East Yorkshire is very agricultural and sparsely populated in comparison to England but the Yorkshire Wolds creates this interesting formation within the usual flat landscapes of the area.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P6F-Q <i>'The area is unique: picturesque villages, rolling hills with steep valleys, farm and woodland and incredible skies'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PY4-8 <i>'It's a beautiful area and contains valuable natural features as well as historic and cultural features (such as the dewponds) that illustrate a history of human habitation that can be traced back to the Vikings.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5PY5-9 <i>'Attractive villages of historic significance: Settrington Beck = conservation area + chalk stream - interesting geology - oolitic limestone + endangered flora and fauna... Settrington is an attractive wolds village - the houses were moved by estate for aesthetic reasons'</i></p>	

Natural Beauty: Agreement		
Theme	Representations	Natural England Commentary
	<p>- see also John Dodsworth book on a 'history and guide to Settrington All Saints Church.'... The beauty around Settrington depends on the setting of the village / church / hall with the gentle, rural slopes of the wolds.... Refer also to NYCC booklet on Centenary Way long distance walk + Geoff Brooks (Walk 9) book called 'Wlaks [Walks] from Malton'.</p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PNC-C</p> <p><i>'There are some fantastic views and steep sweeping slopes and some very pretty villages with lovely scenery and old buildings. The Wolds Way allows access to some great views. There are also some amazing areas for wildlife such as Warram [Wharrah] Quarry and we have seen a range of different types of orchids on the road verges as well as lots of other types of plants. There are also a number of good walks through the various areas enabling people to take in the views and the scenery as well as see historic sites and old villages. We have seen lots of different wildlife including water voles on the chalk streams and an otter (sadly dead but it means they are present).</i></p> <p><i>We are pleased Settrington is included as it's a beautiful old village with little new development. There are lots of trees and the beck through the middle of the village is a chalk stream and is rich in biodiversity according to surveys by the Cranedale Centre (who've kindly sent us some of their data).</i></p> <p><i>We are very familiar with our local area and wish to highlight the amazing views e.g. from Settrington Beacon and from the small road through Thixendale. Settrington contains many listed buildings and has an old church and some old historic sites within it. The village is at the foot of the Wolds and has lots of trees; it's autumn colour has been magnificent in 2024.'</i></p>	

Natural Beauty: Agreement		
Theme	Representations	Natural England Commentary
	<p>ANON-3WEG-5PNJ-K</p> <p><i>'This area has very distinctive characteristics which are not found anywhere else in Yorkshire with the deep valleys with steep sides which meander about the countryside with other connecting valleys. Then open areas on the hill tops which afford views of a wide area. Countryside is the product of nature and man's influence. The wolds ponds are another distinctive feature as are the villages with their churches. The area is important for recreation for both walkers and cyclists with a network of footpaths including the Wolds Way.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PKW-W</p> <p><i>'Rich variety of landscapes which provide a wonderful contrast with North Yorkshire's other upland areas (eg Dales, North York Moors, and neighbouring Howardian Hills). The unique character of the Wolds' hills and valleys, captured by the artist David Hockney, merits special status. The Wolds landscape boasts numerous historical features and examples of human geography which have, over the centuries, become intriguing and attractive elements of the natural environment eg Wharram Percy village, ancient fortifications, tumuli, field patterns.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PK2-R</p> <p><i>'It is an outstanding area of scenic quality, with natural and cultural features representing thousands of years of human history and co-existence with the environment.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PKH-E</p> <p><i>'The Wolds and associated villages are little changed or spoilt. The chalk substrate makes it of particular interest this far north.'</i></p>	

Natural Beauty: Agreement		
Theme	Representations	Natural England Commentary
	<p>ANON-3WEG-5PK5-U</p> <p><i>'The chalk landscape and streams along with the gently folding hills which contrast both the Moors and the Dales... Small characterful villages, important churches and nationally important archeological [archaeological] features..'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PNF-F</p> <p><i>'IMO [in my opinion], this area has retained sufficient geological, landscape, vernacular, historic and natural interest to qualify as an AONB. It is unique in North Yorkshire in that it is easily reached from urban areas (York, Leeds, Hull, Middlesbrough) yet remains (mainly!) tranquil, unlike the better known Dales, Moors and NY coast.</i></p> <p><i>In addition, its topography and visual interest are very different to that of the Dales and Moors, with a different suite of native plants (often typical of chalk/lime stone soils) and building vernacular. Rich archeological [archaeological] sites/history. Several rural estates/houses (eg Sledmere, Langton, Westow Hall, Place Newton in Wintringham) and churches (eg Wintringham, Westow) which add to the landscape value and/or are of historical interest.</i></p> <p><i>Plants and insects typical of/confined to chalk/limestone grasslands, including at Fordon Bank [Fordon Chalk Banks] and various abandoned quarries. Important populations of threatened/declining bird species, including skylarks, swifts (the pantiled buildings of this area are highly suitable for their nests), tree sparrows, raptors, and mammals threatened by intensive agriculture and development, such as hares and badgers. The open, free draining grassland interspersed with lightly wooded valleys and copses suit all these animals. Many of the valley sides are too steep to use farm machinery on, and are</i></p>	

Natural Beauty: Agreement		
<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representations</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
	<p><i>therefore relatively intact in terms of plants, these in turn support insects, birds and mammals. Dark skies.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P9Z-E</p> <p><i>'This area is beautiful, I have never been anywhere quite like the Yorkshire Wolds. The rolling hills and twisting valleys. The pretty villages with their chalk streams. The abundance of wildlife, including owls, redkites [red kites] and badgers to name a few.'</i></p>	
Natural Beauty: Disagreement		
<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representations</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
Intensively farmed	<p>A variety of responses were received questioning whether the area proposed for designation meets the Natural Beauty Criterion.</p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PCJ-8</p> <p><i>'I absolutly [absolutely] concur some areas meet the requirements however I woud [would] strongly suggest that arable farm lands need reconsidering. I did not see one photograph or illustration of arable food production, larger scale farm steads , in your presentation or guidance and I really think that these areas potentially were not supposed to be within this area however because it is difficult to separate them out they have been included..... it needs reducing to really focus on the areas that are truly reflective as AONBs in the Yorkshire Wolds and accept the landscape although in some areas is pretty it does not qualify for this designation.'</i></p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>Intensive arable farming</p> <p>Natural England agrees that significant parts of the area proposed for designation are managed intensively for arable farming. This is not unusual for chalk landscapes and is found to be the case in parts of the Chilterns National Landscape and Lincolnshire Wolds National Landscape also.</p> <p>The Natural England Guidance (paragraph 6.2) states <i>'In England it is widely accepted that the beauty of all our most cherished landscapes is in part due to human intervention such as agriculture and forestry. It has long been the practice to include such factors in the assessment of natural beauty. This is now clarified in statute, and in the case of both AONBs and National Parks land is not prevented from being treated as being of natural beauty by the fact that it is</i></p>

Natural Beauty: Disagreement		
Theme	Representations	Natural England Commentary
	<p>BHLF-3WEG-5PYB-P</p> <p><i>'its [an AONB in the Yorkshire Wolds] maybe not tailored to the job and is too large not actually reflective of what the designation is supposed to be there for. The key for us on the very boundary of the AoNB [AONB] status is that we have been included as it is an easy boundary not because our landscape fits the criteria. This needs re-evaluation and relocation to include our relatively industrial landscape.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P9V-A</p> <p><i>'In some senses yes it does [meet the Natural Beauty criterion] but that obscures the fact that a great deal of the area has been massively impacted by agricultural damage resulting from deep ploughing and the removal of historic field boundaries mostly in the last 50 years.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PVV-7</p> <p><i>'Parts of the area do have sufficient natural beauty but not all the area proposed.... we think it should be refined further to pick out specific areas that are desirable rather than a more blanket approach of including lots of intensive agricultural areas that should not be included in an AONB.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5PYG-U</p> <p><i>'...the inland areas are largely representative of an intensively farmed and managed landscape. There, are areas of important landscape including limestone escarpments in the inland areas but</i></p>	<p><i>used for agriculture, or woodlands, or as a park, or that its physiographical features are partly the product of human intervention in the landscape (s.99 of NERC Act).'</i></p> <p>In determining which areas of land qualify for designation, Natural England has rigorously applied the natural beauty factors as set out in Natural England Guidance. This has taken into account the positive contribution agriculture has made to the patterns of land use and scenic compositions, as well as detrimental changes including field boundary removal, inappropriate woodland planting or loss of heritage due to deep ploughing. This evaluation was applied to the Area of Search which covers the whole of the Yorkshire Wolds National Character Area and only part of the landscape was considered to qualify. Whilst the interfluves between the dry valley may in places appear open and featureless, they nonetheless create the juxtaposition to the intimate, dramatic dry valleys. The special qualities which arise from this combination are captured in the Desirability Report (page 8), which states <i>'The close juxtaposition of its elevated broad interfluves (known locally as Wolds) and deeply incised valleys (known as dales), manifest in a landscape of contrasts - open rounded tops of arable farmland offer panoramic vistas and wide domed skies which quickly descend into narrow, winding, secluded pastoral valleys offering intimate enclosure. The sequential experience of these contrasting landscapes gives rise to the area's unique scenic qualities and outstanding and often simple curvaceous compositions which provide artistic inspiration.'</i></p>

Natural Beauty: Disagreement		
<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representations</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
	<i>whether or not much of the area is “Outstanding” or representative of “Natural Beauty” is questionable to justify increasing the level of the designation and on the scale proposed... This is a working landscape managed largely for agriculture.’</i>	
Incongruous features	ANON-3WEG-5PKT-T <i>‘Too many incongruous features such as wind turbines ,solar panels ,intensive livestock units and farm steadings with modern portal structures.’</i>	<u>Commentary</u> Incongruous Features <p>The Natural England Guidance Appendix 1 sets out how the incongruous features can be taken into account during an assessment of natural beauty. Under landscape quality, consideration is given to the influence of incongruous features or elements (whether man-made or natural) on the perceived natural beauty of the area. The Natural England Guidance goes on to clarify that it is not just the presence or absence of incongruous features but also how numerous they are, whether they are visually intrusive, localised in influence or are temporary in nature.</p> <p>On this basis some incongruous features are included in the proposed area for designation, where a judgment has been made that overall, the landscape in which they sit nevertheless meets the Natural Beauty Criterion.</p>
Differing character as a result of arable land use	ANON-3WEG-5PKB-8 <i>‘The Yorkshire Wolds area is very different in character to other areas of the country that have become AONBs or National landscapes.... The geography of the area is rolling chalk land interspersed by deep glacial valleys. The valleys are largely devoted</i>	<u>Commentary</u> Difference from Howardian Hills

Natural Beauty: Disagreement		
Theme	Representations	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>to grassland and woodland which could largely be considered a naturally developed landscape. However, the land between the valleys is dominated by commercial farming enterprises and it is the management of those farming the land that has caused it to be how it is today. This is a very different situation to, for example the Howardian Hills which was used during the consultation as a model of how this designation would be applied to the Yorkshire Wolds. The Howardian Hills however is a largely homogeneous landscape with few opportunities for arable farming at scale.</i></p> <p><i>I'm uploading two photographs both taken this afternoon in the area considered for designation [designation], from two positions, 50 meters distant from each other. I think they do a good job of illustrating the dichotomous nature of the landscape.'</i></p>	<p>The Desirability Assessment looked at the Howardian Hills in terms of current management, not because the landscape was considered to be the same but, rather that the two designations may be contiguous. The Lincolnshire Wolds was also considered because it has similar landscape character and issues to the Yorkshire Wolds.</p> <p>During the consultation events the Howardian Hills management plan was used to illustrate the activity of an AONB and at two of the webinars, farmers from the Howardian Hills attended to answer questions. This does not mean that Natural England consider these two landscapes to be the same or that the issues of the Howardian Hills are also expressed in the Yorkshire Wolds. Natural England acknowledges that the type of farming in each landscape differs. This was clearly expressed in the Desirability Report which considered the distinct identity of the Yorkshire Wolds (section 8.3). In particular, it noted that <i>'the issues and pressures impacting on the Howardian Hills landscape and Candidate Area for the Yorkshire Wolds, whilst similar, also express some strong differences and are likely to require some different management approaches and or emphasis....'</i></p> <p>Natural England acknowledges that some areas proposed for designation are more intensively farmed than others. Natural England's response to concerns regarding the designation of land which is commercially farmed, are addressed in Appendix 2 of the Consultation Response Analysis on page 58.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change.</p>

Natural Beauty: Disagreement		
Theme	Representations	Natural England Commentary
Land adjacent to Howardian Hills	<p>BHLF-3WEG-5PSK-S (East Riding of Yorkshire)</p> <p><i>'In respect of the boundary attachment to the Howardian Hills AONB at the western edge of the area, during the designation process, there seemed to be some doubt about whether the narrow strip between the two areas qualified in respect of 'natural beauty'. Whilst there is an argument for joining the two areas, it is important that, given the tight adherence to the definition elsewhere, this can be defended. It will also be important to ensure that the Yorkshire Wolds AONB remains overtly associated with Wolds.'</i></p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>Doubt regarding corridor of land adjacent to the Howardian Hills</p> <p>This area was considered in relation to EA 1 in the Natural Beauty Assessment. The influence of a road corridor and 132Kv overhead line was noted and it went on to state (pages 36-37) <i>'Particular consideration should be given to the influence of the 132kV overhead transmission line both at the desirability stage (in terms of opportunities for undergrounding) and at the boundary setting stage... [along with consideration of]..... the road corridor, less distinct topography and more intensively farmed arable land where there is evidence of field boundary loss. Furthermore, care will also be required where large modern farm buildings are located close to the edge and where they have a negative impact on scenic qualities.'</i></p> <p>The Natural Beauty Assessment concluded that this area should be included in the Candidate Area.</p> <p>At the boundary assessment stage this area of the boundary was classified as Section J. The Boundary Assessment Report sets out how consideration was given to a boundary further to the east. This would have resulted in the exclusion of high quality and distinctive settlements and qualifying undulating farmland including pastoral watercourses. Whilst these areas/settlements could in theory be included within a Howardian Hills AONB as part of a future boundary review, there are currently no plans for a boundary review of this nature. It concluded on page 40 <i>'On balance, given the narrow and limited area of transitional landscape between qualifying areas, a boundary was defined which extends across the road and pylon corridor to be continuous with the Howardian Hills AONB. This was</i></p>

Natural Beauty: Disagreement		
Theme	Representations	Natural England Commentary
		<p><i>not extended to the north of Menethorpe where the landscape is more open, intensively farmed, less undulating and more influenced visually by the pylon route. Here intensive arable farming often extends up to the edge of Menethorpe Beck. Similarly, to the south, the boundary was not extended beyond High and Low Lane, again due to the transition in scenic quality and character. Care has been taken to define the boundary conservatively to the north and south in accordance with NE Guidance. In places some areas of lesser quality land have been washed over in order to include those areas showing greatest topographic variation in the form of distinctive hills and incised valleys where they contribute to natural beauty.'</i></p> <p>Natural England has reviewed this judgment and considers that, overall, the land proposed for inclusion reflects a high-quality landscape. Natural England does not consider the effect of the pylon route through the area proposed for designation to be so great as to warrant the exclusion of all land west of the pylon line. In defining the boundary Natural England has sought to minimise the area where pylons are present, drawing the boundary conservatively to the north and south.</p> <p>Natural England agrees that any Yorkshire Wolds AONB remains associated with the Wolds. The Desirability Assessment noted on page 23 that '<i>...pursuing a separate AONB designation for the Yorkshire Wolds, even if its boundary is drawn contiguously with the Howardian Hills, is desirable. A separate AONB would ensure that both the Howardian Hills and Yorkshire Wolds retain their individual identity, and a separate management plan is prepared to tackle their different issues and priorities... Ultimately it is not for this desirability assessment to resolve detailed issues of governance and administration. These would need to be developed by the statutory</i></p>

Natural Beauty: Disagreement		
Theme	Representations	Natural England Commentary
		<p><i>local authorities responsible for any new AONB designation in liaison with Natural England. Nevertheless, the above analysis points to the potential benefits of having a separate Yorkshire Wolds AONB designation with the establishment of its own AONB team and management plan but also collaborative working and potential for some shared resources with the Lincolnshire Wolds and/or Howardian Hills.'</i></p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change.</p>
Thixendale – lack of support	<p>BHLF-3WEG-5P2V-3</p> <p>[ANON] held a parish poll asking residents “Should [ANON] be included in Natural England’s proposed Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty? “Yes/No”.</p> <p><i>‘We had an excellent turnout for the poll with 109 (55%) of eligible electorate casting valid votes. 70 (65%) voted against the proposal and 39(35%) voting in favour. We believe, given the high turnout, this parish poll expresses a clear democratic mandate against the inclusion of our parish in the proposed AONB. Whilst two years have elapsed since we undertook this poll, following further discussion at our Parish Council in October 2024 , we consider its outcome to still be valid and democratically representative of our Parish . It is of course the case that some residents are in favour of the proposal but the overwhelming majority still do not support it.</i></p> <p>Key concerns related to desirability issues and are summarised as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access and visitor numbers 	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>Natural England notes the reasons why people do not support the designation of [ANON] following their parish poll in 2022, related to desirability issues.</p> <p>Natural England notes that 35% of those who responded to the poll supported the designation of the land. Natural England also notes that of the respondents who answered the Statutory Consultation Response Form, question B1 ‘<i>Do you think the proposed areas should be designated as AONB?</i>’ 78% (178 respondents) responded yes with just 4% (9) neither agreeing or disagreeing and only 18% (42) stating they did not agree that the Inland area should be designated.</p> <p>In relation to the Statutory Consultation Response Form, question C1 ‘Is it desirable to designate this [inland] area as AONB?’ 80% (168 respondents) responded yes with just 15% (32) responding no and 5% (11) stating they were unsure. Again, this demonstrates that a</p>

Natural Beauty: Disagreement		
Theme	Representations	Natural England Commentary
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning • Loss of Permitted development • Increased house prices. <p>The respondent concluded:</p> <p><i>'As a council representing the community we are elected to serve we would urge you to consider the need to protect our community holistically which extends considerably beyond landscape amenity and tourism . We are committed to building a sustainable long term future which we genuinely consider will be more harmed than protected by AONB status .</i></p> <p><i>At the recent consultation event your staff [Natural England] suggested that excluding an area within the proposed area would be challenging and administratively untidy . We would suggest this does not constitute a legitimate reason to ignore our democratic mandate.'</i></p>	<p>majority of those who responded to the Statutory Consultation, consider it desirable to designate the Inland Area.</p> <p>Nevertheless, Natural England acknowledges that designation raises real concerns for residents and landowners. The desirability issues raised by respondents in relation to [ANON] are addressed in Appendix 2 Desirability and on the following pages within the document:</p> <p>Increased public access and visitor numbers – page 35 Removal of permitted development rights – page 42 Increased bureaucracy and costs – page 48 No requirement for a label/status – page 61 Increase in house prices – page 64</p> <p>The natural beauty assessment identifies land suitable for designation by determining the weight of evidence associated with natural beauty factors defined in Natural England Guidance. Thixendale formed part of Evaluation Area 9: Thixendale Valleys and Sledmere. The Natural Beauty Assessment concluded that <i>'The Natural Beauty criterion is met over the whole of this Evaluation Area. Landscape and scenic quality, as well as tranquillity, are especially strong and are experienced over a sweep of landscape encompassing the densely packed chalk valleys in the west and centre of the Evaluation Area, much of the high, open land and the settled landscapes of the Sledmere estate. Natural heritage in the form of powerful landforms and calcareous grasslands contribute greatly to natural beauty in the deeply incised chalk valleys. Equally, the rich cultural heritage of the designed landscapes and structures at Sledmere makes a powerful contribution to natural beauty.'</i></p>

Natural Beauty: Disagreement		
<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representations</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
		<p>On this basis the area was included within the Candidate Area and considered at the desirability stage and issues noted by respondent BHLF-3WEG-5P2V-3 were noted in the table below para 4.2.1 within the Desirability Assessment Report. Nevertheless, the management arrangement and mechanisms which follow from AONB designation were considered to be able to help address and manage these types of issues and that therefore overall the area should remain included within the designation.</p> <p>There are examples where land has been excluded from designation within the body of an AONB but these areas tend to be associated with urban or fragmented landscapes or mineral extraction. Whilst the principle of a 'hole' within an AONB exists, it is important that any decision to create such a hole is based on sound reasoning and in accordance with Natural England Guidance. As noted above the issues raised by respondent BHLF-3WEG-5P2V-3 are addressed in more detail in Appendix 2. Natural England does not agree that they create a justification for the creation of a 'hole' within the designation, rather Natural England remains of the view that designation offers real opportunities for some of the concerns to be more effectively managed and for any perceived disbenefits to be outweighed by potential benefits.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change.</p>
Road corridors – A64, A166, A614	<p>ANON-3WEG-5PQR-X</p> <p><i>'Shouldn't include the A64, A166 or A614.'</i></p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>Natural England has reviewed the extent to which these roads are included within the proposed designation. It notes that the A64 to the north is not included within the proposed designation.</p>

Natural Beauty: Disagreement		
<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representations</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
		<p>Nevertheless, the A614 and A166 are both included, with the A614 cutting through the area between the roundabout junction north of Market Weighton to just west of Londesborough, and the A166 cutting through the area between Kitty Hill and Fridaythorpe. Natural England accepts that the A166 and A614 are busier than many of the roads within the Wolds landscape.</p> <p>During the Natural Beauty Assessment, the effects of these road corridors on the surrounding landscape has been considered as well as the weight of evidence to support the designation of the wider tract of land through which they travel. The assessment found that the lengths of road pass through areas of landscape which express exceptional qualities and where there is a weight of evidence supporting natural beauty which outweighs the localised intrusion of traffic.</p> <p>There is no requirement in the Natural England Guidance to exclude roads where the landscape through which they travel meets the Natural Beauty Criterion. Indeed, many existing National Landscapes include lengths of busy road.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change.</p>

General Boundary: Agreement		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
General agreement with proposed boundary	<p>A number of respondents simply agreed with the boundary but provided no further comment. Other respondents provided additional comments as follows:</p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P2M-T <i>'It is clear to see that time and care has been taken in crafting the boundary to ensure the area of beauty is included.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5P21-X <i>'It includes the areas least altered by human intervention and those most needing protection.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PZ3-8 <i>'It seems to encompass the finest parts of the landscape.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PZ2-7 <i>'from studying maps and other information it appears to me to be broadly about right.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PQ4-Z <i>'It appears to include all the applicable areas.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PQF-J <i>'Having walked the area, I agree.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PCT-J</p>	<p>Commentary</p> <p>Natural England notes the support for the proposed boundary.</p> <p>Natural England has also taken account of detailed responses requesting changes to the boundary and proposes some amendments. These are set out below.</p>

General Boundary: Agreement		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>'I am in total agreement with the two areas proposed for AONB status.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PCQ-F <i>'I can understand how the area has been determined given the specified boundary setting considerations.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PK4-T <i>'Seems to include most important areas'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PVP-1 <i>'While there is an argument the AONB could extend further south to capture more of the chalk streams, we accept the challenge this creates and accept that southern boundary.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5PYN-2 <i>'The technical assessment clearly sets out the reasoning for the proposed boundaries and i agree with the borders of areas 1 and 2. However i don't know the other areas well enough to confidently say yes to all.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P26-3 <i>'Captures core areas'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5PS5-3</p>	

General Boundary: Agreement		
<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representation</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
	<p><i>'I note that some relatively small extensions have been made in the current proposals, especially around Goodmanham.</i></p> <p><i>I am content that all the most significant areas of natural beauty are included and i fully support the proposed designation.'</i></p>	

General Boundary: Disagreement		
<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representation</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
General disagreement with boundary	<p>ANON-3WEG-5PKB-8</p> <p><i>'The boundary seems quite arbitrary, I'm sure many arguments were raised as to what should or should not be included but the areas that are not included show how weak thew [the] argument in favour of the designation is.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PCJ-8</p> <p><i>'The boundaries are out of convenience rather than a purposeful boundary..'</i></p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>Natural England considers that the areas included and excluded from the proposed designation are a reflection of the rigorous assessment and application of Natural England Guidance. Natural England does not agree that the exclusion of land shows how weak the argument in favour of designation is. On the contrary, Natural England considers that the outstanding qualities of the landscape proposed for designation (as articulated in the Desirability Assessment, pages 8 and 11) illustrates why this area is deserving of recognition.</p> <p>The boundary is defined through use of the Boundary Considerations as set out in the Natural England Guidance (Appendix 4). The Boundary Assessment sets out in detail the clear rational and pragmatic decision making in each of the boundary sections. Natural England does not agree that the boundary has been defined out of convenience.</p>

General Boundary: Disagreement		
<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representation</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
		<u>Conclusion</u> No change.

Boundary Section A: Sutton Wold to A64 Knapton		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
Include Land South of Malton	<p>BHLF-3WEG-5PSW-5 (North Yorkshire Council)</p> <p><i>'Area to the north side of Menethorpe village and to the south side of Norton-on-Derwent Settlement, currently designated as AHLA [Area of High Landscape Value] within Ryedale Local Plan (Policy SP13), is not within the proposed AONB area.</i></p> <p><i>It is recognised that there is an overhead electricity transmission line to the NW side which is a notable detracting element. There are active quarry sites at Whitewall Quarry and Settrington Quarry which affect setting and landscape condition.</i></p> <p><i>However, we would consider that the scenic qualities of EA1 strongly relate to the dramatic scarp which defines the skyline and acts as a dramatic backdrop to Norton on Derwent settlement. From this part of the ridgeline there are extensive views northwards with the North Yorks Moors visible in the distance. There are some equestrian uses towards the lower slopes where the undulating topography retains scenic interest. Equestrian use is traditional in the area and does not act as a detractor to the local character and setting. The importance of the scarp as a defining backdrop to the settlement together with extensive views from the ridgeline may justify further consideration for inclusion within the proposed AONB area.</i></p> <p><i>Notwithstanding the above, if this area were not designated as AONB it seems possible that it would be of a sufficient area not to preclude the existing local landscape designation to remain in place and within the new North Yorkshire Council Local Plan, if following review there is sufficient robust evidence to support this.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PN6-Y</p>	<p>Commentary</p> <p>Natural England has reviewed this area in light of the various consultation responses. It agrees that land to the north of the proposed boundary has views to the chalk scarp to the south and that it acts as a dramatic backdrop. However, as noted in the Natural Beauty Assessment Report, <i>'further to the north towards Malton and to the south-west, the landscape has been subject to field boundary loss, horse-racing training grounds at Norton High Field and golf course development at the former Welham Park.'</i></p> <p>The Natural Beauty assessment concluded that <i>'To the north of EA1 the landscape is transitional where it slopes down towards Malton and Norton; landscape patterns and land uses are less intact and the greater distance from the scarp face, which defines this landscape to the east and south, means that the natural beauty is less strongly expressed. On balance the extent of the Candidate Area has been drawn southwards to coincide with the marked east-west limestone ridge of Sutton and Langton Wolds.....</i></p> <p><i>There is a transition in landscape and scenic quality to the north beyond the Sutton and Langton east-west ridge. North of here, the influences of equestrian uses and views to Malton, as well as some fragmentation of the landscape due to quarrying and golf course development, all have an influence on landscape and scenic qualities. The greater distance from the scarp also means that its contribution to scenic quality is less strong.'</i></p> <p>Natural England therefore considers that the extent to which there are views to the scarp has been taken into account in drawing the</p>

Boundary Section A: Sutton Wold to A64 Knapton		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>'Suggest that the northern boundary be set further north towards Norton/Malton at say Bazeley's Lane so as to include the site of the Norton and Langton Gallops which have an important historical interest. The nearby Howe Hill to the east is also a habitat for birds of prey, buzzards, red kite and owls.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PNK-M</p> <p><i>'Need to extend the boundary towards Norton..... I feel that the inland area should cover all of the Wolds including Langton Wold plus Norton and Malton because these areas will be designated as the areas for development and lose any natural pleasant landscapes.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5PYJ-X and BHLF-3WEG-5PYG-U</p> <p><i>'We note the comments made about the quarry in the consultation documents, which are quite negative notwithstanding its limited visual impact as identified in the LVIA in our current application. The quarry is particularly well screened by vegetation from the west and south whilst topography screens it from the east. Even the view of the higher quarry faces from the north is not significant. We are disappointed that no recognition is given to the possibility of a positive landscape impact from quarrying following restoration.....Nevertheless, we support the decision to place the boundary of the AONB in the vicinity of Norton on the crest of Sutton Wold and south of the southern extent of Whitewall Quarry. We believe this is a sensible pragmatic decision which recognises that need for flexibility for the quarry to continue to</i></p>	<p>boundary in this area. Natural England Guidance states that when defining a boundary in an area of transition <i>'Visual associations may also be used to help define the extent of land for inclusion in these circumstances.'</i> However, it also states that in areas of transition the boundary should be drawn <i>'towards the high-quality end of the transition in a manner that includes areas of high-quality land and excludes areas of lesser quality land, ie it should be drawn conservatively.'</i></p> <p>Natural England has reviewed the definition of the boundary in the area of Norton and Langton Gallops, Bazeley's Lane and Langton Wold. Natural England considers that, a boundary drawn along Bazeley's Lane, a track south of Howe Hill and then Back Lane to Sparrow Hall would be at the lower quality end of the transitional landscape, and therefore not in accordance with Natural England Guidance. The proposed boundary currently follows the higher ridgeline to the south, beyond which natural beauty is considered to be higher and where the visual association with the chalk scarp is more dramatic and easily perceived.</p> <p>In relation to Whitehall Quarry, the Natural Beauty Assessment noted on page 32, that it <i>'is particularly visible to the north from Malton and Norton.'</i> Natural England agrees that this quarry site is well screened from the south, east and west and has little effect on the surrounding landscape in these directions. This is one of the reasons why it has been possible to take the boundary to the margins of the quarry site.</p> <p>It is not the purpose of the Yorkshire Wolds Designation Project to determine what should happen to the remaining areas of local landscape designation, which are not considered to meet the Natural</p>

Boundary Section A: Sutton Wold to A64 Knapton		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>serve the local community with raw materials for construction, dimension stone and agriculture.'</i></p>	<p>Beauty Criterion. Nevertheless, Natural England believes there is evidence to suggest that this area is deserving of local recognition.'</p> <p>Furthermore, the wording in paragraph 189 of the National Planning Policy Framework (Dec 2024) highlights the importance of the setting of nationally protected landscapes. Land north of the boundary will fall within the setting of the proposed Yorkshire Wolds Designation.</p> <p>In addition, the purpose of designation as AONB, as set out in statute, is for the conservation and enhancement of its natural beauty and not the protecting of land from development.</p> <p>Conclusion</p> <p>No change.</p>
<p>Include Centenary Way, east of Settrington</p>	<p>ANON-3WEG-5PVK-V</p> <p><i>'Area need [needs] to be extened [extended] to include the Centernary [Centenary] way that runs to Malton from Settrington to Beverley Road'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PKH-E</p> <p><i>'With Centenary Way as a designated and signposted walking route through this part of the proposed AONB, I would like to see the boundary east of Settrington being extended with Centenary way being it's northerly border.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5PY5-9</p>	<p>Commentary</p> <p>For land to be designated an AONB it must meet the Natural Beauty Criterion as set out in statute. The assessment of natural beauty is undertaken in accordance with Natural England Guidance and with reference to the natural beauty factors set out in Appendix 1. These factors do not include consideration of opportunities for recreation, which is a second consideration for the identification of land for National Park designation.</p> <p>Natural England notes that the Centenary Way long distance path extends between Norton and Settrington before continuing southward into the Yorkshire Wolds.</p>

Boundary Section A: Sutton Wold to A64 Knapton		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>'Suggest N/E [Natural England] boundary on Map 1 extended westwards to encompass / protect Centenary [Centenary] Way footpath, Brambling fields footpath from Settrington and Langton Lane path near Sparrow Hill [Hall]'</i></p>	<p>The Natural Beauty Assessment report considered this area as part of EA1 and EA3. It concluded on page 36 that in the north of the area towards Malton, the landscape is transitional and that the steep scarp slopes are less influential due to distance. At page 48, it states that <i>'To the west of Settrington, natural beauty is declining across an open, low-lying and intensively farmed landscape and this has been excluded from the Candidate Area.'</i></p> <p>Nevertheless, the Candidate Area did extend to include land in the area of Brough Hill, Sparrow Hall and the disused railway to the north. This was reviewed at the boundary setting stage, and lower lying land towards Malton and Norton was excluded where there were land use changes, such as equestrian uses, quarry sites and distance from the scarp.</p> <p>The Boundary Assessment noted at page 8 that <i>'Care has been taken to include those hills which contribute to the scenic qualities and natural beauty of the area including..... Brough Hill but excludes those ridge slopes that are affected by the proximity to Norton and Malton, where landscape quality is declining.'</i> It also noted that <i>'The boundary was drawn to follow clear features on the ground and excluded the more intensive equestrian activity associated with Highfield House and Highfield Farm, further to the north, where landform is dropping away towards Malton.'</i> Although not specifically mentioned, this reasoning also applied to Settrington Howe and Newstead House.</p> <p>On page 9, it refers to the Settrington Quarry Site noting it <i>'is an active site for the extraction of Jurassic limestone and is an allocated</i></p>

Boundary Section A: Sutton Wold to A64 Knapton		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
		<p><i>site in the Minerals and Waste Joint Plan (2022). It includes a proposed extension to the existing quarry to the south and the importation of soil for use in restoration. This site is currently not visible from the wider landscape given its low elevation and existing surrounding vegetation; however, it is evident on the lane at the site access where metal railings, signs and views into the site adversely affect the rural character of the lane. Given the peripheral location of this site, a boundary has been defined which excludes it from the proposed AONB designation.'</i></p> <p>Natural England has reviewed this area east of Westfield Farm in light of consultation responses. Natural England notes that in this area there are two linear areas of woodland, one on the steep northern slopes of Brough Hill and the other along the disused railway. Although these mixed woodlands create visual containment and structure, this area of landscape is in a peripheral location relative to areas of qualifying land. Visually it relates to low lying land further to the west. Natural England acknowledges that the rural east-west lane has some attractive wooded rural qualities and that there are a number of public rights of way that traverse this area. However, it also notes that further east the area is affected by Settrington Quarry (which is considered in more detail below) and various small-scale developments at Sparrow Hall which give rise to a more unkempt character. On balance, Natural England remains of the view that this area is peripheral and declining in quality and that the proposed boundary is drawn conservatively within this transition and is robust.</p>

Boundary Section A: Sutton Wold to A64 Knapton		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
		<p>Furthermore, Natural England is of the view that the long-distance path of Centenary Way between Norton and Settrington passes through landscape which does not qualify for designation.</p> <p>On this basis, and noting that opportunities for open air recreation are not a consideration when designating an AONB, Natural England remains of the view that the proposed boundary should not extend into lesser quality land in order to include recreational routes.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change.</p>
Include Settrington Quarry	<p>ANON-3WEG-5PNC-C</p> <p><i>'It seems a shame that the boundary for the Settrington area is defined by Settrington quarry. Langton Lane alongside Sparrow Hall farm is a very pretty walk especially in the spring when there are lots of violets. It seems like the boundary is defined by the quarry rather than the feature present. This seems a shame as it would 'hang' together better if this area could also be included.</i></p> <p><i>Not sure if quarries are permitted inside an AONB? Maybe this is the problem but nevertheless this still seems a shame as there is essential [essentially] a 'hole' in the boundary.</i></p> <p><i>We would prefer the inclusion of the path alongside Sparrow Hall farm and the avoidance of the 'dent' around Settrington quarry.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PKD-A</p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>In February 2025, North Yorkshire Council granted an extension of time to recover the remaining mineral resources at Settrington which would require a physical extension of the quarry to the south, a new phased restoration scheme, and continued quarrying activity on the site until 2039 (planning application NY/2022/0224/FUL). The Landscape & Visual Impact Assessment (paragraph 1.3.14) for the planning application describes the final after-use of the site as <i>'agricultural grazing with low stocking levels and nature conservation. Specific components of existing infrastructure such as the storage shed, and a reduced area of hard standing in the north-west corner of the existing quarry site, would be retained to support these uses. The scale of the site access would be reduced and additional landscape planting would integrate the site entrance further into the road corridor of Back Lane'</i>.</p>

Boundary Section A: Sutton Wold to A64 Knapton		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>'The boundary I propose would follow a natural line from Settrington Centenary [Centenary] Way, to include part of the old railway line and include Settrington Plantation. This proposal would include the Settrington Quarry which is currently closed, but which could be rejuvenated into a wild life area, or returned to agricultural use. The limestone extracted from the quarry is poor quality, not required for construction and when working only provides for a small number (I believe the number to be six) employees. At present the restoration of the quarry is well behind schedule and including it in the proposed AONB would provide the impetus to get this work completed. There are currently plans to reopen the quarry which would mean that the operations would:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• inflict perpetual noise from pecking and dust in the beautiful village of Settrington</i> <i>• affect local wildlife</i> <i>• impose up to 112 lorry movements through our unspoilt village, which has no main street but a beck (stream with lots of wildlife) running through the central residential area.</i> <p><i>The road verges and roads are badly affected by the quarry vehicles going to and fro and I believe that the works impact on the foundations of old nearby buildings such as Settrington Grange.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PKV-V</p> <p><i>'There is an indent on the boundary to exclude the Quarry (dis) [Settrington Quarry]. Presumably it has been disused in the past</i></p>	<p>Para 10.43 of the committee report states <i>'The conditions in relation to the development are considered to mitigate the impact of the operation during minerals extraction with sufficient screening and controls to limit the sites impact, which <u>would avoid harming the proposed protected landscape of the Yorkshire Wolds</u>, it is considered this is consistent with the requirements of LURA (Levelling-up and Regeneration Act) (2023) as the proposal has put in place reasonable mitigation to limit the impact on the landscape. <u>The restoration scheme is designed to improve the landscape and habitats on the site in the long term.</u> Paragraph 224 of the NPPF states that planning authorities should provide for restoration and aftercare.'</i></p> <p>The Natural Beauty Assessment took into account the presence of the active quarry located at the edge of the qualifying land. It was excluded on the grounds that it did not meet the Natural Beauty Criterion, and its exclusion was supported by identifiable features on the ground that provided a clear and logical boundary.</p> <p>In reviewing the committee report, Natural England notes the approved restoration scheme <i>'includes a range of nature conservation land uses including species rich grassland; open water and wetland habitats; woodland thicket and scrub and conservation grassland.'</i></p> <p>Nevertheless, the extraction of limestone will mean that the landform of the site would be permanently modified to a lower lying hollow,</p>

Boundary Section A: Sutton Wold to A64 Knapton		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>to acquire the disused suffix. However, the owners are seeking to resume quarrying with attendant ensuing disruption to Settrington and its surrounds. This would not only involve noise disrupting the quiet of the area in the proposed AONB but also a steady stream of HGVs along narrow roads in the proposed AONB with attendant noise, hazard, and road damage.</i></p> <p><i>However, the boundary should be redrawn as shown on the attachment to include the quarry and surrounding land. Langton Lane in itself is an attractive byway for walking and cycling. Including the quarry in the AONB would facilitate the imposition of restrictions on its ability to disrupt the peace and tranquility of the proposed area.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PYV-A</p> <p><i>'I would like to include Settrington quarry in the AONB – in order to stop the continuing industrialised disruption that the operator, [Anon], imposes on all of us here in this otherwise wonderful rural idyll (which is fully deserving of AONB status).'</i></p>	<p>including localised water features in shallow depressions. Open rock faces would be left. The LVIA for the scheme notes that in the 15-year period, restoration would deliver only slight beneficial effects (related to biodiversity) increasing to moderate beneficial effects in the long-term.</p> <p>The assessment of natural beauty considers the assessment of the current qualities of the landscape, not some future potential for improvement (Natural England Guidance paragraph 6.10, fourth bullet). An exception may arise where there is an initiative which will deliver positive change of a standard which will meet the Natural Beauty Criterion within the short-term, and for which there is a high degree of certainty that it will be achieved. The proposals for Settrington Quarry have been considered in this context.</p> <p>On balance, Natural England considers that the continued working of the site over a further 15-year period, and the further time required for the site to be more fully restored to deliver positive effects, means that the scheme does not represent a rare exception to the need to consider the current natural beauty of the landscape. Furthermore, Natural England Guidance Boundary Considerations set out that land should not be included in a designation merely to protect it from specific development proposals.</p> <p>Natural England also notes that there is a current planning permission for a further 4 bedroom property (currently under construction) at Sparrow Hall and that, in the immediate vicinity of the property, landscape condition is lower. Given the peripheral location of the quarry, current planning permissions and the condition of</p>

Boundary Section A: Sutton Wold to A64 Knapton		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
		<p>landscape adjacent, Natural England is of the view that the proposed boundary remains sound.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change.</p>
<p>Include Scampston and West Knapton</p>	<p>BHLF-3WEG-5PSW-5 (North Yorkshire Council)</p> <p><i>'Area between Scagglethorpe and East Knapton villages to the south side of the A64, currently designated as AHLA [Area of High Landscape Value] within Ryedale Local Plan (Policy SP13), is not within the proposed AONB area.</i></p> <p><i>Scampston Hall is a grade II* Registered Park and Garden, a park laid out by Sir William St Quintin to a design by Lancelot Brown during the 1770s which incorporated earlier C18 landscape features, and which extends to the south side of the A64. (HE List Entry 1000374). Scampston Hall has also been the subject of redesign by Landscape Architect Piet Oudolf which provides further cultural significance and association with a world-renowned contemporary designer.</i></p> <p><i>It is recognised that Knapton Quarry as an active waste management site and that noise and traffic along the busy A64 act as negative influences on tranquillity, however this is quickly restored moving southwards to the lower slopes of the chalk scarp. Additionally, the landscape structure of hedgerows and small woodlands remains strong around the fringes of Scampston Hall Registered Park and Garden adding to the</i></p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>The Natural Beauty Assessment considered this area as part of EA 3.</p> <p>Scampston Parkland and land to south</p> <p>In relation to Scampston Hall, the Natural Beauty Assessment stated (page 44) <i>'notable areas of parkland at Settrington, Wintringham, Scampston and Knapton, remain dominant and provide structure to the landscape. This is despite some evidence of some former parkland landscapes becoming ploughed eg Settrington and Scampston Park south of the A64.'</i></p> <p>It went on to state (page 45) that <i>'In the west of the area, the scarp cuts in around Wintringham and Settrington to form a series of broad amphitheatres which frame the lower lying land. However, from the lower lying land closer to the A64, the scarp's presence diminishes, and scenic quality is lower. This is particularly the case for the</i></p>

Boundary Section A: Sutton Wold to A64 Knapton		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>sense of natural beauty and with visual separation from settlement and A64.</i></p> <p><i>While the upper scarp forms the main dramatic feature in the local landscape, we would consider the lower slopes typically extending down to the A64 and the settlement edges are equally important as a key component of the scarp setting. The drama and natural beauty of the scarp are typically perceived from the A64 and settlements along the road corridor and a key reason why the lower slopes may justify further consideration for inclusion within the proposed AONB area.</i></p> <p><i>If this area were not designated as AONB it seems possible that it would not be of a sufficient area to remain viable as a local landscape designation within the new North Yorkshire Council Local Plan due to the small fragmented areas.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P5W-7</p> <p><i>'I believe that it would be desirable if Scampston park [Scampston Hall] were to be included within the designation boundary'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PN8-1</p> <p><i>'As mentioned in our responses above we feel that the proposed boundary should be revised...:</i></p> <p><i>West Knapton to follow the line of the A64 eastbound before following the road down to Lavender Farm and then joining with the proposed boundary.'</i></p>	<p><i>transitional landscapes around Settrington towards Malton and to the south of Scampston. The parkland around Scampston has its own scenic qualities associated with the distinctive sandy soils, areas of open parkland, conifer plantations, the estate village and the house and its gardens; it is, however, separated from the wider areas of qualifying land by the busy A64 with only limited glimpsed and distant views back to the scarp. Furthermore, the condition of the parkland south of the A64 is severed by this busy route and has lost its integrity due to arable landuse in areas of former parkland.'</i></p> <p>At page 47, it notes that 'North of the scarp in the area of Scampston and East Knapton there are parkland landscapes and estate villages. These landscapes sit on sandy soils which is reflected in their pine plantations and are predominantly located north of the A64. The villages have an intact estate vernacular and the parkland of Scampston is a Registered Park and Garden. This park landscape exhibits scenic qualities although it is inward looking and does not borrow views from the chalk scarp which is located some distance to the south.'</p> <p>It concluded on page 48, that 'There are features of interest to the north of the A64 including Scampston Park and East Knapton park, but these areas are fragmented from the wider qualifying land by the A64 and non-qualifying land. The Candidate Area has been defined conservatively through this area, excluding some small areas of higher natural beauty along the A64 corridor and to the north.'</p> <p>Quarry and lower slopes of scarp</p>

Boundary Section A: Sutton Wold to A64 Knapton		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
		<p>Natural England agrees that the drama of the scarp is perceived from the A64 along much of its length, however, in the area of Scampston the scarp recedes to the south, and below the Knapton Waste Treatment Site the scarp slopes are less pronounced. The Natural Beauty Assessment notes (page 48) that <i>'the scarp slopes are becoming more gradual and are affected by arable farming, conifer planting and Knapton Waste Management site.'</i> It goes on to state (page 49), that particular scrutiny will be required at the boundary setting stage <i>'where detracting elements may be perceived together.'</i></p> <p>The Boundary Assessment considered this area in detail on page 9. It concluded that <i>'On balance therefore, given the future use of the site and its position in the landscape, the proposed boundary has been pulled back to the upper slopes of the scarp in order to exclude lesser quality land, which includes the former quarry site, even though this excludes part of the northern scarp face.'</i></p> <p>Local Landscape Designations</p> <p>The Natural Beauty Assessment makes clear (page 25) that <i>'Whilst the Yorkshire Wolds have been afforded a value at the local level this does not necessarily equate to levels of natural beauty of national significance.'</i></p> <p>Furthermore, it is not the purpose of the Yorkshire Wolds Designation Project to determine what should happen to the remaining areas of local landscape designation, which are not considered to meet the Natural Beauty Criterion. Nevertheless, Natural England believes</p>

Boundary Section A: Sutton Wold to A64 Knapton		
<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representation</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
		<p>there is evidence to suggest that this area is deserving of local recognition.</p> <p>Furthermore, the wording in paragraph 189 of the National Planning Policy Framework (Dec 2024) highlights the importance of the setting of nationally protected landscapes. Land beyond the boundary will fall within the setting of the proposed Yorkshire Wolds Designation.</p> <p>Natural England has reviewed this area in light of consultation responses but has concluded that the analysis and proposed boundary is sound.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change.</p>

Section B: A64 Knapton to A1039 Flixton		
<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representation</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
Include lower slopes of Northern Scarp	<p>ANON-3WEG-5P9V-A</p> <p><i>'... the A64 is a completely artificial boundary and yet there are clearly definable limits own some place based on evidence of human activity since the Palaeolithic</i></p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>A64 is an artificial boundary</p>

Section B: A64 Knapton to A1039 Flixton		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>perhaps the railway line would be a better boundary at this location if the limit is to be an arbitrary [arbitrary] line'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5PYQ-5</p> <p><i>'My real concern is that the A64 boundary between Malton and Potter Brompton cuts through and leaves out the densest identified archaeological landscape at scale in Britain, Historic England have been given the opportunity to afford it some degree of protection for more than a decade but have simply avoided what they might consider a thorny problem- from our point of view the human landscape is wholly entwined with the Natural and the incorporation of the archaeological landscape which here is clearly bounded by the edge of the former wetland would at least recognise it's importance.'</i></p>	<p>This area was considered in the Natural Beauty Assessment as part of EA 3, the northern extent of which followed the railway line.</p> <p>During the Natural Beauty Assessment two factors became apparent: firstly that the areas with the greatest weight of evidence supporting natural beauty occurred along the steepest scarp slopes and, secondly, that the A64 had a fragmenting effect on the landscape.</p> <p>This is apparent in the conclusions on page 48 which states 'Overall, the natural beauty criterion is met over most of the Northern Scarp Slopes (EA3). There is a considerable weight of evidence to support designation in relation to landscape quality, scenic quality and tranquillity, and additional evidence of relative wildness, natural heritage and cultural heritage, particularly on the steeper and complex scarp slopes and at the foot of the scarp where the landscape retains a rural character and is associated with picturesque spring-line estate villages.</p> <p>There are some spatial variations in the weight of evidence of natural beauty. The lower slopes of the scarp, where they lie close to the A64 corridor, are adversely affected by relatively recent development and expansion of some of the spring-line villages, as well as the increased activity and noise intrusion associated with the road corridor. To the west of Settrington, natural beauty is declining across an open, low-lying and intensively farmed landscape and this has been excluded from the Candidate Area. In contrast the lower lying land which is more contained by the indentation of the scarp, south of</p>

Section B: A64 Knapton to A1039 Flixton		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
		<p><i>Thorpe Bassett and Wintringham, is included in the Candidate Area. The area between Rillington and East Knapton present a more complex picture where land north of Thorpe Bassett is regarded as not meeting the natural beauty criterion in part due to its lower lying nature, land use and the influence of the settlement of Rillington and A64 corridor. Furthermore, to the east, the scarp slopes are becoming more gradual and are affected by arable farming, conifer planting and Knapton Waste Management site. There are features of interest to the north of the A64 including Scampston Park and East Knapton park, but these areas are fragmented from the wider qualifying land by the A64 and non-qualifying land. The Candidate Area has been defined conservatively through this area, excluding some small areas of higher natural beauty along the A64 corridor and to the north.'</i></p> <p>Natural England has reviewed these judgements in light of consultation response. Given the proposed boundary excludes land south of the A64 between East Knapton and Scagglethorpe, and includes land north of the A1039 at Folkton, and has carefully considered the inclusion and exclusion of settlements along the A64/A1039, Natural England does not agree that the use of the A64 is artificial but rather reflects detailed assessment of the natural beauty factors in this area.</p> <p>Importance of archaeology in this area</p> <p>Natural England notes that respondents stress the importance of the archaeology of this area between the railway and the A64, and that</p>

Section B: A64 Knapton to A1039 Flixton		
<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representation</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
		<p>this reflects the importance of this fringe landscape adjacent the extensive lake which once covered the Vale of Pickering.</p> <p>Natural England also notes that paragraph 6.3 of Natural England Guidance states '<i>It is Natural England's view that fauna and flora (i.e. wildlife), geological and physiographical features and cultural heritage can contribute to the perception of natural beauty of all landscapes and that any assessment of natural beauty must take these factors into consideration, whether in relation to a National Park or an AONB designation. For example, the presence of particular wildlife or cultural heritage features can make an appreciable contribution to an area's sense of place and thereby heighten the perception of natural beauty. There is now express statutory clarification that wildlife and cultural heritage may be taken into account in assessing natural beauty for National Park designations (s.59(1)) of NERC.</i>'</p> <p>Cultural heritage is therefore a relevant consideration when assessing natural beauty. Table 3 of the Guidance clarifies what this should include namely '<i>The influence of cultural heritage on the perception of natural beauty of the area and the degree to which associations with particular traditions, people, artists, writers or events in history contribute to such perception.</i>'</p> <p>In Appendix 1 page 25 of the Guidance, examples of what might be taken into account when considering cultural heritage are provided and include archaeology with example indicators including:</p>

Section B: A64 Knapton to A1039 Flixton		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presence of settlements, buildings or other structures that make a particular contribution to perceptions of natural beauty • Presence of visible archaeological remains, parkland or designed landscapes that provide striking features in the landscape contributing to perceptions of natural beauty. <p>Therefore, for cultural heritage elements in a landscape to contribute to natural beauty, they must be capable of affecting perceptions of the landscape. Whilst Natural England acknowledges that the land between Malton and Potter Brompton contains a rich resource of archaeology, it is also aware that much of this is not visible in the present-day landscape. Furthermore, it lies within an area which is fragmented from wider qualifying land on the steep scarp slopes.</p> <p>Natural England cannot comment on why Historic England may or may not have sought recognition for the archaeological landscape, as highlighted by respondents.</p> <p>Conclusion</p> <p>No change.</p>
Exclude lower Northern Scarp slopes	BHLF-3WEG-5PS6-4 <i>'We feel that the northern boundary should not reach the A64 in most places, keeping closer to the route of the Wolds Way. There is too much traffic and many unsightly developments</i>	<p>Commentary</p> <p>The Natural Beauty Assessment Report considers this area as part of EA 3. It concluded (page 48) that '<i>The lower slopes of the scarp,</i></p>

Section B: A64 Knapton to A1039 Flixton		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<i>along the A64 corridor - ribbon developments and noise pollution don't naturally sit with an AONB in our opinion.'</i>	<p><i>where they lie close to the A64 corridor, are adversely affected by relatively recent development and expansion of some of the spring-line villages, as well as the increased activity and noise intrusion associated with the road corridor.'</i></p> <p>The Natural Beauty Assessment also noted (page 48) that <i>'There are features of interest to the north of the A64 including Scampston Park and East Knapton park, but these areas are fragmented from the wider qualifying land by the A64 and non-qualifying land. The Candidate Area has been defined conservatively through this area, excluding some small areas of higher natural beauty along the A64 corridor and to the north.'</i></p> <p>It went on to state (page 49) that <i>'The A64 forms a significant fragmenting feature within this landscape which is further reinforced by development along the corridor. The boundary is likely to either follow the A64 carriageway or to adopt the property boundaries around settlements. Care will be needed to exclude land that has become fragmented whilst recognising the need to avoid an overly convoluted boundary.'</i></p> <p>At the boundary assessment stage, care was taken to exclude areas of development. Where there was no development, the adoption of the A64 was considered appropriate given the strength of landscape which forms the Northern Scarp. The elevation of the scarp means that it sits above the road, affording panoramic views over the corridor towards the North York Moors and along the undulating edge of the scarp. These qualities remain strongly expressed despite localised noise intrusion from traffic on the road on the lower slopes.</p>

Section B: A64 Knapton to A1039 Flixton		
<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representation</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
		<p>Natural England does not consider a boundary along the mid slopes and edge of woodland would reflect the sweep of landscape which forms the Northern Scarp.</p> <p>The interface between the Northern Scarp and Vale of Pickering is relatively abrupt, and the A64 forms a strong line between the two.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change.</p>
Exclude land between Ganton and Muston	<p>ANON-3WEG-5P9S-7</p> <p><i>'I question your boundary covering Ganton across to Staxton/Folkton and Muston as these areas are not wold landscapes and lack in the features of the other areas that have the distinct valleys, steep slopes and heritage buildings.</i></p> <p><i>I also disagree with including the lands from Ganton to Muston as you are no [not] on Wolds Land there - the land type goes to sand and there are no undulations and beautiful features.'</i></p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>Natural England Guidance (paragraph 5.3, 2nd bullet), makes it clear that <i>'Land to be included in a proposed designation does not need to be of the same or similar character.'</i></p> <p>Paragraph 6.10, first bullet, goes on to state that <i>'A designation can contain different landscapes so long as the designation as a whole satisfies the natural beauty criterion.'</i></p> <p>The Natural Beauty Assessment (pages 45-50) considered the scarp as part of EA 3.</p> <p>The Natural Beauty Assessment highlights <i>'In morning and evening light, more subtle indentations and undulations on the surface of the</i></p>

Section B: A64 Knapton to A1039 Flixton		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
		<p><i>open slopes are accentuated, adding interest and texture eg Castle Hill and Flotmanby Brow. The combination of open and wooded slopes, light and shade and the sheer scale of the scarp, all contribute to the scenic compositions which unfold along its length.'</i></p> <p>In terms of natural heritage it also notes that '<i>Other areas of significant natural heritage include Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation, supporting... small areas of established calcareous and neutral grassland, especially in the east of the area..... Natural springs, which issue from the mid slopes of the chalk escarpment, are a feature which reflects the underlying geology where the porous chalk meets the less permeable clay eg Shepherd's Spring south of Ganton.</i></p> <p>In terms of cultural heritage it notes '<i>Natural springs have influenced the location of historic villages and also the development of designed parklands (eg at Ganton Hall).</i>'</p> <p>It concluded that most of the scarp is suitable for designation but also noted the need for particular scrutiny during the boundary setting stage, particularly in relation to the inclusion or exclusion of the settlement, and the use of the A64 as the boundary.</p> <p>Natural England agrees that the Northern Scarp of the Yorkshire Wolds has different qualities to the dissected High Wolds. Nevertheless, Natural England remains of the view that the dramatic Northern Scarp expresses a considerable weight of evidence to support designation including the scarp between Ganton and Muston.</p>

		<p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change.</p>

Section C: A1039 Flixton to North Cotes Road		
<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representation</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
Include land towards Muston	<p>ANON-3WEG-5PNW-Z (North York Moors National Park)</p> <p><i>'As host organisation for the Yorkshire Wolds Way National Trail we support the concerns expressed by the Wolds Way Partnership about the appropriateness of using the National Trail as the boundary for a segment of the inland area of the proposed AONB.</i></p> <p><i>This approach does not sit well in terms of the ambition that National Trails act as nature corridors, therefore we would wish to see the designation of additional strips of land adjacent to the National Trail.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5PS8-6</p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>National Trail</p> <p>The identification of land for AONB designation is based on natural beauty, using the factors set out in Natural England Guidance, and a boundary is drawn based on qualifying land.</p> <p>There is no requirement for the boundary of a National Landscape to include a National Trail in its entirety, or to ensure that a National Trail has a margin of at least one field between the trail and a proposed AONB boundary. Furthermore, when considering an AONB designation there is no requirement to consider Opportunities</p>

Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>'As a principle we believe it is not appropriate to use the Yorkshire Wolds Way National Trail as a boundary for the AONB. It is very important that our Protected Landscapes and National Trails are seen to exist and be managed in harmony with each other. However, the Yorkshire Wolds Way line has been used as a boundary in several areas on the proposed designation.</i></p> <p><i>National Trails are managed with consideration to a full nature corridor, so as far as possible, there should be a margin of a minimum of a field between the Yorkshire Wolds Way and the AONB boundary. We have suggested changes which do not compromise on the outstanding natural beauty and we recommend the changes to the boundary as detailed below.</i></p> <p><i>Site visits to this section have shown that the landscape within the proposed change to the boundary easily meets the criteria of outstanding natural beauty with extensive and attractive views towards Muston and the North Sea coast. We strongly suggest that this boundary change is important for the integrity of the AONB.</i></p> <p><i>Additionally, it is essential that the boundary is changed as there is a drawing error on the proposal, where the boundary line has been incorrectly drawn along the National Trail/public footpath line that was diverted approx 10 years ago, and no longer exists. A copy of the diverted route will be attached with this return.'</i></p>	<p>for Recreation, which is a second statutory criterion for the identification of land for National Park designation only.</p> <p>National Trails are managed by local National Trail Partnerships, irrespective of whether they fall within a National Landscape Designation. The part inclusion/exclusion of a National Trail should not therefore affect the ability of the Partnership to effectively manage the trail.</p> <p>Natural England is grateful for clarification of the diversion order relating to the Yorkshire Wolds national trail and notes that where the footpath used to join the A1039, it has been the subject of a diversion order and now passes through fields to the south of the A1039.</p> <p>Natural England also notes that National Landscape boundaries should where possible follow clear lines on the ground and that para 2.2.5, 1) of the Boundary Assessment states that <i>'where Rights of Way exist alongside a proposed boundary they are normally included'</i>. During the boundary setting stage of assessment Natural England had given consideration to using the hedgerow north of the national trail as a clear line on the ground. However, in accordance with additional boundary considerations set out in para 2.2.5 of the Boundary Assessment, which allows for the inclusion of rights of way where they lie adjacent to the boundary, Natural England reviewed this and took the boundary along the southern edge of the right of way. Natural England considers that the proposed boundary remains appropriate i.e. it includes this section of the National Trail (even though the hedgerow feature lies to the north). However, it has adjusted the written boundary description to take account of the footpath diversion order, for clarity.</p>

<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representation</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
		<p>The description now states that <i>'past the village sign to Muston, the boundary leaves the road and cuts through the hedge turning southwest along the edge of vegetation before crossing the Yorkshire Wolds Way at right angles and adopting its southern edge. It then follows the southern side of the footpath in a westerly direction. Where the route crosses an open field the boundary crosses in a straight line between the corner of the hedgerow to adopt another hedgerow before turning south, as far as White Gate Hill.'</i></p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change. However, a slight change to the written description within the Boundary Assessment will be made (page 15).</p>
<p>Exclude land south of Staxton village</p>	<p>BHLF-3WEG-5PYU-9 and ANON-3WEG-5P29-6</p> <p><i>'We certainly conclude that this A64 corridor, particularly in the vicinity of Staxton village and [ANON] is an area where landscape quality and scenic quality are noticeably reduced and diluted and undermining characteristics of transition, fragmentation and incongruity are clearly evident. Furthermore, high levels of activity, noise and disturbance associated with a variety [of] leisure, retail, commercial, residential and agricultural land uses, and the major highway corridors combine to be unreflective of the dark night sky and tranquillity qualities which are identified as important and necessary for designation.</i></p> <p><i>If this is considered to be a 'Transitional Area', the boundary setting considerations require the AONB boundary to be drawn towards the high quality end of the transition in a manner that</i></p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>The Natural Beauty Assessment highlighted (page 45) that <i>'From the lower slopes, at the junction with the Vale of Pickering, there are views along the scarp; it is from here its indented and smooth flowing lines can be best appreciated. Along the slopes, the patterns of woodland and open grassland or lower arable enclosures create a geometric, blocky character. In morning and evening light, more subtle indentations and undulations on the surface of the open slopes are accentuated, adding interest and texture e.g. Castle Hill and Flotmanby Brow. The combination of open and wooded slopes, light and shade and the sheer scale of the scarp, all contribute to the scenic compositions which unfold along its length.'</i></p>

Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>includes areas of high quality land and excludes areas of lesser quality. It would be our view that the proposed Boundary 3 in the vicinity of [ANON] has been drawn far too tightly towards the 'lower quality end' of the transitional area. It would appear to be the 'clear physical boundary' consideration that has held sway here whereby the A64 has been a convenient location to start and stop the proposed AONB boundary, rather than being an area that is truly outstanding in its beauty and thus worthy.</i></p> <p><i>The boundary setting considerations also state that land should not be included within the AONB boundary merely to seek to protect it from specific development proposals, but we do consider that this is the approach that has been taken here - the AONB boundary impinges tightly against the boundaries of [ANON] - it is thus very difficult to conclude that this is anything other than a strategy to control and curtail further development along this built corridor.</i></p> <p><i>We conclude that the area along the A64 corridor is far too impacted and eroded by built developed and associated activity to be considered as special, rare or representative of the type of outstanding national landscape that warrants nationally significant designation and special protection. We consider that it would be more desirable to move the boundary further south away from the A64. When you compare this corridor area to those truly special areas which require inclusion and protection, this area is far too ordinary and impacted to be worthy of designation.</i></p> <p><i>It is our view that the boundary should be set back from the A64 and A1039 [A1039] in the vicinity of [ANON]. To a degree this approach has already been adopted to exclude [ANON], but we consider the line to be too close to [ANON]. There needs to be</i></p>	<p>The assessment went on to note incongruous development along the A64 and areas of fragmentation (page 49).</p> <p>The Boundary Assessment considered transitional landscape (page 13) stating 'The natural beauty assessment highlighted that the land north of the A64 is in transition and lacks the qualities found to the south where the land rises sharply to form the slopes of the north facing chalk scarp. The natural beauty assessment also highlighted the effects of commercial and settlement development along the A64 corridor which does not meet the natural beauty criterion and has an adverse effect on the qualities of the surrounding area. On this basis the adoption of a boundary along the railway to the north (whilst arguably less convoluted) was not considered suitable as this would have resulted in the inclusion of significant areas of non-qualifying land.'</p> <p>In the area of Staxton, the boundary was drawn around areas of development and caravan parks, excluding them from the designation but including the steep slopes which form a single uninterrupted sweep of landscape making up the Northern Scarp.</p> <p>Natural England has reconsidered the area around Staxton in light of consultation responses.</p> <p>It does not agree that the development on the south side of Staxton to be so significant to adversely affect the natural beauty of the lower slopes of the scarp. Similarly, it does not agree that the impact of the A64 is so great that the boundary should be drawn to the south, away</p>

Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>an increased separation / buffer to ensure that only the most outstanding land away from the harmful impacting and eroding qualities of the A64 is included.</i></p> <p><i>We therefore suggest that the proposed AONB boundary on Map 3 should be reconsidered and redrawn so as to be more physically offset from the boundaries of [ANON]. This would push the boundary further south up the 'Northern Chalk Scarp' which rises from the Vale of Pickering. Clarity of physical boundary is still achievable by running the boundary along the northern edge of the woodland and then by following a field boundary.'</i></p>	<p>from the road corridor along the length of the scarp. This would result in exclusion of the lower slopes which are an integral part of the scenic qualities of the area.</p> <p>Natural England Guidance is clear that in defining a boundary, land should not be included to protect it from development. By the same token, land should not be excluded because it has the prospect of being developed. Even if land on the lower slopes was excluded, and the boundary drawn back to the mid slopes, the lower slopes would fall within the setting of the designation and would be subject to the Duty to conserve and enhance natural beauty as set out in the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act (LURA) (2023).</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change.</p>
<p>Exclude Cans Dale and Folkton Wold</p>	<p>ANON-3WEG-5PDT-K</p> <p><i>'The implications on planning and building regulations are sufficiently complex already - having half our property subject to one set of regulations & another under regulations influenced by the AONB guidelines will make business & farm planning more challenging for us.... the Boundary Considerations document (page 17, which pertains to our section of the boundary): "These areas of elevated farmland, [do not meet] the natural beauty criterion of themselves" and "Drawing a boundary to exclude these elevated areas would give rise to a convoluted boundary." The boundary is already convoluted (for us) because it bisects</i></p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>Boundary setting considerations set out in Appendix 4 of the Natural England Guidance do not take into account land ownership. It is not unusual for land ownership to be split by a national landscape designation and there are many landowners who successfully manage their farm enterprises under these circumstances.</p> <p>Respondent ANON-3WEG-5PDT-K wishes to see the land south of Five Firs Plantation as far as the road, including Green Cliff,</p>

Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>our land. If it is agreed there is no inherent beauty in the elevated farmland, and it has just been included in order to form part of the contiguous AONB area, that is (in my opinion) insufficient cause for imposing AONB status on half our property. Our preferred solution would be to exclude the entire property from the AONB, as suggested in the attached image.'</i></p> <p>Alternative boundary <i>'The proposed boundary would move west off Stocking Dale, up the boundary line of our property (ANON), past "Five Firs" plantation, then turn south to join the Green Land footpath, rejoining the originally proposed boundary at the B166 road'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PVC-M <i>'We refer specifically to the Map 4 boundary and the area around Camp Dale.</i> <i>The Natural Beauty Assessment highlighted the declining quality of some of the sinuous valleys. Here, unsympathetic land uses have caused fragmentation.</i> <i>The Natural Beauty Assessment notes the following in relation to this candidate area:</i> <i>"To the east a higher level of natural beauty is found associated with the dry sinuous valley network around Fordon. However, here the landscape is in transition to the east, where some of the sinuous valleys have been affected by unsympathetic land uses which have caused fragmentation; additionally, they typically lack the drama of chalk valley systems at Fordon and in other EAs, such as EA2, EA9 and EA11. This area is also separated</i></p>	<p>excluded. This area comprises the slopes which define the lower reaches of Stocking Dale/Cans Dale and do not comprise the elevated farmland referred to in the Boundary Assessment (page 17) which relates to Flotmanby Wold to the north and Staxton Wold to the north-west and as indicated by the extent of the Candidate Area shown on Figure 10.</p> <p>Respondent ANON-3WEG-5PVC-M wishes to see a larger area of land excluded (i.e. more than that proposed by respondent ANON-3WEG-5PDT-K) with the exclusion of land further north to Folkton Wold, and Camp and Raven Dales.</p> <p>Natural England agrees that the Natural Beauty Assessment highlighted issues relating to fragmentation and land use within the dales on the eastern fringes of EA4. Nevertheless, it identified the dry valley system around Fordon as suitable for inclusion in the Candidate Area but requiring particular scrutiny at the boundary assessment stage.</p> <p>The Boundary Assessment looked at this in detail on page 16 <i>'Declining and mixed condition of valleys on the edge'</i>. It concluded that, despite fragmentation, <i>'the scale of this dale system remains strong and the deciduous woodland in Stocking Dale, hawthorn scrub at the head of Camp Dale and around the Camp at the confluence with Stocking Dale, as well as along the steep slopes of Green Cliff, add visual interest and variety. This valley system is affected by some unsympathetic management but is however regarded as meeting the natural beauty criterion. To the south, the dale is affected by an overhead transmission line, (although its scale is relatively</i></p>

<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representation</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
	<p><i>from the wider area of qualifying land by elevated intensive arable farmland on parts of Staxton and Flotmanby Wolds".</i></p> <p><i>There is also the transitional nature of incised valleys in the east. Scenic quality declines due to the valleys becoming shallower and less distinct.</i></p> <p><i>Particular attention is given to Cans Dale. It is noted that this Dale broadens and becomes less distinct towards the Burton Fleming Road.</i></p> <p><i>For all of the Dales, the landscapes are deemed to be of mixed quality due to current land use, management and intrusion of vertical features.</i></p> <p><i>We do not consider this area has sufficient natural beauty to be included within the AONB designation and would suggest the boundary be moved to exclude the area as shown on the uploaded map (please see red boundary which shows proposed area to be excluded).</i></p> <p><i>The area that should be excluded is to the east of Danebury Manor and south of the Yorkshire Wolds Way/Raven Dale up to the point of Long Plantation further east. This includes Folkton Wold and the area of Cans Dale up to Fordon Lane / Mill Lane in the south.'</i></p>	<p><i>small compared to the depth of the dale) and the visual intrusion of two wind turbines which sit on elevated land at Hunmanby Grange. These turbines are also visible in views southwards along Camp Dale. Where Cans Dale meets East Dale and continues towards the Burton Fleming Road, it broadens noticeably, with the valley slopes becoming shallower and less distinct. As a result, both the valley sides and valley floor support arable production and the qualities of the valley decline. Furthermore,</i></p> <p><i>east of these dales, the landscape comprises an open, undulating and intensively farmed landscape, which is not regarded as meeting the criterion for national landscape designation and is also affected by wind turbines, and overhead transmission line.</i></p> <p><i>Given the effect of turbines and overhead lines, consideration was given to defining a boundary along the green lane leading to Danebury Manor and along the road to Flixton. However, this would have resulted in the exclusion of some of the higher quality valley system and would have left a narrow band of designated land along the chalk scarp to the north. An alternative boundary was therefore considered to include the valley system but exclude the less distinct valley as it approaches Burton Fleming Road and non-qualifying land to the west. This approach is consistent with decisions made elsewhere along the boundary. The proposed boundary therefore hugs the upper edge of the valley system and has resulted in some small areas of lesser quality land being included i.e. the valley where it is affected by the overhead line and also intensive farmland on Flotmanby Wold to the north. However, these areas of lesser quality land are considered small in scale and integral to the wider sweep of qualifying landscape.'</i></p>

<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representation</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
		<p>Natural England Guidance paragraph 5.3 clarifies that <i>'there is no requirement that every parcel of land must meet either or both of the criteria (ie there may be, and is very likely to be, small areas of land which meet neither.'</i></p> <p>Natural England recognises that in some peripheral locations, decisions are more finely balanced. On balance, Natural England remains of the view that these Dales are clearly discernible, exhibiting scenic quality and cultural and natural heritage interest, to warrant inclusion within the proposed designation despite some land use change which has caused fragmentation. This is consistent with decisions made elsewhere around the boundary.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change.</p>

Section D: North Cotes Road to B1253
Section E: B1253 to Warren Dale

<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representation</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
Include more of Gypsy Race / Great Wold Valley	A number of respondents wished to see more land included along the Gypsy Race and the wider Great Wold Valley.	<u>Commentary</u>

Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p>BHLF-3WEG-5PSW-5 (North Yorkshire Council)</p> <p><i>'The Great Wold Valley area along the line of the Main Road between East Lutton and Foxholes villages, currently designated as AHLA [Area of High Landscape Value] within Ryedale Local Plan (Policy SP13), is not within the proposed AONB area.</i></p> <p><i>It is recognised within the 'Natural Beauty Assessment' that there is a gradual transition in landscape quality and condition and scenic composition as one moves east and the valley sides recede, creating a vast shallow valley and sea of arable land, and that large areas of intense arable farmland and incongruous vertical structures can cause fragmentation. There is a notable concentration of incongruous features such as large modern farm buildings and wind turbines in this area.</i></p> <p><i>We agree with the Natural Beauty Assessment, overall proposed area and Boundary Assessment in this location considered for inclusion/exclusion within the proposed AONB.</i></p> <p><i>Notwithstanding the above, if this area were not designated as AONB it seems possible that it would be of a sufficient area not to preclude the existing local landscape designation to remain in place and within the new North Yorkshire Council Local Plan, if following review there is sufficient robust evidence to support this.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PQN-T</p> <p><i>'I am of the opinion that the designated area should include the land along the Great Wolds Valley'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PZE-T</p>	<p>The Natural Beauty Assessment considers the Great Wold Valley as part of EA5. It concluded (pages 62-63) that <i>'There is a mixed weight of evidence of natural beauty within this Evaluation Area. The area with the highest levels of natural beauty occur in the west around the head of the Great Wold valley. Here the landscape is most strongly defined by broad and flowing landforms across which arable land use creates distinctive abstract patterns, uninterrupted by incongruous features and benefitting from broad, expansive skies. This part of the valley is especially elevated, located close to some of the highest parts of the High Wolds, and is intervisible with adjoining areas of EA2, EA3 including Wharram Percy and EA9 including the fringes of Sledmere. The settlements in this part of the valley are associated with historic sites which make an overt contribution to natural beauty and are surrounded by qualifying land. Towards the central and eastern parts of the valley, the slopes recede and are less steep, becoming less distinctive. Although the villages retain their nucleated, working agricultural character and continue to be associated with historic features, and in particular with historic enclosure patterns which are thought to be of considerable antiquity, their broader landscape setting lacks the landscape quality and scenic qualities of a nationally outstanding landscape. Furthermore, church landmarks are sometimes compromised by the proliferation of individual wind turbines which draw the eye. On this basis, the middle and eastern extent of the Great Wold valley are not considered suitable for inclusion within the Candidate Area for designation.'</i></p> <p>Natural England has reviewed this area in light of consultation responses and considers the main points raised by respondents below.</p>

Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>'The designation should cover more of the Gypsy Race area.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PDV-N</p> <p><i>'Why has the area which encompasses the Gypsy Race been excluded from this proposal? This watercourse is of specific natural importance in its own right simply because it is the most northerly chalk stream within the UK.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PN8-1</p> <p><i>'We feel it is very important that the area of the Gypsy Race including Butterwick and Weaverthorpe is included.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5PSY-7</p> <p><i>'I feel that this additional area [East Lutton and Heleprthorpe[Helperthorpe]] is worthy of inclusion as proposed AONB.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PNE-E</p> <p><i>'I wish to suggest an alternative boundary to include one moderate sized area which has a natural affinity with the designated area [land associated with East Lutton and Helperthorpe]. This [land] lies immediately adjacent to the designated area [map 6]. An aesthetically pleasing natural high chalk-land area with excellent inland views. There are limited man-made features, well maintained agricultural and woodland areas which complement the whole area. Extensive ancient archaeological features with a more recent Medieval village</i></p>	<p>Future of Local Landscape Designation</p> <p>It is not the purpose of the Yorkshire Wolds Designation Project to determine what should happen to the remaining areas of local landscape designation, which are not considered to meet the Natural Beauty Criterion. Nevertheless, Natural England believes there is evidence to suggest that this area is deserving of local recognition.</p> <p>Gypsy Race as a feature of interest</p> <p>Natural England agrees that the Gypsy race is a feature of particular interest in this landscape and this was noted in the Natural Beauty Assessment (page 60). However, the assessment of natural beauty requires consideration of a range of factors as set out in Natural England Guidance. Taking all factors into account Natural England concluded that the natural beauty of the valley was declining to the east and a boundary was defined within this transition. Natural England accepts that only part of the Gypsy Race chalk stream is therefore included. This is not uncommon when a feature of interest is linear in nature and lies within a wider landscape of non-qualifying land. Natural England Guidance, Appendix 4, is clear that when defining a boundary, features of interest should be included where practicable providing that they are situated within a tract that meets the statutory criteria.</p> <p>Characteristic villages and transitional landscape</p>

Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>together with a more recent Mid-Victorian monument tower of note.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P9S-7</p> <p><i>'I do not know why you haven't included Helperthorpe/Butterwick/Foxholes/Thwing/Wold Newton as those areas are very similar to the land you have in designation. You are still on limestone (wold) land there and there are similar features including dales and chalk streams.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5PY1-5</p> <p><i>'We support the boundary adjustments suggested by [respondent BHLF-3WEG-5P2Y-6] At the very least, [respondent BHLF-3WEG-5P2Y-6] calls for more land within the Great Wolds Valley (Area 5) following the Gypsy Race towards Wold Newton and Burton Flemming [Fleming] and then northwards towards Bempton to 'join' up the two parcels of proposed designated areas following the underground chalk to the coastal area and from the existing candidate (shown as Area 7) towards Rudston – all of which is currently within transition areas.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5P2Y-6</p> <p><i>'[ANON] consider that the designation should continue eastwards to incorporate land between area 5, 6 and 7 is effectively 'filled in' along the Great Wolds Valley to follow the Gypsy Race towards Rudston and then northwards towards Burton Flemming [Fleming] and on towards North Dale The</i></p>	<p>The Natural Beauty Assessment (page 63) stated that <i>'There is a gradual transition in landscape quality and condition and scenic composition as one moves east and the valley sides recede, creating a vast shallow valley and sea of arable farmland.'</i></p> <p>It also noted in the conclusions (page 63) that the quality of the settlements within the Great Wold Valley is mixed.</p> <p>Natural England notes that some respondents wish to see the boundary moved east to include just the settlement of East Lutton and Helperthorpe.</p> <p>However, it is for the reasons relating to a transitional landscape and the mixed settlement quality, that the villages of East Lutton, Helperthorpe, Weaverthorpe, Butterwick and Wold Newton have all been excluded.</p> <p>Chalk Wolds Character</p> <p>Natural England accepts that the remaining areas of the Great Wold Valley express landscape characteristics which are typical of a wold landscape. However, Natural England Guidance is clear that landscape character is not the same as natural beauty. When defining a boundary in a transitional landscape, it is not unusual for the landscape to appear the same on both sides of the boundary. Nevertheless, the Natural Beauty Assessment and the Boundary Assessment both set out the rationale for this boundary choice.</p>

Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>designation of these additional areas will ensure that the nationally unique landscape is protected in the highest possible terms in planning policy, giving relevant authorities a strengthened duty (as defined within the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023) relating to the purpose to 'conserve and enhance the natural beauty' of the area.'</i></p> <p><i>[ANON] consider that this is contrary to Natural England's Guidance as quoted above in that there is no requirement for every parcel of land to meet every criterion and also that a designation can wash over a tract of land even though that land itself does not meet the designation criteria provided it sits within a sweep of qualifying land.</i></p> <p><i>[ANON] agree that land toward the east of the area heading to Bridlington does not meet the qualifying criteria, however, based on our considered view and as set out above feel that the boundary should be adjusted as described below.</i></p> <p><i>Area 6 from the Head of the Great Wolds Valley at 'The Lutton's' should be extended eastwards towards Wold Newton and Burton Flemming [Fleming]. This area includes a significant amount of cultural heritage, provides expansive open views across the rural landscape. Similarly, the area immediately to the south should effectively be 'filled in' to join up to the existing Area 7 ensuring that the existing 'setting' between these two areas are in effect protected from development which can adversely impact the designation.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PVP-1 and BHLF-3WEG-5PYM-1</p> <p><i>'While we understand the use of roads and other hard features as boundaries, as opposed to the more geologically logical use</i></p>	<p>Wash over</p> <p>The Natural England Guidance states at paragraph 5.3, bullet 5 that <i>'there is no requirement that every parcel of land must meet either or both the criteria (i.e. there may be, and is likely to be, small areas of land which meet neither).'</i> References to both criteria refers to natural beauty and opportunities for open air recreation in relation to National Parks. In the case of an AONB, there is no need for every parcel of land to meet the Natural Beauty Criterion. Within the Great Wold Valley, the Natural Beauty Assessment noted the transitional nature of the landscape moving east, and Natural England notes that respondent BHLF-3WEG-5PSW-5 (North Yorkshire Council) is in agreement.</p> <p>The reason for excluding the area was not based on small parcels of land not meeting the criteria but, rather, whole swaths of landscape which reflected a transition in landscape and scenic quality. Given this, and the fact that the Gypsy Race is a wide shallow valley which does not prevent qualifying land to the north and south from being identified for designation, Natural England is of the view that there is no case for wash over to apply.</p> <p>Protection in Planning</p> <p>Natural England agrees that the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act (LURA) (2023) places a duty on relevant authorities (which includes local authorities) in exercising or performing any functions in relation to, or so as to affect, land in a National Park, the Broads or an Area</p>

Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>of contours, it is our view that the logic of boundaries is poor from landscape/ecological perspectives as it seems to frequently (though inconsistently) use roads as a boundary leading to situations such as the road at West Lutton, where the landscape is the same both sides but only one half is within the AONB... The current approach excludes or splits a number of significant features including the Gypsy Race chalk stream, included in the upper catchment at Kirkby Gindalythe and Duggleby, but then excluded downstream at Rudston.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5PYS-7</p> <p><i>'inclusion of the Great Wold Valley were considered as it is literally a big feature of the Wolds. In includes the Gypsy Race, believed to be a unique watercourse on the wolds, pre historic manmade features, pockets of woodland and pasture and archaeological heritage such as the Wold Newton horde, meteorite monument and the grade II* church.</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P2F-K</p> <p><i>'I would like to see the Great Wold Valley as it so unlocks the wolds landscape'</i></p>	<p>of Outstanding Natural Beauty in England, to seek to further the statutory purposes of the area. This duty may also apply to proposals outside the designated area where they may impact its natural beauty. Therefore, this duty would apply to development in the Great Wold Valley, should it be considered to affect the purposes of the designation, even if the valley itself remains beyond the boundary. Furthermore, any development within the setting of the proposed AONB would need to be in accordance with the NPPF para 189 (Dec 2024) which states that <i>'development within their [national landscape] setting should be sensitively located and designed to avoid or minimise adverse impacts on the designated areas.'</i></p> <p>Planning application at Foxholes</p> <p>As part of a review of current planning applications, Natural England is aware that a screening opinion for the construction of a temporary wellsite was submitted to North Yorkshire Council in January 2025 (NY/2025/0017/SCR). The development includes the operation of a drilling rig for the exploration of subsurface hydrocarbons, testing and retention of the equipment. A decision was reached by North Yorkshire Council on 6 February 2025 and concluded that a landscape and visual impact assessment would be required but that no formal environmental statement was necessary,</p> <p>Natural England Guidance Boundary Considerations sets out that sites which have planning permission should normally be excluded. In this instance no formal application has been submitted to date. Furthermore, the proposed development lies outside of the area proposed for designation. On this basis Natural England considers</p>

<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representation</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
		<p>that this proposal has no material impact on the boundary of the proposed area for designation. Natural England will keep this under review should circumstances change prior to confirmation of the Designation Order by the Secretary of State.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change.</p>
<p>Include Garton Bottom near Cottam</p>	<p>ANON-3WEG-5P6H-S</p> <p><i>'The parish of Cottam rises to 600 feet above sea level and includes some very beautiful dales.</i></p> <p><i>The dales are unspoilt retaining many species of flora and fauna and criss crossed with bridleways and footpaths.</i></p> <p><i>It should also contain the area known as Garton bottoms [Bottom] which is a dale which connects with many others.</i></p> <p><i>It was shown in a recent television programme and the presenter proclaimed its stunning beauty. It is also recognised by locals as a hidden treasure.'</i></p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>The Natural Beauty Assessment considered this area as part of Evaluation Area 8. It stated on page 82 under Greenland Slack, Cottam Well Dale, Cowlam Well Dale and Phillips Slack east of Sledmere and valleys surrounding Langtoft that <i>'The natural beauty of this area derives from the combination of narrow dry sinuous valleys associated with Greensand Slack, Cowlam Well Dale, Philips Slack and Cottam Well Dale and the valleys surrounding Langtoft. These valleys are narrowly defined and shallower than those to the west with the intensive arable land use on the interfluvies extending onto upper slopes such that open chalk slopes are confined to a relatively narrow steep corridor. These valleys are associated with cultural and natural heritage features, but their condition is mixed with some loss of intactness and scenic quality. Given this, and their peripheral location, particular care will be needed at the desirability and boundary setting stages'</i>.</p>

<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representation</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
		<p>This was again reviewed at the boundary setting stage. The Boundary Assessment stated (page 24) <i>'A similar approach [to exclude lesser quality land] has been adopted in defining the southern boundary in this section. Here the boundary adopts the southern, upper edge of Warren Dale, enabling the dale to be included in the proposed designation but excluding the lower reaches of Garton Bottom where the valley becomes shallower and less distinct.'</i></p> <p>Natural England has reviewed this area in light of consultation responses and remains of the view that the lower reaches of Garton Bottom are transitional and do not express the scale and drama of the dale further west. These lower reaches do not contain natural heritage interest, as is the case in the connecting dales.</p> <p>Natural England agrees that the parish of Cottam does contain a number of beautiful dales and these have been included in the proposed AONB designation.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change.</p>
Exclude Thirkleby Wold Area	ANON-3WEG-5PCJ-8 <i>'I feel that the boundary has been drawn out of convenience rather than reflective of the criteria and it is very lazy mapping. I cant [can't] really understand how so much land can satisfy all</i>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>Thirkleby Wold lies to the south of West Lutton, close to the proposed boundary. It forms a prominent ridge of elevated land between the</p>

Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>the stringent criteria... those creating the boundary can be bothered to create boundaries which truly reflect the stipulations for ANOB [AONB] - again lazy and convenient mapping rather than justified and reflective..... The boundary I have supplied on a separate email requires addressing.'</i></p> <p>This respondent highlighted that areas of intensive arable farming do not meet the natural beauty factors.</p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5PYZ-E</p> <p><i>'I want my farm [ANON] out and to stay out so I can farm and remain competitive. It would mean moving the boundary by 3km round my farm in Sledmere But mean we can farm for generations to come.'</i></p>	<p>Great Wold Valley to the north and an intermediate dale to the south, separating it from Sledmere. The landscape is intensively farmed and includes Thirkleby Wold Farm, which shares its name with the surrounding Wold. This Wold forms part of a wider area of qualifying land as a result of its incised valleys and elevated interfluvies from which there are panoramic views. Of particular note are the elevated views into Sledmere including woodland belts and woodland tree clumps, and elevated views northwards towards the wooded scarp above Wintringham, and beyond to the North York Moors in the distance. The simple patchwork of land uses and broad rolling landform gives rise to attractive compositions. Natural England is in no doubt that Thirkleby Wold forms part of a wider tract of qualifying land.</p> <p>Designation does not prevent farming activity and provides additional support to access grants for sustainable farming activity. Concerns regarding the implications of designating land which is more intensively farmed are addressed in Appendix 2 of the Consultation Response Analysis Report on pages 48-50 and 58 to 59.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change.</p>
<p>Exclude West Lutton / upper Great Wold Valley</p>	<p>ANON-3WEG-5PK8-X</p> <p><i>'...we would recommend moving the boundary which is currently between West Lutton and East Lutton and moving it so that it runs along the B1248, B1251 and B1252.....'</i></p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>The Natural Beauty Assessment considered the land between the B1248, B1251 and B1252 as part of EAs 5, 8 and 9.</p>

Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>there is no real cultural heritage in terms of buildings or archaeology. The landscape is predominantly created through arable farming processes and is near an area of village population which also has small industrial type businesses and [is] not particularly attractive and as a result large amounts of heavy traffic....</i></p> <p><i>The area is pleasant arable countryside but certainly nothing outstanding or something that is in need of protection as the residents and land owners are already creating a suitable environment</i></p> <p><i>This would keep Wharram Percy and Thixendale in the area along with the cultural heritage of Sledmere House, Gardens and monuments.</i></p> <p><i>It would take out a large amount of valuable, food producing agricultural land and the to the east and the village of Langtoft which is a) not an attractive village and b) has a heavy flow of traffic through it all year round but especially at high seasons for farming and coastal traffic.'</i></p>	<p>The areas proposed for designation include the head of the Great Wold Valley which is described in the Natural Beauty Assessment, at page 62, as comprising '<i>broad and flowing landforms across which arable land use creates distinctive abstract patterns, uninterrupted by incongruous features and benefitting from broad, expansive skies. This part of the valley is especially elevated, located close to some of the highest parts of the High Wolds, and is intervisible with adjoining areas of EA2, EA3 including Wharram Percy and EA9 including the fringes of Sledmere.</i>' It also comprises areas south of the B1253, on page 81, where '<i>there remains significant topographic variation associated with dry valleys and where there are associated concentrations of legible natural and cultural heritage interest which contributes to scenic quality, adding drama, interest and scenic compositions.</i>'</p> <p>The Natural Beauty Assessment noted the need for particular scrutiny at the boundary setting stage because some areas were borderline due to landscape condition within the valleys, or because the landscape which forms the immediate context does not meet the Natural Beauty Criterion.</p> <p>Natural England has reviewed this area in light of consultation responses. It notes that a boundary which follows the proposed roads would result in the splitting of the Sledmere Registered Park and Garden. It would also exclude extensive areas which are regarded as having a significant weight of evidence for designation, as set out in the Natural Beauty Assessment.</p>

<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representation</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
		<p>Natural England does not agree that agricultural land use or heavy traffic outweigh the positive qualities that the proposed area for designation expresses.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change.</p>
<p>Exclude Cottam to Langtoft</p>	<p>ANON-3WEG-5PKT-T</p> <p><i>'The original candidate area proposed in 2022 covered an area to the west of the Sledmere /Garton on the wolds public road including the Sledmere Monument(B1252)</i></p> <p><i>Since that date the area has been extended without our knowledge to include land to the east of that to include land at Cottam. Proposing to conserve and enhance the natural beauty and cultural heritage of the area around the dry dales of Cottam are totally unnecessary as it already has Open access and SSSI status on the Elvin Lear land parcel ,schedule [scheduled] monument status on the site of the old Cottam village together with all the footpaths and bridleways dissecting the land .Creating an AONB in this case is not desirable in order to conserve or enhance its natural beauty.</i></p> <p><i>With reference to consultation map 7, I believe the area should be to the west of the B1252 (Garton /Sledmere Road) and to the north of the B1253 (Sledmere /Octon) as proposed in 2022.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PVD-N</p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>This area was considered in the Natural Beauty Assessment as part of EA8.</p> <p>The Provisional Candidate Area as shown on Figure 3 in the Natural Beauty Assessment excluded the dry valley in the Cottam/Langtoft area. However, having received consultation responses to the initial Candidate Area, Natural England revisited the area and concluded, on balance, that it expressed sufficient qualities to be included in the proposed Candidate Area. These qualities are described in full in the Natural Beauty Assessment page 76 to 83. In particular the Natural Beauty Assessment concluded that <i>'the weight of evidence is most strong in areas where there remains significant topographic variation associated with dry valleys and where there are associated concentrations of legible natural and cultural heritage interest which contributes to scenic quality, adding drama, interest and scenic compositions. The analysis above indicates that a number of these areas are however borderline, in part due to landscape condition within the valleys, or because the landscape which forms their</i></p>

Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>'In parts to the west escarpment of the proposed Wolds AONB there is landscape beauty but not the eastern edges. We speak as a landowner in [Anon] and site of schedule monument at [Anon]. Natural beauty factors as determined in Natural England guidance such as the dry dales may apply but on the contra the dales have been intensively farmed resulting in the long torr [tor] grass that exists there providing no special habitat or beauty, nor is the land above, this has also been intensively farmed for centuries and thus limits the intervisibilty [intervisibility] of the whole area as natural beauty. [The area is] Predominately farmed area with modern practices and does not meet the required criteria to justify an AONB.</i></p> <p><i>Visual detractors such as the wind turbines are within the proposed AONB and these areas should be excluded from the designated area for the avoidance of doubt.</i></p> <p><i>Part of the area proposed is a former RAF airfield and its former runways remaining giving a commercial/industrial nature to the surrounding open arable fields and modern farm buildings. This landscape is more aligned to the area east of Helperthorpe and the southern edge of the wolds which are both outside the proposed AONB.</i></p> <p><i>Exclude area to the east of the Garton to Sledmere road B1252 and to the south of the road Sledmere to Octon 1253 [B1253].</i></p> <p><i>Langtoft village does not have an historic character other than the Church (not like the Cotswolds or Howardian Hills) which is of any greater enhanced beauty than any of the other villages on the eastern edge of the Wold'</i></p>	<p><i>immediate context does not meet the natural beauty criterion. These areas will therefore need particular scrutiny at the desirability and boundary setting stages as set out below. In relation to the Cottam and Langtoft areas in particular it states 'The natural beauty of this area derives from the combination of narrow dry sinuous valleys associated with Greensand Slack, Cowlam Well Dale, Philips Slack and Cottam Well Dale and the valleys surrounding Langtoft. These valleys are narrowly defined and shallower than those to the west with the intensive arable land use on the interfluves extending onto upper slopes such that open chalk slopes are confined to a relatively narrow steep corridor. These valleys are associated with cultural and natural heritage features, but their condition is mixed with some loss of intactness and scenic quality. Given this, and their peripheral location, particular care will be needed at the desirability and boundary setting stages.'</i></p> <p>Natural England notes that respondent ANON-3WEG-5PVD-N refers to the former RAF airfield south of Cottam House – this was taken into account in the assessment and in defining a boundary (page 24 of the Boundary Assessment). Much of the airfield is no longer apparent and only some parts of the runways are evident in farm tracks and areas of hardstanding. Similarly, the influence of wind turbines was also taken into account (page 83 of the Natural Beauty Assessment).</p> <p>The area was again reviewed at the boundary setting stage, where care was taken to include those dry valleys that had the strongest qualities. Natural England accepts that some of these areas are transitional and not as dramatic as the dry valleys further west. Nevertheless, it remains of the view that these areas do express</p>

<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representation</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
	<p><i>'Incongruous developments' on the edge of a AONB should be excluded from qualifying as part of that proposed area and because of this, the area to the east of Sledmere Monument towards Langtoft should be excluded. If the area is fragmented by the negative factors relating to 'Natural beauty' as given above, then all the area should be discounted. The landscape of Cottam and Langtoft is considered to be more aligned to the southern area of the Yorkshire Wolds and the area to the east of Helperthorpe which are both outside the boundaries of the proposed AONB. The area area [duplicated] has long ranging vistas to the south, with the conurbations of Hull and Immingham clearly visible both by day and night. The AONB criterion refers to dry valleys which are more limited in this particular area of the Yorkshire Wolds.</i></p> <p><i>Where present in the area many of the dry valleys support specialist livestock infrastructure, including intensive poultry unit making it difficult to change the management of these areas.'</i></p>	<p>sufficient natural beauty to warrant recognition as part of a wider National Landscape and can be distinguished from the more transitional eastern dip slope fringes to the south and east.</p> <p>Open access land or SSSI designation does not confer the same type of recognition that AONB designation brings. It is not unusual for AONB landscapes to contain many areas which are open access or SSSI designated.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change.</p>

Section F: Warren Dale to Foxcovert Farm

<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representation</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
Include Wetwang	<p>BHLF-3WEG-5PYR-6</p> <p>This respondent provided detailed evidence on Wetwang Village in relation to the natural beauty factors as follows:</p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>Settlement Character and Valued Views</p>

Section F: Warren Dale to Foxcovert Farm		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p>[ANON] believes Wetwang's provides A Unique Contribution to the Yorkshire Wolds Landscape:</p> <p>A Living Link to the Past: Wetwang embodies the quintessential character of the Yorkshire Wolds. Its historic stone buildings, drystone walls, and traditional farming practices tell a story of human interaction with the landscape spanning centuries. This living heritage adds a layer of cultural significance to the natural beauty.</p> <p>A Gateway to Wolds Exploration: Situated within the broader Yorkshire Wolds as part of the Wolds Rangers Way and The Chalklands Way walking routes, Wetwang serves as an ideal entry point for exploring the region's diverse habitats. From rolling chalk grasslands teeming with wildflowers to secluded woodlands and dramatic escarpments, Wetwang offers a taste of the Wolds' full spectrum.</p> <p>Sustainable Tourism Hub: By designating Wetwang an AONB, it could become a focal point for sustainable tourism. This would encourage visitors to appreciate the area's natural and cultural heritage while supporting local businesses and preserving the environment.</p> <p>Protecting a Special Place: AONB status would provide a crucial layer of protection for Wetwang's unique character. It would help safeguard the landscape from inappropriate development, ensuring that future generations can continue to enjoy its beauty and tranquillity.'</p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5P2N-U</p>	<p>In the Natural Beauty Assessment, Wetwang was assessed as part of EA8. Page 77 noted some small-scale housing development on the fringe of the settlement. It also noted that the land which surrounds Wetwang slopes gradually from the northwest to the south and east comprising unremitting rolling, intensively farmed agricultural landscape of the High Wolds Plateau and gradual dip slope.</p> <p>It concluded, on page 81, that 'The majority of this landscape is not considered to have a sufficient weight of evidence in relation to natural beauty to warrant inclusion within the Candidate Area. However, the weight of evidence is most strong in areas where there remains significant topographic variation associated with dry valleys and where there are associated concentrations of legible natural and cultural heritage interest which contributes to scenic quality, adding drama, interest and scenic compositions.'</p> <p>Consequently, Wetwang was not included within the Candidate Area for designation and a boundary was drawn further to the north and east.</p> <p>This has been reviewed in light of consultation responses.</p> <p>Natural England notes that Wetwang is a predominately linear village along the busy A166 and that most of the buildings date to the 19th century. The majority of the settlement is a conservation area and contains a number of listed buildings including the church. This, along</p>

Section F: Warren Dale to Foxcovert Farm		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>'I would [like] to bring to your attention the view from Northfield Road Wetwang. It is an amazing vista. People travel to view this from afar.</i></p> <p><i>I have modified the A3 drawing (Map 8) to include the area mentioned above. I would really recommend a representative personally [to] report back to the consultation its importance and consider including a change in the boundary to ensure its protection for future generations.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P5C-K</p> <p><i>'Should be extended to include Wetwang.... spectacular view from Wetwang towards Sledmere from walking routes'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PYY-D</p> <p><i>'I believe some of the walking and beauty around Wetwang, where I live, should be included and preserved.'</i></p>	<p>with the village pond, contributes to the identity and character of the village. Natural England also acknowledges that the views from Northfield Road, Wetwang, across broad-scale agricultural fields as the land rises gently to the ridge south of Sledmere.</p> <p>Nevertheless, Natural England remains of the view that the surrounding landscape, whilst large-scale and expansive, lacks the qualities found further to the north where there is greater topographic variation and scenic compositions. Natural England therefore remains of the view that the village of Wetwang does not sit within an area of qualifying land, and should remain excluded from the proposed designation.</p> <p>Gateway to designation and Sustainable Tourism Hub</p> <p>The Natural England Guidance Appendix 4 makes it clear that <i>'the ability of a settlement to act as a gateway to a designated area is not dependent on its inclusion with a designation.'</i></p> <p>Protection in Planning</p> <p>Local Plan policy sets out a need to conserve and enhance local landscape character, irrespective of whether a landscape is designated or not. Furthermore, there is no presumption against development in AONBs - appropriate development can be permitted so long as it furthers the purpose of designation.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p>

Section F: Warren Dale to Foxcovert Farm

<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representation</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
		No change.

Section G: Foxcovert Farm to A614

<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representation</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
Land to the east including eastern villages (Tibthorpe, Garton-on-the Wolds, North Dalton and Etton)	<p>ANON-3WEG-5PD9-R <i>'I would include the Tibthorpe area'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PK2-R and ANON-3WEG-5PYH-V <i>'There are important areas to the east of the proposed area in particular which are of equal natural beauty to the proposed area.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PY4-8 <i>'I think you've omitted some particularly beautiful and culturally valuable areas around the edges of the proposed area.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PVP-1 and BHLF-3WEG-5PYM-1 <i>'For continuity of landscape, the boundary line in South of area should follow through Middleton, Bainton, Tibthorpe, as these</i></p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>The Natural Beauty Assessment considered the eastern dip slope as part of EA8. The assessment noted, on page 80, that <i>'The pattern of small rural villages on the eastern fringes of this landscape has a particular charm. Located on natural springs which flow eastwards they comprise small, nucleated settlements built primarily of red brick and many of them are conservation areas eg Tibthorpe, North Dalton, Bainton, Middleton-on-the-Wold, Lund and Etton and Kilham and Burton Agnes in the north.'</i></p> <p>Natural England has reviewed this area in light of consultation responses. It agrees that settlements such as Tibthorpe and North Dalton remain small in scale, intact in their form and layout and express notable architecture. Other settlements further east are associated with a watercourse, meadows or church landmark, which contribute to scenic qualities. However, these settlements are not considered to sit within a wider area of qualifying land and lie some</p>

<p><i>landscapes are same as those included because of following bridleway rather than roads.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5P2A-E</p> <p><i>'I wish to propose an alternative boundary which includes more of the headwaters of the chalk streams which feed eastwards into the River Hull. I have attached a sketch.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PVY-A</p> <p><i>'Extend east from Goodmanham to Etton and then north to Garton-On-The-Wolds...It is important to recognise the need to restore the historic, wilder landscape and native woodland as well as recognising the modern agricultural landscape.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PVH-S</p> <p><i>'I wish specifically to refer to the boundary areas in consultation maps 9 and 8. The proposed boundary in this area is drawn arbitrarily and excludes landscape of natural beauty easily meeting the criteria for AONB status. Your boundary document specifically recognises this, highlighting "broad valleys such as Deep Dale which remain tranquil and remote". Equally, the gentle slope which falls to Dalton Dale south of North Dalton is of remarkable beauty from any angle, as is the full sweep of land south of Wetwang.</i></p> <p><i>North Dalton, as a village, is a highly-attractive settlement of largely Georgian and early-Victorian buildings which fit seamlessly into the Wolds landscape.</i></p> <p><i>I strongly recommend that the Eastern boundary of the inner candidate area be extended to at least the B1248, with the inclusion of the Parish of North Dalton within the AONB area.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PYC-Q</p>	<p>distance from qualifying land in adjoining Evaluation Areas to the west. Furthermore, the Boundary Assessment, on page 30, noted the presence of broad valleys such as Deep Dale which remain tranquil and remote but went on to note that they from <i>'part of a wider landscape which is expansive, open, empty and sometimes bleak.'</i></p> <p>Natural England recognises that in areas of transitional landscape it is difficult to articulate why the boundary is drawn in one location as opposed to another. Natural England Guidance Appendix 4 makes it clear that in transitional landscapes the boundary should be drawn conservatively. Boundary considerations also encourage the use of clearly defined features on the ground. Natural England has adopted this approach on the eastern side of the Yorkshire Wolds where the dissected High Wolds landscape (which is considered to meet the Natural Beauty Criterion) transitions into the dip slope, gradually reducing in elevation towards Driffield. This is set out in detail in the Boundary Assessment, pages 29 and 30.</p> <p>Natural England fully recognises a boundary drawn in these circumstances can result in the exclusion of some pockets of higher quality landscape such as Deep Dale or a spring line village. It also recognises that in these circumstances the boundary may appear to have landscape of a similar character and quality either side, and this makes understanding the rationale for the boundary more difficult. Natural England does not agree that the boundary as defined is arbitrary but, rather, it has been defined following extensive analysis.</p> <p>Natural England Guidance makes it clear that, for a landscape to be designated as AONB, it must meet the statutory criterion of Natural Beauty. Appendix 4 of the Guidance also makes it clear that the boundary should not be drawn simply to protect land from a specific or perceived threat.</p>
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	<p><i>'My only reservation concerns the limited size of the current "designation area", which excludes many of the Wold's loveliest and most threatened areas, not least those on its southern fringes around (for example) the villages of Lund, Walkington, Bishop Burton....'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5PYA-N</p> <p><i>'Our small village of Kirkburn, along with neighbouring Tibthorpe, Garton on the Wolds and Wetwang are ancient communities going back to the Bronze Age and earlier. In Kirkburn we have the SSSI Eastburn Beck the most northerly chalk stream in Europe and the source of the River Hull and yet you do not think it worthy of including this wonderful unspoilt area in the proposed AONB..... This is probably because you wish to retain the area for fracking and erecting wind turbines...'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PVR-3</p> <p><i>'I would like to see the boundary extended eastwards, to include North Dalton and other unique villages.'</i></p>	<p>Many of the features, such as the chalk streams or historic settlements, sit within a wider landscape which is not considered to meet the Natural Beauty Criterion. Natural England Guidance makes it clear that features of interest on the edge should only be included if they sit within a tract of qualifying land.</p> <p>On balance, Natural England considers that the boundary has been drawn appropriately in this area, and in accordance with Natural England Guidance, and that it remains robust.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change.</p>
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Section H: A614 to Intake Hill

<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representation</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
Include Kiplingcotes area	<p>ANON-3WEG-5PDC-2</p> <p><i>'I would look to the Wildlife Trust sites, especially along the proposed border to see if more can be included... One example is Kiplingcotes [Kiplingcotes] YWT reserve</i></p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>The Natural Beauty Assessment considered this area as part of EA8.</p>

Section H: A614 to Intake Hill		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p>https://www.ywt.org.uk/nature-reserves/kiplingcotes-chalk-pit-nature-reserve</p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PVP-1 and BHLF-3WEG-5PYM-1 <i>'The Southern abutment of Kiplingcotes valley, following the old railway line, should at least extend to the old station.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5P2B-F <i>'....please include the tops of the hillside to the south.... Please extend the area to the east to include more of the Kiplingcotes spliway [spillway] geomorphology feature and Kiplingcotes Station quarry RIGS [Regionally important geological sites] and Arras Hill RIGS. The scenic view from Kiplingcotes lane and Arras farm are glorious [glorious] - see sketch map. I enclose a list of East Yorkshire RIGS and geological SSSIs'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P5C-K <i>'The area is not big enough....areas nearer Kiplin[g]cotes [should be included].'</i></p>	<p>It concluded on page 82 that Goodmanham Dale, north and east of Goodmanham, require particular scrutiny at the boundary setting stage and stated that <i>'The natural beauty of this area derives from the varied rolling and sometimes incised topography and significant cluster of natural and cultural features of interest including the historic village of Goodmanham, concentration of natural springs, historic lanes and routes, calcareous grasslands, woodlands (eg Ashlack Wood), geology and cultural traditions and associations including the Kiplingcotes Derby. The dry valley of Goodmanham Dale to the south and east of the village comprises a distinct enclosed linear valley along which the disused railway forms a recreational trail and the whole area is valued for its geological interest. The area also includes a rare site of long standing neutral and calcareous woodland at Ashlack Wood adjacent to which is the geological site of Enthorpe Railway Cutting. The qualities of this landscape are transitional to the east where the landscape becomes less distinct topographically and more open, with fewer features of interest. Similarly, the landscape to the south is also transitional rising onto Sancton Wold where it is influenced by intensive arable farming, the busy A1079 and visual influence of the Sancton Wold windfarm. Particularly scrutiny will need to be given to these areas of transition at the boundary setting stage.'</i></p> <p>The Boundary Assessment reviewed these issues and states on page 33: <i>'Further south, within the transitional part of the Goodmanham Dale, features of interest include a continuation of the Local Nature Reserve and SINC along the disused railway, as well as the southern part of the Kipling Cotes Racecourse which follows a rural lane. These linear features of interest are considered to pass through landscape which is declining in condition and scenic quality</i></p>

Section H: A614 to Intake Hill		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
		<p><i>and these features are not considered to make a material contribution to natural beauty in these locations, such that the wider area qualifies for national designation. In these circumstances, it is not unusual for linear features of interest to be split by a proposed landscape designation boundary.'</i></p> <p>Natural England has reviewed this area in light of consultation responses associated with Kiplingcotes, but also responses requesting land further east at South Dalton (see page 74 below), and also contrary responses requesting the exclusion of land on the higher interfluvies north of Goodmanham and in the area of Enthorpe (see page 81 below). Given the range of responses Natural England notes that there is no consensus on the boundary in this area.</p> <p>Natural England agrees that the sinuous and more pronounced slopes of Goodmanham Dale become apparent at the junction of roads at Cinder Hole, and that the woodland clumps south and west of South Dalton parkland create a more structured landscape than other parts of the dip slope. However, Natural England does not agree that the disused railway route, former station or brick viaduct significantly contribute to the natural beauty of the area, nor the geological sites which make only a local contribution. Those sites that make the most significant contribution to natural beauty are already included within the proposed boundary. It is west of Kiplingcotes Chalk Pit that Goodmanham Dale becomes more pronounced and similar in scale and character to other peripheral dales, such as those at Cottam and Stocking Dale.</p> <p>Furthermore, Natural England is aware that full planning permission was granted in March 2023 for the construction of subsurface cable</p>

Section H: A614 to Intake Hill		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
		<p>route from Drax Power Station to Fraisthorpe Coastline with associated accesses and temporary construction compounds in association with the Scotland to England Green Link (ref. 22/01990/STPLFE).</p> <p>The route of the cable extends between South Dalton and Goodmanham Dale passing just to the east of the former railway station. The effects of this development will be temporary in nature but nonetheless add further weight to the decision not to extend the boundary further to the east.</p> <p>Natural England is also aware that a number of respondents have requested land be removed from the proposed designation in this area. Natural England's response to the request to exclude land can be found below on page 86 'Exclude Kiplingcotes and Goodmanham.'</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change.</p>
Include South Dalton	<p>ANON-3WEG-5PS7-5</p> <p><i>'I see that some more of the Yorkshire Wolds area has been included since the first consultation. I am pleased that some of the land which I suggested has been included. I am especially pleased that the Goodmanham Dale and Kingcoates [Kiplingcotes] chalk pit and nature reserve near Market Weighton have been included in the ammended [amended]</i></p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>The Natural Beauty Assessment considered this area as part of EA8.</p> <p>It noted (page 78) that '<i>At South Dalton the landscape is associated with an estate village and has an outstanding richness and quality.</i></p>

Section H: A614 to Intake Hill

Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>designation. HOWEVER I would like to see included the boundary which i drew on the map in my first response form in July 2022, i.e. to the east of Goonmanham [Goodmanham] and Kiplingcoates [Kiplingcotes] nearly as far as Middleton on the Wolds [Middleton-on-the-Wolds], Holme on the Wolds and South Dalton.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P67-8</p> <p><i>'A case is made for inclusion of South Dalton village, Dalton Park and South Dalton Wold within the AONB. As currently set out, the local eastern boundary lies at easting SE919 (see Boundary Map 10). The proposed addition would place this boundary, locally, 5 km to the east, at easting SE970. The southern boundary of the extension would incorporate Gabbetis's Plantation (northing SE442); the northern boundary would incorporate Swiftdale Plantation (northing SE463) and Whirligig (northing SE 461). This extends eastwards an existing spur of the proposed AONB (see appended map).</i></p> <p><i>The rationale for the proposed extension is multifold:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Dalton Park (seat of the Hotham family) is a classic example of 18th century parkland with a public road running through it allowing the many visitors enjoyment of this landscape of trees (stands and individuals) and pasture, with glimpsing views of Dalton Hall.</i> <i>2. South Dalton village, much of which is an estate village, has its own interesting historical architecture, some dwellings timber-framed. And, unusual for Yorkshire, one of very few churches with a spire, in this case reaching a height of 62 m. The success of the public</i> 	<p><i>However, these parkland landscapes form isolated and contrasting landscape within a wider sea of intensive arable farmland which lacks interest and scenic qualities.'</i></p> <p>The Natural Beauty Assessment noted on page 80 the Grade II* Registered Park and Garden at South Dalton (18th century Rococo gardens, wood pasture and veteran trees)'. On page 82, it concluded <i>'It is acknowledged that there are a few locations which express higher levels of natural beauty, but which have not been included within the Candidate Area eg South Dalton Parkland. This is because these areas are limited in extent and isolated - fragmented from land that meets the natural beauty criterion by a wider tract of landscape which does not. Given the transitional nature of the landscape as it moves east, this should be reviewed at the boundary setting stage of assessment.'</i></p> <p>The Boundary Assessment looked at this issue in more detail. On page 33 it states <i>'Further east the landscape was not considered to meet the natural beauty criterion. As noted in the Natural Beauty assessment, this has implications for the further consideration of South Dalton parkland which was noted in the natural beauty assessment as a high-quality parkland landscape but separated from the wider area proposed for designation by non-qualifying land. In terms of wash over, Natural England Guidance highlights that the decision to include land that does not itself meet the technical criteria, in order to bring in an area that does, depends on its location, scale and the effect of including that land. It also stresses the need for particular care at the margins of a designation. The South Dalton parkland lies some distance to the east of the area considered worthy of designation, on lower lying land and at the margins of the dip slope</i></p>

Section H: A614 to Intake Hill		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p>house and restaurant means that the village is arguably one of the most visited within The Riding.</p> <p>3. The landscape between the current local eastern boundary (easting SE919) and the western edge of South Dalton Wold (c. easting SE932) does not differ materially from that between Goodmanham (SE890) and the current local eastern boundary (easting SE919), meaning that the current local eastern boundary is arbitrary.</p> <p>4. The area incorporating South Dalton village, Dalton Park and South Dalton Wold attracts, arguably, some of the highest number of visitors in the Yorkshire Wolds. Many are cyclists using the National Cycling Network routes 1, 66 and 164 and interconnecting single-track roads.</p> <p>5. The Hudson Way railtrail runs through the proposed extension; this is a significant off-road route that attracts large numbers of pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders and connects to the National Trail – The Yorkshire Wolds Way – in the vicinity of Goodmanham.</p> <p>6. Cultural elements in the proposed extension include: the ?Iron Age? earthworks on the side of Goodmanham Dale; the Victorian, arched, brick railway bridge at Goodmanham Dale; the rail station platform and signal box at Kiplingcotes (legacy of Hudson's work to create the railway network of northern England in the 19th century); and the starting stretch of the Kiplingcotes Derby, the oldest formalised horse race, established in the sixteenth century and still presently run annually.'</p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5PSB-G</p>	<p>transition. To the north and south of the non-qualifying land is similar open arable intensively farmed landscape, typical of the dip slope. The non-qualifying land cannot therefore be said to be sufficiently surrounded by qualifying land to justify the application of wash-over. Furthermore, the scale of the qualifying parkland landscape is smaller in extent to the area which would need to be washed over. The boundary was therefore drawn further west, and conservatively within an area of transition and wash-over was not applied.'</p> <p>Natural England has reviewed this area in light of consultation responses associated with South Dalton but also responses requesting land further east along Goodmanham Dale (see pages 80-83 above) and also contrary responses requesting the exclusion of land on the higher interfluvies north of Goodmanham and in the area of Enthorpe (see page 86-94 below). Given the range of responses Natural England notes that there is no consensus on the boundary in this area.</p> <p>Natural England agrees that South Dalton landscape meets the Natural Beauty Criterion for designation and that the church at the western side of the village marks the start of higher quality landscape. However, Natural England wishes to point out that the popularity of an area by visitors and the opportunities for open air recreation are not a consideration in relation to AONB designation, although it accepts that, to some degree, it illustrates the value visitors place on the area. Natural England also notes that the parkland at Dalton is inward looking and there are limited views or connections to the wider landscape.</p>

Section H: A614 to Intake Hill		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>'I would like to know why the area around South Dalton, Holme on the Wolds and Lockington is also not in the candidate area? This is pristine Wolds countryside with beautiful parkland, trees and local architecture. South Dalton's church is iconic. I note that in your report, one of the key issues affecting the areas special qualities - is the loss of parkland landscape - so why isn't the Dalton Estate and surrounding area in your candidate area?'</i></p>	<p>Furthermore, Natural England notes that respondents who wish to see South Dalton included also wish to see other villages included on the lower slopes of the Wolds dip slope, such as Holme on the Wolds just north of South Dalton, as well as Lockington further northeast.</p> <p>In the interests of consistency, with the peripheral location of South Dalton and, given the existing intervening lower quality landscape, and approved application for the construction of subsurface cable route (ref. 22/01990/STPLFE) noted above (page 83), Natural England is of the view that South Dalton should remain excluded from the proposed AONB.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change.</p>
<p>Exclude Kiplingcotes and Goodmanham</p>	<p>There were a number of identical responses submitted in relation to this area including: ANON-3WEG-5PK6-V, ANON-3WEG-5PKG-D, ANON-3WEG-5PV9-A, ANON-3WEG-5PV8-9, ANON-3WEG-5PVA-J, ANON-3WEG-5PVZ-B, ANON-3WEG-5PVB-K</p> <p>The response considered each of the natural beauty factors in turn as follows:</p> <p><i>'Landscape Quality:</i></p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>The Natural Beauty Assessment considered this area as part of EA8. This is a large area of landscape reflecting the gradual dip slope of the high wolds landscape. It concluded (page 81) that <i>'... the weight of evidence is most strong in areas where there remains significant topographic variation associated with dry valleys and where there are associated concentrations of legible natural and cultural heritage interest which contributes to scenic quality, adding drama, interest and scenic compositions. The analysis above indicates that a number of these areas are however borderline, in part due to landscape condition within the valleys, or because the landscape</i></p>

Section H: A614 to Intake Hill		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>'The area [EA8 southeast of the A614] is dominated by large scale, intensively farmed arable fields with little by was [way] of traditional field delineation. The Natural Beauty Assessment final report refers to settlements having a 'rural character' but gives no hint at definition of the same. Goodmanham may have rural origins however the character of the settlement is now increasingly suburban in terms of residents, and commerciality, with only a single working farm left within the village. The settlement has been elongated by residential development and on the approach from Goodmanham dale is dominated by incongruous development in terms of large scale barns with solar installations. The dale itself is dominated by the incongruous development of Sancton wind farm on the southern horizon, tubines [turbines] close to Weighton Hill, and agricultural development at Round Hill.</i></p> <p>Scenic Quality:</p> <p><i>As eluded to in the Assessment, the scenic quality of the area to south east of the A614 is lower end, there are no visible natural or upstanding cultural features of particular value.</i></p> <p>Relative Wildness:</p> <p><i>The Natural Beauty Assessment acknowledges that the area has 'little to no sense of relative wildness'.</i></p> <p>Relative Tranquillity:</p> <p><i>The Assessment is incorrect in terms of the area of EA8 to the south east of the A614 when it states that this is a predominantly rural tranquil landscape. The rural lanes in this area carry more than 'little traffic' and the main source of noise is the hum of traffic from both the A614 and the A1079 which is constant and can be especially observed in the stillness of the early morning.</i></p>	<p><i>which forms their immediate context does not meet the natural beauty criterion. These areas will therefore need particular scrutiny at the desirability and boundary setting stages as set out below.'</i></p> <p>It went on to describe the area of Middlethorpe Dale and Goodmandale north and east of Goodmanham (page 82) as follows:</p> <p><i>'The natural beauty of this area derives from the varied rolling and sometimes incised topography and significant cluster of natural and cultural features of interest including the historic village of Goodmanham, concentration of natural springs, historic lanes and routes, calcareous grasslands, woodlands (eg Ashlack Wood), geology and cultural traditions and associations including the Kiplingcotes Derby. The dry valley of Goodmanham Dale to the south and east of the village comprises a distinct enclosed linear valley along which the disused railway forms a recreational trail and the whole area is valued for its geological interest. The area also includes a rare site of long standing neutral and calcareous woodland at Ashlack Wood adjacent to which is the geological site of Enthorpe Railway Cutting. The qualities of this landscape are transitional to the east where the landscape becomes less distinct topographically and more open, with fewer features of interest. Similarly, the landscape to the south is also transitional rising onto Sancton Wold where it is influenced by intensive arable farming, the busy A1079 and visual influence of the Sancton Wold windfarm. Particularly scrutiny will need to be given to these areas of transition at the boundary setting stage.'</i></p> <p>It also went on to note issues of fragmentation (page 83) stating <i>'The extent to which the incised valleys are fragmented from the wider areas of qualifying land due to broad interfluves which are intensively</i></p>

Section H: A614 to Intake Hill		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>Farming activity and machinery does detract from the tranquillity on a seasonal basis but the traffic noise from the 2 'A' roads is constant. The bright white lighting within the settlement of Goodmanham also detracts significantly within the settlement from the 'dark skies' often associated with rural tranquillity.</i></p> <p>Natural Heritage Features:</p> <p><i>The Assessments acknowledges that the 'natural heritage interest of this landscape is very limited', and goes on to suggest that areas to the south of Goodmanham represent an area of concentrated and extensive natural heritage features and names Kiplingcotes Chalk Pit SSSI and makes reference to 'a Local Nature Reserve' along the Hudson Way but does not define or identify it further. This does not constitute a 'concentration'. The Assessment references Local Geological Sites as 'an extensive area at Goodmanham Wold and Goodmanham Dale'.</i></p> <p><i>Goodmanham Wold is without the proposed area and the Pit in Goodmanham Dale is Kiplingcotes Chalk pit; The site of Enthorpe Railway Cutting is suggested as being 'to the north of Goodmanham Dale, which strictly it is, but some distance and 'across' land not within the proposed boundary; Enthorpe Railway Cutting is in 'Middlethorpe Dale'; the writing of the assessment suggests a greater concentration than exists.</i></p> <p>Cultural Heritage:</p> <p><i>The Assessment states that 'Goodmanham ... [has] small-scale rural charm and [sits] within a wider area of high quality landscape' this contradicts other parts of the assessment which acknowledge that the area to the south east of the A614 is transitional, it is not a 'high quality landscape', any cultural heritage ascribed to the settlement of Goodmanham may have an influence on natural beauty, but similar to the Park and</i></p>	<p><i>farmed, will need to be given particular scrutiny. This is particularly the case where it occurs between incised valleys which are on the periphery of the wider extent of qualifying land.'</i></p> <p>Natural England has reviewed this area and has set out its response utilising each of the headings used by respondents to ensure clarity.</p> <p>Landscape Quality and impact of incongruous features or changes</p> <p>Natural England acknowledges that there has been some more recent development on the outskirts of Goodmanham which has altered the settlement approach from Market Weighton. Nevertheless, the settlement retains its traditional form and connections with the landscape, and its strong historic core centred around the church. In terms of Goodmanham Dale, consideration was given to the influence of the Sancton Wood wind farm and also two smaller wind turbines, at Weighton Wold above the dale. Natural England concluded that the wind farm was not influential within the dale itself due to topography and that, where there were views of the two isolated turbines, the form and scale of the dale remained dominant.</p> <p>Scenic Quality</p> <p>Natural England does not agree that the Natural Beauty Assessment considers land south east of the A614 is at the lower end of scenic quality. The quote given above from page 82 of the Natural Beauty Assessment relating specifically to land south east of the A614 in the Goodmanham area does not imply this. It mentions land to the east</p>

Section H: A614 to Intake Hill		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>Garden at South Dalton, or Burton Agnes Hall; it is a limited pocket within a wider intensively farmed landscape. Equally, as noted above regarding 'rural character', there is no hint of definition of 'small-scale rural charm' which is incredibly subjective and not the lived experience within the settlement.</i></p> <p><i>The Natural Beauty Assessment notes 3 locations within EA8 where cultural heritage make[s] a more significant contribution to natural beauty, albeit localised, Goodmanham appears in this list. The significance of an AONB designation is that the area designated is of National Significance, the area around Goodmanham is not of National Cultural Heritage significance.</i></p> <p><i>Of the specific items listed, the visible burial mounds are not within the proposed area, and whilst the Kiplingcotes Race Course is also mentioned, the course is not considered of sufficient significance to include the entire course within the proposed boundary area. As noted in the assessment, the church in the village is a LOCAL landmark, but again not a nationally significant one, whilst the 2 wells named as having cultural and spiritual significance are practically unknown to both locals and visitors to the area, and having resided in the village for 20 years I have no knowledge of the cultural or spiritual significance of either of these springs. Of the 2 other locations specifically mentioned within EA8, it is also noted that features west of Wetwang were insufficient to warrant inclusion within the proposed area.</i></p> <p><i>The Evaluation in the Natural Beauty Assessment concludes that the majority of EA8 is not considered to have sufficient weight of evidence in relation to natural beauty to warrant inclusion within the candidate area, despite the extensive points made and matters referred to within the assessment. It</i></p>	<p>as transitional towards South Dalton and land to the south as transitional rising onto Santon Wold.</p> <p>Relative Wildness</p> <p>Natural England agrees that much of EA8 has little sense of relative wildness. Nevertheless, the Natural Beauty Assessment highlights areas where there is a greater sense of relative wildness in incised valleys and areas where there is semi-natural habitat as is the case at Ashlack Wood and within Goodmanham Dale.</p> <p>Relative Tranquillity</p> <p>Natural England agrees that traffic levels on the main roads of the A614 or A1079 is higher and that this has an effect on tranquillity adjacent to these road corridors. However, it does not agree that traffic noise from these roads or traffic levels on the rural lane network or farm machinery adversely affects the landscape such that it does not meet the natural beauty criterion. The landscape proposed for designation south of the A614 has been found to have high levels of tranquillity, accepting that closer to the settlement of Goodmanham and busier roads, tranquillity is reduced.</p> <p>Natural Heritage Interest</p> <p>Reference to the natural heritage interest in this landscape as 'very limited' is referring to the whole of EA8. Nevertheless, the Natural Beauty Assessment goes on to state that it is evident in patches of calcareous grassland, wetland sites and geological sites and lists areas which contribute to perceptions of natural beauty including:</p>

Section H: A614 to Intake Hill

Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>continues that the weight of evidence is most strong in areas ... associated with dry valleys and where there are associated concentrations of legible natural and cultural heritage interest which contributes to the scenic quality, adding drama, interest and scenic composition. Whilst the assessment would suggest that in the area to the south of the A614 around Goodmanham, such an associated concentration exists, this is not the case.</i></p> <p><i>The dry valley of Goodmanham Dale is at best 'borderline' in a transitional area and the lack of associated concentration of other elements and the presence of incongruous development combine to result in the area not having sufficient natural beauty to be designated AONB. Notwithstanding that lack the assessment is clear that this area needs particular scrutiny at the desirability and boundary setting stage.</i></p> <p><i>'This area is identified as an area of transition and one to receive particular scrutiny at the boundary setting stage.....</i></p> <p><i>The area does not satisfy the natural beauty criteria, and the Assessment of the same suggests that this transitional area should receive particular scrutiny in terms of desirability of designation. As 'transitional' suggests, the area is not of significance holistically within the 'Yorkshire Wolds' nor Nationally. The special qualities suggested within the Assessment of Natural Beauty are incorrect / exaggerated. Many of the particular features mentioned already have designated status, eg SSSI, Listed Building, Local Nature Reserve, and further designation of a sweeping transitional area is not desirable.</i></p> <p><i>The area has seen increased visitors since 2020 and designation will likely increase numbers further which will detract</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kiplingcotes Chalk Pit SSSI - valued for its chalk grassland and vertical quarry face. The site is managed as a Nature Reserve by Yorkshire Naturalist Trust. • Along the former Beverley to Market Weighton railway line there is a Local Nature Reserve along Hudson's Way comprising areas of hawthorn scrub and grassland which displays a profusion of orchids in summer. <p>It also notes geological sites including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • extensive area at Goodmanham Wold and Goodmanham Dale. To the north Goodmanham Dale is the site of Enthorpe Railway Cutting which is of national significance as the best exposure of the stratigraphically important lower Burnham Chalk and is designated SSSI. <p>Natural England remains of the view that the conclusion reached which states <i>'These designations illustrate that the nature conservation interest in this landscape is concentrated in areas where farming has been less intense and where quarrying and former railway cuttings have exposed the underlying geology. As a result, natural heritage makes a greater contribution to natural beauty where a number of sites cluster together, such as in the northwest and around Goodmanham'</i> is sound. The mapping of these sites shows their concentration within the Goodmanham area and they were included in the Candidate Area for designation and within the subsequently proposed boundary. Natural England acknowledge that the whole of the Kiplingcotes Race Course is not included – this is because the boundary of the proposed AONB designation has been drawn conservatively to include only land which is considered to sufficiently meet the natural beauty criterion. It is not unusual for linear features of interest to only be partly included within a proposed boundary.</p>

Section H: A614 to Intake Hill		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>from the natural beauty exhibited in this already transitional area.</i></p> <p><i>The Conservation Area of Goodmanham is referenced throughout the Assessments and appears to add to the weight of evidence for designation. The Conservation Area Appraisal is dated 2006. Since that appraisal development has occurred on 2 out of the 3 approaches to the village and the element of working agricultural units (the backbone of rural character) has diminished.</i></p> <p><i>Natural England Guidance requires boundaries to be drawn conservatively. The proposed boundary as drawn is liberal.</i></p> <p><i>The technical assessment on beauty suggests that the boundary as drawn ... avoids overcomplex boundaries. A boundary along the A614 from the crossroads of the A614 with the Kiplingcotes Racecourse to the junction with the Wolds Way east of Woodside Farm provides a very simple boundary.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PVV-7</p> <p><i>'Although we are supportive of the proposal for an AONB on the Wolds we would like to submit some proposals to amend the very south/southeast boundary of EA8 shown on Consultation Map 10.'</i></p> <p><i>We propose that the boundary is amended for the following reasons:</i></p> <p><i>A large area of intensively farmed agricultural land has been included to the south of the A614 which is not a landscape with "outstanding beauty" and is not "desirable to designate this landscape as an AONB for the conservation and enhancement</i></p>	<p>Cultural Heritage Interest</p> <p>Settlements which are included within a designation are assessed on their merits.</p> <p>The natural beauty assessment took account of the fact that the majority of Goodmanham village is included in a conservation area and that the centre of the village is dominated by the church which acts as a local landmark from the wider landscape. The rural character of the village is reinforced by the local vernacular and historic buildings as well as the continued presence of the dairy farm within the heart of the settlement.</p> <p>Natural England accepts that to the north of the village the landscape is more intensively farmed but to the south comprises the intimate valley of Goodmanham Dale. Within the arable farmland to the north there are also features of cultural heritage interest including the disused railway along Middlethorpe Dale, and springs/wells and the contribution of the church landmark on sense of place. Reference to 'local' in the assessment refers to the influence features of interest have on the surrounding area and perceptions – features of interest can, and frequently do, contribute to perceptions of natural beauty. Natural England does not agree that the village of Goodmanham is isolated and that the landscape surrounding it lacks cultural heritage interest. Furthermore, heritage sites do not have to be of national significance to positively contribute to natural beauty, nor do they have to be well known. In the case of the local springs, information on these sites was identified through research as part of the Natural Beauty Assessment and is in the public domain and contributes to an understanding of cultural heritage but also natural heritage.</p>

Section H: A614 to Intake Hill		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>of its natural beauty". Within the boundary consideration document and technical assessments, it confirms this land is not of important landscape quality and scenic quality and is transitional, and hence we request that it is removed from the inclusion with the AONB.</i></p> <p><i>We note that within the boundary considerations document, the reason the land to the south of the A614 and west of the Kipling Cotes Race Course was included was to encompass the SSSI along the dismantled railway at Enthorpe Cutting – this area is already designated by the SSSI and conserved as such and hence we see no reason why the area of the AONB needs to encompass a huge area of intensive agricultural land which does not contribute to natural beauty and is "lower quality landscape" to just meet this SSSI area which is already a protected area. This SSSI area is important for its chalk, but it is not a landscape that has "outstanding beauty". It is not visible from any public roads or rights of way and is all on private land. The SINCS [Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation] and tumuli referred to near to this area are also not visible from any public roads or rights of way and are protected in other ways and hence we do not believe they need to form part of the AONB.</i></p> <p><i>We note that in the Scenic Quality Assessment, the scenic quality of the area to the south east of the A614 is of the lower end and the land has "little to no sense of relative wildness" in the Natural Beauty Assessment.</i></p> <p><i>We note the comments on including part of the Kipling Cotes Race Course within the AONB; we appreciate this is a historical feature however:</i></p>	<p>The inclusion of features of interest on the edge are considered where they make a material contribution to natural beauty, as set out in the Boundary Assessment (page 33) – in this case the combination of woodland, geological site and race track adds to the qualities of the landscape. The race track may comprises a rough chalk track but nonetheless its cultural interest contributes to perceptions of natural beauty, in association with other factors.</p> <p>The existence of an existing natural or cultural designation does not diminish the case for designating a landscape simply because it already has a level of protection.</p> <p>Particular scrutiny and definition of the boundary</p> <p>At the boundary assessment stage, specific consideration was given to the transitional nature of the landscape to the east of the A164 and features of interest on the edge (page 32 of the Boundary Assessment).</p> <p>This stated that <i>'The transitional nature of the landscape has therefore required a boundary to be defined conservatively at the higher quality end of the transition in accordance with Natural England Guidance. Consideration was given to defining a boundary to the east of Middlethorpe Farm where the topography becomes more pronounced forming Middlethorpe Dale and including the village of Goodmanham and the distinctive Goodmanham Dale to the south. However, drawing a boundary this conservatively would have resulted in a number of features of interest close to the edge being</i></p>

Section H: A614 to Intake Hill		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>It is not a landscape with outstanding natural beauty – it is simply a very rough and rutted grass track that is not of natural beauty.</i></p> <p><i>It does not need designating for the conservation and enhancement of its natural beauty – it is a rough track that is used and maintained as such. We do not believe any enhancement by being part of the AONB will be beneficial to the natural beauty of it.</i></p> <p><i>We note in the Boundary considerations report that a “pragmatic boundary” was defined for this southern section of EA8 and it was not a clear cut decision, but on balance, given the comments above we do feel this boundary needs amending to just include the more important features around the village of Goodmanham and Goodmanham Dale. Natural England Guidance requires boundaries in transitional areas to be drawn in a conservative manner to the higher end of transition and we do not believe this has been taken into account on the southern boundary of EA8.</i></p>	<p><i>excluded, especially in the area of Enthorpe. Here there is a cluster of features including SINC's associated with Ashslack Wood and Enthorpe Wood, the SSSI along the dismantled railway at Enthorpe Cutting (comprising the best exposure in England of the stratigraphically important lower Burnham Chalk) and a group of tumuli which are scheduled monuments (cropmarks). This area also includes the Kipling Cotes Racecourse which is a wide track associated with the culturally significant Kiplingcotes Derby, held each year.'</i></p> <p>The boundary has been drawn conservatively, excluding the higher farmland around Goodmanham Grange and Goodmanham Wold Farm, and land northeast of Kipling Cotes Race Course. Natural England therefore does not agree that the boundary in this area has been drawn liberally. Furthermore, Natural England notes that there are a number of other consultation responses which are requesting the inclusion of more land to the east and including South Dalton.</p> <p>Natural England agrees that the use of the A614 as the boundary would make a simpler boundary in this area. However, it also notes that this would result in the exclusion of an area of Wolds landscape, which has a variety of interest and scenic qualities and would exclude the historic village of Goodmanham and its associated dale – areas which respondents acknowledge meet the Natural Beauty Criterion. An alternative boundary suggested by respondent ANON-3WEG-5PVV-7 would result in a very narrow (1 field width) connection to Goodmanham and would not include the strongly rolling landform along Middlethorpe Dale.</p> <p>Increased visitors</p>

		<p>Concerns raised by respondents in relation to currently increasing visitors and further increases as a result of designation are addressed in Appendix 2: Desirability page 35.</p> <p>On balance, Natural England does not agree that the boundary in this area should be amended.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change.</p>

Section I: Intake Hill to A166 Garrowby Street		
<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representation</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
<p>Include land West of Londesborough</p>	<p>BHLF-3WEG-5PS8-6</p> <p><i>'As a principle we believe it is not appropriate to use the Yorkshire Wolds Way National Trail as a boundary for the AONB. It is very important that our Protected Landscapes and National Trails are seen to exist and be managed in harmony</i></p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>Yorkshire Wolds Way National Trail</p>

Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>with each other. However the Yorkshire Wolds Way line has been used as a boundary in several areas on the proposed designation.</i></p> <p><i>National Trails are managed with consideration to a full nature corridor, so as far as possible, there should be a margin of a minimum of a field between the Yorkshire Wolds Way and the AONB boundary. We have suggested changes which do not compromise on the outstanding natural beauty and we recommend the changes to the boundary as detailed below.</i></p> <p>Map 10</p> <p><i>We recommend an alteration to the boundary here to take in Towthorpe Grange and the heritage value of the deserted medieval village of Towthorpe. This is a minor alteration, but an important one on a very attractive site.'</i></p>	<p>The identification of land for AONB designation is based on natural beauty using the factors set out in Natural England Guidance, and a boundary drawn based on qualifying land.</p> <p>There is no requirement for the boundary of a National Landscape to include a National Trail in its entirety or to ensure that a National Trail has a margin of at least one field between the trail and a proposed AONB boundary. Furthermore, when considering an AONB designation there is no requirement to consider Opportunities for Recreation, which is a second statutory criterion for the identification of land for National Park designation only.</p> <p>National Trails are managed by local National Trail Partnerships, irrespective of whether they fall within a National Landscape designation. The part inclusion/exclusion of a National Trail should not therefore affect the ability of the Partnership to effectively manage the trail.</p> <p>Natural England has reviewed the boundary in the Towthorpe Grange area in light of consultation responses.</p> <p>For land to be designated an AONB it must meet the Natural Beauty Criterion as set out in statute. The assessment of natural beauty is undertaken in accordance with Natural England Guidance and with reference to the factors set out in Appendix 1 of the Guidance. These factors do not include consideration of opportunities for recreation, which is a second consideration for the identification of land for National Park designation.</p>

Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
		<p>Natural England notes that the Yorkshire Wolds Way/Wilberforce Way long distance path extends between Londesborough and Market Weighton, before continuing east along Goodmanham Dale.</p> <p>The Natural Beauty Assessment considered this area between Intake Hill and Towthorpe Lane in EA11 and concluded that it fell on the margins of qualifying land. In the Boundary Assessment, on page 36, the transitional nature of land to the west of the scarp was noted as <i>'In places, the lower slopes of the scarp form a sweep of landscape which is unbroken by development and shows a strong visual and physical connectivity with the rising land of the scarp.'</i> In the case of Towthorpe Beck the landscape was considered transitional moving away from the scarp.</p> <p>Natural England has reviewed this area in light of consultation responses. Here, the National Trail passes along a shallow valley of the Towthorpe Beck, and the change between the Western Scarp and Vale of York is less abrupt and transitional. The rising land to the west of the beck, whilst containing wider views in the north, falls away in the south affording views to the vale and vertical features such as wind turbines and pylons begin to intrude. Traffic noise on the A614 also increases in the south. The earthworks associated with the Medieval village of Towthorpe (not scheduled) are visible within meadow grassland and make a minor contribution towards natural beauty. Towthorpe Grange contains a collection of typical farm buildings including a stable block, though none are listed. Overall, Natural England remains of the view that landscape quality and scenic quality are transitional in this area, and increase towards the north as the landscape rises to form part of the Londesborough parkland.</p>

<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representation</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
		<p>Natural England therefore does not agree that the proposed boundary should be extended into lesser quality land, in order to include more of this long-distance route.</p> <p>In the process of reviewing this area, Natural England has considered the landscape further to the north and lying to the west of Intake Hill. In the interest of consistency, Natural England has concluded that land west of the lane, and including the extension of the avenue at Londesborough, is transition and declining in quality and that the avenue itself is not sufficiently high quality to justify the inclusion of the wider area. On reflection, Natural England considers that a more robust boundary is the road further east. This is consistent with the adoption of the boundary along the road immediately to the south and the exclusion of land to the west of the road.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>Deletion to exclude land to the west of Intake Hill thereby excluding land which is declining in quality including the western part of the Avenue associated with Londesborough Park.</p> <p>Deletion 1.</p>

Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
<p>Include Partridge Hall Farm</p>	<p>BHLF-3WEG-5PS8-6</p> <p><i>'As a principle we believe it is not appropriate to use the Yorkshire Wolds Way National Trail as a boundary for the AONB. It is very important that our Protected Landscapes and National Trails are seen to exist and be managed in harmony with each other. However the Yorkshire Wolds Way line has been used as a boundary in several areas on the proposed designation.</i></p> <p><i>National Trails are managed with consideration to a full nature corridor, so as far as possible, there should be a margin of a minimum of a field between the Yorkshire Wolds Way and the AONB boundary. We have suggested changes which do not compromise on the outstanding natural beauty and we recommend the changes to the boundary as detailed below.</i></p> <p>Map 11</p> <p><i>The current proposed boundary takes a unnatural line to deliberately exclude Partridge Hall Farm. There is no good reason why this should be excluded.</i></p> <p><i>We propose a more natural flow to the boundary here, including Partridge Hall Farm and ensuring that the Yorkshire Wolds Way runs within the corridor of the immediate fields.'</i></p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>The identification of land for AONB designation is based on natural beauty using the factors set out in Natural England Guidance, and a boundary drawn based on qualifying land.</p> <p>There is no requirement for the boundary of a National Landscape to include a National Trail in its entirety or to ensure that a National Trail has a margin of at least one field between the trail and a proposed AONB boundary. Furthermore, when considering an AONB designation there is no requirement to consider Opportunities for Recreation, which is a second statutory criterion for the identification of land for National Park designation only.</p> <p>National Trails are managed by local National Trail Partnerships irrespective of whether they fall within a National Landscape designation. The part inclusion/exclusion of a National Trail should not therefore affect the ability of the Partnership to effectively manage the trail.</p> <p>Natural England has reviewed the boundary in the Partridge Hall Farm area in light of consultation responses.</p> <p>The Natural Beauty Assessment report considered this area in EA11 and concluded, on page 100, that <i>'Care will also be required in the area of Partridge Hall Chalk Quarry where activity at the quarry, two parallel 33kV overhead lines and large farm buildings at Partridge Hall causes fragmentation and a decline in landscape quality at the</i></p>

<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representation</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
		<p><i>margins of the Candidate Area.’ It also highlighted the need to ‘exclude incongruous features where they occur on the edges of the Candidate Area and have a material influence on landscape condition and scenic quality eg in the vicinity of Partridge Hall Chalk Quarry.’</i></p> <p><i>The Boundary Assessment (page 37) stated that ‘In the area around Partridge Hall Chalk Quarry the condition of the scarp slopes is affected by incongruous features including the quarry, farm buildings at Partridge Farm and pylons south of Nunburnholme. In this localised area the landscape is not considered to meet the natural beauty criterion, however the slope in which the quarry sits forms part of the chalk scarp which is a strong geomorphological feature, and the quarry itself is surrounded on three sides by qualifying land. Here a pragmatic decision was reached to wash over the quarry and pylons and to draw the boundary to include the whole scarp. The boundary chosen allowed the lower lying and lower quality land to the west, including farm buildings at Partridge Hall Farm to be excluded.’</i></p> <p>Natural England acknowledges that the landscape through which the National Trail passes includes natural springs, wet pastures and elevated views looking northwest. Whilst an alternative boundary line could be drawn one field to the west, to include the National Trail and farm, Natural England remains of the view that the proposed boundary would not undermine the appropriate management of the National Trail and is a conservative boundary line which follows clear features on the ground.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p>

Section I: Intake Hill to A166 Garrowby Street		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
		No change.
Include land to west, up to edge of Pocklington including Pocklington Wood	<p>ANON-3WEG-5PNY-2</p> <p><i>'I wish to propose the inclusion of Pocklington Wood, a planted ancient woodland site (PAWS) north of Pocklington. The town is locally described as 'the gateway to the wolds' with public footpaths that allow residents to visit the wood and experience high quality nature a short distance from the town. Pocklington wood has existed since 1600s and was recently found to support the highest diversity of bird species of the three local 'green corridors' (see www.greencorridors.co.uk). The site is also supported by adjacent habitats, chiefly the mosaic habitats of the golf course and the Buddhist Centre just beyond (the latter being included in the AONB proposed boundary). Both of these adjacent sites have recently begun works to enhance onsite habitats.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PKU-U</p> <p><i>'I think Pocklington Wood, which is considered but excluded, should be included. It is ancient woodland and Chapel Hill and Pocklington Wood is the natural boundary of the Wolds escarpment, rather than beginning at Kilnwick Percy. I walk the area regularly, it is not effected by noise from roads.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5P2S-Z</p> <p><i>'On the whole, i would be happy to have the boundary around Kilnwick Percy extended to 448000 / 482000 to include Kilnwick</i></p>	<p>Commentary</p> <p>The Natural Beauty Assessment considered this area as part of EA11. It concluded (page 99) that <i>'Particular scrutiny will be required in the following areas: edge of Pocklington as topography lessens and land use reflects the proximity of settlement including pony paddocks and a golf course.'</i></p> <p>In relation to settlements it went on to state (page 100) <i>'The larger settlement of Pocklington is not included within the Candidate Area but will require particularly scrutiny at the boundary setting stage where the boundary may come close to the urban edge. Local Plan allocations and planning permissions will need to be reviewed at this stage.'</i></p> <p>The Boundary Assessment considered this area in Boundary Section I and noted, on page 36, the transitional nature of the landscape as a key consideration stating <i>'These slopes are relatively shallow and more intensively farmed than the steeper slopes of the scarp and are in places affected by urban fringe land use such as golf course east of Pocklington and horse paddocks on the fringes of villages, or by farm development such as large chicken sheds west of Pocklington Wood.'</i> It went on to state (page 37) in relation to Pocklington that <i>'The settlement of Pocklington has not been included within the boundary in accordance with the findings of the natural beauty assessment.'</i></p>

Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>Percy wood; maybe to Burnby Moor.... There are not enough chalk grassland left in the UK. Birds are declining in numbers and insect numbers dropped dramatically this last year. Sympathetic local landowners (eg Buddhists at Kilnwick Percy) need support for their efforts to enhance the landscape (eg the ponds / lakes on the estate)'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PCF-4</p> <p><i>'I would suggest extending the boundary nearer to Pocklington....As far as I can judge, a couple of the pictures in the background document show landscape not included within the currently proposed boundary (e.g. p. 16 the picture of St James Nunburnhome [Nunburnholme], where the background of Burnby Wold is outside the boundary, and p.28 wild garlic at Kilnwick Percy in the woods.) If the photo on p. 28 is Kilnwick Percy Wood itself, it is outside the boundary. Even if it isn't, Kilnwick Percy Wood is an important visual feature of how I experience the landscape looking towards Pocklington, and I am sure I am not alone in this. It is also an ancient feature of the landscape so has cultural value.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P5H-R</p> <p><i>'Bring the border closer to Protect Pocklington especially on the side towards Kilnwick Percy.... Please bring the boundary down to include the fields woods of this town especially on the side bordering Chapel Hill and B1246.... Bring the boundaries closer to protect from urban expansion'</i></p>	<p><i>Furthermore, Kilnwick Percy golf course, club house and associated holiday accommodation has also been excluded, given its peripheral location and characteristics, which have altered traditional landscape patterns.'</i></p> <p>Pocklington Wood/Chapel Hill Area</p> <p>Natural England has reviewed the Pocklington Wood/Chapel Hill area in light of consultation responses. Natural England acknowledges that north west of Pocklington there is a steep lower scarp which is a distinctive geomorphological feature. It supports areas of pasture and ancient woodland which is partially replanted with pines. Natural England also notes that some areas of pasture are over and under grazed, and that there is a telephone mast and reservoir on the secondary scarp overlooking the town. This, coupled with the separation of the scarp from the wider area of qualifying land by the golf course (which has altered traditional land use patterns and introduced chalets and club house infrastructure), confirms Natural England's view that this area is not connected to wider qualifying land to the east. Natural England recognises that the scarp above the town is the first experience of the wolds landscape for residents, and that it is highly valued by the community. The recognition of this area is evident in the Pocklington Neighbourhood Plan (Policy 5B) which identifies this area as a Local Wildlife Corridor and part of a 'green corridor' initiative to expand areas of woodland habitat, in and around Pocklington.</p> <p>The Boundary Assessment concluded (page 38) that <i>'Consideration was also given to the inclusion of the wooded secondary scarp north of Pocklington at Pocklington Wood. This topographic feature is</i></p>

Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
		<p><i>separated from the wider area of the main scarp by the Kilnwick Golf Club. Furthermore, the secondary scarp slopes are affected by road noise and the fringes of Pocklington. On balance the boundary has been drawn conservatively and pulled back to exclude the secondary scarp west and south of Foxcovert Wood. This ensures that the most complex slopes where the watercourses of Millington Beck and Ridings Beck emerge are included, whilst excluding areas which are affected by development and the golf course and where the landscape is flatter and intensively farmed.'</i></p> <p>On balance, Natural England remains of the view that the current boundary line is the most suitable and robust.</p> <p>Protecting Land from Development</p> <p>Natural England Guidance makes it clear that land should not be included in an AONB simply to protect it from development (page 30).</p> <p>Burnby Moor Area</p> <p>The Natural Beauty Assessment did not include this area within the proposed Candidate Area for designation on the basis it did not meet the Natural Beauty Criterion. Natural England has reviewed this area in light of consultation responses. This area comprises lower lying and gently undulating land to the east of Pocklington and contains a series of geometric mixed woodland plantations. Kilnwick Percy</p>

Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
		<p>Wood is an ancient woodland, however, Natural England can confirm that the image on page 28 is taken from the woodland at Kilnwick Percy Hall not from the wood in the Burnby Moor area.</p> <p>In relation to the background hill in the image on page 16, Natural England can confirm that the majority of the hillside is included in the proposed AONB designation. Nevertheless, the identification of land for designation is made following an assessment of natural beauty and is not determined based on the extent to which land forms the backdrop to a single view.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change.</p>
<p>Include Pocklington</p>	<p>ANON-3WEG-5PQZ-6 <i>‘Though it would be nice for the boundary to cover pocklington’</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PQ1-W <i>‘expand the area to include the historic towns of Pocklington...’</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PK9-Y <i>‘Feel Pocklington should also be included’</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PVS-4</p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>Settlements are considered in the assessment of natural beauty and assessed on their merits. Furthermore, the Natural England Guidance makes clear that settlements on the edge of a designation should only be included if they lie within a wider track of qualifying land, and can act as a gateway to the designation, even if they are not included within its boundary (page 30)</p> <p>The Natural Beauty Assessment considered this area as part of EA11. It stated in relation to settlements (page 100) <i>‘The larger settlement of Pocklington is not included within the Candidate Area but will require particularly scrutiny at the boundary setting stage</i></p>

Section I: Intake Hill to A166 Garrowby Street		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>'I feel the boundaries as drawn up are too restrictive and should embrace outlying villages such as those around Pocklington</i></p>	<p><i>where the boundary may come close to the urban edge. Local Plan allocations and planning permissions will need to be reviewed at this stage.'</i></p> <p>Natural England remains of the view that the settlement does not qualify for designation, and lies at the margins of qualifying land. Natural England therefore concludes that Pocklington should remain excluded from the proposed designation.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change,</p>
<p>Include Bishop Wilton and Fangfoss area</p>	<p>ANON-3WEG-5PDC-2</p> <p><i>'I would look to the Wildlife Trust sites, especially along the proposed border to see if more can be included... One example is the Bishop Wilton Poor Lands just outside the current boundary - https://floodplainmeadows.org.uk/floodplain-meadow-site/bishop-wilton-poorland'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PK2-R</p> <p><i>'There are important areas to the east of the proposed area in particular which are of equal natural beauty to the proposed area, with further (smaller) areas to the south and southwest.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5P23-Z</p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>This area was considered in the Natural Beauty Assessment in relation to EA11. It stated (page 97) that <i>'Further east the landscape contains small villages which have established along the streams such as Skirpenbeck, Youlthorpe and Fangfoss. These settlements express an attractive rural vernacular but sit within countryside some distance from the scarp slopes. This landscape lacks the outstanding qualities and drama of land further east, and in places shows signs of fragmentation as a result of commercial development, HM Prison at Full Sutton and modern development around the town of Pocklington.'</i> On page 98 it states <i>'Settlements express a strong vernacular and have little modern development and retain their medieval form. The enclosure patterns surrounding the settlements are small scale reflecting early piecemeal enclosure and the pastoral</i></p>

<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representation</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
	<p><i>‘Gowthorpe and Youlthorpe are traditional East Yorkshire farming hamlets with wonderful views of the Wolds. Gowthorpe has a public footpath which joins a green lane heading directly east towards t... so has stunning views as one is walking towards them. Running through farmland and joining quiet single track country lanes. Similarly Youlthorpe has a public footpath heading directly east and then joining another public footpath through fields. Again offering beautiful views of the Wolds. Both these walks take one to the foot of the Wolds in Bishop Wilton. The two hamlets of Gowthorpe and Youlthorpe go back hundreds of years and are very traditional East Riding farming hamlets with very little obvious modern development.’</i></p>	<p><i>land use means former land use patterns and built structures remain as earthworks in the fields.’</i></p> <p>It concluded (page 99) that <i>‘Close to the foothills there is still visual interest in views back towards the scarp, but this quickly decreases. As a result, the western fringes of this landscape are not considered to meet the natural beauty criterion and lack the interest and richness of the foothills further west.’</i></p> <p>Natural England has reviewed this area in light of consultation responses. Natural England remains of the view that the villages are attractive and have little modern development and reflect the local vernacular with features of interest, such as historic churches and greens. Natural England also notes the SSSI site at Bishop Wilton Poor Lands, north of Awnhams Lane, valued for its low-lying hayfield – one of the best examples of unimproved, species-rich, damp, neutral grassland in North Humberside. However, Natural England remains of the view that the settlements and the SSSI are isolated areas of interest, within a wider area of low lying relatively flat farmland. They are therefore separated from qualifying areas associated with the scarp and comprise ordinary (wider) countryside. Nevertheless, this land and settlements would fall within the setting of the proposed AONB and therefore NPPF para 189 (Dec 2024) would apply. This states that <i>‘development within their [national landscape] setting should be sensitively located and designed to avoid or minimise adverse impacts on the designated areas.’</i></p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p>

<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representation</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
		No change.

<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representation</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
Include land south west of Leavening as far as Aldby Park	<p>BHLF-3WEG-5PSW-5 (North Yorkshire Council)</p> <p><i>'Area between Scrayingham and Leppington and Buttercrambe villages (incorporating Aldby Park), currently designated as AHVA [Area of High Landscape Value] within Ryedale Local Plan (Policy SP13), is not within the proposed AONB area.</i></p> <p><i>The hamlets and villages of Scrayingham and Buttercrambe contain several listed buildings and the landscape pattern around these settlements is small scale reflecting early piecemeal enclosure. The site of a moated manor house and medieval field system lies on the fringes of Leppington. The 'Natural Beauty Assessment' recognises that "These features, both overt and subtle, collectively give rise to perceptions of a settled landscape with strong continuity and a tangible time depth which strongly contributes to natural beauty." Aldby Park at Buttercrambe is a Grade II* Registered Park and Garden with gardens laid out by Thomas Knowlton c 1746 incorporating the</i></p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>Figure 1 in the Natural Beauty Assessment illustrates the extent of the Area of High Landscape Value which includes all land up to and including the River Derwent. Villages of Scrayingham and Buttercrambe are on the Derwent and form attractive villages/habitats with little modern development, as is Aldby Park. The villages are conservation areas and Aldby Park is a Grade II* Registered Park and Garden.</p> <p>The Natural Beauty Assessment considers this area as part of EA11. It noted that Buttercrambe and Scrayingham are conservation areas and that the parkland at Aldby enhances scenic quality locally. However, it went on to note that the western fringes of the area are in transition as they move away from the scarp stating on page 100 that <i>'Particular care will be required at the boundary setting stage to</i></p>

Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>remains of a medieval motte, and a park probably laid out at the same time and enlarged in the late C18 or early C19 (HE List Entry1001055).</i></p> <p><i>It is recognised that there is a transitional nature to the landscape along the Monk Street and Moor Hill north/south corridor, where the landscape moves away from the chalk scarp to the east side and with and [an] overhead electricity transmission line to the NW side, which is a notable detracting element.</i></p> <p><i>However, we would consider that these foothill areas remain sufficiently close with views back to the scarp slope on the east side to maintain a high degree of visual interest and natural beauty. This together with the historic time depth associated with the settled villages may justify further consideration for inclusion within the proposed AONB area.</i></p> <p><i>Notwithstanding the above, if this area were not designated as AONB it seems possible that it would be of a sufficient area not to preclude the existing local landscape designation to remain in place and within the new North Yorkshire Council Local Plan and with potential for it to run contiguous with the East Riding local landscape designation (Important Landscape Area) towards Stamford Bridge, if following review there is sufficient robust evidence to support this.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5PS6-4</p> <p>This respondent requested inclusion of the Leavening Beck and hanging cliffs north and west of Leppington. Reasons given included: <i>'Exposed chalk escarpment and wonderful views and earthworks.'</i></p>	<p><i>ensure the boundary is drawn conservatively within the transition in landscape quality and scenic quality, along the lower foothills. Consideration may need to be given to visual associations in transitional areas, especially where there are views to key landmarks...'</i> It concluded that <i>'the western fringes of this landscape are not considered to meet the natural beauty criterion and lack the interest and richness of the foothills further west [east].'</i> In conclusion, this area was not included within the Proposed Candidate Area as illustrated on Figure 10.</p> <p>This area has been reviewed in light of consultation responses.</p> <p>It is noted that the landscape between the A166 and Leppington is dissected by Whitecarr Beck, Leppington Beck, Swallowpits Beck, Howl Beck and Barlam Beck. This gives a strong east-west grain to the landscape, and the incised valleys create topographic variation and local interest, which distinguishes this area from that south of the A166. Similarly, the attractive historic villages and parkland at Aldby, not to mention the valley landscape of the River Derwent, also add interest locally.</p> <p>Nevertheless, this landscape sits approximately 6-7km to the west of the more pronounced foothills and scarp, which is visible in the far distance. As a result, Natural England does not consider this landscape to have the scale and drama evident in land close to the scarp, and considers that this landscape comprises attractive countryside with localised points of interest. It would however fall within the setting of the proposed designation and therefore NPPF para 189 (Dec 2024) would apply. This states that <i>'development within their [national landscape] setting should be sensitively located</i></p>

<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representation</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
		<p><i>and designed to avoid or minimise adverse impacts on the designated areas.'</i></p> <p>Local Landscape Designations</p> <p>The Natural Beauty Assessment makes clear (page 25) that '<i>Whilst the Yorkshire Wolds have been afforded a value at the local level this does not necessarily equate to levels of natural beauty of national significance.</i>'</p> <p>Furthermore, it is not the purpose of the Yorkshire Wolds Designation Project to determine what should happen to the remaining areas of local landscape designation, which are not considered to meet the Natural Beauty Criterion. Nevertheless, Natural England believes there is evidence to suggest that this area is deserving of local recognition.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change.</p>

Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
<p>Include Menethorpe Beck and Welham Wold Farm</p>	<p>BHLF-3WEG-5PS6-4</p> <p><i>'Moving the boundary would include an unspoilt peaceful [peaceful] valley [Menethorpe Beck], with incredible views from Welham Wold Farm.'</i></p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>It is assumed that this respondent is referring to the Menethorpe Beck to the south of Welham Wold Farm. This area was considered as part of EA1. The Natural Beauty Assessment states (page 31) <i>'There is some evidence of modern improved fields and a higher incidence of arable farming which becomes most evident where the topography is gentle, and the landscape appears more open eg north of Menethorpe....In these locations incongruous features can assume a greater visual influence.'</i> It goes on to state (page 32) that <i>'In places arable farming has extended up to the edge of minor watercourses and some watercourses lack management and are overgrown and choked.'</i></p> <p>The area of Menethorpe Beck and corridor of pylons west of Moor Hill/Welham Hill, were not included in the Proposed Candidate Area (Figure 10). The Boundary Assessment (page 40) stated <i>'On balance, given the narrow and limited area of transitional landscape between qualifying areas, a boundary was defined which extends across the road and pylon corridor to be continuous with the Howardian Hills AONB. This was not extended to the north of Menethorpe where the landscape is more open, intensively farmed, less undulating and more influenced visually by the pylon route. Here intensive arable farming often extends up to the edge of Menethorpe Beck.'</i></p> <p>Natural England has reviewed this area in light of consultation responses.</p>

<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representation</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
		<p>Natural England notes that the land rises to the north of Menethorpe, and that the traditional farmstead of Welham Wold Farm sits on rising land and adds to the scenic qualities of this area. Nevertheless, Natural England remains of the view that the most appropriate boundary is along Welham Hill, given the more open arable landscape, influence of pylons to the west and decreasing landscape quality to the north of Sutton Wold.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change.</p>

Significant Additional Areas Requested for Inclusion Beyond Proposed Boundary		
<u>Theme</u>	<u>Representation</u>	<u>Natural England Commentary</u>
Octon and Thwing	<p>ANON-3WEG-5PCT-J</p> <p><i>'Octon which is no more the two miles outside the proposed boundary has an incline known as Paddock Hill. From the brow of the hill the huge skies of East and North Yorkshire at in evidence, likewise the night skies are dark and on a clear night full of stars. A sight which is becoming a rarity as light pollution invades more and more. The view is across farmland, known as 'Gaia's patchwork quilt', forever changing with each season and year as the crops are rotated. Farmsteads are nestled in trees</i></p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>The Natural Beauty Assessment considered this area as part of EA5. It states (page 60) that <i>'Overall the broad Great Wold Valley comprises a broad sweep of countryside which exhibits simple patterns and lacks the topographic interest found within the High Wold and incised valleys to the north and west.'</i> In relation to the settlements of Thwing and Octon it notes (page 62) that these</p>

Significant Additional Areas Requested for Inclusion Beyond Proposed Boundary		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>which protect against the wind and dotted around are the small woodlands, providing corridors for wildlife. The only sound, depending upon the wind direction is the distant hum of traffic on the B1249 as it climbs the hill from North into East Yorkshire.</i></p> <p><i>Whilst on the brow of this hill one is standing in the proximity of an archaeological dig (evidenced in the East Riding of Yorkshire Museum, Hull). Walking back towards the hamlet the beautiful undulating landscape described in the document accompanying this consultation can be seen, also evidence of other archaeological finds. Stop to look into the field on the left, just beyond the Manor and to the left of the footpath which goes to Thwing, this field can be grazed but not dug due to its history.</i></p> <p><i>Taking the footpath on the opposite side of the road (away from Thwing). In the field to the left are the remains of a church. Earthworks of the medieval church and village were scheduled as an ancient monument in 1994. Walking on it becomes gloriously noticeable that the wildlife is not scurrying away, so remote is this walk the wildlife is not accustomed to humans and consequently doesn't perceive a threat. So few are the humans, the wildlife live alongside not separate from us. Evidence of the Red Listed Birds and Protected Mammals found in the proximity of Octon are recorded on the East and North Yorkshire Ecological Database.</i></p> <p><i>In Octon there is a Grade II listed cruck framed longhouse dating from the 17th century. In recent years the outside was renovated with funds which I understand came from the Jorvik [Viking] Centre, York.'</i></p>	<p>settlements differ from the valley floor settlements, occurring on the upper southern slopes of the Gypsey Race Valley.</p> <p>Natural England agrees that these settlements are of historic interest and that the narrow rural lanes and associated linear woodland along them (and especially in Syn Dale), create intimate and contrasting experiences compared to the vast openness when looking north across the Great Wold Valley.</p> <p>This landscape has a strange emptiness and tranquillity. Whilst Natural England acknowledges the local interest associated with the settlement, and their connecting lanes as well as tranquillity, these areas remain intensively farmed and lack topographic variation and interest. This area is considered to reflect attractive countryside and not a landscape which is nationally outstanding.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change.</p>

Significant Additional Areas Requested for Inclusion Beyond Proposed Boundary		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
Land between inland and coast	<p>ANON-3WEG-5P7T-6 <i>'I believe that the area is not large enough. It could be extended to the NE to join with the Flamborough Head AONB which it is continuous [contiguous] with.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P9K-Y <i>'We believe that there is no reason for the coastal and inland areas not to be linked. Reighton, Hunmanby and Burton Fleming should be avoided but there is a corridor that demonstrates the beauty of the lowland Yorkshire Wolds. This area is made up of soft rolling landscape punctuated by dry valleys. We have submitted a suggestion marked on a map but quite honestly we feel the designation criteria would fit a wider band in places.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PKR-R <i>'a gap [does not] exist between Flockton and Bempton'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PVP-1 and BHLF-3WEG-5PYM-1 <i>'Arguably the biggest problem with the current proposal however is the lack of a contiguous connection to the 'coastal' section at Flamborough. This risks the coastal area potentially being seen as 'second class'. We understand the desire to exclude the caravan parks but have suggested alternative boundaries in our attached maps.... By extending the boundary above Bridlington and Westwards along the Gypsy Race, the two areas can be connected into a single AONB and address many of these issues.'</i></p>	<p>Commentary</p> <p>Natural England interprets the statement by respondent ANON-3WEG-5PKR-R that there is no gap between Flockton and Bempton as meaning the land which stretches across Hunmanby.</p> <p>Natural England notes that the respondents who wish to see the coastal and inland areas joined physically by including land between the two qualifying areas have presented a range of boundary options and that there is no consensus between parties.</p> <p>Arguments supporting the inclusion of this area are considered in turn:</p> <p>The corridor between the inland area and coastal areas demonstrates beauty of the lowland Yorkshire Wolds.</p> <p>The Natural Beauty Assessment consider this area within EA6 and EA7.</p> <p>Respondent ANON-3WEG-5P9K-Y highlights the natural beauty of the area as comprising soft rolling landscape punctuated by dry valleys. Natural England agrees that there are small patches of higher quality land such as along the Gypsy Race valley at Boyton. This was concluded in the Natural Beauty Assessment (page 75) which states <i>'Within the central part of the valley between Rudston and Boynton there is a greater weight of evidence in relation to natural beauty as a result of the clearly defined pastoral valley</i></p>

Significant Additional Areas Requested for Inclusion Beyond Proposed Boundary		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>We agree with the coastal boundary however feel there are sensible and logical ways to connect this to the inland area to create a single contiguous AONB.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5PYC-Q</p> <p><i>'I am also disappointed that little consideration seems to have been given to extending the designation area such that it becomes contiguous with the other proposed areas along the Yorkshire coast.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5P2Y-6</p> <p><i>'However, consider that the coastal area should and could 'join' up to the proposed inland area, to include further areas currently considered to be transitional in the consultation documents. [ANON] consider that whilst landscape features may differ across the southern, central and northern Wolds, the predominant chalk feature running throughout the area and high quality components of natural beauty are sufficient to designate the entire Yorkshire Wolds as defined in the Natural England National Character Area (No. 27) and including the land adjacent to the proposed coastal area which includes areas already developed to some degree as discussed above. [ANON] consider that this is contrary to Natural England's Guidance as quoted above in that there is no requirement for every parcel of land to meet every criterion and also that a designation can wash over a tract of land even though that land itself does not meet the designation criteria provided it sits within a sweep of qualifying land.'</i></p>	<p><i>character, higher concentration of features of interest and scenic quality, when compared with surrounding areas. These qualities are acknowledged, however this area is limited in extent and isolated, being surrounded by extensive tracts of non-qualifying land. On this basis, it has not been proposed for inclusion within the Candidate Area and the whole of EA7 is excluded. This decision is consistent with similar decisions made elsewhere e.g. EA8 and EA12.'</i></p> <p>For this reason this area and the wider vast swathes of more open, intensively farmed arable landscape (EA6) are not proposed for national designation.</p> <p>Natural England accepts that there is no abrupt change in landscape between the inland and coastal areas proposed for designation and that the lowland Yorkshire Wolds landscape has a distinct 'wolds' character that is well expressed throughout.</p> <p>However, character is not the same thing as natural beauty. Whilst this landscape is highly valued by some, and considered beautiful, it is not considered to be nationally outstanding and lacks the drama and distinction of the incised valleys within the high wolds further west.</p> <p>Application of Wash-Over</p> <p>Some respondents have sought to include the land between the Inland and Coastal areas on the basis that not all land needs to meet the Natural Beauty criterion and that wash-over could apply. Respondent BHLF-3WEG-5P2Y-6 specially makes reference to para 5.3 5th bullet of the Guidance which states that 'There is no</p>

Significant Additional Areas Requested for Inclusion Beyond Proposed Boundary		
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	<p>[ANON] agree that land toward the east of the area heading to Bridlington does not meet the qualifying criteria, however, based on our considered view and as set out above feel that the boundary should be adjusted as described below.</p> <p>Furthermore, [ANON] believes that the designation should continue eastwards following the B1253 towards Rudston and potentially Boynton before heading north following the Gypsy Race towards Maidens Grave Farm and Burton Flemming [Fleming].</p> <p>Finally, at the very least, [ANON] consider that both the inland and coastal areas should effectively be joined up to create one area of designation by extending the current Area 4 eastwards from Muston to Muston Sands, and then following the coastal strip through Hunmanby Sands and Reighton Sands to abut the existing Speeton Sands (avoiding the holiday parks at Primrose Valley if considered necessary).'</p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P5C-K</p> <p>'Not sure if it should come more inland to join together'</p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P56-6</p> <p>'It appears wrong to separate the two areas and also the coastal area can not really be called the Yorkshire Wolds.'</p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PDY-R</p> <p>'it is just a shame that it cannot be perhaps joined up along Hunmanby Sands and across to the inland part of the proposal. Perhaps it could be joined up below the town of Hunmanby, from</p>	<p>requirement that every parcel of land must meet either or both of the criteria (ie there may be, and is very likely to be, <u>small areas of land which meet neither</u>'. The respondent uses this to justify the inclusion of the land between the Inland and Coastal areas, linking it to the application of wash-over of non-qualifying land.</p> <p>The principle of wash-over was established during the designation of the South Downs National Park where the Secretary of State accepted that parcels of lower quality land can be "washed over", provided it sits within a sweep of qualifying land. It states in para 6.13 that 'Where there is an area of non-qualifying land within a wider qualifying tract, there may be scope to apply the 'wash-over' principle. However, <u>this principle should only be used in exceptional circumstances</u> and particular care and scrutiny must therefore be given in such circumstances, particularly near the boundary. As noted in paragraph 5.3 above, the decision to include land that does not itself meet the natural beauty criterion depends on the location of the non-qualifying land, its scale and the effect/benefit of including it within any prospective designation.</p> <p>The land between the proposed Inland and Coastal areas is extensive. Furthermore, it is not required to enable the definition of an Inland and Coastal area for designation – both areas are of sufficient scale and can be defined without reliance on lesser quality land in between. The exclusion of this lower quality land does not leave a 'hole' within a qualifying area or present issues regarding management especially of the smaller coastal area as set out in the Desirability Assessment (page 50). On balance, Natural England does not consider there to be exceptional circumstance to justify the inclusion of a wider area of lesser quality landscape through the use of wash-over.</p>

Significant Additional Areas Requested for Inclusion Beyond Proposed Boundary		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>Reighton across to Cans Dale? The land there looks quite undulating on the map though I have not seen it personally.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PKR-R <i>'Between Flockton and Hunmanby typical dry dales have been omitted as the Wolds swing NE to Flamborough.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PKU-U <i>'It seems to me that splitting East Yorkshire into two AONB areas devalues it. Either the coastal area should be left out, or the two connected into a single area.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PVH-S <i>'In respect of the coastal area, I would suggest that the boundary be contiguous with the inland area, as the current balkanised proposed boundary is somewhat incoherent.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PYE-S <i>'In essence this should extend westwards to meet the inland area.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P2K-R <i>'Extend this to be contiguous with the wider designation of the wolds i.e. westward beyond the 165 and incorporating the Great Wolds valley.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5P2G-M</p>	<p>Coastal areas are second class</p> <p>The Desirability Assessment addressed this issue at paragraph 8.2.19 i). Reference was made to the North Norfolk Coast AONB which has a separate outlier as part of its AONB designation. This outlier made no material difference to management, although it was noted that communities perceived the outlying area as 'not as important' as the main body of designation. With the right focus and resources there is no reason why the new AONB Partnership cannot work with local communities to address these concerns and perceptions.</p> <p>Boundary</p> <p>The boundary proposed by ANON-3WEG-5P2Y-6 following the B1253 towards Rudston and the following the Gypsy Race towards Burton Fleming does not define an area to be included.</p> <p>Extending the boundary from Muston to Muston Sands requires the inclusion of low-lying coastal landscape which is impacted by caravan parks, golf courses and development on the fringes of Filey. The coastal strip between Muston Sands, Hunmanby Sands and Reighton Sands forms attractive sandy beach with views towards Filey Brigg and also Bampton Cliffs, but it is backed by land which is either influenced by coastal development or lacks distinction. Natural England does not consider this area to meet the Natural Beauty Criterion.</p>

Significant Additional Areas Requested for Inclusion Beyond Proposed Boundary		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>Suggest northern boundary continues along from Stockendale to Hunmanby. Turn right along Hall Park Road, left along New Road, right along Bridlington Road to Dotterel Corner, then along Flamborough Road to Speeton Grange where it will join the coastal AOB [AONB].</i></p> <p><i>Suggest southern boundary continues from Cansdale to Burton Fleming, then along Grindale Road. From Grindale along Buckton Road into Buckton, joining Coastal AONB at White House Farm'.</i></p>	<p>On balance, and taking all views into account, Natural England remains of the view that the landscape between the Inland and Coastal Area does not express sufficient natural beauty to form a continuous tract of land which can justifiably join the two areas. And that in these specific circumstances there is no justification for wash-over to apply (as set out above page 114).</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change.</p>
Burton Fleming and Rudston	<p>ANON-3WEG-5PK2-R and BHLF-3WEG-5PYH-V</p> <p><i>'There are important areas to the east of the proposed area in particular which are of equal natural beauty to the proposed area, with further (smaller) areas to the south and southwest.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PY4-8</p> <p><i>'I think you've omitted some particularly beautiful and culturally valuable areas around the edges of the proposed area.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PVS-4</p> <p><i>'I feel the boundaries as drawn up are too restrictive and should embrace outlying villages such as those around Pocklington including Rudston.....'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PN8-1</p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>Natural England acknowledges that within the land excluded from the proposed AONB designation there are areas and patches of higher quality landscape. The Natural Beauty Assessment highlighted these features and areas especially for EA5, EA6, EA7 and EA8. Natural England notes that in the responses received during the Statutory Consultation, respondents frequently highlight the value they place on the qualities of settlements and historic sites.</p> <p>The assessment of natural beauty takes account of cultural heritage as one of the factors for assessment. Natural England Guidance makes clear that cultural heritage must contribute to a perception of natural beauty.</p> <p>Natural England agrees that the area of the Gypsy Race between Rudston and Boyton has a higher quality and scenic interest as well</p>

Significant Additional Areas Requested for Inclusion Beyond Proposed Boundary		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p><i>'As mentioned in our responses above we feel that the proposed boundary should be revised...:</i></p> <p><i>From North Cotes Farm we would like to propose that the boundary falls south to Burton Flemming and Low Caythorpe, Sands Wood and then follow the line of the Roman Road eastwards towards Kilham and then to Lone Farm and join with the proposed boundary. We feel it is very important that the area of the Gypsy [Gypsey] Race including Butterwick and Weaverthorpe is included.</i></p> <p><i>The lower section of the Great Wolds Valley, from Rudston to Bridlington, is similarly excluded from the proposed NL area.</i></p> <p><i>The richness of the archaeological landscape surrounding Rudston (including the tallest standing stone in England, at the centre of an array of four cursus ceremonial cursus monuments) has, many would say, a significant bearing on people's perceptions of this area as a special landscape, even though the majority of this evidence is invisible at ground level. More visible are the remains of medieval village patterns at Rudston, Boynton, Low Caythorpe and elsewhere, whose small, post-medieval enclosed and divided fields are marked by well-established hedgerows merging into woodland. Alongside these are areas of seasonally waterlogged meadows and stands of bur-reed and willow in the flooded meanders of the chalk stream, including the Willow Garth SSSI, which is one of the best examples of fen-carr in the area. This fertile valley, in an area of otherwise relatively barren upland, also saw episodes of parkland development in the 18th century (e.g. Thorpe and Boynton Halls), which in turn fostered both pastoral management and the growth of deeper woodlands [woodlands], today embodying both scenic and environmental value.</i></p>	<p>as cultural and natural heritage which overtly contributes to the appreciation of the landscape. Natural England also agrees that the Rudston Monolith is of national significance. The church which is located adjacent, on a small hill above the Gypsy Race, is visible from the surrounding landscape and, on approach to the village, reinforces the ceremonial significance of this location. Although the archaeological features in the surrounding landscape, including the cursus routes and burial mounds, are no longer readily visible in the landscape, from some locations the sequential views and processional nature, and visual associations, are evident and gives meaning and appreciation to this landscape.</p> <p>Nevertheless, these qualities are not consistently expressed and are limited in extent. Natural England remains of the view that the wider landscape which respondents wish to see included, comprising the Gypsy Race/Great Wold Valley, Burton Fleming and land towards Kilham, does not meet the natural beauty criterion, despite pockets of cultural heritage significance.</p> <p>Where there is an area of higher quality landscape between Rudston and Boynton it is small in extent (comprising just the narrow valley) and is isolated, lying some distance from the proposed Inland and Coastal areas (c 5km and c. 5.5km respectively). If this area was to be included by washing over the land requested by respondents, then the extent of wash-over would be significantly more extensive than the higher quality valley landscape.</p> <p>As noted on page 114 above, the principle of wash-over was established during the designation of the South Downs National Park where the Secretary of State accepted that parcels of lower quality land can be "washed over", provided it sits within a sweep of qualifying land. It states in para 6.13 that <i>'Where there is an area of</i></p>

Significant Additional Areas Requested for Inclusion Beyond Proposed Boundary		
Theme	Representation	Natural England Commentary
	<p>Source: Wastling, L M and George, R. 2018 <i>Historic Landscape Characterisation of the East Riding of Yorkshire and Kingston upon Hull Vol 1. Historic England Research Report 83-2018. Historic England and Humber Field Archaeology.</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PVP-1 and BHLF-3WEG-5PYM-1</p> <p><i>'The exclusion of Rudston is problematic as aa [a] number of significant character features are thereby excluded including Thorpe Hall, Boynton Hall, Willow Garth, much of Dane's Dyke, and the culturally important Rudston Monolith, one of the most important prehistoric monuments in the UK.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5PS6-4</p> <p><i>'We feel the area is rich in archaeology and has influenced the natural beauty and should therefore play a greater part in the consideration of areas to be included e.g. Rudston monolith.'</i></p>	<p><i>non-qualifying land within a wider qualifying tract, there may be scope to apply the 'wash-over' principle. However, <u>this principle should only be used in exceptional circumstances</u> and particular care and scrutiny must therefore be given in such circumstances, particularly near the boundary. the decision to include land that does not itself meet the natural beauty criterion depends on the location of the non-qualifying land, its scale and the effect/benefit of including it within any prospective designation.</i></p> <p>The implication of this quoted text is that the non-qualifying land is small in extent compared to the wider tract of qualifying land, and <u>sits within</u> this wider tract of qualifying land. However, in this instance, Natural England does not consider these circumstances apply but rather the reverse is true – ie the higher quality land sits within a wider tract of non-qualifying land. Under these circumstances, Natural England does not consider there is a case to apply wash over in order to bring in the Rudston-Boynton valley or any other sites of cultural heritage significance within this wider area.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change.</p>
Southern Wolds	<p>ANON-3WEG-5P9B-P</p> <p><i>'Why have you missed the area between Market Weighton and the Humber? The wolds extends into this area from the North and includes the area of Sancton, Newbold, South Cave, Welton and Brantingham. The Wolds Way begins in Hessle, so it's only right to include this area in the proposals. The landscapes are beautiful and full of wonderful flora, woodland and history.'</i></p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>The Southern Wolds were considered in the Natural Beauty Assessment as part of EA12. Pages 101 to 106 set out in detail the positive qualities of this landscape and issues relating to fragmentation.</p>

Significant Additional Areas Requested for Inclusion Beyond Proposed Boundary		
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	<p>ANON-3WEG-5PZY-E <i>'Travelling the Wolds Way there are obvious areas of outstanding natural beauty which have been completely overlooked particularly around the South Cave, Drewton, Market Weighton...'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P77-9 <i>'The boundary should extend south to cover the areas from Melton, Brantingham, South Cave etc as per the alternative map submitted. The Wolds Way National Trail from the point it runs north of the A63 should be included.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P7T-6 <i>'I believe that the area is not large enough. I believe is[it] should also continue further south to the Humber estuary.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P59-9 <i>'I think the boundary should be extended down to the Humber to include the Wolds Way National Trail.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PQW-3 <i>'I believe some of the valleys and areas to the south of the geographic Yorkshire Wolds should be added to the area. The valleys to be added would be Welton Dale, Elloughton Dale, Brantingham Dale and the area to the East of South Cave. These dry valleys have steep sides and flat bottoms showing all the characteristics of the northern wolds valleys. They are tranquil and beautiful with footpaths and quiet roads with a</i></p>	<p>It concluded, on page 105, that <i>'The area with the greatest weight of evidence for natural beauty lies between the B1230 and Cave Wold including the Drewton's Estate. This section of the western scarp and incised valleys is the most intact, remaining relatively unaffected by pylons, masts and wind turbines and is relatively unsettled, associated only with the Drewton Manor and farm buildings/cottages. Access into this landscape is primarily on foot/horseback and there is little intrusion from traffic noise. Here, the strong folds in the landscape created by the incised valleys contribute to sense of place. Land use patterns such as blanket plantation woodland or arable land uses extending into the valleys, and urban fringe influences, have however disrupted landscape patterns, reducing scenic quality. Whilst more intact than other parts of EA12, overall this part of the area is judged not to have sufficient natural beauty to justify recognition at a national level.</i></p> <p><i>To the north of this area, the landscape is fragmented as a result of the cumulative effect of vertical structures (pylons, masts and turbines) and due to intensive farming. Dry valleys are narrow and interspersed by more extensive areas of intensively farmed arable land which has also encroached into the valleys and along valley floors. To the south, the steep valleys are closer together but are relatively short in length as the scarp narrows. Their substantially wooded character results in a more enclosed character where scenic qualities are diminished and where increasing influence of urban fringe land uses and infrastructure (such as bins, parking bays, road markings and speed signage as well as 'keep out' signs), and evidence of littering and fly tipping, all have a degrading influence. Whilst these latter landscapes include small areas of higher quality, such as the grassland slopes of Wye Dale and the church of</i></p>

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	<p><i>feeling of remoteness despite being close to the settlements along the Humber. There are springs and streams. From many vantage points there are views across the Humber to the Lincolnshire Wolds giving a strong sense of the geography. The Yorkshire Wolds way passes continuously through some of the most beautiful sections of the these valleys again giving a sense of the geography of the southern wolds as the hills rise. Designating this section would enhance the Yorkshire Wolds Way's credibility as passing through most of the Yorkshire Wolds as well as enhancing the integrity of the AONB as representing most of the geographical Wolds.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PQN-T</p> <p><i>'I am of the opinion that the designated area should include the upland areas between Market Weighton and South Cave, between the A164, A1079, A63 and the A1034'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PCM-B</p> <p><i>'The proposed area does not include the whole of the wolds and should be extended to at least South Cave to include the whole area covered by the Wolds Way as on the map enclosed.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PNW-Z</p> <p><i>'As host organisation for the Yorkshire Wolds Way National Trail we support the concerns expressed by the Wolds Way Partnership... the Yorkshire Wolds Way Partnership has identified an opportunity to extend the southern part of the proposed designated area towards Hull which would increase the opportunities for stronger connections with urban and peri-</i></p>	<p><i>Brantingham set within the wooded valley, they are not sufficient to lift the area as a whole. On balance, even the areas that do qualify are not extensive, forming a relatively narrow landscape which sits within a wider landscape that has become fragmented, primarily by infrastructure and settlement development.</i></p> <p><i>West of the A1034 the landscape is lower lying and less fragmented, its rural villages and natural and cultural heritage contributing to attractive countryside. However, this area lacks qualities which elevate it to a nationally significant landscape. EA12 undoubtedly contains sites which are valued locally for cultural or natural heritage, but it is also impacted by the cumulative effects of incongruous features and varied condition. This has resulted in the fragmentation of the landscape including a reduction in perceptions of relative wildness and tranquillity. Areas which have a higher weight of natural beauty are small in extent and do not have sufficient weight of evidence of natural beauty to justify recognition at a national level. Overall, the natural beauty of EA12 is not considered sufficiently high or sufficiently intact to justify including the area (or parts thereof) within the Candidate Area.</i></p> <p><i>None of this area should be taken forward for inclusion within the Proposed Candidate Area.'</i></p> <p>Natural England has reviewed this area in light of consultation responses.</p> <p>Natural England notes that respondents have highlighted the areas of the Southern Wolds where Natural England also noted a higher level</p>

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	<p><i>urban communities in an area of the country where significant pockets of multiple deprivation are present. Whilst this area is somewhat removed from the North York Moors National Park, we note the comments that the Partnership has made in its response about this area which has been excluded from the proposals.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PKR-R <i>'The Yorkshire Wolds do not end south of Market Weighton but clearly extend to the R Humber.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5PYC-Q <i>'My only reservation concerns the limited size of the current "designation area", which excludes many of the Wold's loveliest and most threatened areas, not least those on its southern fringes around (for example) the villages of..... Welton, Elloughton and Brantingham.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5PY3-7 <i>'[ANON] expressed their disappointment that the whole of the Wolds Way was not included and suggested the area should be extended to include it.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5PYW-B <i>'The Yorkshire Wolds Way is a National Trail and popular walking route through the Wolds and is also important in bringing visitors into our area. The walk starts at Hessle, making its way past North Ferriby and on to South Cave as the first</i></p>	<p>of Natural Beauty. Nevertheless, Natural England remains of the view that these patches of higher quality land remain fragmented by lesser quality land and incongruous features.</p> <p>There is no requirement for the boundary of a National Landscape to include a National Trail in its entirety or to ensure that a National Trail has a margin of at least one field between the trail and a proposed AONB boundary. Furthermore, when considering an AONB designation there is no requirement to consider Opportunities for Recreation, which is a second statutory criterion for the identification of land for National Park designation only.</p> <p>National Trails are managed by local National Trail Partnerships irrespective of whether they fall within a National Landscape designation. The part inclusion/exclusion of a National Trail should not therefore affect the ability of the Partnership to effectively manage the trail.</p> <p>The designation of land as an AONB does not of itself prevent development and planning legislation, general processes and systems for plan making and development management decision-making– are generally the same within AONBs as they are outside these designated landscapes (refer to Appendix 2 Desirability, of the Statutory Consultation Analysis Report page 50-51).</p> <p>Natural England Guidance is clear that in defining a boundary land should not be included to protect it from development (page 30).</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p>

Significant Additional Areas Requested for Inclusion Beyond Proposed Boundary		
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	<p><i>stage of the walk. The proposed area only covers the route from Goodmanham and stops just short of the finish in Filey. We suggest that the AONB area could be extended to cover the Wolds Way and surrounding area from Goodmanham south to the Hessle foreshore. This would include traditional East Yorkshire villages (e.g. North Newbald, South Cave, Brantingham, Welton) and notable scenery, for instance, Brantingham Dale, Welton Dale, Swin Dale and Newbald Wold, combining dry valleys, mixed deciduous woodland and the rolling farmland typical of the Wolds.</i></p> <p><i>At the southernmost end of the Wolds Way and of particular note for conservation, the area of foreshore from Hessle to North Ferriby falls within a Ramsar site of the Humber Estuary, designated as a Wetland of International Importance. The Wolds Way at this point provides spectacular views of the estuary and iconic views of the Humber Bridge.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5PS2-Z</p> <p><i>'Pragmatically, after nearly 40 years of living in this beautiful area, meeting the people, understanding the passion not only for the beautiful scenery, the long and fascinating history and culture, the biodiversity of the area, the wildlife, the creativity and tireless endeavours of the land-owners, the geography, the geology and the topology, we would advocate an expansion of the proposed area.</i></p> <p><i>We are happy to be considered biased because our property abuts the Yorkshire Wolds Way footpath, and we truly believe that the inclusion of an area which embraces Brantingham, the environs of South Cave, Hotham, Cliffe, Newbald, Sancton,</i></p>	No change.

Significant Additional Areas Requested for Inclusion Beyond Proposed Boundary		
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	<p><i>Kiplingcotes, and South Dalton would genuinely enhance the AONB in many unique ways.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5PSB-G</p> <p><i>'I would like to know why the southern scarp of the Yorkshire Wolds has been excluded from the candidate area for the AONB? It fulfils all the criteria and qualities for designation alongside the area that has been identified to the north of Market Weighton.</i></p> <p><i>This southern scarp of the Yorkshire Wolds consists of the steeply wooded dales of Welton, Elloughton, Brantingham, Woodale, Drewton and the dry valleys to the north around Newbald with panoramic views across both the Vale of York and the Humber Estuary. It is rich in flora and fauna and already has numerous SSI's including Brantingham and Drewton and pristine calcareous grasslands with orchids, clustered bell flowers to name but a few. Red Kites, Buzzards and even Marsh Harriers glide across the valleys.</i></p> <p><i>This whole area is rich in archaeological remains (pre-historic, iron age, bronze age and Romano-British) as identified by Humber Archaeology. Culturally there are some important villages including North Newbald and Brantingham, especially the 12th century church there, one of the prettiest in the Yorkshire Wolds.</i></p> <p><i>The southern scarp is traversed by the Yorkshire Wolds Way, a long distance footpath of some 80 miles of national importance. The section from Welton to North Newbald is probably the most trodden of the whole route and used by hundreds of walkers, runners and cyclists every week. Visitors come from far and wide and when speaking with many of them, they say this is</i></p>	

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	<p><i>their favourite part of the route for landscape, scenery and views! For your information, our farm is situated on the Wolds Way.</i></p> <p><i>The area at the southern edge of the Wolds (see attached map) certainly has all the qualities for an AONB and actually needs greater protection as it is on the edge of the urban fringe and close to many developing West Hull villages and the A63 corridor.</i></p> <p><i>Unfortunately by designating a candidate area just to the north of Market Weighton and beyond for an AONB will only devalue the status of the countryside and the high landscape value of the Wolds to the south. Already organisations like the National Grid are down playing the countryside south of Beverley for their own benefit by saying that this area is outside the candidate area for the AONB when they are pushing through their new power line.</i></p> <p><i>AONB's are surely designated for conserving and enhancing their natural beauty and by incorporating the southern scarp of the Wolds into the AONB, it would preserve the amenity of the landscape for the greatest number of people.'</i></p>	
West of Pocklington to Sutton upon Derwent and Stamford Bridge	<p>ANON-3WEG-5PCX-P</p> <p><i>'I wish to include the basin of the pocklington canl [canal] and river derwent to sutton upon derwent in the area. this has beutiful [beautiful] marsh lands, wetland birds in abundance and is trully [truly] part of the area.... Having a clear view of the low lands along the derwent from the wolds is something you get from not having to climb high in the wolds'</i></p>	<p>Commentary</p> <p>The A1079 is the main road between Pocklington and Market Weighton located to the west of the scarp face. Aughton and Ellerton are on the River Derwent some 18km west of the chalk escarpment. The church of All Saints, Aughton sits in an isolated position overlooking the river.</p>

Significant Additional Areas Requested for Inclusion Beyond Proposed Boundary		
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	<p>ANON-3WEG-5PCN-C</p> <p><i>'I would like the boundary to be further extended from map 11 across the A1079 to Aughton / Ellerton and down toward Howden. This area is truly beautiful with SSSI and RAMSAR [wetlands considered to be of international importance under the RAMSAR Convention] site of the River Derwent with red listed bird species and migratory birds of importance. this area also incorporates the heritage site of Pocklington canal which is renowned for his beauty and nature. The properties in this area can view the hills of the Wolds. There are beautiful woodland areas, historically important churches such as Aughton's All Saints Norman church, which was where Aske started the Pilgrimage of Grace to peacefully protest with 400,000 gentlemen about the abolishment of the monasteries in the time of Kind [King] Henry the VIII. There are historical features such as ancient moats, ponds and listed buildings of importance.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PQ1-W</p> <p><i>'expand the area to include the historic towns of Pocklington and Stamford Bridge, this would include Fangfoss, Full Sutton and Skirpenbeck'</i></p>	<p>The Natural Beauty Assessment sets out in paragraph 3.1.1 that 'The initial Area of Search for the Yorkshire Wolds Designation Project was defined by Natural England in collaboration with relevant Local Authorities and formed part of the project brief. It was based on the proposal submitted to Natural England by the local authority proponents of the designation. It corresponded with the National Character Area for the Yorkshire Wolds landscape.' It went on in paragraph 3.1.2 to state that 'A slightly larger Area of Search was subsequently drawn with an outward 'fuzzy edge'; this included all areas which had previously been considered as 'valued landscapes' in the Yorkshire Wolds (refer to section 4.0 below). This process provided the starting point for assessment; however, it did not preclude inclusion of any areas which might subsequently emerge for consideration through the actual assessment process.'</p> <p>Land to the west of this does not fall within the Yorkshire Wolds Important Landscape and Area of Highest Quality identified by East Riding as shown on Figure 1 of the Natural Beauty Assessment. Aughton and Ellerton do lie within an Important Landscape Area but associated with the River Derwent, and are separated from qualifying land associated with the Yorkshire Wolds by land which is not recognised by policy in the Local Plan.</p> <p>The Evaluation Areas refined for the assessment of natural beauty, as shown on Figure 4, illustrate that land to the west of the scarp face and beyond the Yorkshire Wolds NCA was considered in the assessment of natural beauty, although it did not extend as far as the A1079 or River Derwent. Furthermore, the assessment of natural</p>

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		<p>beauty identified qualifying land yet further to the east and more closely associated with the western scarp.</p> <p>Natural England has reconsidered this area in light of consultation responses. Natural England acknowledges the qualities of the River Derwent and associated villages and that there are places and features of interest within the lower lying open farmland west of the Western Scarp, as well as views of the scarp. However, these views are over considerable distances, and across the majority of the area the landscape is not regarded as nationally outstanding. Whilst it contains some patches of higher quality land, it is also impacted in places by incongruous features such as pylon lines and wind turbines. Overall, Natural England does not consider the area to have a sufficient weight of evidence to warrant National Landscape designation, and patches of higher quality are located some distance from the scarp and separated by lower quality land.</p> <p>Natural England acknowledges that a number of historic villages along the Derwent have attractive qualities. However, they are separated from the wider areas of qualifying land, by land which is not regarded as meeting the Natural Beauty Criterion. The consideration of a new AONB designation has focused on the Yorkshire Wolds landscape which lies further to the east.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>No change.</p>

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Whole of the Yorkshire Wolds NCA	<p>Responses relating to this wider area wanted to see additional land included to the east and southeast.</p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5P2W-4 and BHLF-3WEG-5P2K-R <i>'The proposed designation is rather bitty and it would be better if the entire crescent of the most northerly chalk outcrop in Britain could be more cohesively protected..... It makes no sense not to include the great wolds valley and the Gypsy Race, or the area along the 165 [A165] where dramatic scenes can be enjoyed from the top of public transport.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PZY-E <i>'Natural England's own National Character Area 27 appraisal describes the Yorkshire Wolds as forming 'an arc of high, gently rolling ground extending from the Humber Estuary west of Hull, to the North Sea coast at Flamborough Head, north of Bridlington'. This is the area the designation should follow.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P5Y-9 <i>'I believe Natural England should include the whole of the Wolds rather than selected areas. I appreciate the land is used for agriculture but adds the shape of the landscape and needs protection and appreciation for its own beauty and traditional country values. I therefore believe the boundary should be extended as far as FRAISTHORPE to capture the unique coastal setting and beach quality and as south as SCARBOROUGH which will capture sites of historical value also.'</i></p>	<p><u>Commentary</u></p> <p>Natural England agrees that the Yorkshire Wolds is a distinctive landscape and has a cohesive character which enables it to be readily distinguished from landscapes that lie adjacent, such as the Vale of Pickering or the Vale of York. Nevertheless, the evaluation of landscape for designation is not the same as defining landscape character.</p> <p>The Natural Beauty Assessment (page 13) sets out that the initial Area of Search for the designation project was <i>'was defined by Natural England in collaboration with relevant Local Authorities and formed part of the project brief. It was based on the proposal submitted to Natural England by the local authority proponents of the designation. It corresponded with the National Character Area for the Yorkshire Wolds landscape.'</i> A slightly larger area was defined to include all areas previously considered to be 'valued landscapes.'</p> <p>This formed the starting point for detailed evaluation in accordance with Natural England Guidance, and this is documented in detail in the Natural Beauty Assessment report. Furthermore, it is evident from previous recognition of special landscapes that not all of the Yorkshire Wolds is considered to have the same value, with areas of 'highest quality' identified in the East Riding Local Plan Strategy Document Adopted April 2012 (refer to pages 23 and 24 of the Natural Beauty Assessment).</p> <p>In defining the extent of land which is suitable for designation, Natural England has carefully and rigorously applied the Natural England</p>

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	<p>ANON-3WEG-5PQM-S <i>'the fantastic geodiversity of the areas may in some cases lie in areas adjacent to but not designated beautiful'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PDD-3 <i>'[ANON] consider the whole Yorkshire Wolds area to have sufficient natural beauty to be designated... Because of its large and unique landscape and the need to protect it.'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5P6J-U <i>'You missed most of it and are being divisive ALL the Wolds should be included including sources of the most northerly chalk streams. The most northerly chalk stream source a SSSI emanates from the foothills of the Wolds and you don't include any of it. You carve the wolds up! THEY ARE ONE AREA - THE WOLDS If these plans are enacted [enacted] they will be ignored. A waste of time unless you include ALL OF THEWOLDS'</i></p> <p>ANON-3WEG-5PVH-S <i>'The boundary of the proposed AONB has been drawn too narrowly. The Yorkshire Wolds is a coherent, contiguous area which has been known and identified as such since time immemorial. It is flanked by the Plain of Holderness, Vale of York, the Vale of Pickering / Howardian Hills, and the North Sea. The changing nature of the Wolds landscape between these areas are inherent to the Wolds and to its natural beauty.'</i></p>	<p>Guidance to define land that has sufficient weight of evidence regarding natural beauty, so that it can be given recognition at a national level. The result of the study has been to identify only part of the Yorkshire Wolds as worthy of designation.</p> <p>Natural England remains of this view.</p> <p>The Wolds landscape will continue to express its distinctive character even if part of it is designated as an AONB. This is the case in the Lincolnshire Wolds where the National Character Area 43 forms a wider area of which only part is defined as the Lincolnshire Wolds National Landscape.</p> <p>Conclusion</p> <p>No change.</p>

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	<p><i>The Yorkshire Wolds has a clear identity and is recognised as such by its inhabitants. Many places in the area are named as such, including the village of Middleton-on-the-Wolds. The culture of the Wolds includes an annual High Wolds Poetry Festival, held in North Dalton, and the country's oldest annual horse race in the Kiplingcotes Derby.</i></p> <p><i>The Wolds are an area most strongly associated with the East Riding of Yorkshire. However, the proposed boundary places the vast majority of the AONB in the administrative county of North Yorkshire, a significantly wealthier area in little need of additional tourism.</i></p> <p><i>The East Riding is an area which has suffered more than most the vicissitudes of central government map-making. This has included, for example, the imposition of the highly-unpopular designation of Humberside from 1974-1976, which deprived the area of its millennium-old identity as an integral part of Yorkshire. It is important for all bodies with such authority, including Natural England in this case, to respect and reflect the "facts on the ground", namely the contiguity of the Yorkshire Wolds and its identity thereas.</i></p> <p><i>It may be argued, as it was with Humberside, that designations such as this are in some way meaningless - that areas falling outside the AONB boundary will not cease to be part of the Yorkshire Wolds per se. Yet official action always creates its own reality. Just as very few of those growing up in Greater Manchester today would recognise that they are Lancastrian, so those outside the AONB boundary will gradually find themselves perceived as separate and outside the Yorkshire Wolds, in a no-mans land without name.'</i></p>	

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	<p>ANON-3WEG-5PYE-S</p> <p><i>'The southern boundary of the east-west section should be extended southwards to include the Great Wolds Valley and beyond to close to the edge of the chalk outcrop (after which it is covered by superficial deposits).</i></p> <p><i>The southern boundary of the north-south section should be extended southwards past Walkington to the Skidby area and eastwards towards the edge of the chalk outcrop (after which it is covered by superficial deposits) but stopping on the north-south section of the A164 road the north-south section of the A1079 road and the north-south section of the A1035 road.</i></p> <p><i>To provide a comprehensive approach that preserves the integrity of the Wolds area which is essentially a geological one, albeit modified by land use practices. The Wolds still present a consistent unified land-use area and visual area.</i></p> <p><i>To provide a buffer zone for the best areas of the Wolds and prevent erosion around the edges.</i></p> <p><i>To forestall arguments that the other parts of the Wolds are suitable for land use change or development on the basis that it has not been recognised as having any Natural Beauty.'</i></p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5PYW-B</p> <p><i>'The proposed AONB will contribute to these targets but by extending the area to cover that within National Character Area 27 would provide greater statutory protection for the whole area of the Yorkshire Wolds (see map below) as provided under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CROW Act). There is also much evidence that our UK bird populations, including those on farmland plus waterfowl and seabirds are in decline</i></p>	

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	<p>https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/issues-facing-birds) so improved protections for the wider area proposed, including part of the estuary, would be welcome additional support to the target of 30% of land and sea protected by 2030.'</p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5PY1-5</p> <p>'We support the boundary adjustments suggested by [ANON].... [ANON] recommend that the Yorkshire Wolds AONB should focus on the wider Yorkshire Wolds, as identified in Natural England's National Character Area (NCA) profile 27. The NCA 'forms an arc of high, gently rolling ground extending from the Humber Estuary west of Hull, to the North Sea coast at Flamborough Head, north of Bridlington. The Wolds comprise a prominent chalk escarpment and foothills rising from the Vale of York to the west and the Vale of Pickering to the north and falling to the plain of Holderness to the east.' The NCA continues 'This gently rolling landscape instils a sense of openness, escapism and tranquillity provided by the expansive views, sparse population and agriculture.'</p> <p>BHLF-3WEG-5P2Y-6</p> <p>'we do consider that the boundary of the proposed AONB should in fact be the entire Yorkshire Wolds, as identified in Natural England's National Character Area ('NCA') profile 27. The NCA describes the Yorkshire Wolds as 'forms an arc of high, gently rolling ground extending from the Humber Estuary west of Hull, to the North Sea coast at Flamborough Head, north of Bridlington. The Wolds comprise a prominent chalk escarpment and foothills rising from the Vale of York to the west and the</p>	

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	<p><i>Vale of Pickering to the north and falling to the plain of Holderness to the east.’ Much of this area was in fact immortalised in art by David Hockney’s ‘Yorkshire Wolds Landscapes’ in recent exhibitions.</i></p> <p><i>The NCA continues ‘This gently rolling landscape instils a sense of openness, escapism and tranquillity provided by the expansive views, sparse population and agriculture’ which are essential elements of natural beauty found within the Natural England criteria for designating national landscapes. Based on the CPRE map of tranquillity (2006) a large proportion of the Yorkshire Wolds NCA has a strong sense of tranquillity due to its elevated views, lack of visual intrusion and sparse settlement patterns including lack of large cities and towns which is echoed in the consultant reports for the evaluation areas.’</i></p>	