

Appendix 3

The Stakeholder Workshop

**Wycombe, South Bucks and Chiltern District Landscape
Character Assessment**

Stakeholder Workshop Report

**Prepared for Buckinghamshire County Council
by
Land Use Consultants**

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 Buckinghamshire County Council and Wycombe, South Bucks and Chiltern District Councils are currently working with Land Use Consultants to complete a Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) for Buckinghamshire. This study will tie in with existing Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment to provide a complete assessment for the County. The results of the study will help to guide future landscape management and planning decisions.
- 1.2 Understanding what is important about the landscape and the particular issues that concern the local community who live and work in Buckinghamshire is a vital part of this project. Effective stakeholder consultation is therefore key to the process and success of landscape character assessment, ensuring a wide range of views and values are represented. For the Wycombe, South Bucks and Chiltern District LCA, One participatory morning workshop was held on February 2nd 2011 at Missenden Abbey with the attendance of 40 participants and 6 facilitators (see Appendix A for full list).
- 1.3 The consultation technique aimed to achieve active participation and to generate information appropriate to inform the landscape character assessment which covers 3 districts. The overall aim being to allow people who live and work in the district to understand and contribute to the process of LCA, rather than simply being consulted on the final report.

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOPS:

- 1.4 The objectives of the stakeholder consultation were to:
- Explain the process of Landscape Character Assessment and relevance to Buckinghamshire.
 - Understand perceptions of what people value as important/special about Wycombe, South Bucks and Chiltern Districts and why.
 - Validate the landscape characterisation map including character area boundaries, names, key characteristics and management needs.

WORKSHOP EXERCISES

- 1.5 Two exercises were carried out during the workshop, the results of which are presented in the following chapters of this report.

Exercise 1: Carousel: What Is Special About the Wycombe, South Bucks and Chiltern Landscape and Why?

- 1.6 The purpose of this exercise was to determine “what is special” about various aspects of the landscape and why. The information will be used to add local perspectives on the landscape to the report.

Exercise 2: Testing the Character Maps and Descriptions

- 1.7 The purpose of this exercise was to seek participants' opinions on the landscape character areas identified by the assessment, the boundaries, the area names/titles and the key characteristics. Participants were also asked what they value about the area, whether there are any particular issues within this landscape and how they would like this area to be in the future?

2 Exercise 1: What Is Special About the Wycombe, South Bucks and Chiltern Landscape and Why?

2.1 The following tables show the features of the Wycombe, South Bucks and Chiltern landscape which participants consider to be important and why. These comments were prompted by the following headings:

- Views and Landmarks
- Heritage/Historic Places
- Access/ Recreation Spaces/Areas
- Natural Environment/Biodiversity
- Built Character and materials
- Perceptions/Experience

VIEWS AND LANDMARKS

What is important	Why is it important
Ridgeway	Rolling hills leading up to escarpment on east side of A4010– gives perception of intrinsic Chilterns landscapes – often people’s first early impression of the AONB.
Bledlow Ridge	Views both sides / vantage point. Few places to see along ridge.
Whiteleaf Cross	View across Aylesbury Vale.
Pulpit Hill	Treeless feature.
Ellesborough Church	Sits above the landscape impressively.
The Lee / Kingsash	Fine views down and across upper Misbourne Valley.
Chartridge (North of Chesham) – Chess Valley	View – can see all the way into London.
Hyde End	Views towards old Amersham.
Urban views	Moving and transient as people travel, especially views down to valley towns and views up and down the valley, along market streets etc.
Great Missenden Abbey & Park	View from road is pleasant and historical.
Painter’s views	Stanley Spencer (from Cobham across the River Thames).
Chiltern Hundreds	-

What is important	Why is it important
Latimer – Chenies Latimer House	Across Chess Valley. Across valley.
Kings Ash wider view	View from Harpenden Cross typical Chiltern Beech Woods – autumn colours.
View from M40 dropping down through chalk on M40	Opens up different landscape types, Red Kites etc.
Fingest	Attractive village and church nestling at head of tranquil valley – woodland on top.
Turville	Windmill, very secluded but attractive view from village, classic Chilterns landform.
Biddenham	Quintessential England.
West Wycombe House and Mausoleum	Very important landmark and historical resonance.
Hambleden Valley	Distinct, enclosed.
Hambleden Mill	Mill End – access to Weir – views across and along Thames Valley.
Shardeloes House overlooking A413 near Amersham	Listed building and historic park.
Hughenden Manor	Views.
High Wycombe	Views from each side of the Wye Valley towards each other – some spoilt by unattractive suburban development. Unspoilt views very attractive and precious.
West Wycombe park including monument on hill	Historic parkland with intimate views.
West Wycombe Park – house and park	Designed landscape.
Shardeloes	View across parkland & lake to country house.
Views southwards over Thames Valley from Taplow Village (Conservation Area)	Cliveden Valley Views – historic.
Cliveden	Along river – historic associations.
River Thames	Taplow Court has good viewpoint – view and landmark. Nationally important large river contrast with smaller chalk streams.

What is important	Why is it important
View of Cookham Winter Hill from Bourne End area of Thames	-
Winter Hill views	Panoramic view across Thames Valleys.
Views from Flackwell Heath ridge	Ascot race course, hills next to Watership Down, 'Wild Wood' (Wind in the Willows), Winter Hill, Ashley Forest (in Berks).
View from edge of Bloom Wood, Little Marlow.	Can see a large expanse of the Thames Valley. Applies to top of dip slope all way from Flackwell Heath to Handy Cross – can see Windsor Castle.
Disraeli Monument	-
John Hampden Memorial	-
Views of Shardeloes from the train. Also views of Shardeloes from adjacent post-palms	The first tranquil, beautiful view on the journey north from London. Views of Shardeloes onto designed landscape.
Gomm Valley, Tom Burt's Hill	Views across High Wycombe.
Farm Wood	Woodburn, Bergers Hill looking back up the Wye Valley and down towards the Thames Valley.
View from top of Amersham on the Hill looking down towards Amersham Old Town (from north looking south across valley and up towards Coleshill	Historic setting.
M40 cutting at Aston Rowant	-
Views Bisham Abbey from north of River	-
Views from escarpment e.g. Whiteleaf cross, Brush Hill LNR	Views across Vale and into intimate landscape of Chilterns.
'Surprise' glimpsed views of intimate Chiltern landscape (e.g. when walking or driving)	Interesting work with landscape.
Into district from Harefield	Views across Colne Valley from slopes of Harefield.

What is important	Why is it important
	Legacy of aggregate extraction across three counties.
Denham	Listed buildings, historic town, views of buildings equally inspiring.
Views out from Cliveden	-
Cliveden	From Cookham.
Langley Park	Views of Windsor Castle, historic parkland garden.
View across valley at Chesham	Contrast between old town of Chesham with church and spire, old historic buildings and wooded hill sides.
West Wycombe monument outlook, Fingest valley church, Lodge Hill outlook, Beacon Hill (Chequers) outlook, Kings Ash view to Misbourne Valley	-
Coombe Hill	Clear, width of view, everyone, highest point
Whiteleaf Cross West Wycombe Hill South Bucks terrace looking southwards	Historic associations, built as landmarks. All important orientation points for finding way around. View – variety, puts manmade things into perspective in the larger landscape view. Views of designed landscape (historic houses).

HERITAGE/HISTORIC PLACES

What is important	Why is it important
Cliveden and estate	House / gardens / woods
West Wycombe and village	Landscape character
Burnham Beeches	Historic woodland
Dorney Wood	House / Garden
Chiltern Hundreds area	-
Hughenden Manor and estate	Historic house / garden and estate
Bradenham Manor and village	Woodland and village
Watercress Beds in Chess	-

What is important	Why is it important
Valley	
South Bucks Stoke Common, Littleworth, Burnham Beeches	Health and commons
Historical / arterial lanes	Lanes from the 'Ends' commons to river valleys
The distinctive character – a settlement / roads outside the main (valley bottom) 'villages' – town.	Dispersed scattered houses in complex track /road systems "wooden" landscapes. Most high ground (plateau) in top half of dip slope
Icknield Way	Recognise landscape as very different, link Chilterns – like AVDC to Vale.
Historic buildings - Old Amersham, Little Missenden, Great Missenden	Grown up as staying posts relating to roads and railways
Holloways / sunken lanes / Ancient trackways	-
Cliveden	Panoramic views of the Thames and also views from the Thames / Maidenhead to Cliveden.
Beech woods, various areas of Chiltern escarpment	Furniture making
Heaths and Commons	Biodiversity, historical uses, archaeology
Langley Park and garden	Victorian Gardens
Ancient Lanes & Holloways especially north west of Chesham	-
River Thames Valley Corridor	River related heritage - transport / fishing etc and milling
River Corridor Parklands – Cliveden etc	-
Cherries Manor Latimer Village	Quintessentially English, villages – unspoilt. Vernacular buildings. Cherries Manor Garden
Denham Village	Houses
Historic parkland in mid Colne Valley	Park around Iver Parish.
Small ancient woodlands in north of Denham Parish	-

What is important	Why is it important
SW Wycombe District	-
Chiltern Beechwood	Industrial legacy – furniture making etc
Lakeland landscape of the Colne Valley	-
Historic Country houses and their grounds	Landscaped gardens, e.g. Hughenden Manor, West Wycombe Harleyford
Prehistoric sites along chalk streams river valleys, e.g. at Latimer and in towns e.g. Chesham BA Sites	-
Historic villages & churches	Reflect our history. Fit well into landscape throughout
Sunken lanes	Intimate views, typical for character all over the place.
Icknield Way	
Mills, Wye Valley	Historic land use.
Commons and historic recreational areas, e.g. Slate Meadow (Bourne End) and similar sites	-
Beech woodland generally throughout the county	-
Archaeologically important sites, e.g. Gomm Valley	-
Visible prehistoric earthworks hillforts / Grims Ditch	Rare survivals in the region
Ancient woodlands and beech woodlands	Both the trees themselves and linked cultural / archaeological heritage
Old Chalk workings	-
Woodland banks	-
Core village areas e.g. West Wycombe and Amersham	-
South Bucks heaths and commons	Historic landscape, long history of access, common usage, contain a range of archaeological features / evidence of peoples' use, preserved by long periods of consistent land use e.g. Burnham Becks, Stoke Common, Cliff Worth Common.
Whiteleaf cross	-

What is important	Why is it important
Designed landscapes	Historical association. Aesthetic value
Historic land uses such as watercress beds, woodlands, commons	Reflects our history, shape the landscape – necessary for keeping them throughout.
Hampden House	Historic connections
Pattern of historic settlement	Sense of long human habitation, aesthetically pleasing. The ordinary built home – with the best surviving
South Bucks Commons and wetlands Stoke / Burham	Historical use of the landscapes and interaction with people
Vernacular architecture	Celebrates the buildings of the ordinary people (all over)
Marlow – low grounds	Neolithic settlement area
Earthworks in woodland e.g. Common Wood, Reddingwick Wood, Frith Wood, Rook Wood, Colemans Wood, Cholesbury etc	-
Historic buildings	Reflecting local geology
Marlow Bridge	Historic landmark
Stone House & Gardens	Physical presence, historic value, leisure and tourism, national value
Historic parkland South Bucks, Dorm Wood.	Old parkland landscapes. Fairly accessible
Romano-British Villa sites along the chalk valleys and Thames, e.g. Bucy Villa, Hatman villa Hambleden Valley form	-
Chequers	PM's country residence
Cliveden, Wycombe, Cholesbury Mill.	Victorian culture, e.g. Bloomsbury set
Round Barrows, e.g Cophill Bledlow, Churches.	-
Taplow Court	Views from Taplow Mill / Taplow Riverside
Cliveden	Historic house and gardens
Abbots House (Devere Conference Centre), Cryers	Assembly / economic, views to Hughenden Valley, physical value and historic merit

What is important	Why is it important
Hill	
Gravel Pits	Historic use Marlow Gravel Pits
Green Lanes	Historic hedges
Hellfire Caves West Wycombe	Leisure, historic, tourism, part of West Wycombe, physical presence, archaeology?
Lowlands of Longwick, Meadle, Marsh looking back towards the Chilterns	Tranquillity and views
Parklands in South Bucks including ones broken up but with remaining veteran trees in changed landscape	-
Pinewood	Film Studios
Radnage as a traffic- free area	Quietness & tranquillity
Ancient enclosures	Surviving mediaeval earthworks – plentiful in Chilterns. Iron Age hill forts – at least 7 in Chilterns
Whiteleaf Cross	Uncertain historical origin. On hillside above Risborough
Historic Gardens, National rust properties, Littleworth Common	Parkland landscapes, Burnham Beeches, village centres
Flint and brick	Demonstrates the underlying geology. All over Chilterns
Parklands, Holtspur Chalk Valley, Dorney Common	Surrounded by settlement but relatively untouched Relatively untouched considering surrounded by settlement
Grims Ditch, Lacy Green Windmill, Turville Mill, Saw Pits in Woodlands	-
Old rural Chiltern villages	Easily identifiable human historic impact. In valleys across area
Thames Terrace	Cultural landscape, woodland, heath, wood pasture – pastoral landscape, significant regionally and nationally
Shardeloes Park	Importance of its designer, significance in the valley, pool of cultural history
Shardeloes Park / Lake	-
Hughenden Manor and	Important links to Disraeli and WWII heritage

What is important	Why is it important
Estate	
Medieval sites associated with villages, e.g. Lee	-
West Wycombe Hill	Church, golden hall, hill fort. Views, heritage, links to several layers of history and culture
Coombe Hill Monument	Important viewpoint. Important cultural history
The Ridgeway	Britain's oldest road, view, hill forts
Remnants of old landscape patterns	History of human habitation, adds variety and distinctiveness, gives depth of ownership.
Langley Park	Brown landscape, views, veteran trees, layers of history
Urban greenspaces along River Wye, e.g. The Rye	Important greenspace for town, ecologically and culturally important, heritage (mills parkland)
Ancient woodlands, e.g. Pygote	important for archaeology
Archaeology e.g. Sawpits, chalk pits	Association with important furniture industry

ACCESS/ RECREATION SPACES/AREAS

What is important	Why is it important
Key routes along valley bottoms	Historic routes to London
Ridge Way National Trail. Icknield Way – Upper and Lower	-
Denham Country Park (LCA B2 (26.3))	Access to other circular footpaths
Informal access (LCA O3 (22.3))	Footpaths, prow network, local woodlands
Colne Valley Lakes (LCA B2 (26.3))	A combination of many characters
(LCA NI (19.2))	Good 'escape' from Gerrards Cross and Chalfonts built up area
(LCA NI (19.2)) Footpath along river	Very important views to experience
LCA NI (19.2)	Safe way to walk from Chalfont St Giles to St Peter.

What is important	Why is it important
	Tranquil
LCA NI (19.2) Could be 2 areas from access point of view	Northern Park = more attractive
LCA NI (19.2)	Local walks rather than experience
LCA K2 (24.2) 'Go Ape' at Butell Park	Attraction
LCA 02 (22.2) issues: M25, Noise	Lack of connectivity of paths / bridle ways
LCA 02 (22.2)	Fragmented
LCA 02 (22.2)	Gypsy activity, fly tipping, infringe type activities
LCA 02 (22.2)	Some nice arable land but fragmented by roads / rail
(LCA 02 (22.2)) A412	On edge busy road, obstructs enjoyment
LCA K2 (24.2)	For access north south from Slough
LCA K2 (24.2)	Lack of linear routes / access
LCA K2 (24.2) Langley Park, Stoke Common, Burnham Beeches, Beeches Way	Good access, lots of open access land
LCA K2 (24.2)	Good opportunities for horse riding
LCA K2 (24.2)	Some lack of parking – local access only to some areas
LCA PI (23.1)	Good access but lack of linkages
LCA PI (23.1) Jubilee River Walkway	Good long distance paths
LCA PI (23.1)	Good general access to the river but lack of local linkages, e.g. circular walks near stations
General South Bucks. Water access	Canal, Thames, Jubilee River
LCA K2 (24.2)	4 county parks over 100ha in LCA K2 (24.2) area, or near Langley, Thorney, Black Park, Denham Lake
General	Deficit of general open spaces which are not National Trust or 'semi' private
General	Golf courses important
Hughenden Valley Walk	-

What is important	Why is it important
Thames Path	-
Chiltern Way / Midshire Way. Bledlow Ridge / Chinnor	Historic Assets
North west of Windsor	Olympic Lake
General – Forestry Commission Woodlands	Wendover Woods
General – Denham Airfield, Boiler Airfield (Gliders)	Recreation – air
LCA K2 (24.2)	Some restricted access through historic parks
LCA K2 (24.2)	Good general access but need links between

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT/BIODIVERSITY

What is important	Why is it important
Naphill Common and on scarp (Christmas Common)	Rare junipers
Naphill Common	Said to have several rare moths
Ponds	For biodiversity but also their historical associations
Red Kites	-
Beechwood	Year round interest – glorious autumn colour
Sarcen stones, Pudding stone, Chalk cliffs, e.g. Cliveden	Geological interest, e.g. flints lying on ground
Rivers that disappear, Winter bournes	Change and variety in landscape
Chalk grassland	Rich flora and fauna
Steep sides valleys / escarpment	Intricacy of valley, close knit landform
Red Kites (23 - number relates to map)	-
Chiltern Scarps (22- number relates to map)	Geological feature, distinctive topographical feature, distinction between vale
Chalk Downland	Views
Open (Beech) Woodland	-

What is important	Why is it important
Dry valleys	-
Surviving Heath	-
Beech woodlands (3 number relates to map)	Diversity, link with settlements and wider countryside.
Statutory designations SAC / SPA (Colne Valley Lakes), SSSI	Habitats
Red Kites and healthy environment.	Adds to landscape value
Bluebells (15 number relates to map) and Snowdrops	Heathy cover, aesthetic value – ancient woodland, around settlements
Heathland and Wet woodland (13 number relates to map)	-
Bledlow Great Park (17 number relates to map)	Density of tree coverage, birdlife, setting to Chinnor and steam railway, gateway to Bledlow / Ridge
Reintroduce grazing (11 number relates to map), wood pasture	Wooded terrace strip
Naphill Common (7 number relates to map), Burnham Beeches (6)	Veteran trees / wood pasture
Biodiversity Action Plan	Priority Habitats
Non-stat. habitat designation	Local wildlife sites (all), Biological notification sites (of varying quality), Ancient woodlands (all)
Green Lanes and sunken roads in Chilterns	Important local species, black poplar.
Beech Woodlands on the Chiltern Hills. Chalk streams and chalk grassland. Heaths & Commons in the southern districts	Historic landscape and relic management
Langley park	Fungal association
Mixed woodland and grassland along Ridgeway (2 number relates to map)	Valued for recreational use
Burnham Beeches + Black Park (4 number relates to map)	Large stretch of natural woodland and water. Biodiversity and recreation
Heathland associated with South Bucks commons	Import relic of historical management

What is important	Why is it important
Beech woods (across Chilterns)	Biodiversity, provides habitat for wildlife (too many fields mono culture)
BAP habitats – chalk rivers SSSI Local wildlife sites Higher level stewardship	Local geological sites Farms – assets not usually recognised by designations – managed when & to enhance in some cases.
Birds	Talk to Bucks Bird club about their important areas
Hedgerows (historic especially), Commons in the Chilterns, Red Kite across Chilterns	-
Woodland	Ancient woodland at Burnham Beeches and spread all over.
Biodiversity Opportunity Areas	-
Heathlands and commons of South Bucks	Reptiles, reduced habitat size
Relict habitats (5 number relates to map)	Heathland / acid grassland e.g. Hawridge and Cholesbury Common.
Bluebell woods on hillsides (18 number relates to map)	-
Naphill Common, Littleworth Common	Orchids species
Chalk Rivers - River Misbourne through Little Missenden	Helps to create character
Chalk streams, woodlands, chalk grassland and scrub, pasture	Mosaic of different important habitats that support many rare species (at chalk grassland on steep slopes). Woodlands on top of hills
Mosaic of habitats	Small patch sizes of habitats. Offer a wide range of habitats in one LCA.
Traces of juniper – Woodland Whiteley (19 number relates to map)	Rarity illustrative of historic landscape
Biodiversity opportunity areas	All of the above!
Langley Park (21 number relates to map)	International significance, Parkland trees
Lowland heathland, lowland dry acid grassland	-

What is important	Why is it important
Chalk streams	-
Thames Corridor wetlands (12 number relates to map) Dorney / Jubilee River	Potential 'living landscape'
Little Marlow Grand Prix (13 number relates to map)	Designated for Country Park, 210+ bird species, 6 bat species, butterflies and dragonflies in mid 20s.
Chalk streams Burnham Beeches Chalk grassland areas e.g. Gomm Valley, High Wycombe (12 number relates to map)	Woodland Wildlife Reserves e.g. Woodlands, farms
Beech woodland, Penn Woods Commons e.g. Cholesbury Hawridge	Forms character of the area
Langley Farm, Burnham Beeches (10 number relates to map) Cliveden	Nationally important
Black Park	Crossbills
Wye Valley (14 number relates to map)	Recreational, accessible
The Rye	Woodland, historic park land
Suite of commons (Farnham Common Thames) (9 number relates to map)	Relict, heathrow, communities – distinct to area, parkland and old trees and species
Saracen stones at Bradenham	Geology
E.g. Naphill Common	Ancient woodland, veteran trees
Wildlife Trust living landscape areas	-
Beechwood land	Characterised by single age over-mature plantation. Scattered over hill tops and hill sides.
Bluebell woodland (16 number relates to map)	Colour in May
River valley of Colne (20 number relates to map)	Cross countries. reed beds, wet woodland, variety of wetland habitat, accessible by people
Tree collection at Dropmore	Thought into designed landscape

What is important	Why is it important
(21 number relates to map)	
Scarp slopes of Chilterns and water cress beds	Scarp slopes of Chilterns specialised flora Water cress beds – natural and managed
Biodiversity Opportunity Areas identified in BAP delivery in County.	Have BAP habitats mapped with opportunities for habitat restoration and creation.
Chalk Streams	BAP habitats, nationally recognised
Wye, Hambleton, Hughenden	Through urban areas – important
Habitats in process of being restored / recreated through agri-environment schemes.	-
Chess Valley	Watercress beds, highland cattle, v attractive and varied landscape, floodplain – woodland
Farms in Countryside Stewardship	-
Misbourne Valley	Biodiversity, floodplain
Hambleton Valley	Rural tranquillity

BUILT CHARACTER AND MATERIALS

What is important	Why is it important
Brick and Flint building materials Scattered all over e.g. Chenies Village (church, and manor house) and Hambleton	Vernacular. Typical. Reflective of the local geology and land use. Flint provides evidence of a time when there was a lack of stone for buildings. They also blend in with the landscape.
Timber framed infilling of buildings, with flint.	Represent some of the earliest buildings. E.g. Cheines Manor and Old Amersham
Farmhouses and barns spread all over	Fit in with the landscape. Use traditional materials such as timber and clay tiles. Black weather boarding very distinctive.
Chiltern ancient sunken lanes – Holloways Scattered all over the Chilterns, particularly the Chess Valley and the Scarp	Distinctive character, deep and steep form. Illustrates ancient routes and droves for cattle. Winding and work with the topography.

What is important	Why is it important
Small rural winding roads which rise up through the valleys.	Represent history use of the landscape – Anglo Saxon. Transport corridors follow the grain of the valleys.
Zig zag roads to Bledlow Ridge from the west	-
Clay tile roofs – ‘Roofscape’ of villages	They nestle into the landscape, and are not usually intrusive. The colours blend in.
White and black finger post road signage.	Vernacular within the Chilterns AONB
Green village signage	Sympathetic with the area.
Old Shire Lane	Representative of a Roman footpath
Distinctive villages Amersham Old Town Beaconsfield Old Town, Frieth, Hambleden	Amersham has a wealth of old building dating back to the 14 th century, including a 15 th century mill. Many buildings are made from local stone reflecting the local geology. Hambleden is distinctive in its layout and materials, and isolated in the valley with surrounding Holloway tracks.
Mills.	Characteristic of the history and concentrated along the River Wye. They show how the land use has changed over time.
National Trust properties. e.g. Hughenden Manor, Cliveden, Shardeloes, Bradenham	They sit within big landscaped areas, and are often close to London, demonstrating how wealthy people used to live in these large houses close to London. Cliveden sits high above the valley, good views open to the public.
West Wycombe	Owned by National Trust. Has an historical association. Distinctive Church and the Mausoleum. Flint houses are distinctive
Windmills	Landmark features
Country Houses	Demonstrate that we are near London and rich people were able to come and build and make landscapes.
Building Works at Maidenhead (outside of the study site)	Building materials from here inform the local buildings
Bellingdon brick works.	Local materials from here are reflective in the built structure of Chesham.
Railway bridges	e.g. Taplow. 19 th century and listed buildings. Distinctive historical features in the landscape.

What is important	Why is it important
Small bridges	Remnants of older way of life, picturesque and in scale with the landscape.
Denner Hill stone (known as clunch) Risborough,	Buildings made from this show evidence of medieval origin.
Houses along commons e.g. Naphill	Act as village centres. Characteristic.
River corridor through High Wycombe	Acts as a valuable element of the urban landscape here.
M40 Corridor in the west of the study site	Acts as a dramatic entrance into Bucks. Creates an experience and great views open out.
Colne Valley lakes and Grand Union Canal	Built water featured and related infrastructure.
Monument on Coombe Hill	-
The Lee	Ancient 11 th century church and houses are distinctive buildings.
Riverside Wharfs	-
A40, Stokenchurch, West Wycombe	Trees line the road and enclose.
Historic built heritage (manor houses, mills, old farms, villages)	Reflect the history. Work well with the landscape.
Great Missenden	Church Street (14 th century to 18 th century houses and Great Missenden Abbey (13 th century remains and late 18 th century house.

PERCEPTIONS/EXPERIENCE

What is important	Why is it important
Chess Valley, The Hampdens to Dunsmore, Valley below Bledlow Ridge (v enclosed), Chartridge – Cholesbury, Turville – Moor End, Hambleden (but motorway), Bradenham Valley, Burnham Beeches (common, river views, beech trees) and Cookham – Thames area	Pockets of tranquillity close to urban areas, e.g. Chesham Tranquillity Note : a map of 'tranquillity' was produced as part of the workshop exercise.

What is important	Why is it important
Art, literature, music Inspiration:	
Thames	Wind in the Willows
River Valleys – Thames and Colne	Winterbournes / waterscapes
Cliveden	Astors
West Wycombe Park	Bloomsbury set
Great Missenden	Dahl
Langley Park	Capability Brown
Generally	Contrast between towns and villages and open countryside. Wildness, remoteness. Enclosed and open A landscape of 'surprises' Curiosities Can 'see' history and 'read' the landscape
Stoke Poges	Gray's Elegy
Charter House	Repton
Hughenden	Disraeli
Burnham, Burnham Beeches	Mendelssohn / Betjeman Cultural landscape – traditional forms of management
Landscape away from dominant roads.	Peaceful, quiet, 'lost in time'.
Wide views, hidden valleys	Secret, small features – intimate topography – get away from roads and noise
Glimpses, e.g. open glades in woodlands	Pulls you into the landscape
A sheltered landscape	Exciting weather, valuable microclimate, fog in valley, difference in vale, exposed areas.
Flat Vale & Chilterns	Contrast
Accessibility - Rights of way	Offers wide variety of experiences in different areas.

3 Exercise 2: Testing the Character Maps and Descriptions

CHARACTER AREA NAMES

3.1 The following table summarises participants' comments on the character area names and LUC's response to these comments.

Existing Name		New LCA Number ¹	Suggested Name	LUC response
A1	Chess Chalk River Valley	13.5	Agree	-
A2	Misbourne Upper Chalk River Valley	13.4	Agree	-
A3	Wye Valley Chalk River Valley	13.3	Agree	-
A4	Hughenden Valley Chalk River Valley	13.2	Agree although 'Stream valley' may be more appropriate	Retain name. Although the Hughenden is a stream the character area has similar characteristics to the other chalk river valleys and should sit within the same landscape type.
A5	Hambleden Valley Chalk River Valley	13.1	Agree	-
B1	Thames Floodplain	26.1	Agree	-
B2	Colne Valley Floodplain	26.3	Agree	-
B3	Dorney Floodplain	26.2	Agree	-
C1	Chiltern Scarp Escarpment	11.3	Too generic. Coombe Hill / Whiteleaf Cross Escarpment / Risborough Escarpment	Change to Coombe Hill and Whiteleaf Escarpment.
C2	Wain Hill Escarpment	11.2	Agree	-
D1	Risborough Foothills Scarp Foothills	10.6	Agree	-
E1	Longwick Vale	8.11	Agree	-
F1	Great Hampden	14.1	Agree	-

¹ Numberings subsequently changed to tie in with Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment.

	Wooded Plateau			
G1	Lee and Buckland Common Undulating Plateau	15.1	Agree	-
G2	Southend Undulating Plateau	15.2	Rename Fawley Undulating Plateau	Change to Fawley Undulating Plateau
H1	Walter's Ash Settled Plateau	16.2	Why Walter's not Naphill (says Naphill resident!)	Change to Walter's Ash and Naphill Settled Plateau
H2	Great Kingshill Settled Plateau	16.3	Agree	-
H3	Stokenchurch Settled Plateau	16.1	Agree	-
H4	Hyde Heath Settled Plateau	16.4	Agree	-
H5	Orchard Leigh Settled Plateau	16.5	Ashley Green (Not Orchards)	Change to Ashley Green Settled Plateau
I1	Bellingdon Dipslope with Dry Valleys	17.2	Agree	-
I2	Bledlow Ridge Dipslope with Dry Valleys	17.1	Agree	-
J1	Great Marlow Rolling Farmland Dipslope	18.1	Not discussed due to time constraints	Change to Great Marlow Rolling Farmland
J2	Penn Settled Rolling Farmland Dipslope	18.2	Not discussed due to time constraints	Change to Penn Rolling Farmland
J3	Little Chalfont Rolling Farmland Dipslope	18.3	Dipslope should not be used specifically for this area as it is all dipslope.	Change to Little Chalfont Rolling Farmland
J4	Codmore Rolling Farmland Dipslope	18.4	Agree	Change to Codmore Rolling Farmland
K1	Burnham Beeches Wooded Terrace	24.1	Agree	-
K2	Farnham and Stoke Common Wooded Terrace	24.2	Should this be called "Farnham and Stoke Common Heaths and Parklands"? This would relate to the biodiversity area of opportunity.	Retain name as this character area is the same landscape type as K1 (24.1).
L1	Marlow Floodplain	21.1	Thames Valley	Change to Thames

	Fringe		Slope	Valley Slope
MI	Stoke and Langley Park Lowland Fringe	25.1	Take out 'park' – as don't think Langley park should be included in LCA and Stoke Park is a golf course now.	Retain name as both Stoke Park and Langley Park are Registered historic parkland.
NI	Lower Misbourne Settled River Valley	19.2	'Lower Misbourne River Valley' instead of 'settled'?	Retain name to distinguish from PI (23.1) which is not distinctly settled.
N2	High Wycombe Valley Settled River Valley	19.1	Agree.	-
O1	Beaconsfield Mixed Use Terrace	22.1	'Terrace' possibly misleading as it is geology based and doesn't mean a lot to people. But, Terrace is a good description for this area, as it isn't a plateau, but it a largely flat transitional landscape above other areas. 'Mixed use' good word to sum up the area.	Retain name
O2	Chalfont St Peter Mixed Use Terrace	22.2	'Chalfont St Peter' is misleading? 'Terrace' implies all the same and flat but it is not. Better named Q/J3 (18.3) Rolling Farmland? General – Queries over O2 (22.2) and O4 (22.4) being in same category. O2 (22.2) should be more like 'J'?	Retain name as doesn't have same characteristics as rolling farmland landscape type.
O3	Tatling End Mixed Use Terrace	22.3	Refer to ancient names? Should	Retain name. Same type as O2 (22.2)

			this be called O2 (22.2), not O3 (22.3)? O3 (22.3) dissected by too many roads etc to have a real character.	but geographically separated by NI (19.2) so is a distinct area.
O4	Iver Heath Mixed Use Terrace	22.4	Agree	-
PI	Alder Bourne River Valley	23.1	Agree	-
Q1	Burnham Undulating Farmland	20.2	Burnham Undulating Farmland and Parkland	Retain name as same landscape type same as Q2 (20.1)
Q2	Layter's Green Undulating Farmland	20.1	St Giles Undulating Farmland	Change to St Giles Undulating Farmland

- 3.2 General comment: Should be sure that boundaries are visible in the landscape. Contours or geological changes may not be perceived and the boundary better defined by change in landscape pattern.

BOUNDARIES, KEY CHARACTERISTICS, PERCEPTUAL/ EXPERIENTIAL LANDSCAPE AND ISSUES/ VALUES

- 3.3 The following tables take each character areas in turn and details participants' comments on boundaries, the key characteristics. Any issues, values relating to the landscape are also summarised.

Character Area A1 (13.5) Chess Chalk River Valley

	Boundaries
	Check boundary to Hyde Heath as landscape is different
	Extend up to Pednor Valley
	Key Characteristics
9	Add floodplain semi improved meadows. River itself is important habitat (Water voles). Water quality
11	Add Frogmoe – Roman Villa site Latimer = Roman NOT Medieval Plus chalk stream, medieval flooded meadows Add watercress beds
13	Not all unspoilt – horse pasture – subdivided Valley sides: medieval terraces (Sarrat)
	Add conifer plantations are visually prominent
	Hall House
	Values

	Archaeological and historic interest of whole Valley
	Quiet tranquil character
	Biodiversity interest of the chalk river
	Intact river is still largely connected to its floodplain habitats
	Protected route Chess Valley Walk.
	Issues
	No comment
	The Future (Management Needs)
	Himalayan balsam
	Rare birds
	Ongoing management of floodplain habitat
	Horticulture
	Management of adjacent agricultural land – run off

Character Area A2 (13.4) Misbourne Upper Chalk River Valley

	Boundaries
	The boundary with Aylesbury Vale should be shown with a dotted line to emphasise transition over the boundary.
	Key Characteristics
I	Mention flint river gravels
I	Rises above the Missenden
I	Water companies pump out water and maintained as an artificial steam
I	Misbourne is 'Perched' - on valley side
5	Avoid use of 'major transport corridor' – dangerous in terms of HS2. The main road through the valley is narrow in places. This road is beyond capacity.
6	'Distinctive churches' – need naming
II	Take out 'remnant' and 'flint scatter'. Use e.g. Roman villas..
II	Watermills are a feature
12	Historic routes down valley sides to villages – circular routes down slopes and back up again. Cycling centre, footpaths, bridleways.
	Values
	No comment
	Issues
	No comment
	The Future
	Refer to information on biodiversity opportunity areas (online) – management of grazing, chalk grassland.

Character Area A3 (13.3) Wye Valley Chalk River Valley

	Boundaries
	No comment
	Key Characteristics

2	'chalk geology' – pudding stone post glacial geology
2	'cornus' – why highlight this above other species
4	Key north / south transport corridor
5	'dispersed' – Bradenham is nucleated village, linear,
5	'modern influence' – what does this mean – where / why?
5	Highlight Saunderton as being different from other settlements e.g. Bradenham
6	'visual feature' – where? Be more specific
6	Can we note that pylons are detractors / intrusive features or come out altogether?
	Small amounts of open access land indicative of geology
	Should characteristic building materials be included in ALL descriptions
	Values
	No comment
	Issues
	No comment
	The Future
	No comment

Character Area A4 (13.2) Hughenden Valley Chalk River Valley

	Boundaries
	Split north and south to reflect wider valley landform to south and steeper tributaries to the north.
	Key Characteristics
1	Broad arable valley to south more open than pastoral in north.
8	Hughenden Valley – modern settlement in rural landscape.
9	Distinct council park on edge of High Wycombe. Recreational area adjacent to historic parkland of Hughenden.
	Values
	No comment
	Issues
	No comment
	The Future
	Grazing key on slopes - refer to BOA management of chalk grasslands.

Character Area A5 (13.1) Hambleton Valley Chalk River Valley

	Boundaries
	Frieth towards Skirmett – 'seat' of land should be included
	Key Characteristics
1	Large tributary not appropriate – upper parts Winterbourne
2	Irregular rather than geometric

5	Hambleden Brook meanders in part and is realigned for a short distance
6	Holloways - going up the slope should be included 'local transport corridor' rather than minor.
8	Omission of Turville Windmill – view to Thames Valley
10	Landscape is not 'simple' – complex mixture of landscape elements – boundary is v. irregular
	Emphasise footpaths and rights of way among the most popular in Bucks.
	Values
	No comment
	Issues
	Perception as idealised 'iconic' English countryside - 'typical' valued by film / media
	Change of agricultural use
	The Future
	No comment

Character Area B1 (26.1) Thames Floodplain

	Boundaries
	Agree
	Key Characteristics
	Several historic locks and wharves, e.g. Hambleden, Marlow, Hedson
	Managed waterways
2	Mention marshy areas in addition to arable (wetland habitats)
	Marinas - watersports
	Values
	No comment
	Issues
	No comment
	The Future
	No comment

Character Area B2 (26.3) Colne Valley Floodplain

	Boundaries
	Boundary should reflect that the Colne Valley recreational park does not follow administrative boundaries – It extends into Hillingdon and north and south.
	Key Characteristics
	Underused asset for London residents Local heritage is undervalued River is still valuable in this context

	Recreation features should be picked up more – country park, sailing, canal, River Colne, cycling.
	Wording should ‘sell’ the area better – too many negatives, need positives (important to resist development pressures)
	Some early historical features exist (not necessarily visible) – how do we deal with / depict these on maps? (Hidden areas can be important characteristics)
	Colne Valley attributes to be prioritised – this can then be used against planning pressures.
	Bird watching important
	Values
	No comment
	Issues
	No comment
	The Future
	No comment

Character Area B3 (26.2) Dorney Floodplain

	Boundaries
	Agree.
	Key Characteristics
	Add in that there is excellent access along the flood alleviation scheme (Jubilee River) and along the Thames footpath
	Mention Dorney Common, good access, and open views to Windsor Castle. Also, the road leading into Dorney Common from Eton Wick has a distinct character, and retained cattle grids and an historic character.
	Values
	Wildlife (particularly Bird life) along the rivers. It is of recognised biodiversity importance.
	Access
	Openness –A contrast to the northern wooded character areas, which are more enclosed.
	Issues
	No Comment
	The Future
	No Comment

Character Area C1 (11.3) Chiltern Scarp Escarpment

	Boundaries
	No comment
	Key Characteristics
7	‘possible’ – avail at very key points and describe them

	Chalkland grassland should also feature as a characteristic feature not only ecology feature.
	Need to list Coombe Hill and Whiteleaf Cross as important landmarks / features.
	Values
	No comment
	Issues
	No comment
	The Future
	No comment

Character Area C2 (11.2) Wain Hill Escarpment

	Boundaries
	Boundary with C2 (11.2) follows contour line but would have no clear boundary on the ground.
	Key Characteristics
6	Historic long distance footpaths
9	'human influence' – is built form recent? Human influence is everywhere
9	'high levels of perceived rural naturalness' – not a useful phrase – too flakey!
10	'possible' – need to be more specific about key views so they can be defended.
	Is this escarpment significantly different to C1 (11.3) – difficult to know without detail but look similar from this info.
	Values
	No comment
	Issues
	No comment
	The Future
	No comment

Character Area D1 (10.6) Risborough Foothills Scarp Foothills

	Boundaries
	Flat area of land might better fit into E1 (8.11) than D1(10.6)
	Key Characteristics
5	'modern' – historic?
6	'lanes' – roads
6	More description of rural lanes req. – e.g. run at right angles to A4010
	Values
	No comment
	Issues

	No comment
	The Future
	No comment

Character Area E1 (8.11) Longwick Vale

	Boundaries
	Significant “vale facing” features of Whiteleaf Cross and Coombe Hill monument - the views to these features as landmarks are significant from vale. Question boundary of EI(8.11) / DI (10.6) – should it be brought in further as landscape open / agricultural as in EI(8.11).
	Key Characteristics
8	Views up to escarpment
	Need to see commonality with adjacent Haddenham vale in AVDC
8	Views up to escarpment as well as from it.
	Values
	No comment
	Issues
	No comment
	The Future
	No comment

Character Area F1 (14.1) Great Hampden Wooded Plateau

	Boundaries
	No comment
	Key Characteristics
5	Views out from edge (scarp)
	Simple landscape of woodland & arable: 2 landowners
11	Dense network
12	+ intrusive features
9	Hampden House (not Hall)
7	Low scrub – ancient coppice stools
	Values
	Need managed woodland
	Views
	Rights of way network
	Issues (Management)
	Well managed woodland + farmland
	Commons – secondary woodland removal (not priority)
	The Future
	No comment

Character Area G1 (15.1) Lee and Buckland Common Undulating Plateau

	Boundaries
	No comment
	Key Characteristics
9	Deserted medieval site at The Lee
11	Very accessible from station at Great Missenden
4	Small area of acid grassland and heath at Cholesbury
	✓ Picks out main characteristics
	Values
	No comment
	Issues
	No comment
	The Future (Management)
	Footpaths
	Secondary woodland on open habitats
	Minor area of historic hedgerows
	Management of small areas of woodland

Character Area G2 Southend Undulating Plateau

	Boundaries
	Question as to whether the character area continues into Oxon? Part of a wider area - clarify.
	Key Characteristics
2	More emphasis on woodland rather than arable
3	Concentration of woodland should read south eastern
	Values
	No comment
	Issues
	Land management – wire fences – private land ownership
	Intensification – arable farming (potential)
	The Future
	No comments

Character Area H1 (16.2) Walter's Ash Settled Plateau

	Boundaries
	No comment
	Key Characteristics
1	'Clayey' – real word?
2	'Modern' – 20 th century better, or post war.

2	'Distinctive brick and flint' – historic or modern or both? Materials not mentioned in other descriptions, need to be consistent
7	'common land' – very important feature needs prominence raising
7	'recreational opportunities' – haven't mentioned recreational opportunities in other descriptions – need to be consistent throughout, e.g. Coombe Hill, Whiteleaf Cross
9	'RAF High Wycombe' – needs more description and expand on its influence.
	Values
	No comment
	Issues
	No comment
	The Future
	No comment

Character Area H2 (16.3) Great Kingshill Settled Plateau

	Boundaries
	Agree
	Key Characteristics
3	Suburban type. Mock brick with flints – poor modern replication.
3	Influence of edge of Wycombe
10	'strong sense of movement' too generic
	Values
	No comments
	Issues
	Poor replication of brick and flint on modern buildings.
	The Future
	Refer to Biodiversity Opportunity Area info for Prestwood.

Character Area H3 (16.1) Stokenchurch Settled Plateau

	Boundaries
	Not happy with the reasons for lumping together Stokenchurch & Lane End – appropriate?
	Key Characteristics
1	No comments
	Values
	No comments
	Issues
	No comments
	The Future
	No comments

Character Area H4 (16.4) Hyde Heath Settled Plateau

	Boundaries
	The boundary should be extended south eastwards to include Amersham and the heathland to the east of Amersham. The boundary should be on the western edge of Little Chalfont
	Key Characteristics
1.	Openness is important
2.	Small historic core to Hyde Heath and South Heath with modern development edge
2.	Importance of heathland and connection to villages -HLC
6.	Archaeology not distinctive in this area
7.	Pylon line is a localised impact
	Add 'metroland' to description of Amersham on the hill. Amersham old town is in valley. Must distinguish between these two.
	Values
	No comments
	Issues
	HS2 and mitigation
	The Future
	HS2 and mitigation

Character Area H5 (16.5) Orchard Leigh Settled Plateau

	Boundaries
	No comment
	Key Characteristics
7	Brick works at Leyhill
	Add: Formerly – area of orchards (some remnants) and market gardens
	Orchard layer from NE
	Horses & paddocks
7	Recreation = golf course
	Values / Management Needs
	Look at orchards – traditional? Important for historic and biodiversity
	Hedgerows – restoration of boundaries
	Issues
	No comment
	The Future
	No comment

Character Area I1 (17.2) Bellingdon Dipslope with Dry Valleys

	Boundaries
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	See boundary with Chess
	Key Characteristics
	Pre 18 th century hedgerows (v valuable) – important historic feature and biodiversity value.
	Linear woodland marks Parish boundary between Cholesbury and Bellingdon
	Brick kilns and brick walks
	Lowland meadows at Hawridge Ct Farm
	Dry valley – (wet valley included in Chess)
	No routes across
	Values
	Hedges
	Acid / healthy remnant commons
	Up and down topography ridge and valley = distinctive
	Dry valleys
	Hawridge Common linked to Cholesbury – 1 unit
	Hawridge – relict acid grassland / heathland – now wooded (Langley) – retraction?
	Issues
	Non-traditional species farms & assorted infrastructure – changing landscape character
	The Future (Management)
	Hedges need management – turning into rows of trees
	Nutrient levels in soils next to hedge = high

Character Area I2 (17.1) Bledlow Ridge Dipslope with Dry Valleys

	Boundaries
	No comment
	Key Characteristics
7	'good' network of footpaths – not a helpful word – extensive?
7	'notable audible and visual impact' – highlight this in other descriptions too or not at all.
8	'yew woodland' – typically the understorey rather than the dominant species
9	'uniform and simple' – more varied with complex features
9	'sense of rural naturalness' – not helpful phrase, too vague
10	'contains views' – offer / presents
10	'Vistas towards Hambleton Valley' – is this true? It's miles away
	Need to mention in all descriptions whether valleys are dry or wet
	Include ref to urban fringe aspects in A3 (13.3), H1 (16.2), I2 (17.1), and any others about H. Wycombe
	Views of W Wye from H1 (16.2) and I2 (17.1).

	Values
	No comment
	Issues
	No comment
	The Future
	No comment

Character Area J1 (18.1) Great Marlow Rolling Farmland Dipslope

Not completed due to time constraints

Character Area J2 (18.2) Penn Settled Rolling Farmland Dipslope

Not completed due to time constraints

Character Area J3 (18.3) Little Chalfont Rolling Farmland Dipslope

	Boundaries
	The boundary of H4 (16.4) should be extended south eastwards into what is currently J3 (18.3) to include Amersham and the heathland to the east of Amersham. The boundary should be on the western edge of Little Chalfont.
	Key Characteristics
1	Add 'metroland' to description of Amersham on the hill. Amersham old town is in valley. Must distinguish between these two.
3	Woodland boundary to north along valley top influences character
5	Not relevant with boundary change
	'rural naturalness' not an accurate description due to busy roads. Away from A404 it is quieter.
	Accessible woodland
	Recreational links with the Chess Valley.
	Values
	No comment
	Issues
	No comment
	The Future
	No comment

Character Area J4 (18.4) Codmore Rolling Farmland Dipslope

	Boundaries
	No comment
	Key Characteristics
	Are there any ancient lanes?

	OK
	Values
	No comment
	Issues
	No comment
	The Future
	No comment

Character Area K1 (24.1) Burnham Beeches Wooded Terrace

	Boundaries
	In the south on the lower eastern boundary, move all the fields on the east of Cliveden Road to QI (20.2), and keep the wooded edge part of K1 (24.1). As the landscape here is similar to the landscape surrounding Dropmore Road in QI (20.2).
	Key Characteristics
10	Highlight Cliveden Park.
	Values
	Wooded enclosure and intimacy
	Cliveden Park and landscape.
	Issues
	No Comments
	The Future
	No Comments

Character Area K2 (24.2) Farnham and Stoke Common Wooded Terrace

	Boundaries
	Langley Park should also be in K2 (24.2) (or M1 (25.1) “Lowland Fringe”)? Or is this correct from a historical view? K2 (24.2) / M1 (25.1) boundary. Why cut across?
	Key Characteristics
2	‘pockets of heathland’ (65ha in total) is misleading – there are more than just pockets
5	Roads / lanes form a north – south divide.
	Values
	Not so much development pressure?
	Variation – open nature, woodland, heathland
	Close to settlements for access
	Constraints on development of Green Belt designation (and all areas)
	Issues
	No comment
	The Future

	No comment
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Character Area L1 (21.1) Marlow Floodplain Fringe

	Boundaries
	Agree
	Key Characteristics
	Agree
	Values
	No comment
	Issues
	No comment
	The Future
	No comment

Character Area M1 (25.1) Stoke and Langley Park Lowland Fringe

	Boundaries
	Langley Park is dissected between two LCAs should be included within one (possibly K2 (24.2)). Extend the boundary east, to include the orchards and smaller fields. K2 (24.2) / M1 (25.1) boundary. Why cut across?
	Key Characteristics
	Add in famous views to Windsor Castle from Langley Park.
	Mention Grand Union Canal and good access along here.
	Mention Stoke Poges memorial
	Possibly mention the settlement edge of Slough and the urban fringe, and its affect on the landscape.
	Large houses scattered along the southern edge, with wealthy owners. Demonstrate the close proximity to London.
	Values
	No comment
	Issues
	No comment
	The Future
	Maintain and enhance hedgerows, that link through t to the wooded areas (K1 (24.1) and K2 (24.2)) in the north.
	Maintain or reinstate the orchards.

Character Area N1 (19.2) Lower Misbourne Settled River Valley

	Boundaries
	West boundary in Chalfont?
	Key Characteristics

	Description does not pick up river characteristics and water meadows etc
4	A40 not in this area
8	Gerrards Cross not in NI (19.2) – Chalfont St. Peter only
	Values
	No comment
	Issues
	No comment
	The Future
	No comment

Character Area N2 (19.1) High Wycombe Valley Settled River Valley

	Boundaries
	Should encompass built environment in JI (18.1)
	Key Characteristics
1	Include containing the River Wye, its tributaries and back streams.
3	Valley sides are more open in the east
	Parklands that border the River / The Rye, etc
4	Start with trees and woodlands
7	High levels of activity...in built up areas
	Values
	No comment
	Urban development – expansion of HW opportunities to open river out – culverted by Mills etc
	Importance of wooded valley sides
	Lack of opportunity wildlife because of development.
	The Future
	No comment

Character Area O1 (22.1) Beaconsfield Mixed Use Terrace

	Boundaries
	Bulstrode Park shouldn't be dissected and split into two separate LCA's. It should be wholly within OI (22.1) or PI (23.1) (ideally PI (23.1)).
	Key Characteristics
5	Highlight and name the specific groups of National Trust woods in the north west. Also mention the orchard in the north west.
6	Add railway line and A40 which cross the area. Also the A355 which cuts through in a north, south direction and is particularly busy (It has been highlighted by the DC and CC as a problem road)
	Mention the common areas that are present along the edge of Beaconsfield Old Town.

	Values
	Access to open countryside for the town of Beaconsfield.
	Well used footpath across the golf course in the north (elsewhere poor access)
	Issues
	No comment
	The Future
	Management of industrial areas in the future.

Character Area O2 (22.2) Chalfont St Peter Mixed Use Terrace

	Boundaries
	No comment
	Key Characteristics
	Some open fields – definition confusing to some?
	Values
	Openness
	Footpath
	Ancient woodlands
	Chiltern open air museum
	Issues
	No comment
	The Future
	No comment

Character Area O3 (22.3) Tatling End Mixed Use Terrace

	Boundaries
	Boundary crosses over M40 / M25 - straight boundaries better here?
	Footpath down Brokengate Lane (Tatling End / Bakers Wood – O3 (22.3) / NI (19.2))
	Key Characteristics
	Denham Country Park is in B2 (26.3), not O3 (22.3).
	Values
	No comment
	Issues
	No comment
	The Future
	No comment

Character Area O4 (22.4) Iver Heath Mixed Use Terrace

	Boundaries
	Alter the south west boundary, by including the orchards and smaller scale fields with M1 (25.1)

	Key Characteristics
	Agree that the Key characteristics sum up the area – definitely a large scale, developed landscape.
	Values
	No comment
	Issues
	No comment
	The Future
	No comment.

Character Area P1 (23.1) Alder Bourne River Valley

	Boundaries
	M25 / M40 Junction within O3 (22.3) or P1 (23.1)?
	Settlement boundary description is confusing
	Need for all little areas (contours) at western end?
	Bulstrode Park (west of Gerrards Cross) – is this a parkland rather than river valley? Boundary crosses the park.
	Key Characteristics
8	No need for word 'isolated'
	Values
	Good views of valley from M40 (south of Gerrards Cross)
	Issues
	No comment
	The Future
	No comment

Character Area Q1 (20.2) Burnham Undulating Farmland

	Boundaries
	Consider changing the northern boundary to include to golf course parkland and surrounding fields with KI (24.1), due to underlying historical wooded pastures, and historical affinity with K. Or move the boundary in the west, to incorporate strip of fields to the west of Cliveden Road, which have a similar character as the fields either site of Dropmore Road, so that both these areas are included within Q1 (20.2).
	Key Characteristics
5	Remove or change the word 'overt'. Golf courses and paddocks and close to Slough. Maybe should just highlight that there are few people and little movement instead.
	Highlight the affinities of this landscape with the northern KI (24.1), in terms of the underlying history of pasture?
	Should Cliveden be a LCA on its own?
	Values

	Views the south
	Buffer area, stopping the expansion of Slough to the north into wooded terrace.
	A lot of trees along roads and fields, but still manages to maintain an openness.
	Issues
	No comment
	The Future
	Enhancing. There is grazing in K1 (24.1), possible link through this area, so it has a closer affinity with the grazed areas there.

Character Area Q2 (20.1) Layter's Green Undulating Farmland

	Boundaries
	Quaker Meeting House on the boundary and should be pulled into this character area.
	The northern part of Character Area P1 (23.1) and part of J2 (18.2) and O1 (22.1) should be included in this area. North western boundary should be A355 and south western boundary the Oxford Road. Seer Green and Jordans should wholly be included with Bircher Spring and Birchland Wood included to the west and south respectively.
	Key Characteristics
4.	Layter's Green is not a village.
4.	Jordans is an early 20 th century planned village. Jordans is a notable centre for Quakerism with a Quaker Meeting House.
6.	Butlers Cross could be confused with one in the Chilterns.
	Values
	The adjacent Alderbourne Valley
	Issues
	No comments
	The Future
	No comments

4 Evaluation

- 4.1 Following the workshop, participants had the opportunity to make additional comments which were forwarded to LUC (refer to Appendix B). Comments made by workshop participants were incorporated and integrated into the final Landscape Character Assessments for each District.
- 4.2 Land Use Consultants would like to take this opportunity to thank all participants for their attendance and the provision of extremely useful information.

Appendix A

Workshop Participants and Facilitators

Character Areas

Group 1 - Chiltern: Facilitator Kate Ahern (LUC)

Cllr Nicholas Rose – CDC	G1 (15.1)
Sarah Scott - Environment Agency	A1 (13.5)
Kath Daly- Chilterns Conservation Board	I1 (17.2)
Jez Elkin - Bucks Biodiversity Partnership	H5 (16.5)
Yvonne Edwards - Chess Valley Archaeological Society	J4 (18.4)
Mike Walker - BCC	F1 (14.1)
Cherry Aston - Buckinghamshire Rural Advisory Group	

Group 2 - Chiltern: Facilitator Kate Milner (LUC)

Heather Lewis - Berks Bucks Wildlife Trust	A4 (13.2)
Cllr Martin Tett - BCC	Q2 (20.1)
David Waker - CDC	H4 (16.4)
Sarah Wright - Natural England	A2 (13.4)
Mark Bailey - BCC	J3 (18.3)
Neil Jackson - Chilterns Conservation Board	H2 (16.3)
Mike Farley - Bucks Archaeological Society	J2 (18.2)

Group 3 - South Bucks: Facilitator Simon Gray (SBDC)

Cllr Roger Reed - SBDC	O3 (22.3)
Stewart Pomeroy - Groundwork Thames Valley/Colne Valley Park	B2 (26.3)
Peter Beckford - SBDC	N1 (19.2)
Chris Kenneford - BCC	O2 (22.2)
Robert Reeves - Hillingdon District Council	P1 (23.1)
Martin Hartup - City of London	K2 (24.2)
Sandy Kidd - BCC	

Group 4 - South Bucks: Facilitator Hannah Leach (LUC)

Chris Marchant - SBDC	O1 (22.1)
Andy McVeigh - BCC	Q1 (20.2)
Nigel Boden - National Trust	K1 (24.1)
Peter Miller - HS2 Ltd	B3 (26.2)
Graham Fairclough - English Heritage	M1 (25.1)
Jon Clark - BCC	O4 (22.4)

Group 5 - Wycombe: Facilitator David Green (BCC)

David Dewar - WDC	H3 (16.1)
Barbara Wallis - Little Marlow Parish	A5 (13.1)
Haidrun Breith - WDC	G2 (15.2)
Mai Nielsen - BCC	N2 (19.1)
Colin Berks - Marlow Archaeological Society	L1 (21.1)
Lesley Sproat - Environment Agency	B1 (26.1)
Mike Overall - Chilterns Society	J1 (18.1)

Group 6 - Wycombe: Niki Huijer

David Broadley - AVDC	E1 (8.11)
Bettina Kirkham - Chilterns Conservation Board	C1 (11.3)
Phil Simpkin - WDC	I2 (17.1)
Vicky Wetherell - BCC	C2 (11.2)
Marian Miller - Chiltern Society	H1 (16.2)
Marcus Rogers - BCC	A3 (13.3)
	D1 (10.6)

Appendix B

Post-Workshop Comments from Participants

Wycombe, South Bucks and Chiltern Districts Landscape Character Assessment

Follow-up thoughts from stakeholder consultation workshop

General

Maps The topographically drawn maps do not always reflect the perception of the landscape on the ground e.g. boundaries are drawn through woodland and edges of large settlements.

Key characteristics It would be useful if there were the same number for each area and they were identifiable – perhaps what we looked at in the Carousel exercise, but expanded to 10? These could be

1. Topography and underlying geology and general description.
2. Agriculture including historic field patterns and hedgerows.
3. Woodland.
4. Any other landscape features e.g. gravel pits and commons.
5. Built characteristics and extent of settlement
6. Heritage Assets.
7. Views and perceptions of tranquillity
8. Toads and paths.
9. Biodiversity
10. Recreation.

It is also important that descriptions should not be ambiguous.

Using this scheme I have looked at the 3 areas J1 (18.1), B1 (26.1) and L1 (21.1) that I know best. Unfortunately I only have the small scale maps so I may be wrong about some of the details that are near the boundaries.

B1 (26.1) Thames Floodplain

Note: the boundary of Bucks County and Wycombe District is the River Thames. The landscape extends into Maidenhead and Windsor and Wokingham Districts.

Key Characteristics

1. A flat, low lying floodplain, with very slight local topographic variation, underlain by a mix of alluvium, head and gravel formations, with free draining soils. Defined by the locks and pounds in the river (see Lesley Sproat's comments)
2. Arable cultivation dominates along the northern fringe of the area, combined with smaller field of rough grazing. Fields near the river are liable to flooding-some have been historic water meadows. A mixed field pattern with enclosures from irregular pre 18th century though regular parliamentary enclosures to 20th century extended fields and horse paddocks. Hedgerows and wooden fencing define fields.
3. Scattered or clumped trees along field boundaries, isolated trees and small pockets of trees are dispersed occasionally across the area particularly along the smaller water courses, but overall woodland cover is sparse.
4. The River Thames flows along the southern boundary. A network of open water bodies lying just north of the river, occupy former mineral extraction pits.
5. The town of Marlow is the prominent settlement in the landscape with a strong historic character that is shared with villages such as Little Marlow and

Medmenham. Bourne End in the east has grown up in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. A number of minor historic houses are built along the Thames.

6. There is a very long history of settlement adjacent to the river Thames – see C. Birk’s comments for the archaeology. Outside Marlow and the historic villages, the historic buildings include Fawley Court in the west, Danesfield House and Harleyford Manor in the middle and Westhorpe house and Hedsor House towards the east.
7. The low-lying, flat and open landscape allows for occasional long views and panoramic vistas particularly north towards the higher sloping topography of the lower dip slope. Some pockets of tranquillity and calm associated with area of water and away from roads and settlement.
8. The east of the area is cut by the busy A4155 and the A404 which has a strong visual and audible impact. Apart from the A404, the only road bridge over the Thames is in Marlow. The Thames Path National trail follows the river between footbridges at Temple (west of Marlow) and at Bourne End railway bridge. The Bourne End to Marlow railway runs through the eastern part of the area providing a link to Maidenhead and thence London.
9. The interesting flora and fauna are water based. There is a gravel-pit lake nature reserve at Spade Oak, Little Marlow and some wet woodland nearby (see M. Overall’s comments) Loddon Lilies grow wild in the western water meadows.
10. Numerous recreational opportunities are often associated with areas of water including the Thames Path National Trail, water sports and marinas, fishing and bird watching.

Low Grounds is a very significant element of the areas character. So far revealed:

3 Barrows (Neolithic < Bronze Age)
2 Mortuary enclosures (probably Neolithic)
An intact Neolithic Tannery.
A large Neolithic ditch enclosure (possible house)
Paleo channel
Evidence of settlement / agriculture
Much other evidence still under investigation

Attached is a location plan (red line) and a record drawing showing the most significant features.