



# Taking the ELC forward - the East Midlands Perspective

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# Background – How We Got To Here



- Regional Environment Advisory Group - stakeholder workshops 2006 & 2007 identified regional landscape matters as a priority for future work programme.
- 1<sup>st</sup> October 2006 Natural England launched as statutory body with specific remit for landscape
- March 2007 European Landscape Convention (ELC) came into effect in England
- Natural England Corporate Plan 08/09 target to establish regional landscape & geodiversity partnerships in each region & raft of landscape policy either developed or being developed

# How We Got To Here



- East Midlands Regional Landscape Scoping Study 'A Way Forward' (EMRLSS) commissioned April 2008.
- August 2008 wider Regional Landscape Stakeholder Workshop
- East Midlands Regional Landscape Character Assessment (EMRLCA) commissioned October 2008
- January 2009 report to Environment Advisory Group to endorse Partnership
- 17 March 2009 first meeting of East Midlands Regional Landscape Group

# Background



- September 2009 Phase 2 EMRLCA project commissioned
- 2 November 2009 EMRLCA stakeholder consultation launched
- 23 November 2009 – first Regional Landscape Partnership seminar

# EMRLP - Steering Group Membership



- CPRE
- East Midlands Regional Assembly
- English Heritage
- Derbyshire County Council
- Forestry Commission
- Leicestershire County Council
- Lincolnshire County Council
- Natural England
- National Forest
- Nottinghamshire County Council
- Peak District National Park Authority
- River Nene Regional Park
- Reps from Regional Biodiversity & Geodiversity Partnerships

# Summary of Actions for East Midlands Regional Landscapes



## Summary of actions for a regional agenda

### Characterising and valuing the region's landscapes

- Undertake landscape character gap analysis – to determine if current assessments are fit for purpose
- Develop a regional Landscape Character Assessment at a scale suitable for regional level work
- Establish mechanisms to encourage and support local, community-led Landscape Character Assessments
- Raise awareness and understanding of importance of historic landscape character and relationship to LCA
- Develop guidance to increase understanding of relationship between landscape and green infrastructure

# Summary of Actions for East Midlands Regional Landscapes



## **The changing landscape**

- Develop regional study mapping the drivers and impacts of landscape change
- Research the landscape effects of climate change and develop response mechanisms for the region's varied landscapes

## **The policy agenda for landscape**

- Publish a landscape mission/vision for the region to raise awareness and understanding
- Demonstrate the economic importance and ecosystem services provided by regional landscapes
- Create a mechanism for lobbying about regional landscape issues
- Promote awareness by inclusion of landscape education in schools, colleges and universities

# Summary of Actions for East Midlands Regional Landscape



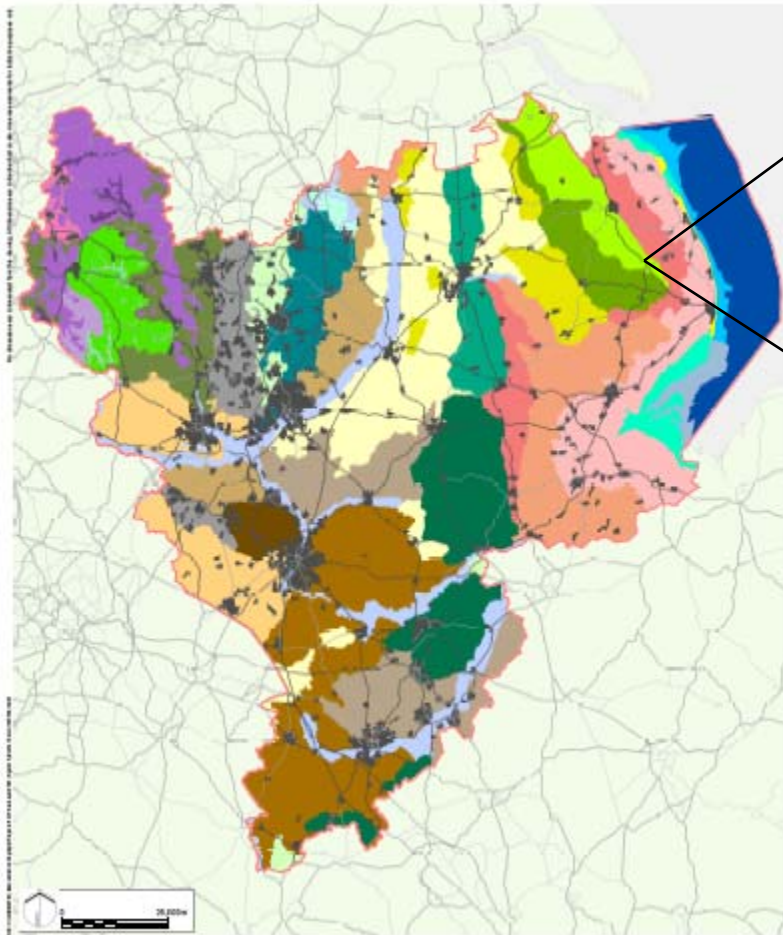
- Explore different models to establish and operate a regional landscape partnership in line with the Natural England Corporate Plan milestone and new regional structures and ways of working
- Establish web presence for sharing information about regional landscape work
- Develop regional landscape training programme, initially targeted at planners in District Authorities
- Develop guidance on criteria based policies for landscape in local development frameworks
- Develop a checklist to evaluate the treatment of landscape in emerging LDF policies
- Develop a regional landscape monitoring programme

# Summary of Actions For East Midlands Regional Landscapes



- **Practical action for conservation and management**
- Ensure habitat creation and other landscape enhancement schemes deliver benefits for biodiversity, historic landscape and landscape
- Develop regional landscape objectives based on spatial framework
- Produce combined environmental aspirations for the new Regional Strategy that combines biodiversity, landscape, geodiversity and the historic environment

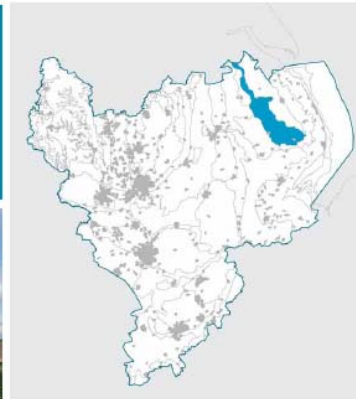
# East Midlands Regional Landscape Character Assessment & Guidance



## 7B: WOLDS SCARPS, RIDGES AND VALLEYS



Pronounced escarpment with rounded ridges  
(© Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service)



### KEY CHARACTERISTICS

- Pronounced escarpment with rounded ridge top profile at north western section of the Chalk Wolds, with exposed scars of chalk, and ironstone outcrops;
- Steep, hummocky scarp slopes with land cover of rough pasture and scrub, intermittent copses and larger blocks of mainly deciduous woodland including, some wet pastures and distinctive ridge top beech clumps along summit ridge;
- Complex landform with areas of landslips and wet flushes particularly at junction of chalk and Lower Cretaceous rocks and spoil heaps associated with old ironstone working;
- Panoramic and exhilarating views from top of escarpment to the Wooded and Unwooded Vales to the west

# Best practice across the East Midlands



High Peak Landscape Character SPD – RTPI award

River Nene Regional Park – RTPI and LI awards

Environmental Character  
Assessment & GI Suite



National Forest and Peak Park ELC Action Plans



Our Logo

