

LDÄ DESIGN

# The East Midlands Regional Landscape Character Assessment

Break Out Session  
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MAKING LANDSCAPE MATTER  
A SPATIAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE EAST MIDLANDS

*Seminar – 23rd November 2009*



# Objectives for the Break Out Session

- To seek views from delegates about their current and future role in considering landscape as a spatial framework for decision making, policy and initiatives
- To examine the 'next steps' in driving the landscape agenda forward in the region

# Break Out Session Format

- Facilitated Working Groups
- Four Questions, each delivered by a Facilitator
- Feedback Session - Summary of Findings by Support Facilitators

# Break Out Session Questions

- To what extent is your organisation aware of the European Landscape Convention (ELC) and its purpose and application? Is it taking any steps to integrate the objectives of the ELC into policy and decision making?
- How will your organisation use the EMRLCA?
- Do you think there is potential to use the regional landscape character types as spatial units for policy and decision making (as opposed to using other administrative boundaries which do not respect environmental factors)?
- How can the EMRLCA be integrated into the Regional Spatial Planning process? What do you think are the next steps in moving the landscape agenda forward?

# Break Out Session Feedback

## Question 1:

*To what extent is your organisation aware of the European Landscape Convention (ELC) and its purpose and application? Is it taking any steps to integrate the objectives of the ELC into policy, processes and decision making?*

# Question 1: Summary of Feedback

Awareness Raising and communication in organisations, helping landscape get up the agenda

Informing action plans and integrating other agendas

Integration of evidence base

Means of addressing other agendas

# Break Out Session Feedback

Question 2:

*How will your organisation use the EMRLCA?*

## Question 2: Summary of Feedback

Extending understanding of LCA beyond the 'converted'

Good baseline to inform decision makers and monitoring change

Tool for all and not just the specialists. Basis for training

A portal to local LCAs and national work

# Break Out Session Feedback

## Question 3:

*Do you think there is potential to use the regional landscape character types as spatial units for policy and decision making - as opposed to using other administrative boundaries which do not respect environmental factors?*

## Question 3: Summary of Feedback

Yes! Need to use appropriate scale of LCA for each particular job

Yes! Useful to looking at cross border issues –  
GIS data allows consideration of wider issues (eg socio-economic)

Yes! Proactive tool for decision making. Use case studies to demonstrate

Yes...Useful in design and land management decisions

# Break Out Session Feedback

## Question 4:

*How best do we integrate the EMRLCA into the Regional Spatial Planning process?  
What do you think are the next steps in moving the strategic regional landscape agenda forward?*

# Question 4: Summary of Feedback

Integrate into the Regional Plan Review

Must not rule out creation of new landscape – use positive approach to planning

Value as evidence base and vehicle for looking at Ecosystems etc

Target GOEM and EMDA

Part of regional evidence base

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