

Green Belt Topic Paper Addendum

# Annex 1: Evidence Base

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## **Note to Annex 1:**

Section 8 ‘Methodology (4): Defining Detailed Boundaries’ in the main Topic Paper Addendum includes how the evidence contained in this Annex is considered in the context of the Green Belt purposes and the criteria and strategic principles derived from those purposes. Some the evidence presented here is directly relevant to the methodology but some of it only forms part of the background context only. Reference should be made to the Addendum Section 8c, which explains what has been taken into account and for what reason.

The high level geographic outputs of these studies and a summary explanation of their uses are presented in this **Annex** with details of the information they present.

## Baseline Mapping

Baseline maps have been studied as a desktop exercise and the principles considered further in site visits. Those considered include Ordnance Survey mapping, aerial photography and figure ground maps to help establish and identify built structures and open land. The figure ground data of built structures has also been analysed to show the relative density of developed areas as a further consideration when assessing openness.

The topography of the authority area and key approaches and access routes into York were also identified as a starting point to identify accessibility to different parcels of land on the periphery of the urban area. They have also provided an indication of where these routes might form “open approaches” from which views might be important in enhancing the understanding or significance of York.

# 1. Ordnance Survey Mapping

A number of Ordnance survey historic, raster and vector based products were reviewed including both present day and historical records. These are subject to Crown Copyright and published under City of York Licence Number: 1000 20818.

More detailed interactive versions of these can be accessed through the City of York authority Local View web service: [Localview.york.gov.uk](http://Localview.york.gov.uk)



## 2. Aerial Photography

Aerial Photography provides a large scale overview of land cover, which in combination with other evidence bases contributes to our understanding of spatial relationships between settlements and key routes. When considered in finer detail it also informs consideration of land uses and urbanising influences within the landscape for further investigation.



Aerial photography is a consideration of  
Purpose 4 (Criteria 1,2,3)  
Purpose 1 (Criteria 4)  
Purpose 3 (Criteria 5)

More detailed interactive aerial photography in relation to specific boundaries can be accessed through the City of York authority Local View web service: [Localview.york.gov.uk](http://Localview.york.gov.uk)

### 3. Figure Ground

**Legend**  
[White square] Buildings

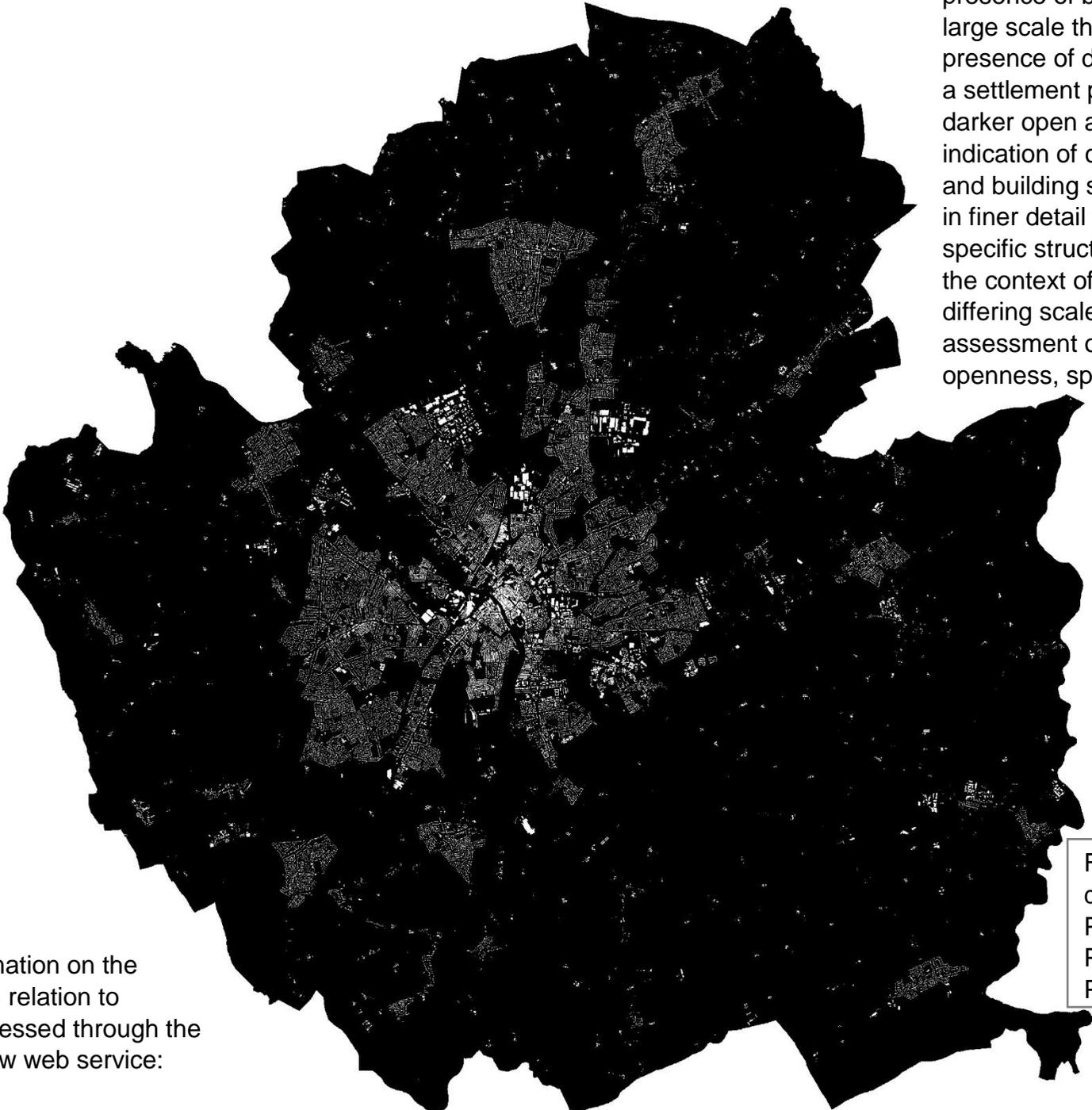


Figure ground data highlights the presence of built structures. On a large scale this illustrates the presence of development clusters as a settlement pattern in contrast to the darker open areas. This gives an indication of compactness, density and building size. When considered in finer detail the data illustrates specific structures and contrasts in the context of areas with buildings of differing scale or density. This aids assessment of potential impact on openness, sprawl and encroachment.

Figure Ground/ Structures data is a consideration of Purpose 4 (Criteria 1,2,3)  
Purpose 1 (Criteria 4)  
Purpose 3 (Criteria 5)

More detailed interactive information on the precise location of structures in relation to specific boundaries can be accessed through the City of York authority Local View web service:  
[Localview.york.gov.uk](http://Localview.york.gov.uk)

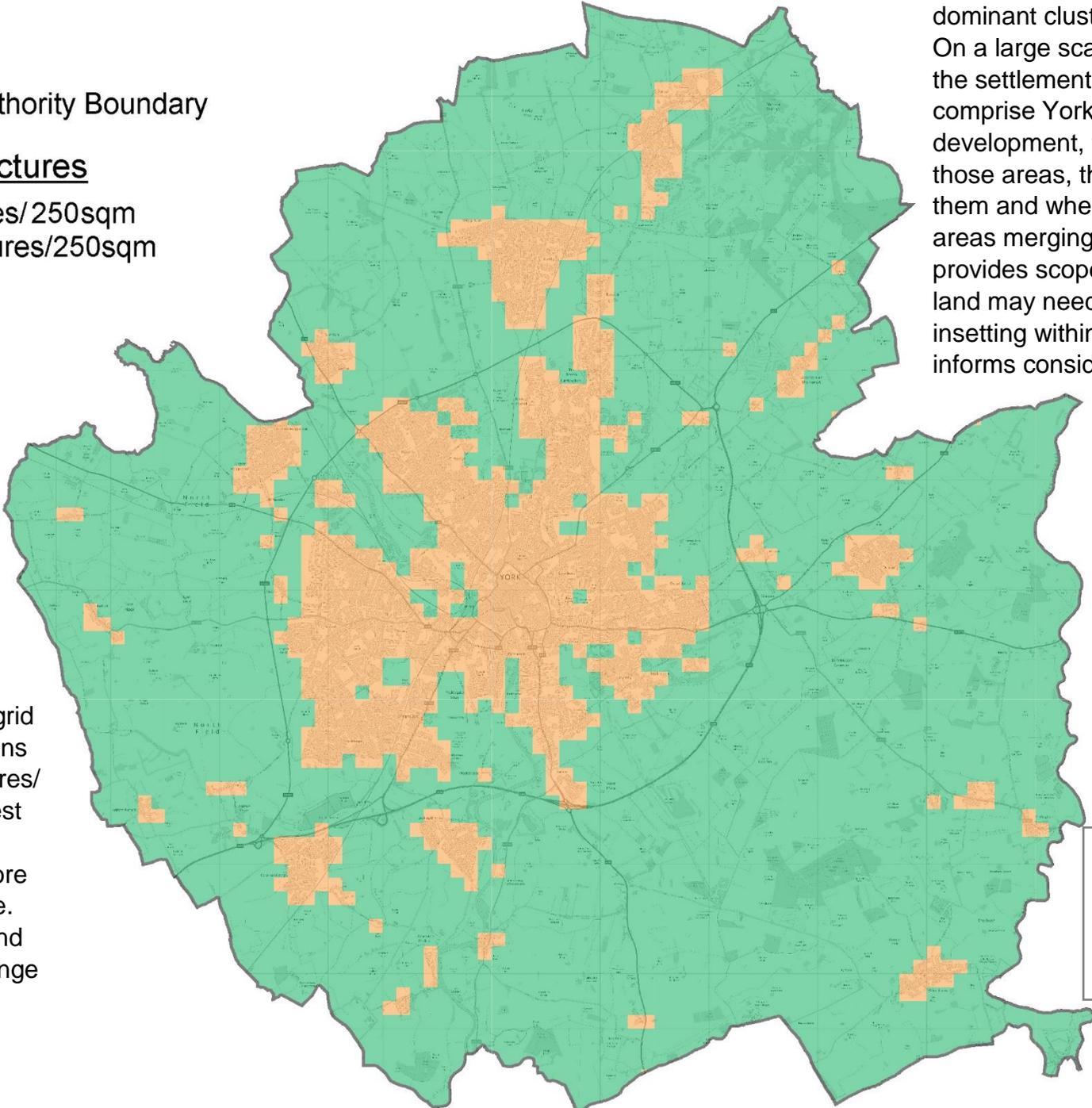
# 4. Density Analysis

Legend

 City Of York Authority Boundary

Density of Built Structures

-  33 or more Structures/250sqm
-  Less than 33 Structures/250sqm



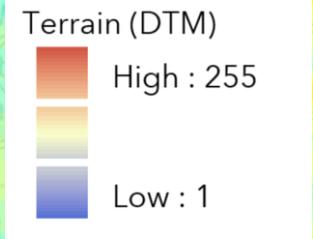
Density analysis has been formed from built structures data. It illustrates dominant clusters of higher density. On a large scale this is indicative of the settlement clusters which comprise York's historic pattern of development, the compactness of those areas, the openness around them and where there is a risk of such areas merging. The analysis also provides scope for considering where land may need to be investigated for inseting within the Green Belt and informs consideration of openness.

NB: A number of different grid sizes and density proportions were tested and 22 structures/250sqm showed the clearest relationship of York's settlement pattern to its more rural landscape in this case. The data is not definitive and is only one element of a range of considerations.

Density Analysis is a consideration of  
Purpose 4 (Criteria 1,2,3)  
Purpose 1 (Criteria 4)  
Purpose 3 (Criteria 5)

## 5. Topography

An understanding of topography helps us understand the importance or significance of views when considering the function of land in relation to the setting of the historic city. Given York's largely flat terrain, areas of higher ground offer a dominance over the landscape and setting of the city.



Topography is a consideration of Purpose 4 (Criteria 1,2,3)

More detailed interactive information on the digital terrain model (DTM) in relation to specific boundaries can be accessed through the City of York authority Local View web service: [Localview.york.gov.uk](http://Localview.york.gov.uk)

# 6. Open Approaches

- Main Road Approaches
- Railway Approaches
- River Approaches
- Long Distance Pedestrian Approaches Inc Minster Way; Ebor Way and Millenium Way
- Long Distance Cycle Routes incl Trans pennine trail and National Cycle Network

NB: Not all of the approaches illustrated will be open along their entirety, or provide views of the city and aspects of its historic setting, context or attributes. The indicated routes provide a starting point for site visit consideration and investigations. Other more localised rights of way or bridleways may also be considered where they provide opportunities to reveal significance.

More detailed interactive information on the location of roads, footpaths, bridleways and cycle routes can be accessed through the City of York authority Local View web service: [Localview.york.gov.uk](http://Localview.york.gov.uk) – Travel section.



Open Approaches are the key routes into and around the city (historic and current), where open views along these routes reveal an opportunity to view attributes of the historic city in its wider context or contribute to understanding the context to the city's landscape and setting,

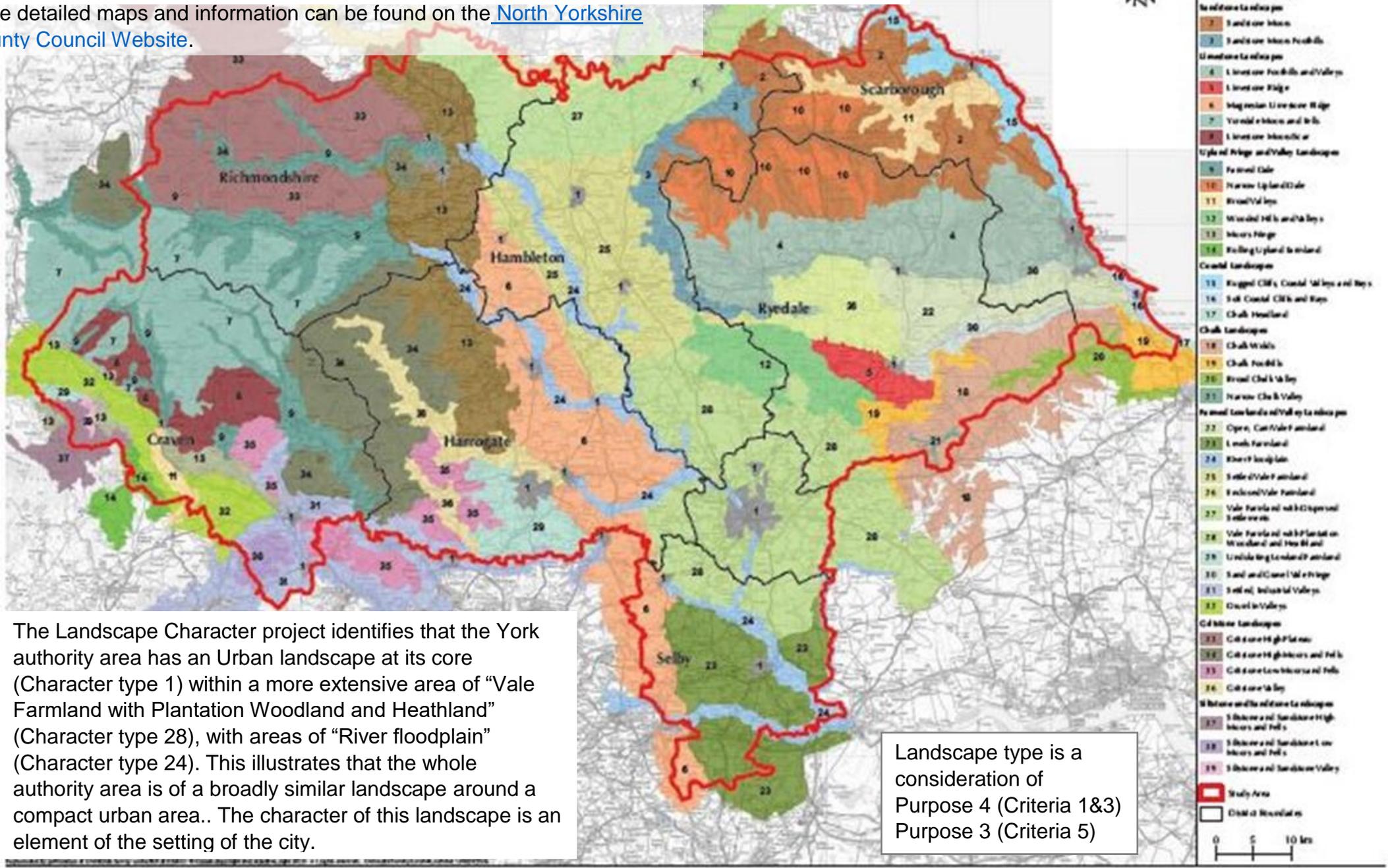
The views from open approaches are a consideration of Purpose 4 (Criteria 1,2,3)

## Land Use and Character

There are also a number of land use evidence documents, which are considered to contribute to understanding the identity, role or function of land. While the land around York is not identified for its landscape beauty and green belt purposes are not related to broad considerations of landscape character, this evidence has enabled consideration of the pattern of built development and the extent to which the setting of the City has contributed to the protection of its historic interest, as well as informing the consideration of whether land functions as part of the countryside or urban fringe of the city.

# 7. The North Yorkshire and York Landscape Character Project

More detailed maps and information can be found on the [North Yorkshire County Council Website](http://www.northyorkshire.gov.uk).



The Landscape Character project identifies that the York authority area has an Urban landscape at its core (Character type 1) within a more extensive area of “Vale Farmland with Plantation Woodland and Heathland” (Character type 28), with areas of “River floodplain” (Character type 24). This illustrates that the whole authority area is of a broadly similar landscape around a compact urban area.. The character of this landscape is an element of the setting of the city.

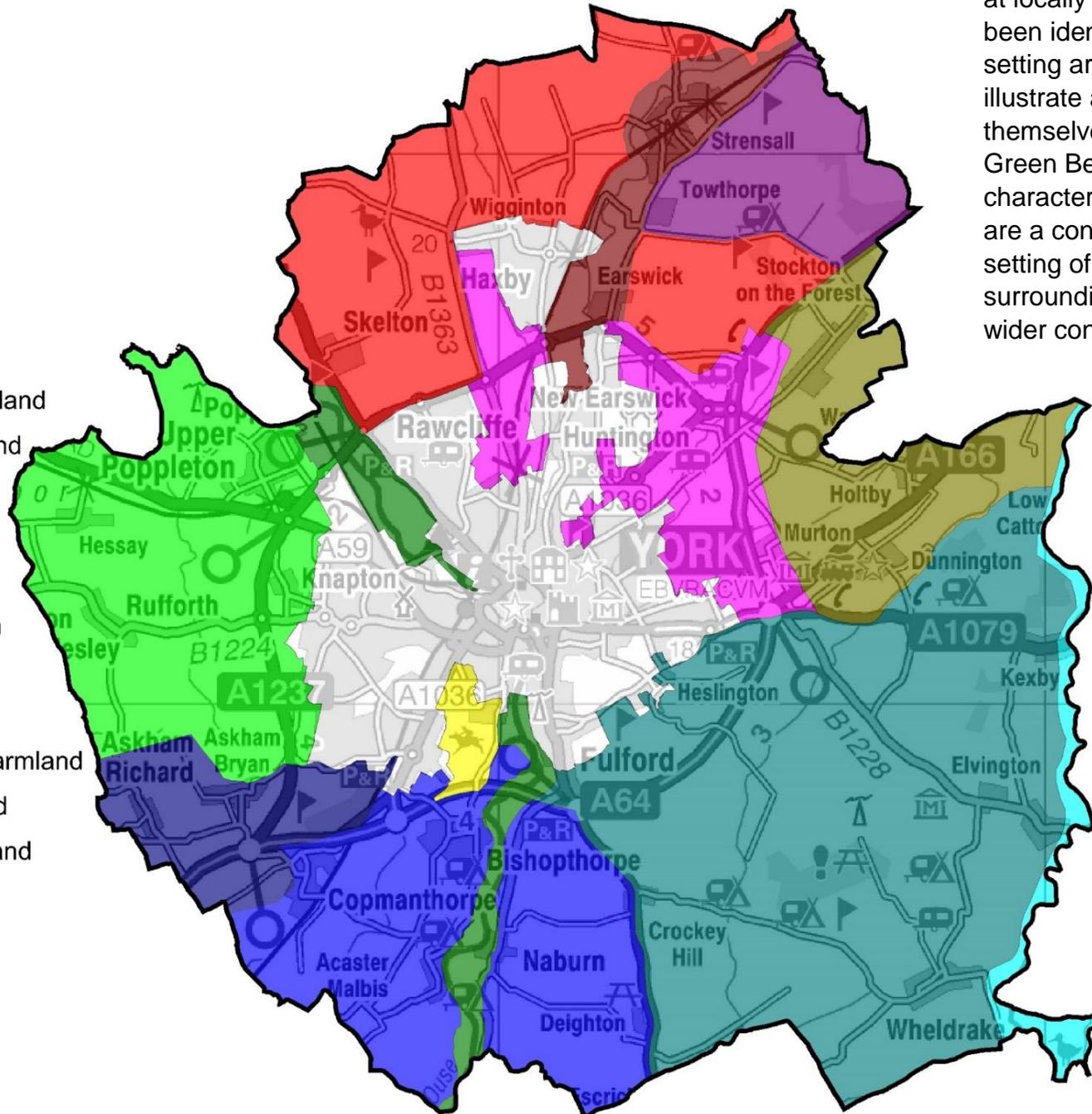
Landscape type is a consideration of Purpose 4 (Criteria 1&3) Purpose 3 (Criteria 5)

## 8. The York Landscape Character Appraisal (1996, ECUS)

The York Landscape Appraisal looks at locally specific features in what has been identified in the open/rural setting around York. The zones illustrate a strategic extent but do not themselves set boundaries for the Green Belt. The features and characters discussed within the study are a consideration in the context and setting of the City and the role of its surrounding countryside as part of the wider consideration of purposes.

### Character Types Legend

- Flat Diverse Arable Farmland
- Flat Open Arable Farmland
- Low Lying Arable Plain
- Mixed Fringe Farmland
- Race Course Stray
- River Derwent Floodplain
- River Foss Corridor
- River Ouse Floodplain
- Rolling Diverse Arable Farmland
- Semi-enclosed Heathland
- Undulating Arable Farmland
- Wooded Arable Lowland



Landscape features are a consideration of Purpose 4 (Criteria 1&3) Purpose 3 (Criteria 5)

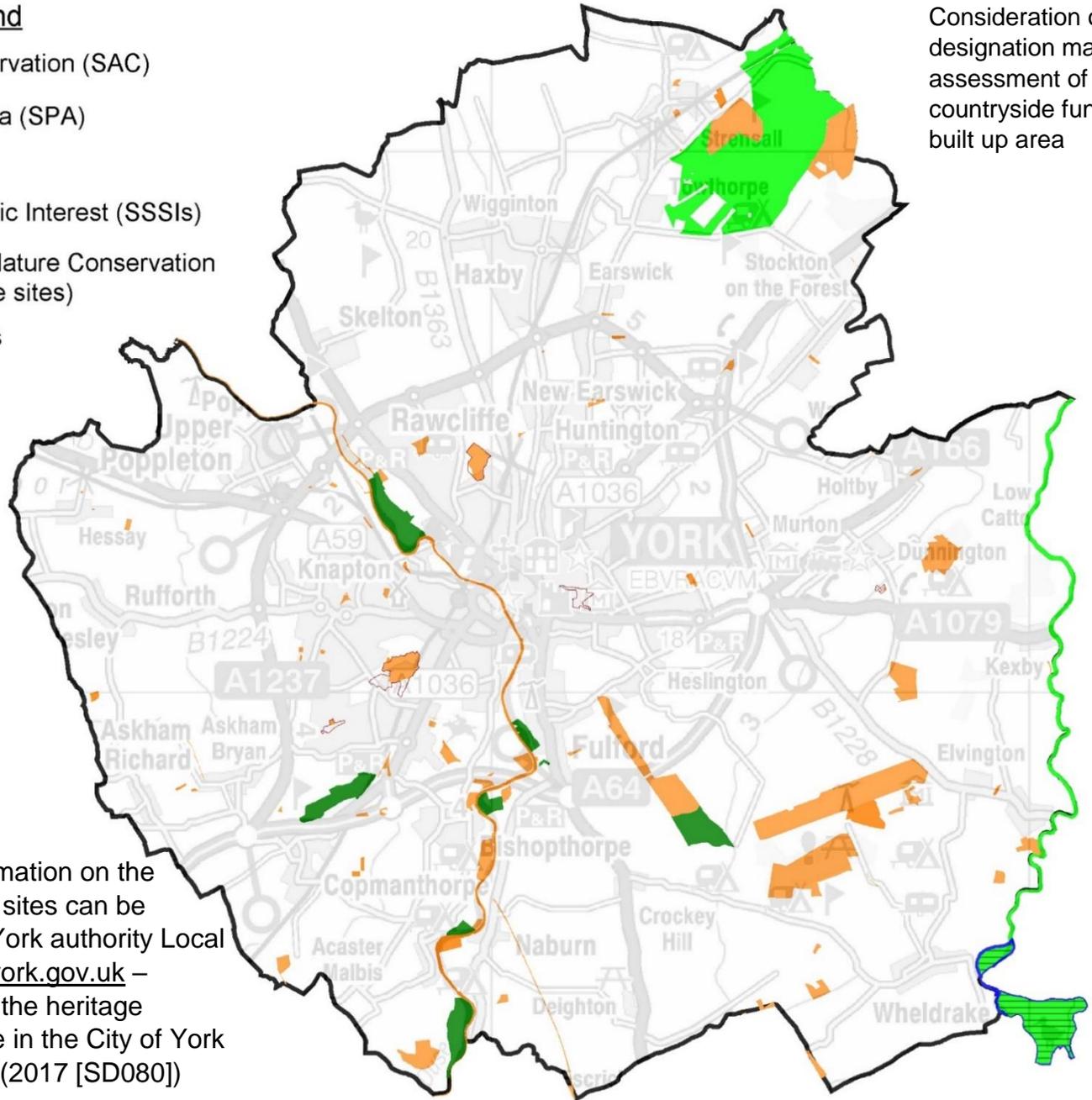
# 9. Nature Conservation

## Nature Conservation Legend

- Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
- Special Protection Area (SPA)
- Ramsar Sites
- Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)
- Site of Importance to Nature Conservation (SINCs) (Inc Candidate sites)
- Local Nature Reserves

Wildlife and biodiverse habitats often flourish on areas of land which have been kept permanently open for an extended period of time or have good pathways to existing open countryside. Consideration of areas designated for nature designation may contextually inform a wider assessment of land including any contribution to a countryside function or any relationship to the built up area

NB: Nature conservation sites do not determine Green Belt allocation or boundaries but inform consideration of land function



Nature Conservation designations are a consideration of Purpose 4 (Criteria 3) Purpose 3 (Criteria 5)

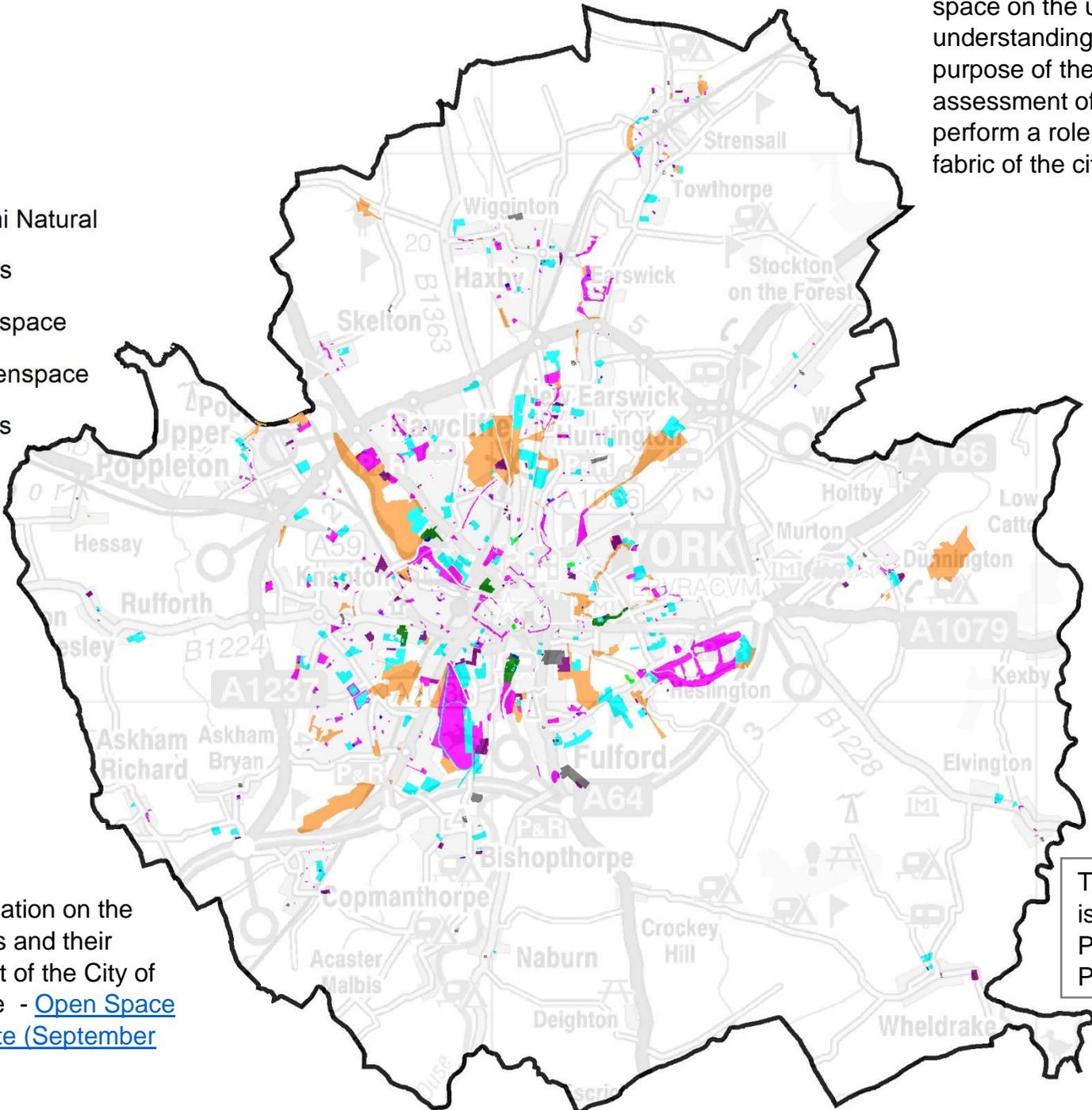
More detailed interactive information on the precise location of designated sites can be accessed through the City of York authority Local View web service: [Localview.york.gov.uk](http://Localview.york.gov.uk) – INSPIRE data. Information on the heritage importance of sites is available in the City of York Local Biodiversity Action Plan (2017 [SD080])

# 10. Open space Study 2017

Consideration of the types of Open space on the urban fringe aids understanding of the function and purpose of the land and helps assessment of if land is likely to perform a role as part of the urban fabric of the city or countryside.

## Openspace Type Legend

- Type 1 - City Park
- Type 2 - Local Park
- Type 3 - Natural & Semi Natural
- Type 5 - Outdoor Sports
- Type 6 - Amenity Openspace
- Type 7 - Children's Openspace
- Type 8 - Young Persons
- Type 9 - Allotments
- Type 10 - Cemeteries
- Type 11 - Civic Space



NB: Openspace designation does not determine Green Belt allocation or boundaries but informs consideration of land function

Type/use of Open Space is a consideration of Purpose 1 (Criteria 4) and Purpose 3 (Criteria 5)

More detailed maps and information on the precise location of open spaces and their typology, can be viewed as part of the City of York Local Plan Evidence Base - [Open Space and Green Infrastructure Update \(September 2017 \[SD085\]\)](#)

## Historical Context

The details of the Green Belt Appraisal and Heritage Topic Paper are set out in section 5 of the Main Document. Many of the more detailed local character elements are relevant to assessment of parcels of land. Understanding the location of heritage assets and information in relation to the age and context of land has also been considered to inform the Councils understanding of the value of this land to the principle of historic character and setting. Whilst these studies do not necessarily indicate land, which needs to be kept permanently open, they have provided context to inform site visits and decision-making.

# 11a. The Approach to the Green Belt Appraisal(2003) Historic Character & Setting Characteristics

acquired additional uses. They have been retained for public use and are now managed by the City of York becoming highly valued spaces for informal recreation with close access to the city. The strays represent an important link with the past to which great value is attached.

The "ings" are the flood plain water meadows defining a distinctive landscape character and a long and rich history, a number of which were referred to in the Domesday Book. The management of the "ings" was by the Lammas System. Originating in the early medieval manorial, it was a system of farming individual strips as a hay meadow until Lammas day in August after which the "ings" became open to communal grazing. Some areas escaped Parliamentary enclosure and the "ings" at Clifton and Acaster are still essentially managed as Lammas Lands. Their open grassland character, pattern of ditches and seasonal flooding remain an important landscape feature of the Ouse floodplains.

Whilst the strays and the "ings" are important for their distinctive character and their historical associations, additional areas of undeveloped land adjacent to the strays and the "ings" also provide value in terms of their open aspect, open views which they afford, their feeling of the countryside close to the town, and the separation of urban form.

## (ii) Views of the Minster

York Minster is the most important landmark in the city. Built between the thirteenth and fifteenth century of magnesian limestone, it is a fine example of medieval gothic architecture. The prominence of the monument, whether by clear view or occasional glance is an unmistakable feature of York. Views of the Minster from the wider countryside form an important association between the historic city and the surrounding landscape and helps reinforce the impression of a compact city set within a rural framework.

The Minster can be viewed clearly from numerous positions within the surrounding landscape including, the Ring Road, many approach roads into the city and from the green wedges. It provides a sense of orientation and a definite sense of nearing a historical city. Views of the Minster are widely held to be very important in defining the special character of York and its setting.

## (iv) Character of the Landscape

The landscape is broadly characterised as relatively flat and low-lying agricultural land dominated by the wide flood plain of the Ouse, rising slightly to the east and surrounded by a relatively evenly spaced pattern of villages. In more detail it includes distinctive water meadows adjacent to the Ouse, a pattern of fields divided by hedges or ditches and occasional blocks of deciduous trees, bog, heath land, coniferous plantation and some former evidence of strip farming.

The character of the landscape contributes to the overall setting of the city in its own right and through its influence upon other defining elements. For example, the way in which the relatively level topography enables important views of the Minster to be enjoyed and the strong governing influence of natural features upon the pattern of settlement.

The built form in the rural areas surrounding the city is traditionally characterised by red brick buildings with red pan tile roofs. The agricultural villages are situated at relatively evenly

distributed intervals and are largely linear or around a green. Some villages, particularly those nearest to York have expanded in size and changed in form and character.

## (v) Urban form

The urban area of York broadly comprises a central historic core surrounded by an amalgamation of formerly separate villages. The villages were previously physically independent of the city but connected by the provision of services and social networks. The spaces separating the villages from the city were reduced by the growth of the city over time, however, the presence of the strays and "ings" have restricted their lateral coalescence helping to retain some of the characteristics of earlier settlement form.

## (vi) Relationship between the urban edge and the countryside

The urban fringe is the broad area of land situated at the interface between the edge of the urban area and the countryside. It includes the built and unbuilt and is also defined by the relationship between the two. It takes a variety of appearances and functions.

In some areas the relationship between the urban edge and open countryside is harmonious in terms of form, character, orientation, architecture, boundary design and landscape character. In other areas, the urban edge bears little relationship with the surrounding landscape and takes an abrupt relationship and has usually emerged over a short period of time

In locations where conservation areas are situated at the urban fringe the form, siting, character of the area and the architecture is considered to make a positive contribution to the setting and special character of York.

## (vii) The relationship with the surrounding villages

The villages surrounding York contribute to the setting and the special character of the city through their intrinsic form and character, distribution, and relationship with the surrounding agricultural landscape.

Formerly of agricultural origin, most of the villages began as linear and green villages. Many dwellings along main streets had long paddocks behind reaching into the agricultural landscape beyond. The settlement form bore a close relationship with the supporting agricultural landscape and their distribution was determined by the agricultural land which was required to support the community.

Some villages have retained their earlier form and character, retaining a close and visually harmonious relationship between the built and cultivated or grazed landscape. Others, particularly those situated close to the outer edge of the city have expanded, significantly detracting from their earlier form, and visual and working relationship with the agricultural landscape. Notwithstanding this many of these villages have retained their earlier architectural character even if the village form beyond and the reference to the surrounding landscape has changed. This has helped engender their separate sense of community distinct from the urban area of York.

## 4. THE HISTORIC CHARACTER AND SETTING OF YORK

Using the information gathered as part of the desk top study it was felt that the historic character and setting of the City in this context could be defined in terms of the following elements.

### (i) Open approaches to the city

The setting of York is characterised by open approaches leading towards the city. Long views are achieved across the relatively flat landscape with only occasional woods to interrupt extensive views. The series of green wedges enables long vistas to be experienced from the outskirts towards city landmarks. The encircling Ring Road is largely set back from the urban edge and positioned at grade or at an elevated level, enabling this open impression to be experienced.

Open approaches enables the city to be experienced within its wider setting establishing a close relationship between the urban area, green wedges, surrounding countryside and the villages. The retention of openness is one of the central purposes of Green Belts.

### (ii) Green Wedges

The green wedges are a characteristic feature of York. They form large tracts of undeveloped land which largely extend from the countryside into the city. They prevent the lateral coalescence of different parts of the urban area and help retain the distinctive characteristics of earlier periods of individual settlements. The green wedges bring a feeling of the countryside within a close proximity to the centre of the city. Their open nature allows views of the city to be enjoyed including important vistas towards the Minster.

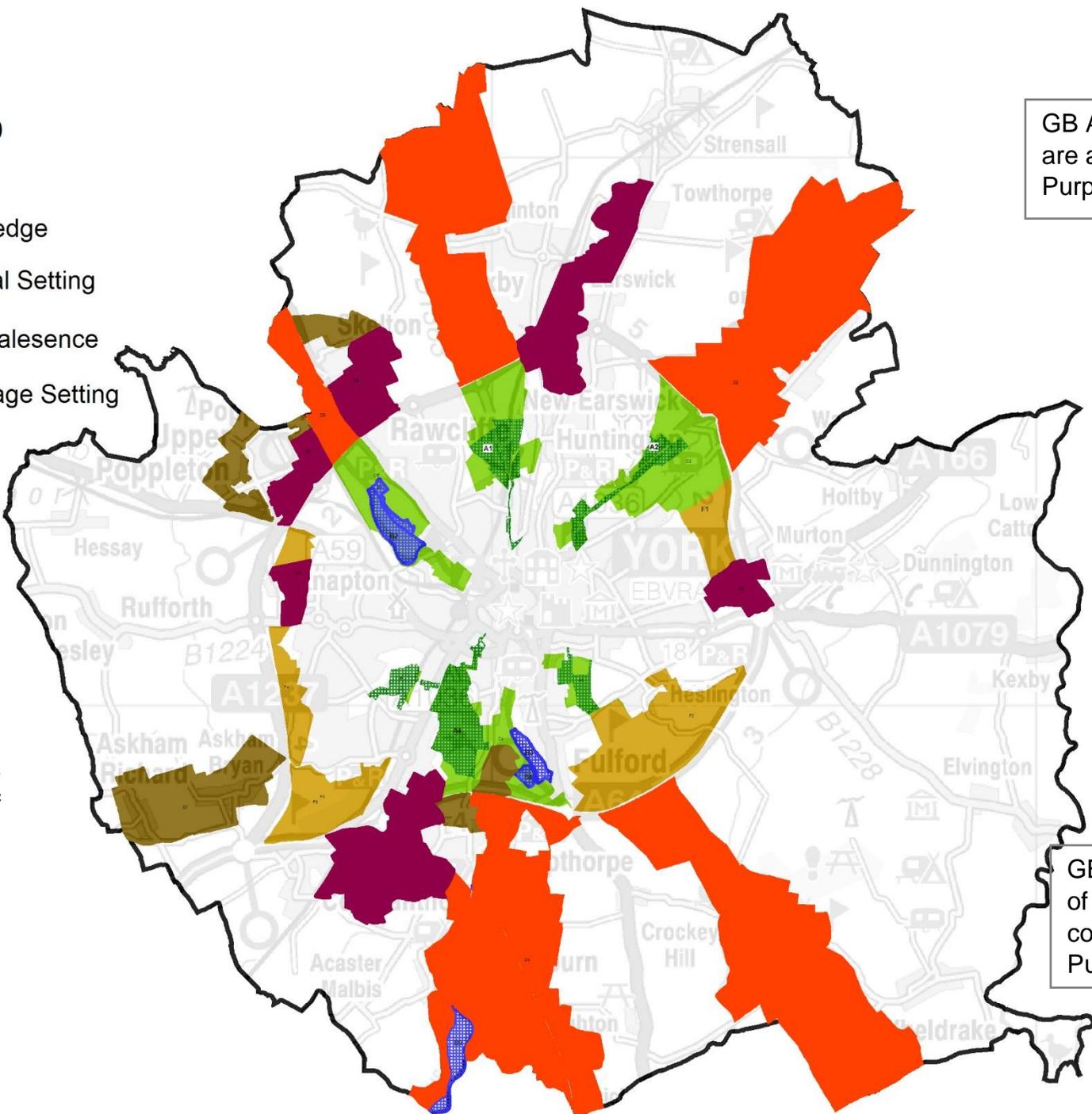
The green wedges have helped shape the character and form of the urban edge and the pattern of built development which contributes greatly to the local distinctiveness and attractiveness of York. The green wedges provide an extended interface between the urban edge and the surrounding countryside.

The green wedges comprise the historic "strays" and the Ouse "ings" and additional areas of undeveloped land which separates the existing urban form.

The strays are illustrated on map 1 and comprise over 800 acres of open land, mainly under grass. They are the remaining areas of common land over which the Freeman of York held long established grazing rights. They include Bootham Stray, Monk Stray, Walmgate Stray and Micklegate Stray. Whilst some parts of the strays are still retained for grazing, others have

# 11b. The Approach to the Green Belt Appraisal (2003) and Updates (2011 & 2013) Categories of Land

- Legend**
- Strays
  - River Corridor (Ings)
  - Green Wedge
  - Extended Green Wedge
  - Area Retaining Rural Setting
  - Area Preventing Coalescence
  - Area Protecting Village Setting



GB Appraisal principles are a consideration of Purpose 4 (Criteria 1,2,3)

NB: indicative known areas for consideration are illustrated, consideration of principles may indicate further important areas.

GB Appraisal categories of land are a consideration of Purpose 4 (Criteria 1,2,3)

Heritage Topic Paper Character Elements are a consideration of Purpose 4 (Criteria 1,2,3)

## 12. Heritage Topic Paper Principle Characteristics

The Heritage Topic Paper identifies 6 principle characteristics each with a number of defining character elements. All of the character elements are important in understanding the important features of York's historic environment which require their context, setting and significance to be preserved or enhanced. These Character Elements have all been used to assess proposals for future proposed development in the city, to ensure that harm to the special character and setting of the historic city can be minimised, as presented in the Heritage Impact Appraisals which inform site selection and policy development.

The work presented over the next 6 pages illustrates how each individual Character Element has been evaluated in relation to the need to keep land permanently open as part of identifying the key considerations for Purpose 4 of the York Green Belt.

12a. Heritage Topic Paper - Principle Characteristic 1: Strong Urban Form		Relevant to:	
Characteristic	Key Features	Green Belt Purpose 4 Openness	Heritage Impact Appraisal (HIA) of sites
Large urban blocks	Mixed use taller buildings facing the street with lower extensions and ad-hoc smaller structures behind. Blocks strongly enclose streets, retained private yards.	No	Yes
Long narrow plots and gated side passages	Usually reflecting medieval or earlier building plots with side access to former workshops and gardens	No	Yes
Framed shop fronts	Variety of good quality "frames" around shop windows, providing visual support to building above whilst allowing interaction with the street. Usually associated with smaller retail premises	No	Yes
medieval street patterns	Overlaid pattern of historic routes, narrow well enclosed primary streets, gentle curvilinear routes, secondary lanes & ginnels/alleys threading through the blocks or giving access to more private enclaves. High degree of choice, connectivity and permeability.	No	Yes
Small squares	Close distribution of small squares intimate in scale. Larger spaces formed later by highways interventions or through provision of markets. Few examples of formal compositions such as at "Eye of York".	No	Yes
Rich townscape	city centre as a place of diversity, contrasts and surprises; unfolding views of great variety and historic interest; juxtaposition of different materials and forms; experience of shock scale; bridges offering panoramic views; pre-industrial skyline of city centre; city walls as vantage points, highly legible environment	No	Yes

Arterial roads	broad straight streets connecting city centre to suburbs enclosed by buildings of higher stature towards city bars; cobbled margins and tree lined avenues giving way to broad verges (at best); routes interrupted by large outlying complexes providing green open spaces	No	Yes
<b>12b. Heritage Topic Paper - Principle Characteristic 2: Compactness</b>		Relevant to:	
Characteristic	Key Features	<b>Green Belt Purpose 4 Openness</b>	Heritage Impact Appraisal (HIA) of sites
Contained concentric form	The city is walkable and the centre is accessible by cycle and foot with relative ease. The York outer ring road accentuates the city form and the walls enclose the historic core.	Yes	Yes
Flat terrain and views	Low lying setting and compactness of city creates both long views and surprise views both out of and in to the historic core.	Yes	Yes
Arterial roads	Broad straight streets connecting city centre to suburbs enclosed by buildings of higher stature towards city bars; cobbled margins and tree lined avenues giving way to broad verges (at best); routes interrupted by large outlying complexes providing green open spaces	Yes	Yes
Dense urban fabric	Inward focussed centre, mixed uses both horizontally and vertically in urban centre, identifiable sub-areas of particular form and use	No	Yes
Identifiable compact districts	Outlying development is divided into segments by the rivers, strays and arterial roads; this containment of built form positively accentuates the identity of each area whilst allowing quick access to open areas, informal green spaces and the cycle routes and riverside walks leading out of the city	Yes	Yes
Urban villages retain identity	Village greens as focus or linear main streets with surviving back lanes. Clusters of facilities retained in village core	Yes	Yes
Planned rural villages	Enduring form of curving linear main street with burgage plots running to historic back lanes; broad planted verges common feature of main artery, later infilling and minor extensions often protect historic grain, openness, and views out to countryside	Yes	Yes
<b>12c. Heritage Topic Paper - Principle Characteristic 3: Landmark Monuments</b>		Relevant to:	
Characteristic	Key Features	<b>Green Belt Purpose 4 Openness</b>	Heritage Impact Appraisal (HIA) of sites

Buildings of high cultural significance	Visually, aesthetically and historically interesting and sometimes associated with historical events and specific individuals.	Yes	Yes
Physical and temporal landmarks	The Minster in particular can be viewed from the Wolds, Moors and Dales. The walls are ever present and a perambulation of them will reveal many of the City's monuments including Terry's and the Nestle Factory. Clifford's Tower is particularly associated with historical events. The Civil War is associated with the Bars. The Eye of York with Luddites.	Yes	Yes
Substantial numbers of medieval communal buildings	Buildings that reflect functional importance as civic centres, places of justice, work and religious activity	No	Yes
Monument clustering	There is very little dispersion and most principal monuments are sited within the historic core and there is a degree of inter-visibility, especially from the City Walls.	No	Yes
Quantity of monuments	York has a higher than average number of listed buildings and other principal monuments.	No	Yes
Diversity of monuments	Diversity ranges from Substantial limestone structures like the Minster to Timber framed Barley Hall and Merchant Adventurers Hall and domestic buildings to brick built Railway headquarters and 19th and 20th century factories.	No	Yes
Churches locked into urban fabric	Provide pockets of green space within dense urban blocks and are a haven for wildlife.	No	Yes

## 12d. Heritage Topic Paper - Principle Characteristic 4: Architectural Character

Relevant to:

Characteristic	Key Features	Green Belt Purpose 4 Openness	Heritage Impact Appraisal (HIA) of sites
Architectural legacy	Buildings representing two thousand years of architectural development in close proximity to each other.	No	Yes
Variety	The fine grain of urban blocks, tremendous range of building types from all ages. Early timber framed ranges and gabled fronts sit amongst later 18th century and 19th century brick built development. Formal Georgian townhouses occupy plots adjacent to more ordinary dwellings. Churches and churchyards punctuate almost continuous street lines. Large guildhalls sit in their own enclaves. Few streets have consistent themes, though streets have formed their own identity. High degree of articulation through bay windows, window reveals, chimneys, high brick walls, iron railings and decorative artefacts	No	Yes
Human scale	The limits of natural materials and techniques have ensured that human scale buildings predominate. Narrow plot boundaries assist in developing rhythm. Where these limits have been exceeded to create factories, warehouses, office blocks, they have simple massing and are clustered on low ground close to the station or within extra mural compounds. Even so height is restrained, roof-tops acknowledge with modelling or decorative parapets, and facades have a level of detailed consideration	No	Yes

Craftsmanship	Highly skilled craftsmen and artists have benefited from religious and secular patronage through-out York's history. Of particular significance are: stained glass, stone carving, carpentry and timber relief work, wrought and cast ironwork, monuments, brasses, bells and public statuary.	No	Yes
Materials	Magnesian limestone used for early religious buildings and the few stone houses, sandstone being sourced later for use on civic buildings. Historically materials locally sourced and crafted, with timber framing succeeded by clamp bricks in lime mortar. Highly skilled master carpenters extended spans and range of details in important buildings. Brickwork gave warmth, texture and solidity to many ordinary buildings whose solidity was punctured by regular openings of limited width. Subtle variety of detail exists within regular facades, though timber framing allowed more freedom. Heavy dentilled cornices and string courses of formal architectural buildings are common. Small element tile and pantiles common on older roofs were followed by slate brought in by the railways White/buff bricks belong to industrial period.	No	Yes

### 12e. Heritage Topic Paper - Principle Characteristic 5: Archaeological Complexity

Relevant to:

Characteristic	Key Features	Green Belt Purpose 4 Openness	Heritage Impact Appraisal (HIA) of sites
Exceptional preservation in historic core	Timber foundations of Anglo-Scandinavian houses have been found well preserved at Coppergate and Hungate. Food waste and other similar organic waste is well preserved giving valuable insight into diet, health, economy that is lacking in more conventional archaeological deposits	No	Yes
Depth of deposits in historic core	Remains of successive development from Roman through to the present day.	No	Yes
Finite and non-renewable resource	Anaerobic deposits that are extremely dependant on sustained ground conditions. Fluctuating water table creates pressures on the continued preservation of these deposits. Any form of deposit removal, even by archaeologists in a controlled and recorded manner will destroy important evidence and information.	No	Yes
Majority of Known and unknown archaeological features and deposits are not designated heritage assets.	The York Historic Environment Record contains some 6000 records relating to the archaeology of York and its surroundings which is only a small percentage of actual remains.	No	Yes

## 12f. Heritage Topic Paper - Principle Characteristic 6: Landscape and Setting

Relevant to:

Characteristic	Key Features	Green Belt Purpose 4 Openness	Heritage Impact Appraisal (HIA) of sites
Views in and out	Long-distance views of York Minster in low-lying relatively flat vale landscape. The Minster constantly reappears at closer quarters. View of the race course/Knavesmire and Terrys combined. Rural edge setting viewed from majority of ring road by way of field margin (northern ring road business parks exception to rule). Views out to the Wolds, Moors and the Howardian Hills (orientation, identity, and sense of location/setting).	Yes	Yes
Strays & common land	Openness; greenness; natural/rural character within city. Village greens.	Yes	Yes
Rivers and Ings	Derwent/Ouse: Flooding; Ings meadows; retention of traditional management over centuries - still hay cropped and grazed where possible. Ouse - walking along most of either bank north to Beningborough hall, south past Bishops palace. Activity on river - rowing (3 clubs) dating back to mid 19th century. Foss – two rivers converging in city centre; walkway from centre to countryside beyond ring road; linking villages – the ‘hidden’ river. Views along river/banks.	Yes	Yes
Open countryside and green belt	A wide variety of different habitats and landscape elements including: Lowland heath; wet acidic grassland; rich hedgerows; valley fen; open Ings landscape associated with river; wildflower meadows; Airfields with large expanse of openness/cultural heritage/habitat value; Village settings including: asserted land; strip field pattern/ridge and furrow; hedgerows; veteran orchards. Long distance uninterrupted recreation routes with cultural significance through countryside. Orchards – vale of York high orchard productivity historically; veteran Pear and apple trees often in gardens of later development.	Yes	Yes
Suburban villages	Street trees, public parks, large gardens, ‘quiet streets’, pedestrian-friendly environment, strong community identity, allotments, front gardens bound by hedges	Yes	Yes
Parks and gardens	Registered historic parks and gardens Parks for the people Designed campus landscape Matrix of accessible parks	Yes	Yes
Relationship of the historic city of York to the surrounding settlements	The relationship of York to its surrounding settlements. This relationship relates to not simply the distance between the settlements but also the size of the villages themselves, and the fact that they are free-standing, clearly definable settlements.	Yes	Yes

# 13a. Central Historic Core Views Analysis - Long Distance Views

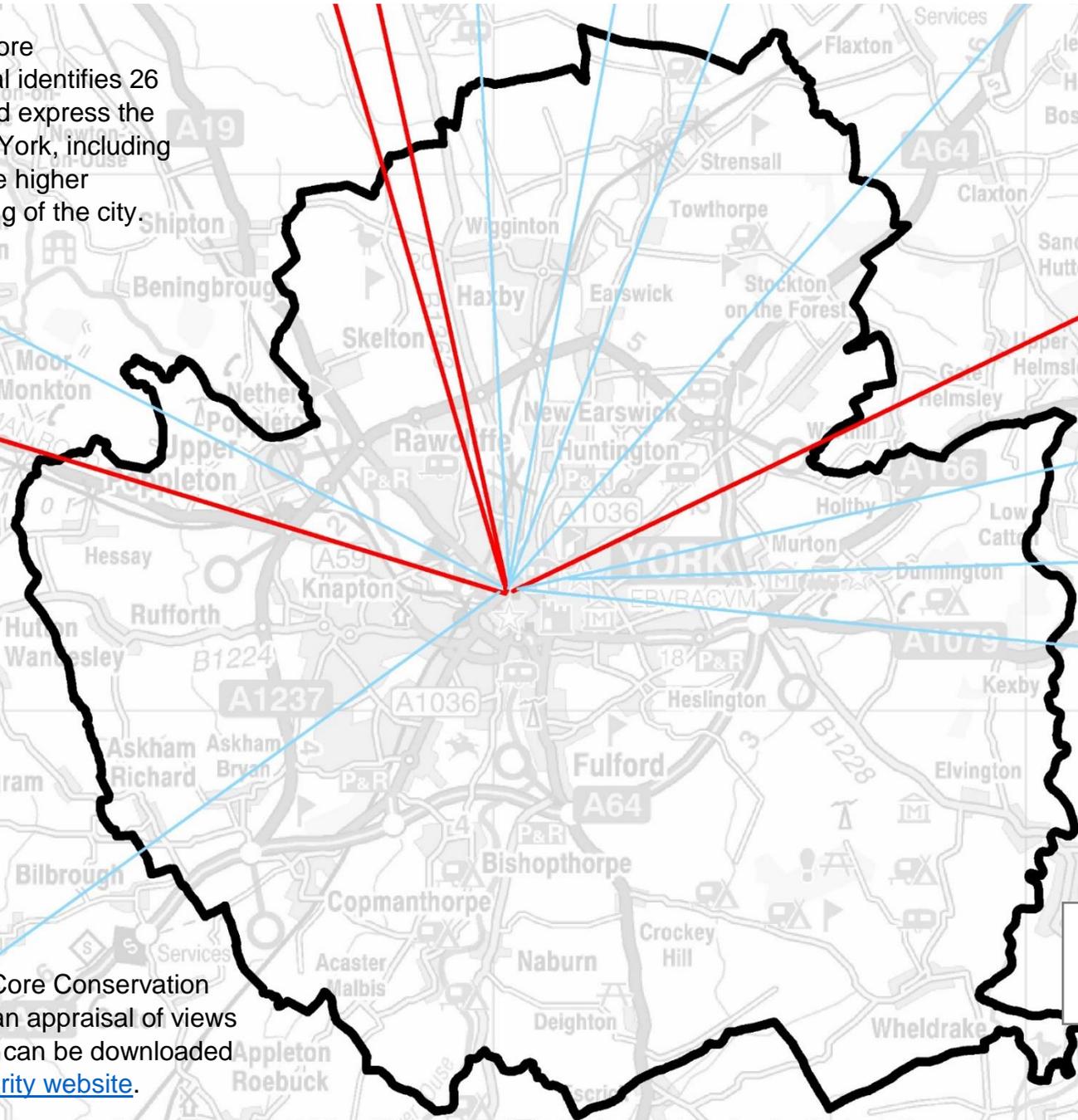
The York Central Historic Core Conservation Area Appraisal identifies 26 key views which capture and express the very image and essence of York, including long distance views from the higher ground from the wider setting of the city.

NB: Views should be understood as a starting point and do not encompass the hundreds of important views into and across the Conservation Area.

- Panoramic View
- Key View
- General View

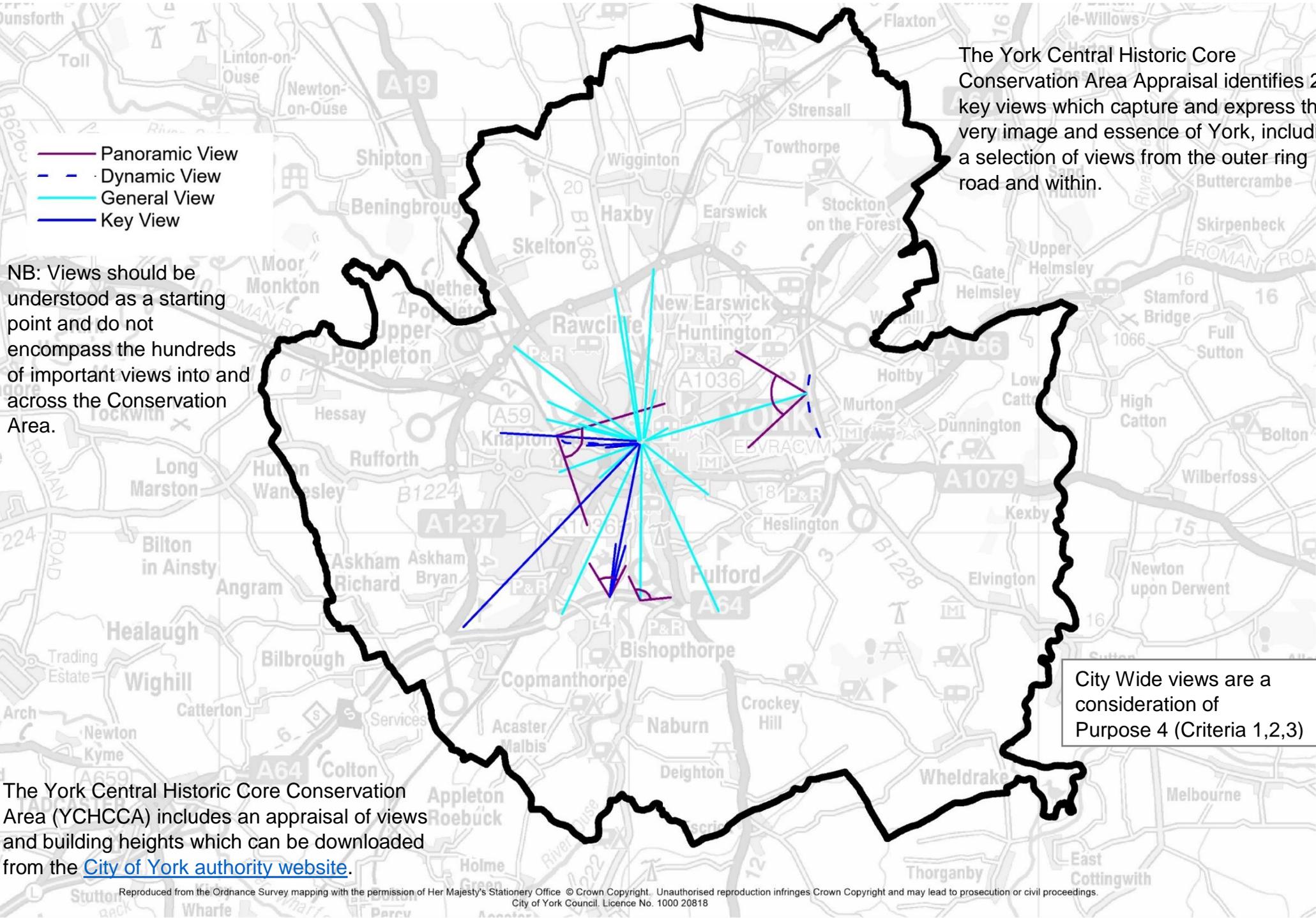
The York Central Historic Core Conservation Area (YCHCCA) includes an appraisal of views and building heights which can be downloaded from the [City of York authority website](#).

Long Distance views are a consideration of Purpose 4 (Criteria 1,2,3)



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# 13b. Central Historic Core Views Analysis - City Wide Views

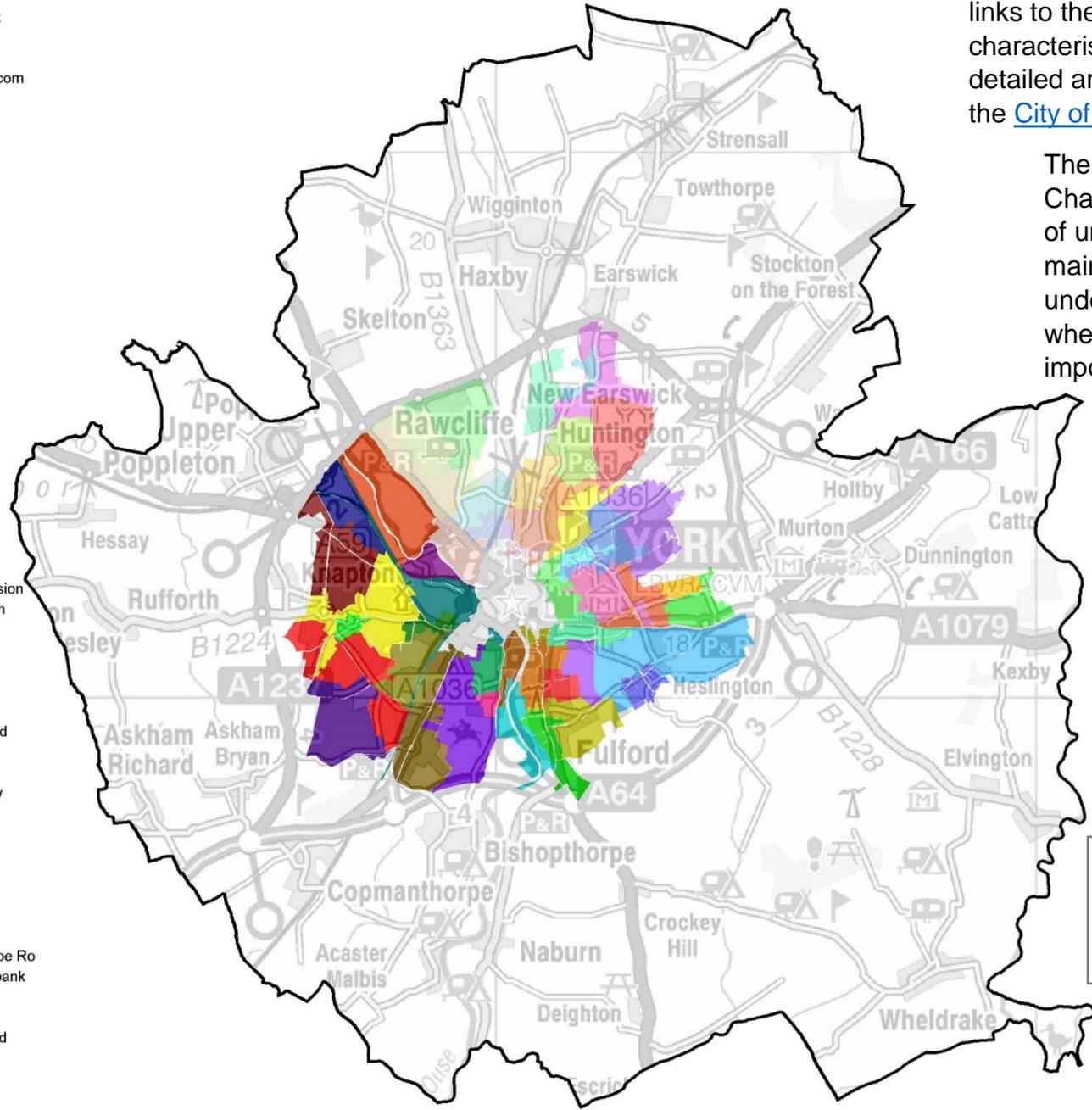


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# 14. York Historic Environment Characterisation Project (YHECP)

## York's Character Areas

- Character Area 25 Acomb Post War development
- Character Area 26 Acomb surrounds
- Character Area 27 Acomb Village
- Character Area 28 Post war expansion north of Acomb
- Character Area 29 Hob Moor
- Character Area 30 Holgate
- Character Area 31 Railway
- Character Area 32 Business & Industry
- Character Area 33 Leeman Road
- Character Area 34 Poppleton & Clifton Ings
- Character Area 35 Clifton
- Character Area 36 Clifton NW
- Character Area 37 Clifton Residential
- Character Area 38 Clifton Moor
- Character Area 39 Clifton council
- Character Area 40 Clifton NE
- Character Area 41 Hospital
- Character Area 42 Clarence Street area
- Character Area 43 Wiggington-Huntington Road
- Character Area 44 Chocolate Factory
- Character Area 45 Huntington South
- Character Area 46 New Earswick
- Character Area 47 Huntington
- Character Area 48 Huntington surrounds
- Character Area 49 Huntington South Moor
- Character Area 50 Heworth North council estates
- Character Area 51 NE Heworth
- Character Area 52 Layerthorpe
- Character Area 53 Heworth & 19th century expansion
- Character Area 54 Heworth early 20th c expansion
- Character Area 55 Heworth Post War expansion
- Character Area 56 Tang Hall Estate
- Character Area 57 Tang Hall East
- Character Area 58 Osbaldwick
- Character Area 59 Osbaldwick South & East
- Character Area 60 Lawrence St and Heslington Rd
- Character Area 61 University Campus
- Character Area 62 Heslington and expansion
- Character Area 63 The Retreat & Walmgate Stray
- Character Area 64 Impfal Barracks
- Character Area 65 Fulford Road area
- Character Area 66 Modern Fishergate
- Character Area 67 Broadway estate & surrounds
- Character Area 68 Fulford
- Character Area 69 Middlethorpe Ings
- Character Area 70 Terry's Factory
- Character Area 71 Clementhorpe and Bishopthorpe Ro
- Character Area 72 Scarcroft Terraces and Southbank
- Character Area 73 Nunthorpe re-development
- Character Area 74 Knavesmire & Racecourse
- Character Area 75 Dringhouses & Tadcaster Road
- Character Area 76 Woodthorpe



More detail on the York Historic Environment Characterisation project, its links to the Heritage Topic Paper principle characteristics, interactive mapping and detailed area appraisals can be found on the [City of York Authority Website](http://www.york.gov.uk).

The Historic Environment Characterisation work identifies areas of unique or distinctive character in the main urban area. This helps understand the evolution of the city and where features of openness maybe important considerations.

The Historic Environment Characterisation project is a consideration of Purpose 4 (Criteria 1+3)

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# 15. Listed Buildings

NB: Not all listed buildings will have an open setting which needs to be preserved to maintain or enhance significance.

The Heritage Topic Paper [SD103] sets out the importance of physical, temporal and cultural landmarks to understanding the significance of the historic environment of York and its themes and functions through time. Listed Buildings are an element of the historic environment, and in some cases, land uses and openness as part of their setting, influence our understanding of the historic context and relationship between places. This openness may contribute to the understanding and significance of an asset and the wider nested setting of the city.



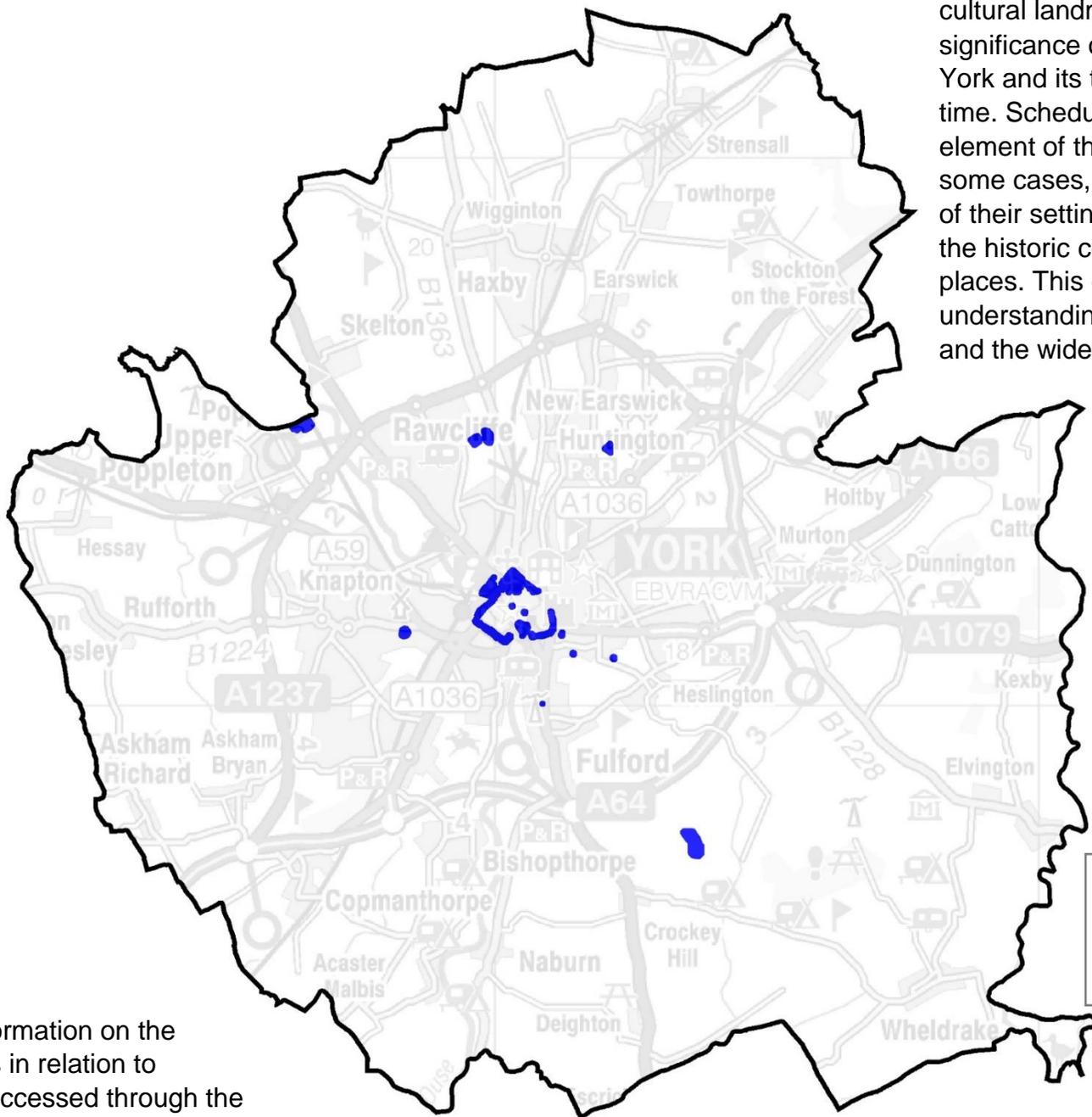
Listed Buildings are a consideration of Purpose 4 (Criteria 2)

More detailed interactive information on the precise location of structures in relation to specific boundaries can be accessed through the City of York authority Local View web service: [Localview.york.gov.uk](http://Localview.york.gov.uk) – INSPIRE data

# 16. Scheduled Ancient Monuments

NB: Not all Scheduled Ancient Monuments will have an open setting which needs to be preserved to maintain or enhance significance.

The Heritage Topic Paper [SD103] sets out the importance of physical, temporal and cultural landmarks to understanding the significance of the historic environment of York and its themes and functions through time. Scheduled Ancient Monuments are an element of the historic environment, and in some cases, land uses and openness as part of their setting, influence our understanding of the historic context and relationship between places. This openness may contribute to the understanding and significance of an asset and the wider nested setting of the city.



Scheduled Ancient Monuments are a consideration of Purpose 4 (Criteria 2)

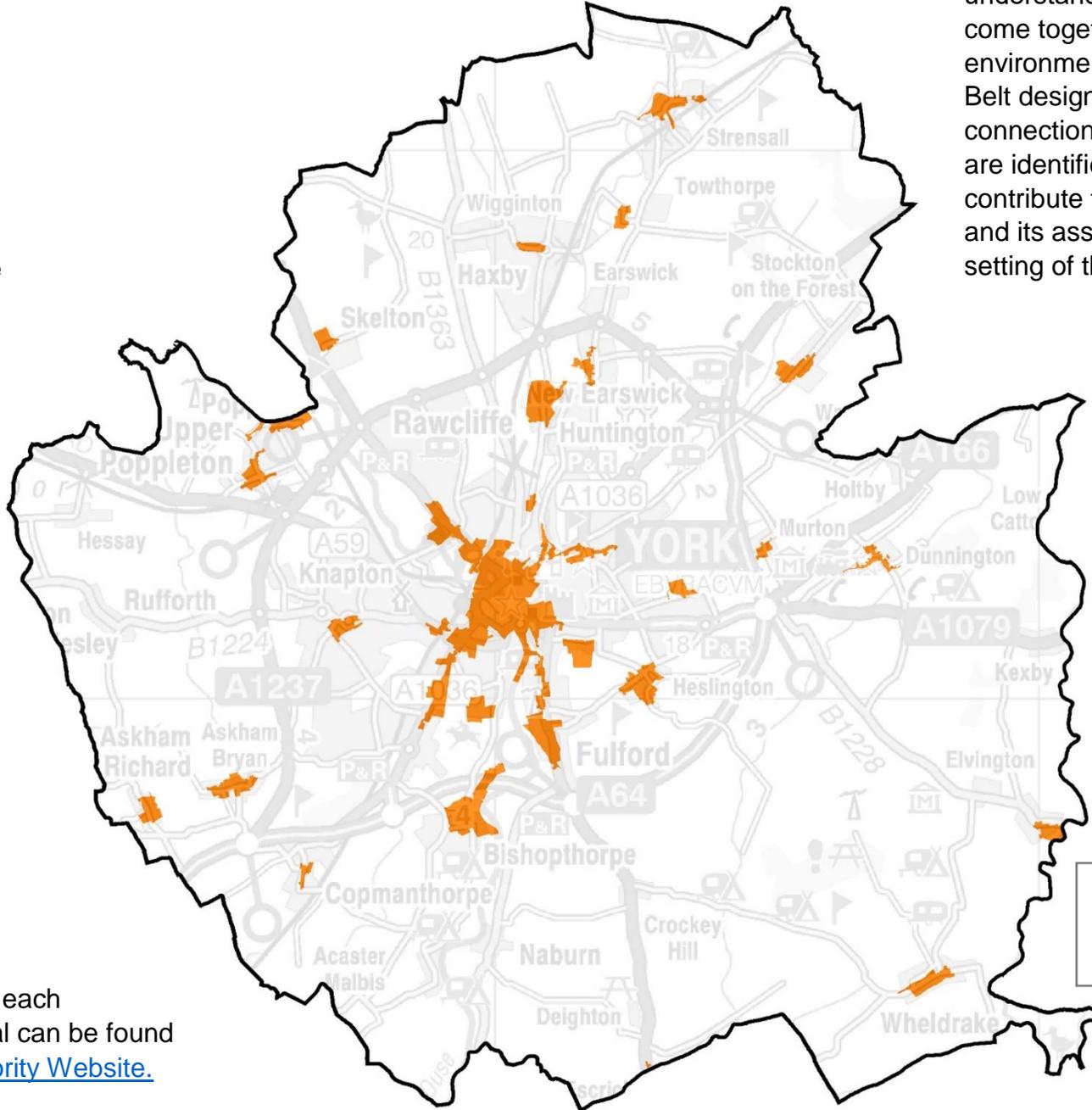
More detailed interactive information on the precise location of structures in relation to specific boundaries can be accessed through the City of York authority Local View web service: [Localview.york.gov.uk](http://Localview.york.gov.uk) – INSPIRE data

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# 17. Conservation Areas

NB: Not all conservation areas will have an open setting which needs to be preserved to maintain or enhance significance.

Conservation Area designations help us understand how an area's special features come together to make a distinctive environment. These are relevant to Green Belt designation where openness and connection to wider countryside functions are identified as important features and contribute to the significance of the area and its assets, or part of the wider nested setting of the city.



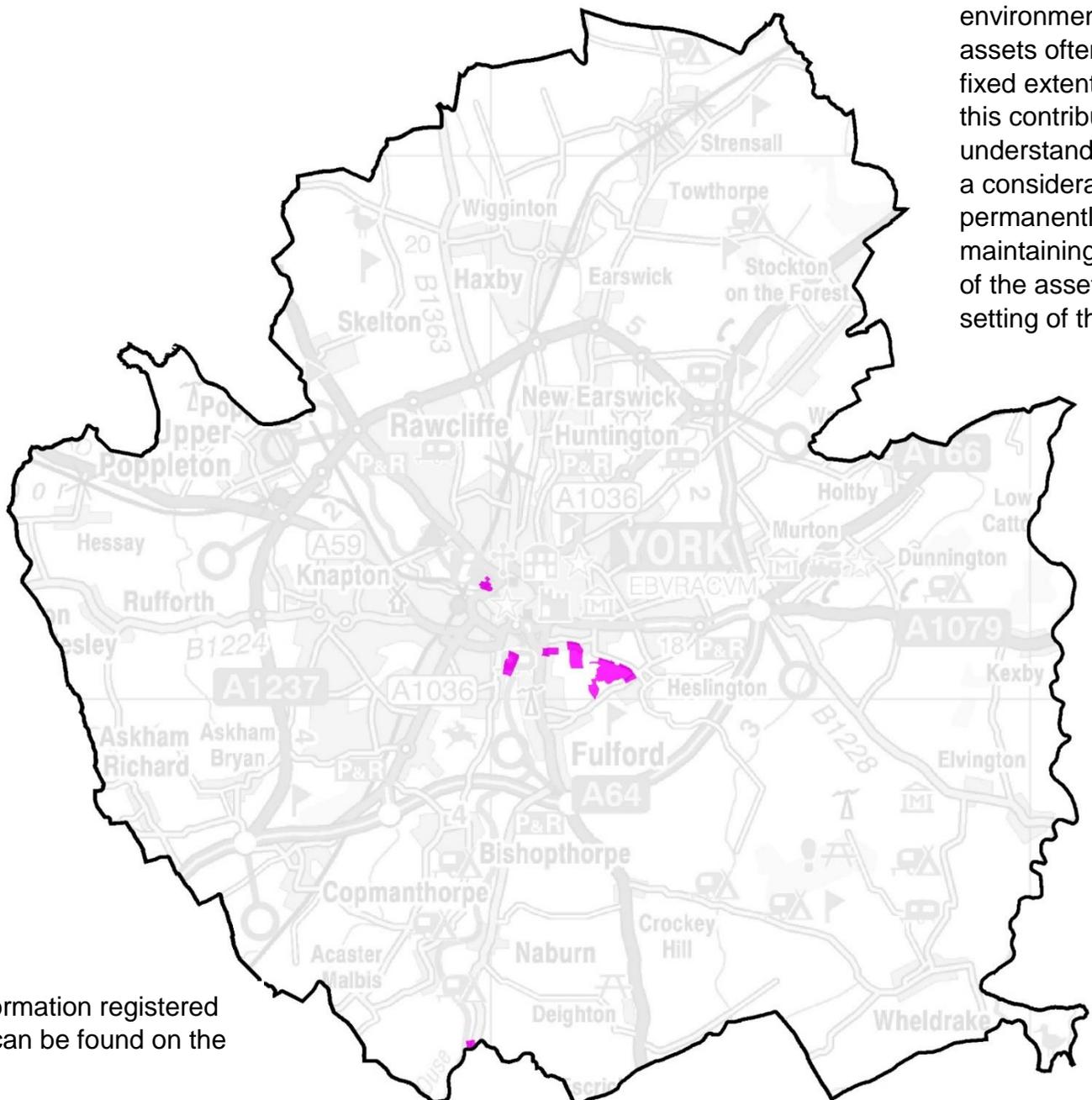
Conservation Areas are a consideration of Purpose 4 (Criteria 1,2,3)

Synopsis of what makes each conservation area special can be found on the [City of York Authority Website](http://www.york.gov.uk).

# 18. Historic Parks and Gardens

NB: Not all Historic Parks and Gardens will have an open setting which needs to be preserved to maintain or enhance significance.

Designated Historic Parks and Gardens are key components of the historic environment. While the setting of these assets often cannot be designated as a fixed extent, where the setting is open and this contributes to the significance or understanding of the asset this should be a consideration on if land needs to be kept permanently open as an element of maintaining or enhancing the significance of the assets, or part of the wider nested setting of the city.



The setting of Historic Parks and Gardens is a consideration of Purpose 4 (Criteria 3)

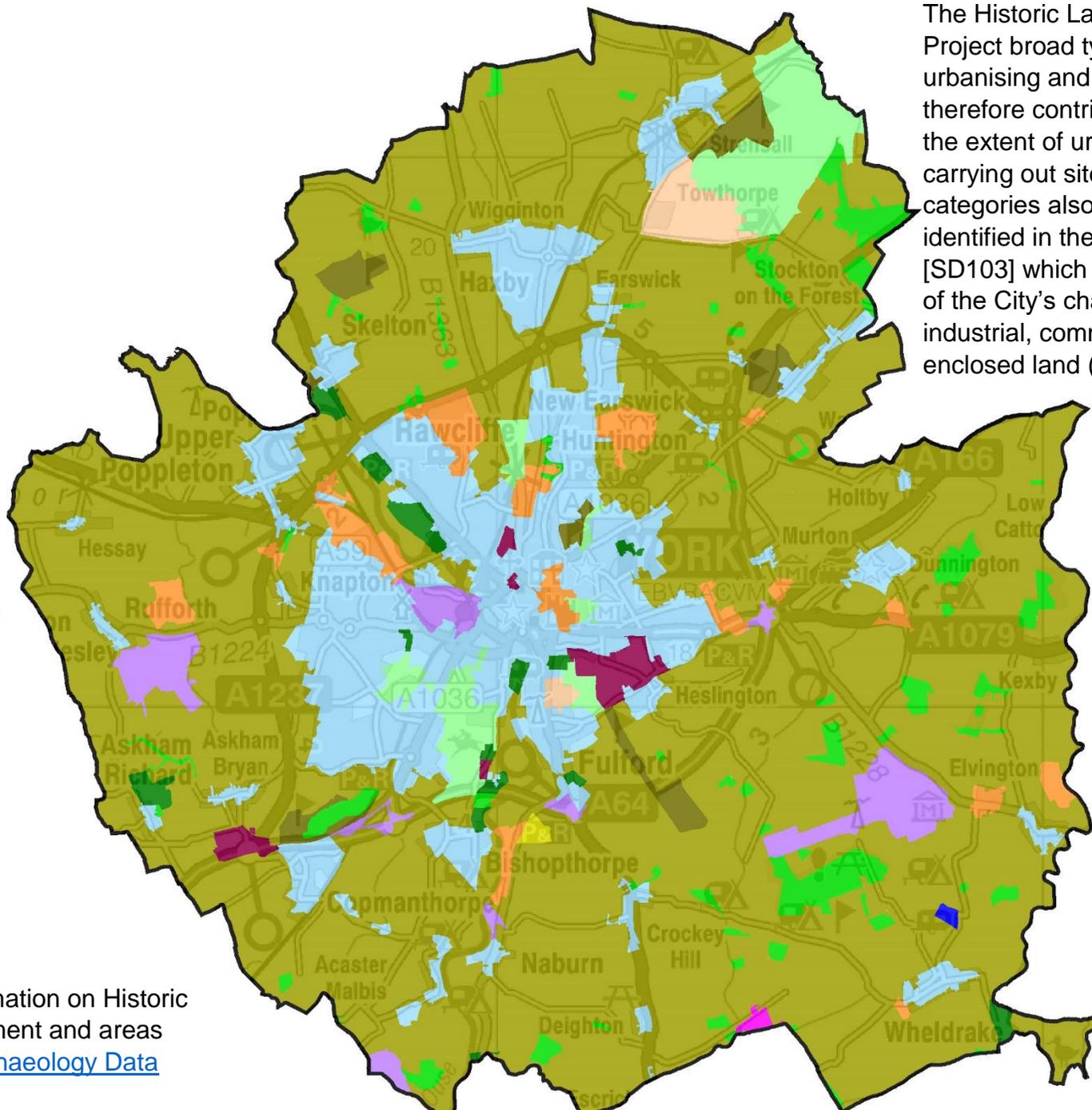
More detailed interactive information registered Historic Parks and gardens can be found on the [Historic England website](https://historicengland.org.uk/).

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# 19a. The North Yorkshire and Lower Tees Valley Historic Landscape Characterisation Project - Broad Area Type

## HLC Broad Type

- Settlement
- Military
- Institutional
- Industrial
- Commercial
  
- Communications
- Extractive
  
- Water
- Designed Landscape
- Recreational
- Woodland
- Enclosed Land
- Unenclosed Land



The Historic Landscape Characterisation Project broad types of land cover both urbanising and rural land uses and therefore contribute to the consideration of the extent of urbanising influences when carrying out site visits. The broad categories also relate to the “themes” identified in the Heritage Topic Paper [SD103] which have shaped the evolution of the City’s character, such as military, industrial, communication (airfields) or enclosed land (Agricultural economy).

NB: Evidence to be considered in terms of its contribution to understanding the heritage and context of the area.

The Historic Land Characterisation Broad types are a consideration of Purpose 4 (Criteria 1+3), Purpose 1 (Criteria 4) Purpose 3 (Criteria 5)

More detailed interactive information on Historic Land Characterisation assessment and areas can be access through the [Archaeology Data Service website](#).

# 19b. The North Yorkshire and Lower Tees Valley Historic Landscape Characterisation Project - Developed

## Settlement Type

- Historic town core
- Through terraces
- Low rise flats
- Planned estate
- Detached housing
- Linear hamlet
- Nucleated hamlet
- Linear village
- Nucleated village
- Green Village

## Military Type

- Military Accomodation

## Commercial Type

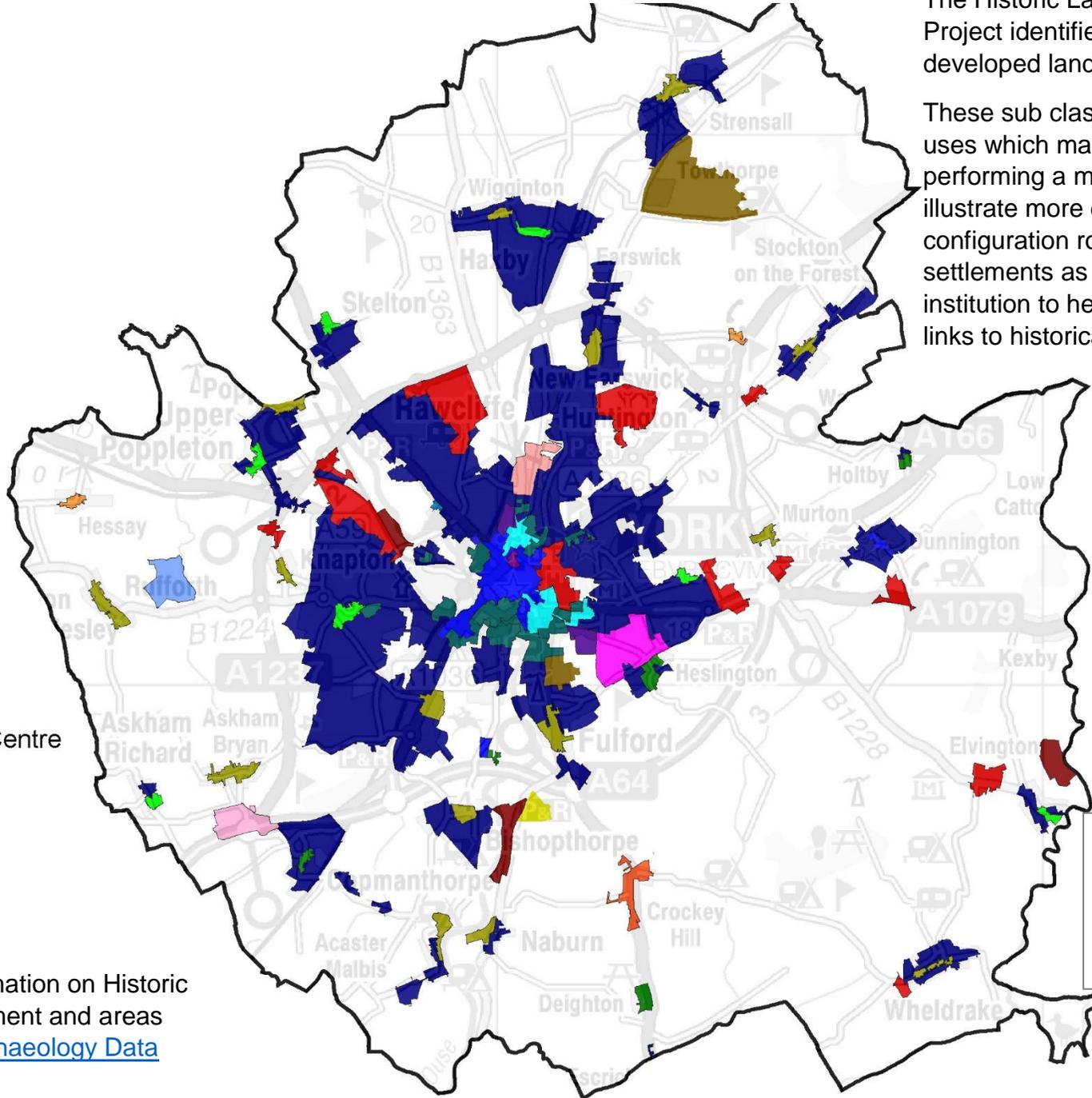
- Retail

## Industrial Type

- Food processing
- Industrial Estate
- Sewerage Treatment Centre

## Institutional Type

- Religious active
- Medical active
- University
- College



The Historic Landscape Characterisation Project identifies sub categories of developed land classification types.

These sub classifications, identify land uses which may be considered as performing a more urban role. These illustrate more detail around the configuration role and core of historic settlements as well as types of industry or institution to help understand potential links to historical “themes”.

NB: Evidence to be considered in terms of its contribution to understanding the heritage and context of the area.

The Historic Land Characterisation Developed land types are a consideration of Purpose 4 (Criteria 1+ 3)

More detailed interactive information on Historic Land Characterisation assessment and areas can be access through the [Archaeology Data Service website](#).

# 19c. The North Yorkshire and Lower Tees Valley Historic Landscape Characterisation Project – Open

The Historic Landscape Characterisation Project identifies sub categories of rural land classification types.

These sub classifications identify the strong historic relationship York has to publically shared strays, ings and common land which has survived as unenclosed land as well as the enclosed land which contributed to the strong agricultural heritage of the city historically. Consideration of the types of landscape and uses can inform evaluation of which land may perform a more urban fringe role.

### Enclosed Land Type

- Crofts associated with settlement
- Large scale private enclosure
- Lowland meadow
- Modern improved fields
- Piecemeal enclosure
- Planned large scale parliamentary enclosure
- Strip fields
- Unknown planned enclosure

### Unenclosed Land Type

- Commonland (Lowland)
- Greens

### Designed landscape Type

- Municipal cemetery
- Allotments
- Public park
- Ornamental parkland
- Unidentified parkland
- Country estate

### Recreational Type

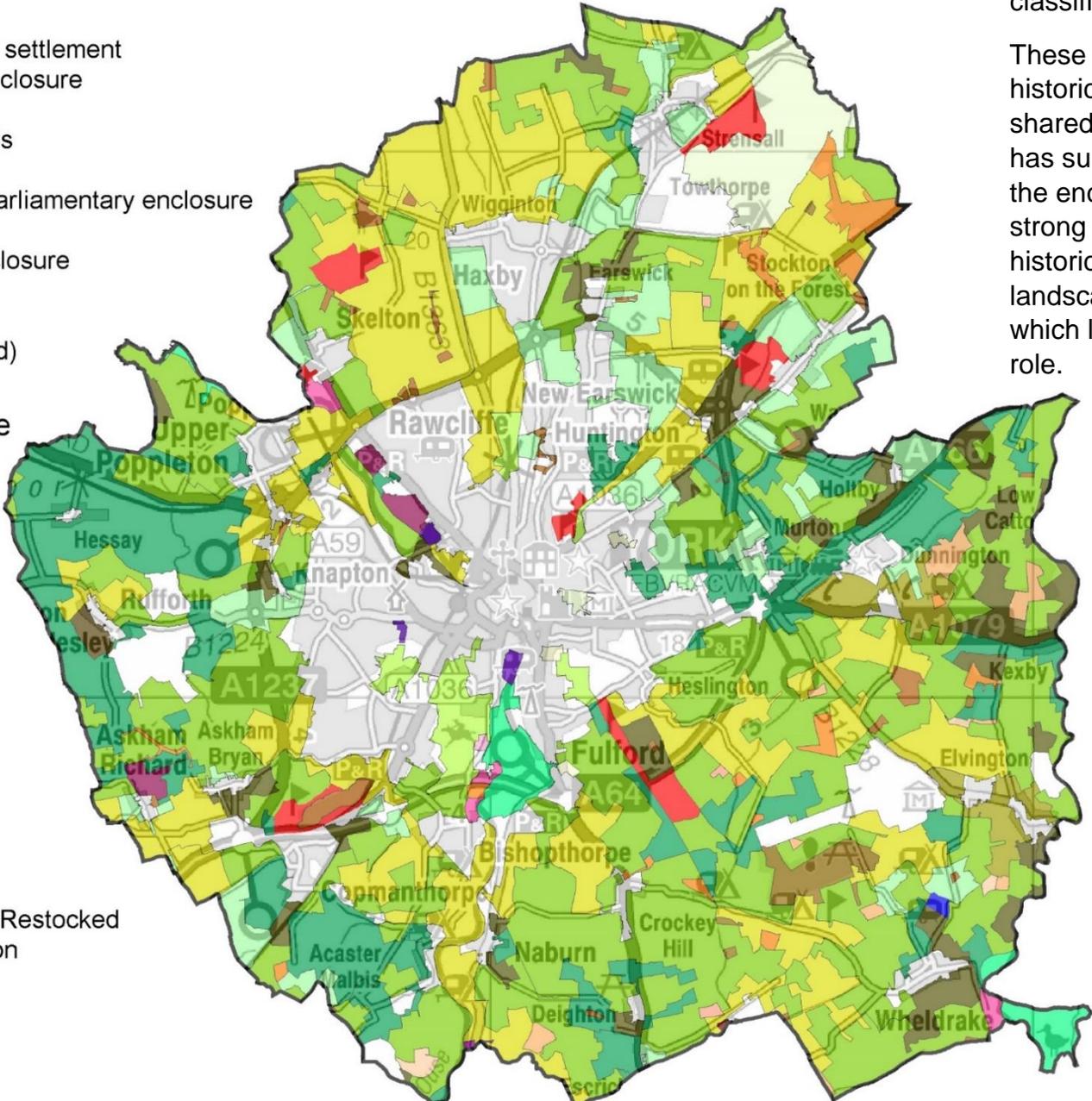
- Golf Course

### Water Type

- Man Made Lake

### Woodland Type

- Ancient Semi Natural
- Ancient Semi Natural Restocked
- Broad-leaved plantation
- Coniferous plantation
- Covert
- Mixed plantation
- Spring wood



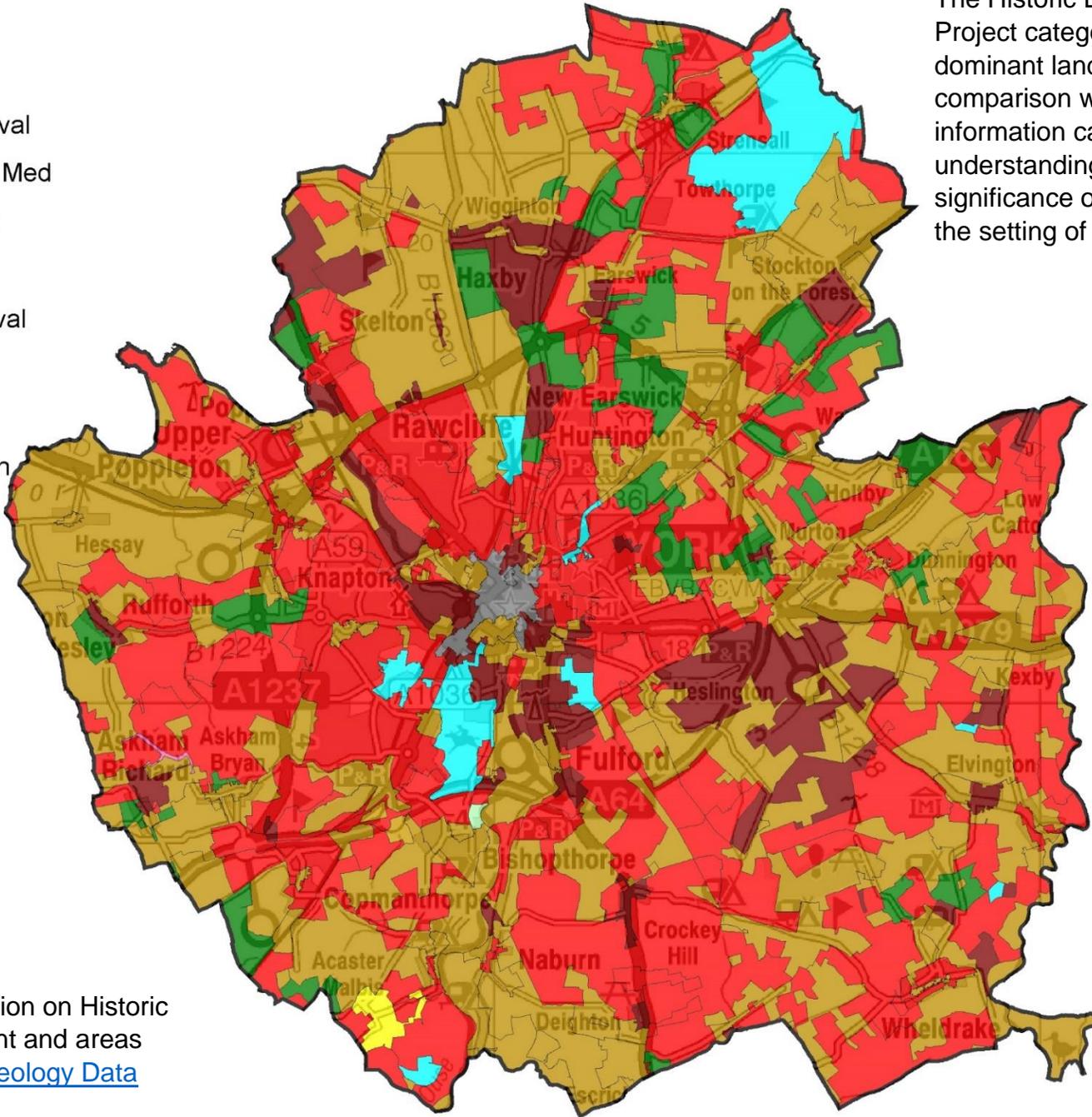
NB: Evidence to be considered in terms of its contribution to understanding the heritage and context of the area.

The Historic Land Characterisation Open land types are a consideration of Purpose 4 (Criteria 3)

# 19d. The North Yorkshire and Lower Tees Valley Historic Landscape Characterisation Project – Age

## Landscape Age

- Undated
- Unknown to Post medieval
- Middle Iron Age to Post Med
- Saxon to Post Medieval
- Medieval
- Medieval to Post Medieval
- Medieval to Modern
- Post Medieval
- Post Medieval to Modern
- Modern
- Undated



The Historic Landscape Characterisation Project categorizes the age of the dominant landscape features through comparison with historical mapping. This information can contribute to understanding the context of the significance of the landscape features to the setting of the city

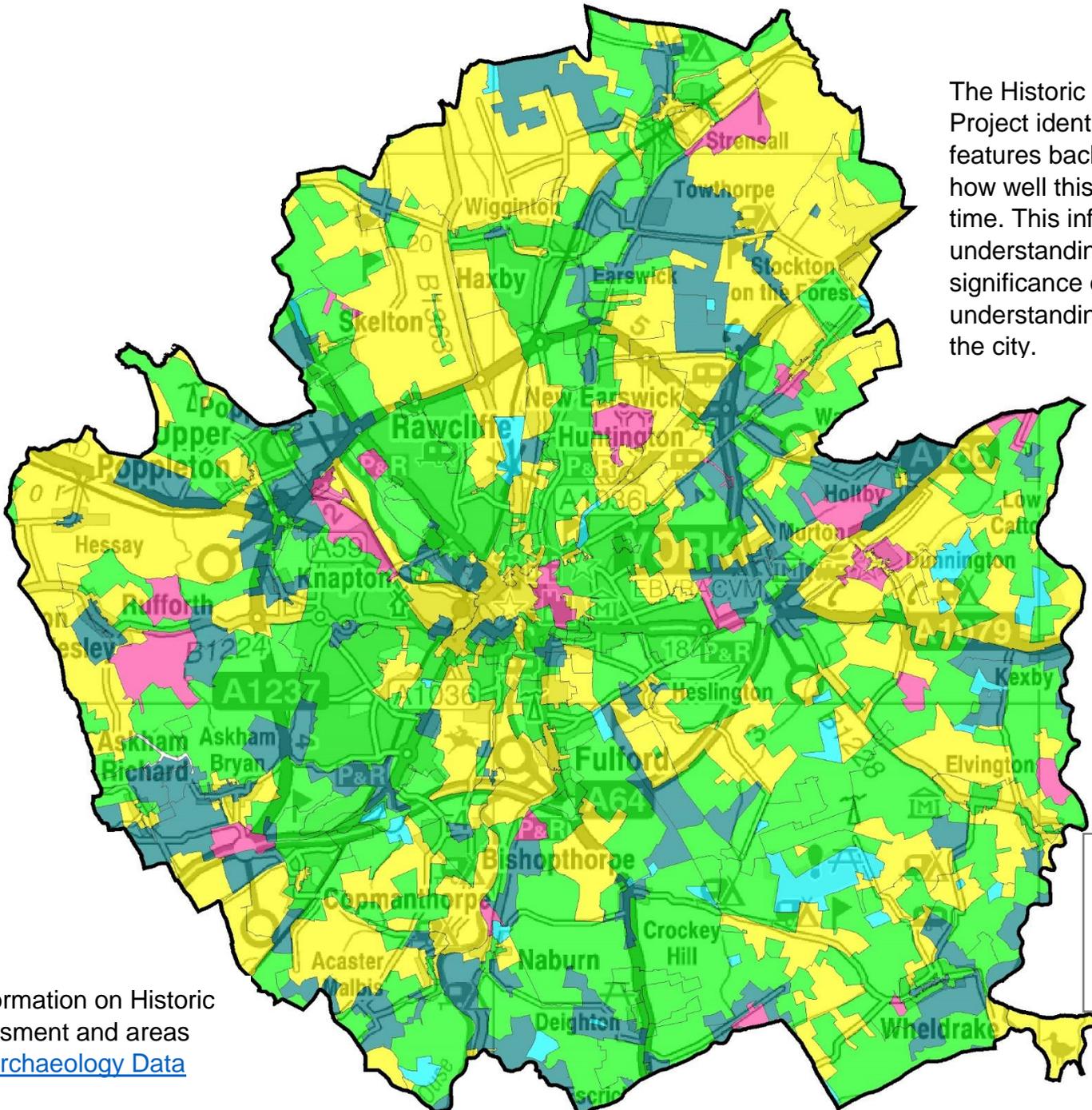
NB: Evidence to be considered in terms of its contribution to understanding the heritage and context of the area.

The Historic Land Characterisation Landscape Age is a consideration of Purpose 4 (Criteria 3)

More detailed interactive information on Historic Land Characterisation assessment and areas can be access through the [Archaeology Data Service website](#).

# 19e. The North Yorkshire and Lower Tees Valley Historic Landscape Characterisation Project – Legibility

- Legibility**
- Complete
  - Significant
  - Fragmentary
  - Partial
  - Invisible



The Historic Landscape Characterisation Project identifies the legibility of landscape features back to their origin as a guide to how well this has been preserved through time. This information can contribute to understanding the context of the significance of the existing landscape to understanding the themes and setting of the city.

NB: Evidence to be considered in terms of its contribution to understanding the heritage and context of the area.

The Historic Land Characterisation Legibility is a consideration of Purpose 4 (Criteria 3)

More detailed interactive information on Historic Land Characterisation assessment and areas can be access through the [Archaeology Data Service website](#).