

**Committee:** Uttlesford Planning Policy Working Group

**Agenda Item**

**Date:** 23 August 2016

**6**

**Title:** The Chesterfords Neighbourhood Plan  
Landscape Assessment

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### Summary

1. The Chesterfords Neighbourhood Plan Group commissioned Hankinson Duckett Associates to undertake a Landscape assessment in May 2015, to help inform the Neighbourhood Plan.
2. The Chesterfords Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group have asked the Council to include this assessment in their evidence base documents.

### Recommendations

3. To note the appended document and include it as part of the Local Plan evidence base

### Financial Implications

4. None

### Background Papers

5. The following papers were referred to by the author in the preparation of this report and are available for inspection from the author of the report.

None

### Impact

- 6.

Communication/Consultation	Internal consultation with Development Management, Landscape and Conservation Officers.
Community Safety	N/A
Equalities	N/A.
Health and Safety	N/A
Human Rights/Legal Implications	N/A

Sustainability	N/A
Ward-specific impacts	Little Chesterford and Great Chesterford
Workforce/Workplace	N/A

## Situation

7. The Chesterfords Neighbourhood Plan Group commissioned Hankinson Duckett Associates to undertake a Landscape Assessment of the two parishes in order to inform the Chesterfords Neighbourhood Plan.
8. The report splits the parishes up into a number of landscape character areas and analysed them against criteria identified in the Countryside Agency's Landscape Character Assessment Guidance, along with identification of any designation, relevant planning policy and consideration of the historic landscape characterisation of the area.
9. Areas have been rated on their sensitivity and value ranging from major, substantial, moderate, slight and negligible. Areas judged to have major or substantial sensitivity or value indicate that some forms of development would have a significant detrimental effect on the character and landscape. Development in these areas should only be on a very small scale and proposals would need to demonstrate no adverse impacts on the setting to settlements or the wider landscape, and be consistent with Local Plan policy. The landscape sensitivity and value table along with scoring for each area are shown in Appendix 2 of the assessment.
10. The group have asked the Council to include this assessment in the Council's local plan evidence base and take it into account in the local plan process.

## Risk Analysis

11.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
If the Neighbourhood Plan evidence is not included and considered in the Local Plan process vital local evidence may be overlooked when allocating sites in	1 - Low	Delays in adopting the Local Plan	The Neighbourhood Plan, if 'Made' will become part of the Development Plan. The Council are working to ensure the Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plan will be aligned and sharing evidence is

the two parishes.			part of that process.
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1 = Little or no risk or impact

2 = Some risk or impact – action may be necessary.

3 = Significant risk or impact – action required

4 = Near certainty of risk occurring, catastrophic effect or failure of project.