

---

**APPENDIX 5: HEREFORD URBAN FRINGE SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS**  
**(Relevant Extracts)**

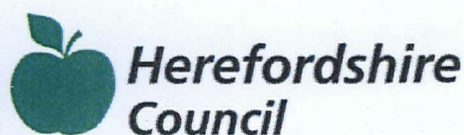
# Urban Fringe Sensitivity Analysis: Hereford and the Market Towns

Local Development Framework

January 2010



Landscape and Biodiversity Team  
Herefordshire Council



Working in partnership for the people of Herefordshire

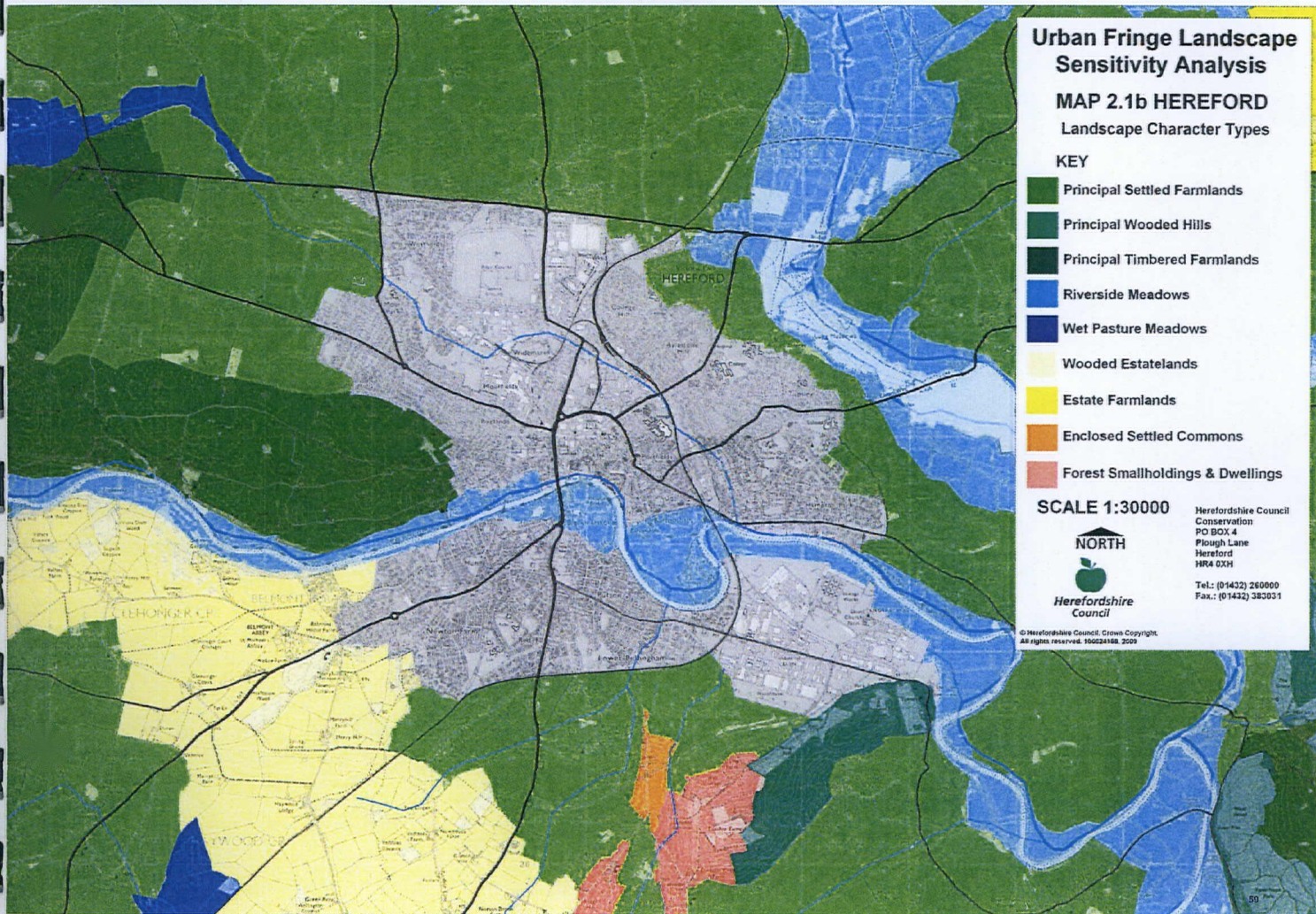


Sensitivity Analysis: the evaluation of the landscape sensitivity of the urban fringe landscape surrounding Hereford and the market towns. As stated previously, zones of land are classified as being one of five levels of landscape sensitivity: 1: Low, 2: Medium-low, 3: Medium, 4: High-medium or 5: High.

- 1.7.2 The landscape sensitivity classification for each zone of land, as shown on the Landscape Sensitivity maps for each town, has been used to inform the Summary Assessments for potential housing sites contained in the SHLAA, as set out below.
- 1.7.3 In the SHLAA, potential housing sites which fall within landscape sensitivity zones classified as 1: Low, 2: Medium-low or 3: Medium landscape sensitivity, in the Urban Fringe Sensitivity Analysis, are marked as having 'low' constraints, in terms of landscape issues. Potential housing sites falling within landscape sensitivity zones classified as 4: Medium-high are marked as being potential sites but with '*significant constraints*' and are placed in the timescale category of '16 – 20 years' – the end of the plan period. Sites put forward for housing which fall within landscape sensitivity zones classified as 5: High are ruled out as having '*no potential*'.
- 1.7.4 The aim of classifying potential housing sites in this way is to ensure the preservation of the most highly valued and sensitive landscape. Only when there is no other alternative and other opportunities have been exhausted should landscapes of lesser sensitivity be encroached on. All landscapes surrounding the Herefordshire towns are constrained by sensitive landscapes. Any development will need to respond to the sensitivity of the landscape and to present acceptable mitigation to resultant change.
- 1.7.5 Summary table of landscape input into the SHLAA

<b>Urban Fringe Sensitivity Analysis: Landscape sensitivity classification</b>	<b>Inputs to:</b>	<b>Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment: Summary Assessments for potential housing sites</b>
Sites proposed for housing falling within landscape sensitivity zones classified as: 1: Low 2: Medium-low 3: Medium	→	Potential housing sites with ' <i>low constraints</i> '
Sites proposed for housing falling within landscape sensitivity zones classified as 4: High-medium	→	Potential housing sites with ' <i>significant constraints</i> ' Placed in the timescale category of '16 – 20 years'
Sites proposed for housing falling within landscape sensitivity zones classified as: 5: High	→	Sites with ' <i>no potential</i> ' for housing





**Urban Fringe Landscape  
Sensitivity Analysis**

**MAP 2.1b HEREFORD**

Landscape Character Types

**KEY**

-  Principal Settled Farmlands
-  Principal Wooded Hills
-  Principal Timbered Farmlands
-  Riverside Meadows
-  Wet Pasture Meadows
-  Wooded Estatelands
-  Estate Farmlands
-  Enclosed Settled Commons
-  Forest Smallholdings & Dwellings

**SCALE 1:30000**

**NORTH**

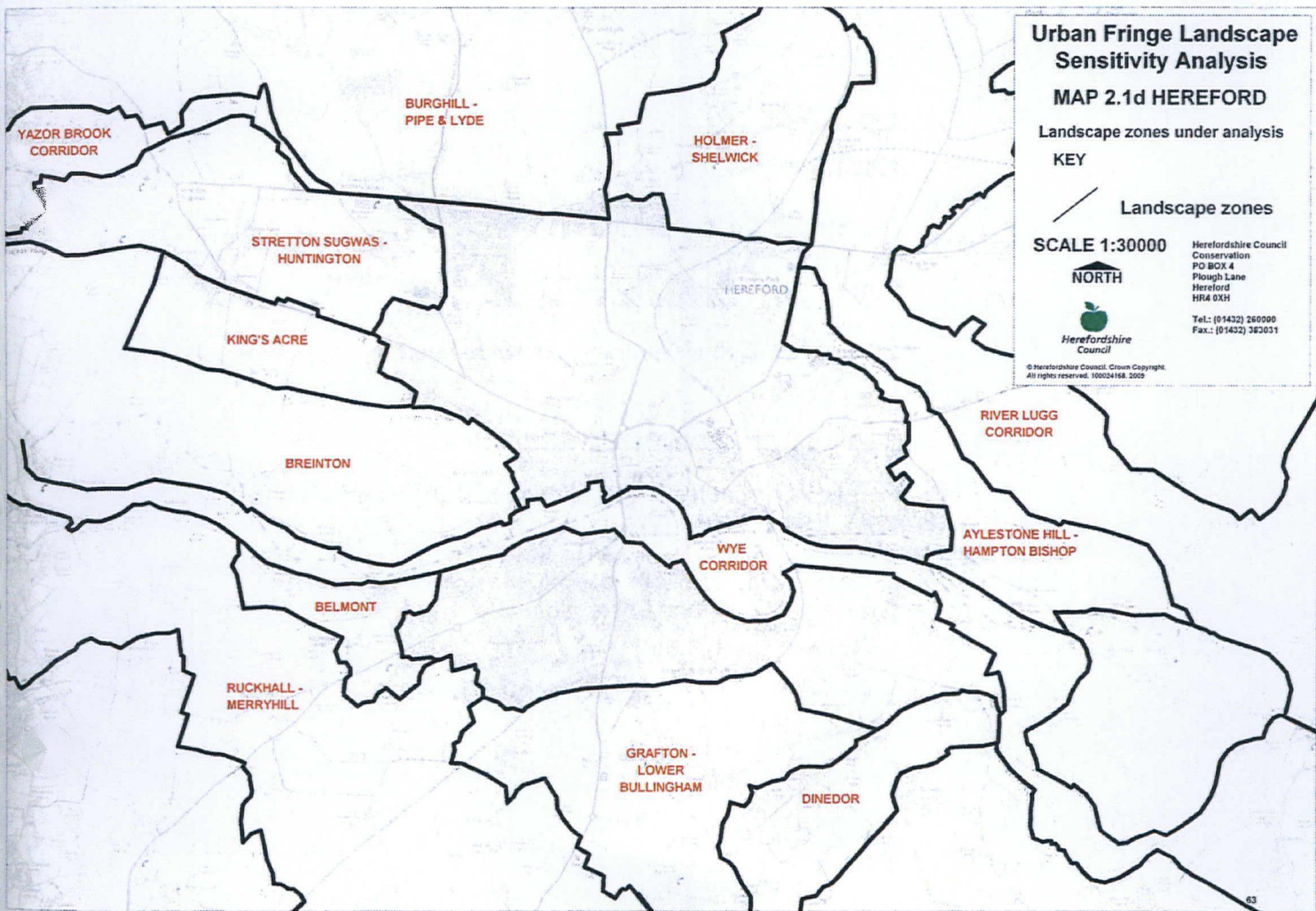


Herefordshire Council  
Conservation  
PO BOX 4  
Plough Lane  
Hereford  
HR4 0XH

Tel.: (01432) 260000  
Fax.: (01432) 383031

© Herefordshire Council. Crown Copyright.  
All rights reserved. 100026108, 2009





# Urban Fringe Landscape Sensitivity Analysis

## MAP 2.1d HEREFORD

Landscape zones under analysis

KEY

— Landscape zones

SCALE 1:30000

NORTH



Herefordshire Council  
Conservation  
PO BOX 4  
Plough Lane  
Hereford  
HR4 0XH  
Tel.: (01432) 260000  
Fax.: (01432) 362031

© Herefordshire Council. Crown Copyright.  
All rights reserved. 100024168. 2009

### 5g Belmont

Photographic viewpoints: 50, 51, 54

Landscape character: Wooded Estatelands

This zone comprises the Belmont House parkland, which has the status of Unregistered Parkland. The parkland includes Belmont pool and Newton Coppice. Belmont House and its associated parkland were designed to capitalise on dramatic views along the Wye valley. The parkland character - parkland trees set within pastoral land has been maintained in the area of parkland which lies between Ruckhall Lane and Belmont House. However, the parkland character has been eroded by the golf course on lower ground adjacent to the River Wye and by the modern housing estate at Belmont which extends up to the eastern boundary of the parkland. Tranquillity has been maintained, particularly in the western part of the parkland. There are some public rights of way through the parkland. This area is very valuable for recreation,

#### Reasons

- The integrity of part of the parkland has been maintained
- Important open views into and out of the site, particularly along and across the River Wye corridor
- Tranquillity of the parkland has been maintained

### 5h Breinton

Photographic viewpoints: 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63

Landscape type: Principal Timbered Farmlands, Principal Settled Farmlands

This zone has an intimate, tranquil landscape character created by the mosaic of small to medium sized fields, small areas of woodland, orchards and winding lanes. The field boundary hedgerows and densely scattered hedgerow oaks, together with infield oaks, create a sense of unity. This area is very important for recreation, with excellent links from the King's Acre, Whitecross and Broomy Hill housing areas onto a dense network of public rights of way and quiet country lanes. The Wye Valley Walk, a long distance footpath, runs along the bank of the River Wye. In addition, a young woodland owned by the Woodland Trust, on the north side of the bridleway (BT4) which follows the Breinton ridge, is public access land which is well-used by local people. The complexity and variety in the Breinton landscape is key to its appeal – the ridgeline, winding lanes, the Wye valley and woodland walks all offer contrasting experiences within a comparatively small area.

#### Reasons

- High quality rural landscape which has maintained its integrity
- Very important area for informal recreation
- Tranquillity of this area has been maintained



