

## L4L19 SV2 Summary Sheet:

### Site Visit Title:

Natural Beauty, Special Qualities and Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment

### Description:

A classroom session in which he explored the concept of NB and SQ and how this helps define character and a unique sense of place and how NB and SQ can be impacted by development.

A further classroom session exploring the process of LVIA to demonstrate its usefulness for understanding potential impacts of new development on both landscape character and NB and SQ. Delegates then had the opportunity to consider the landscape and visual impacts of a mock planning proposal along with potential modifications and mitigation to reduce these.

### Themes:

- Natural Beauty and Special Qualities
- Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
- Planning in an AONB

### Outcomes and Outputs:

Output 1: Production of a single paged summary produced by the Leaders on what has been learned.

Output 2: Leaders to prepare crib sheet for delegates to take away about offering advice to Local Planning Authorities on Natural Beauty and Special Qualities

Outcome 1: Improved understanding of concept of NB+SQ

Outcome 2: Improved knowledge of LVIA as a process

### Lessons Learnt:

- Understanding of NB and SQ.
- How to Undertake/commission a NB+SQ Assessment, see NE 2011 guidance
- Impact of Climate Change on NB+SQ
- Promote AONB Management Plan to relevant LPAs as material consideration
- Understand the full impacts of planning proposals on the NB+SQ
- Support LPAs during appeals to raise awareness with planning inspectors
- Keep up to date with planning appeal decisions where NB+SQ is referenced - share on Basecamp!
- Run training for your LPAs/elected Members on Natural Beauty.
- The need for national guidance on AONB setting issues-how to be progressed?

### Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment

- Make sure LVIA assesses impacts of planning proposals thoroughly in line with GLVIA methodology

- LVIA's should describe change; both proposed and the magnitude of change.
- When assessing a site consider the following: is the site representative? What role does it play in the landscape? Does it provide a wider function?
- Viewpoints are critical and should be agreed as part of LVIA process. Viewpoint images should highlight winter and night time scenarios.
- Be prepared to challenge the results of LVIA's – use your valuable local expertise!
- Not all mitigation is positive-mitigation should conserve and enhance the NB+SQ.

#### Photos:



#### Quotes:

A big thank you to Bev and Paula for such a great day yesterday– it really lived up to expectations and I got so much out of it! It was also lovely to be with fellow AONB staff – on days like yesterday, it reminds me why I'm doing the job! (Katie Miller, Kent Downs AONB).

#### Where to find more info:

- Guidance for assessing landscapes for designation as National Park or Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in England NE, 2011  
[https://consult.defra.gov.uk/natural-england/suffolk-coast-and-heaths/aonb/supporting\\_documents/Guidance%20for%20assessing%20landscapes%20for%20designation%20as%20National%20Park%20or%20AONB%20in%20England.pdf](https://consult.defra.gov.uk/natural-england/suffolk-coast-and-heaths/aonb/supporting_documents/Guidance%20for%20assessing%20landscapes%20for%20designation%20as%20National%20Park%20or%20AONB%20in%20England.pdf)
- Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (3rd Edition) - available to purchase The Landscape Institute
- Planning in a Designated Landscape Dedham Vale AONB & Stour Valley and Suffolk Coast & Heaths AONB (conference report, 2019) -  
<http://www.dedhamvalestourvalley.org/assets/planning/2019-event/Planning-in-a-Designated-Landscape-Report.pdf>

Dedham Vale Use of Colour Guide in Development:

Survey: <http://www.dedhamvalestourvalley.org/assets/planning/Use-of-Colour-2018/DV-Use-of-Colour-Survey.pdf>

Guide: <http://www.dedhamvalestourvalley.org/assets/planning/Use-of-Colour-2018/DV-Use-of-Colour-Guidance.pdf>

#### Names and contact details of leaders and any experts

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