



Dear Sir / Madam

Proposed Yorkshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

I am really pleased to launch a statutory and public consultation on Natural England's proposals to designate a new Yorkshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The consultation will begin on **8 October 2024** and will end at midnight on **13 January 2025**. England's network of AONBs recognises areas where the landscape has outstanding natural beauty and aims to conserve and enhance them. AONBs were recently rebranded as National Landscapes, however when designating Natural England still legally designates an AONB. To avoid confusion, this letter thus refers to AONB throughout. If an AONB is subsequently designated then it would be branded as a National Landscape.

This letter accompanies a consultation pack which will give you more information on the proposals for a new Yorkshire Wolds AONB. The consultation is your opportunity to comment on these proposals. We are keen to hear your views on whether the areas proposed for AONB designation have the outstanding natural beauty necessary to be an AONB, whether they should be given AONB status, and if so, where the boundaries should be drawn.

Please find enclosed the following:

- A consultation document outlining the proposal and consultation
- A response form for you to complete giving your views about the proposals
- Detailed maps of the proposed new AONB and its boundary
- A factsheet
- A return envelope

If you wish to send us your comments about these proposals, you can formally respond to this consultation by completing the online response form at <https://consult.defra.gov.uk/ne-landscape-heritage-and-geodiversity-team/yorkshire-wolds-designation/>, or by completing the enclosed paper version of the form. If you wish to provide additional information with the paper version of the response form, we would be particularly grateful if you could do so using the relevant headings and question numbers in the questionnaire to assist us in addressing your response effectively.

Further copies of the consultation documents can be downloaded from <https://consult.defra.gov.uk/ne-landscape-heritage-and-geodiversity-team/yorkshire-wolds-designation/>. Additional detailed supporting documents can also be viewed or downloaded from the above link. Physical copies of the supporting documents will also be available at specific locations, please see the project website [Yorkshire Wolds Designation Project \(yorkshire-wolds-designation-project.org\)](https://yorkshire-wolds-designation-project.org) for more details. If you would like to find out more about the issues before giving your comments, we will be hosting drop in events in the local area during October and November 2024. Details will be advertised locally as well as on the website set out above. Alternatively, you can contact the project team on 0300 060 3900 or email the project mailbox at YorksWoldsDesignationProject@naturalengland.org.uk.

Please submit your comments by **midnight on 13 January 2025**.

Thank you for taking the time to consider our proposals. We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "P.A. Duncan".

Paul Duncan
Area Deputy Director, Yorkshire and Northern Lincolnshire
Natural England