



Yorkshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Designation Project

**Frequently Asked Questions, Glossary of Terms, Abbreviations and
Acronyms and Useful Information**

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Introduction

Natural England is the public body responsible for conserving and enhancing the natural environment in England. One of Natural England's responsibilities is to decide whether an area should be given special status and protection by designating it as a National Park or Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB¹).

The proposed Yorkshire Wolds AONB project has now reached the stage of statutory consultation. This provides everyone, from local authorities and infrastructure providers through to landowners, businesses, residents, and visitors, with the opportunity to have their say and to look at the work carried out to date and the proposals for a new AONB.

A number of documents (the **Consultation Pack**) have been written, explaining the process and the proposals, and these are available to view online, or to take home from events that will be held within the local area. In addition, copies of more technical documents (**Supporting Information**), such as the assessments that have been carried out, are also available to view online and within local libraries and local authority offices.

The purpose of this document is to help inform about AONBs and the Yorkshire Wolds Designation Project in particular; the designation process and Natural England's role; as well as some of the implications for any area that may be designated as an AONB.

This document includes a number of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and their answers; a Glossary of terms; a list of abbreviations and acronyms used within the consultation documents; and a list of useful contact details and websites. Please note that words or phrases written in **bold italic** have their own entries within the Glossary, providing further information or explanation.

¹ AONBs have recently been rebranded as National Landscapes. Under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, Natural England would designate an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), not a National Landscape. Therefore, this document will continue to refer to the area as a proposed AONB. If designated, it would then be known as a National Landscape.

Frequently Asked Questions

The Frequently Asked Questions section of this document is divided into four sections:

- AONB Background Information
- Yorkshire Wolds Designation Project Information
- The Designation Process
- The Implications of Designation

AONB Background Information

Q. What is an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)?

A. An Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is land protected by legislation, the ***Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000***, in order to ensure that its ***natural beauty*** is conserved and enhanced. The ***Act*** defines an AONB as an area which appears to Natural England to be of such outstanding natural beauty that it is desirable that the provisions of the CRoW Act should apply to it for the purpose of conserving and enhancing the area's natural beauty. There are currently 34 AONBs in England.

There is no existing AONB in the Yorkshire Wolds. If, as a result of this project, a new Yorkshire Wolds AONB is designated, it would be the first new AONB to be designated in England since Nidderdale AONB in 1994.

AONBs have recently been rebranded as National Landscapes. Legally Natural England would designate an AONB, not a national landscape. Therefore, this document will continue to refer to the area as an AONB. See Glossary and questions below for further information.

Q. What does an AONB do?

A. Designation as an AONB provides statutory recognition of the national importance of the natural beauty of the area and makes it a legal requirement for the relevant local authorities, in partnership, to prepare and publish a management plan and for partners to contribute to their delivery. See the 'Implications of Designation' section below for more detail.

Q. What is Natural England's remit?

A. Natural England is the government's adviser on the natural environment, with special legal responsibilities for creating National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and for reviewing their boundaries. We also have a wide range of other responsibilities for the natural environment. More information about our work can be found at www.gov.uk/government/organisations/natural-england.

Q. Who makes the decision to designate?

A. It is Natural England's responsibility to decide whether to designate an area as an AONB. Legally, Natural England has a discretionary power under S.82 of the **Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000**, to designate Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Any decision will be made by **Natural England's Board**, having considered the evidence and the results of the **statutory and public consultation**. However, any designation **Order** would not take effect unless, and until, subsequently confirmed by the **Secretary of State (Defra)**, after a legal **Notice Period** has been undertaken. The **Secretary of State** has the power to call a **Public Inquiry** to assist in their final decision making if so minded.

Q. How does Natural England decide which areas should be designated as AONBs?

A. In deciding whether to designate an AONB, or to vary an existing AONB boundary, Natural England must first consider whether the land has outstanding natural beauty; and then whether designation is desirable for the purpose of conserving and enhancing the area's natural beauty. This decision requires Natural England to address three broad questions:

- Does the landscape have sufficient natural beauty to be considered outstanding?
- Is it desirable, in order to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the area, to designate this landscape as an AONB?
- Where should the boundary be drawn?

Q Why are you proposing to designate the Yorkshire Wolds as an AONB rather than a National Landscape?

A. AONBs were recently rebranded as National Landscapes. Legally however, Natural England can only designate an AONB. To avoid confusion, all documentation and consultation materials refer to AONB throughout. If an AONB is subsequently designated, then it would be known as a National Landscape.

Yorkshire Wolds Designation Project Information

Q. Why is the area being considered for designation as AONB and why is this work being undertaken now?

A. The local authorities covering the Yorkshire Wolds have long considered that the Yorkshire Wolds should be designated as an **Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty** (AONB). Much of the area under consideration has been designated locally in recognition of its landscape value, either as Important Landscape Areas (East Riding of Yorkshire Council) or Areas of High Landscape Value (former Ryedale District Council). Representations requesting the designation of this area have been made to Natural England and predecessor bodies over a number of years.

In June 2021, following the publication of the government commissioned 'Landscapes Review' (Glover Review), it was announced that Natural England would be taking forward

the government's commitment to designate additional landscapes and that they would be considering the designation of four new landscapes. This included the possible designation of a new Yorkshire Wolds AONB.

Q. What areas are being considered for designation?

A. To be designated AONB, an area must have outstanding levels of natural beauty, and this is determined through a natural beauty assessment. The initial Area of Search covered land in [National Character Area 27 \(Yorkshire Wolds\)](#). This area of search stretched across North and East Yorkshire, from Hull in the south to Flamborough Head in the north-east and to the boundary of the Howardian Hills AONB in the north-west.

Following a detailed assessment of the natural beauty, the results of which are contained in the consultation material, two smaller areas were selected to become the potential AONB Candidate Area and are now being considered for designation:

- **Inland Area:** Comprising the north and west escarpment of the Wolds, the foothills south of Malton and the High Wolds and their valley systems
- **Coastal Area:** Extending between Reighton and Sewerby Rocks

A more detailed description of the areas being considered, and an explanation for why they have been included, can be found within the **Consultation Pack** documents and the **Supporting Information** documents.

Have you already engaged with the public on this project and what was the outcome of that exercise?

A. Natural England sought the views of the public and key stakeholders on a provisional candidate area for designation during an early engagement exercise in June 2022. During this process, around 700 people visited the project website, over 450 attended events and around 250 written responses were received.

All comments were considered by the consultant team undertaking the assessments. As a result of the engagement further extensive field assessments were carried out informing the definition of the final Candidate Area.

For more information about the technical process of designation, please see **The Designation Process** section below.

Q. How will local people be able to take part and have their say?

A. Letting local people and organisations have their say is an important part of the designation process. There are lots of opportunities for you to ask questions and say what you think about the proposal for a new Yorkshire Wolds AONB.

Natural England have been working collaboratively with local partners since the start of the project. Local people and organisations took part in informal engagement events held in 2022 and were able to contribute to evidence gathering as well.

The project is now at the formal **statutory consultation stage** and members of the public have another opportunity to view the proposals and have their say. A number of online and in-person events are planned over the coming months. Please look out for press releases and posters, or visit <https://consult.defra.gov.uk/ne-landscape-heritage-and-geodiversity-team/yorkshire-wolds-designation> to find out when and where they are happening.

These events will help explain the designation process and the work that has been carried out to date. Response forms are included within the **Consultation Pack** and will provide you with an easy way to tell us what you think. An online response form can be completed at <https://consult.defra.gov.uk/ne-landscape-heritage-and-geodiversity-team/yorkshire-wolds-designation>, where copies of the Consultation Pack documents are available to view and download. Alternatively, hard copies can be taken home from in-person events, or you can ask to have a copy sent to you in the post.

After the statutory consultation finishes, there will be a period when Natural England and their Consultants will consider all of the responses that have been received. There are a number of different outcomes that can result from this stage of the process, depending on the responses received, as described in the next question below.

Eventually, however, a decision will be made about whether to proceed with the proposed designation and what should be included within that proposal. At this stage, if it is decided that the proposal to designate a new Yorkshire Wolds AONB should continue, the project will progress towards a formal stage in the process known as the **Notice Period**.

The **Notice Period** provides another opportunity for members of the public to view the proposals and have their say. Details of when the **Notice Period** is taking place, and how to view the proposals, will be widely advertised nearer the time. If you would like to be kept informed, you can email the designation team on YorksWoldsDesignationProject@naturalengland.org.uk and we will keep you updated.

For a list of useful contact details and websites, please refer to the **Useful Information** section at the end of this document.

Q. How would a new Yorkshire Wolds AONB be managed?

A. **Local authorities** are responsible for preparing and publishing **management plans** for AONBs and have powers to carry out necessary management. However, they are not solely responsible for caring for AONBs. Partnerships are a valuable means of coordinating the management of areas of countryside in multiple ownership. They bring together interested parties and encourage a strong sense of 'ownership' to care for the area. **AONB partnerships** are often set up as local authority **Joint Advisory Committees** (JACs), some have been established as a conference, forum, trust or, as a joint local government committee. Since the **CRoW Act**, there can also be statutory **conservation boards** set up to manage an AONB, although this requires parliamentary time to develop an Establishment Order.

The work of an **AONB Partnership** is achieved through an AONB Management Unit taking forward a range of initiatives that promote the special character of the area, establish partnerships, secure funding, ensure implementation and monitor effectiveness. In recognition that AONBs are nationally important landscapes, 75% of the AONB Unit's core costs are typically funded by central government through **Defra**. The remaining 25% of core costs

are usually funded by the local authorities with land in the AONB, to reflect their statutory responsibilities towards the AONB. The degree of funding available varies considerably and would be decided by Defra and the local authorities once a new AONB is designated. As an example, the nearby Lincolnshire Wolds National Landscape currently receives around £190,000 from Defra whilst the local authorities contribute £69,000.

Q. What are the steps and expected timescales?

A. Natural England has appointed consultants experienced in this area of work who have been assisting throughout the process so far. This work has included evidence gathering with local people and stakeholders prior to undertaking the technical assessment of natural beauty; determining the desirability of designating a new Yorkshire Wolds AONB; and developing a proposed boundary which includes areas assessed as having outstanding natural beauty.

The following is a summary of the practical steps being followed (with indicative timescales for each):

- Call for evidence on Natural Beauty of the Area of Search from Key Stakeholders - **April 2022**
- Review of available evidence relevant to the assessment of natural beauty and technical assessment of natural beauty in the field - **May 2022**
- Awareness raising workshops and webinars for key stakeholder organisations - **June 2022**
- Public call for review of draft Candidate Area via an online engagement platform and project website, as well as via face to face drop in events - **June 2022**
- Preparation of recommended Candidate Area and supporting justification and the natural beauty assessment report - **December 2022**
- Assessment of desirability to designate - **June 2023**
- Assessment to define a proposed boundary - **December 2023**
- NE approval of technical assessments and approval to undertake the statutory consultation – **September 2024**
- Preparation of documentation for and subsequent undertaking of the statutory consultation – **October 2024 to January 2025**

Going forward:

- Review responses to the statutory consultation and produce Consultation Analysis Report – **January to May 2025**
- NE Board approval of the final assessments of whether Natural England should designate a new Yorkshire Wolds AONB and, if yes, approval of a draft Order designating a new AONB and approval to proceed to a formal period of Notice - dates to be confirmed but **approximately June 2025**
- Preparation for Formal period of Notice and analysis of responses - dates to be confirmed but **approximately Autumn 2025 to Spring 2026**
- Order made and submitted to the Secretary of State (Defra) designating a new Yorkshire Wolds AONB - dates to be confirmed but **approximately Summer 2026**

Q. When is the project to consider designating a new AONB expected to be completed?

A. The process that must be followed when designating a new AONB is complex and can take a considerable length of time as a result.

Assuming that the timetable set out above is followed, and that it is decided that a new Yorkshire Wolds AONB should be designated, it is hoped that a designation **Order** would be submitted to the **Secretary of State** for a decision in the Summer of 2026.

However, it is not possible to say how long it will take the **Secretary of State** to make a decision, or whether they may call a **Public Inquiry**.

Q. What will happen after the statutory and public consultation?

A. After the statutory consultation finishes, there will be a period when Natural England and their Consultants will consider all of the responses that have been received. There are a number of different outcomes that can result from this stage of the process, depending on the responses received.

It may be that the proposals require changing in response to evidence provided during the consultation stage, such as changes to the boundary and whether an area of land is included, or not. If, as a result of the statutory consultation, a significant area of additional land needs to be included within the proposed boundary an additional statutory consultation may be required.

Once proposals are finalised, the project moves towards an important stage of the designation process - the **Notice Period**. Preparation for the **Notice Period** requires a number of key tasks to be completed:

- drafting a legal document called a **designation Order**
- seeking **Natural England Board** approval
- publishing a legal Notice of Natural England's intention to make (sign and seal) the **designation Order**

During the **Notice Period** details of the final proposals will be published, including a draft copy of the **designation Order** and maps, and supporting information. The **Notice Period** will last for a month and will provide another opportunity for members of the public to view the proposals and have their say.

The final stage in the process is for the **Secretary of State** to decide whether to confirm Natural England's **designation Order**. The **Secretary of State** may call a **Public Inquiry** to assist in their decision. The **Secretary of State** can decide to:

- confirm the **Order** as it is, or
- confirm the **Order** with amendments, or
- decline to confirm the **Order**.

There is no set timescale for this process.

Q. Who are the statutory consultees in the Yorkshire Wolds project area?

A. The **Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000** requires Natural England to undertake a statutory Local Authority consultation of all county, unitary, district and borough councils affected by the proposals prior to reaching a final decision. In this case, the relevant bodies are East Riding of Yorkshire Council, York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority and North Yorkshire Council.

However, it is common practice for Natural England to consult more widely than just the **statutory consultees** at this point in a landscape designation project and Natural England is opening this consultation to anyone with an interest in the project, including the public.

Q. The Howardian Hills National Landscape shares a boundary with the Proposed Yorkshire Wolds AONB. What are the implications?

A. Whilst the landscapes of the proposed Yorkshire Wolds AONB and the Howardian Hills National Landscape are located next to each other and share a boundary, their character and special landscape characteristics are different. Away from the shared boundary, the Yorkshire Wolds becomes increasingly influenced by the chalk which defines it, and which clearly sets it apart from the limestone landscape of the Howardian Hills. Having a separate Yorkshire Wolds AONB means that each area can retain their own unique identity and have separate **management plans** and funding to deal with their different issues and priorities.

The Designation Process

Q. How does Natural England go about fulfilling its statutory responsibility?

A. Natural England follows an established procedure when carrying out designation work to ensure that they fulfil their statutory responsibility. Natural England policy sets out the key stages of the process that are needed to meet the requirements of the relevant legislation. In addition, Natural England has produced a guidance document* which sets out the process to be followed when assessing landscapes for designation as a National Park or AONB. **The Guidance*** is a technical document that takes account of landscape designation legislation, as well as previous designation work, public inquiries, and court cases.

In deciding whether to designate an AONB, or to vary an existing AONB boundary, Natural England must consider three key questions:

- Does the landscape have sufficient natural beauty to be considered outstanding?
- Is it desirable in order to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the area, to designate this landscape as an AONB?
- Where should the boundary be drawn?

Guidance on Assessing Landscapes for Designation as National Park or Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty*, Natural England, June 2021. This document can be viewed online, or as a hard copy within the **Supporting Information folders available to view at local libraries and local authority offices.

Q. How is the assessment of Natural Beauty undertaken?

A. Natural beauty is a **subjective** characteristic of a landscape. Therefore, when considering whether an area has sufficient natural beauty, Natural England must make a **value judgment** and evaluate how people are likely to perceive the landscape.

To make these judgments in a transparent and consistent way, Natural England uses several criteria. These criteria are set out in **the Guidance** and include; landscape and scenic quality; relative wildness; relative tranquillity; and contributions made to natural beauty by natural and cultural heritage features and associations.

The relevance of these factors has been established and confirmed through 70 years' experience of landscape designations.

The natural beauty assessment process is described in more detail within the **Consultation Pack** and **Supporting Information** documents.

Q. How does Natural England decide whether it is desirable to designate land as an AONB?

A. Even though an area has been assessed as having sufficient natural beauty, it does not necessarily mean that it will be designated as an AONB. It must also be decided that it is desirable to designate the area as an AONB.

To make this decision, several questions are considered:

- Is there an area which satisfies AONB technical 'natural beauty' criterion?
- Is the area of such significance that the AONB purpose should apply to it?
- What are the issues affecting the area's special qualities, understanding and enjoyment, and what effect would designation have on these issues?
- Can AONB purposes be best pursued through the management mechanisms, powers and duties which come with AONB designation?
- Are there other relevant factors which tend to suggest whether it is or is not desirable to designate the area?

Having considered these questions and relevant evidence, Natural England decides whether it is desirable, or in the best interests of the landscape, to be designated as AONB.

Q. How is the boundary decided for a new AONB?

A. Setting the boundary is the final task to be completed in the technical assessment stage of a designation project. It only happens once Natural England has decided that an area has sufficient natural beauty and that it is desirable to designate it as AONB.

Natural England uses well-established boundary making principles to define a suitable boundary. Key considerations include the following:

- Transitional areas
- Types of boundary
- Other administrative boundaries

- Settlements
- Incongruous development
- Proposed development
- Features of interest

Wherever possible, a clear physical feature should be chosen to define the boundary. It is also important to note that landscape and scenic quality rarely changes suddenly. Where there is an area of transition, the boundary is drawn towards the high-quality end of the area of transition, excluding areas of lower quality.

A more detailed description of the boundary setting process is included within the **Consultation Pack** and **Supporting Information** documents.

The Implications of Designation

Q. What will change as a result of designation as an AONB?

Designation as an AONB would provide formal recognition of the national importance of the natural beauty of the area concerned, and, as a consequence, would provide the basis for a more coordinated and integrated approach to management.

Benefits include:

- **Management Plan:** A coordinated and integrated management approach to achieve the AONB purpose of conservation and enhancement of **natural beauty**
- **Specialist Advice:** Resources and skills in an AONB Management Unit - access to a team with specialist skills and expertise, helping to conserve and enhance the area's special qualities
- **Statutory Duties:** A statutory duty to further the purpose of **designation**, i.e. the conservation and enhancement of the natural beauty of the area within the new AONB
- **Funding:** Access to additional sources of funding not available to non-designated landscapes

Q. How will AONB designation affect planning?

A. . All planning decisions will continue to be made by the existing local **planning authorities**. However, designation as an AONB does mean that an area will be subject to some increased controls on development.

The **National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2023** states that 'great weight should be given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty which have the highest status of protection in relation to these issues'. This affects planning within an AONB in several ways. The NPPF states that:

- the scale and extent of development within an AONB should be limited
- development within their setting should be sensitively located and designed to avoid or minimise adverse impacts on the designated areas

- permission should be refused for major development other than in exceptional circumstances and where it can be demonstrated that development is in the public interest

Some **Permitted Development Rights** are also withdrawn or restricted in AONBs. This means that certain types of development that could have been carried out without requiring planning approval before designation would now require planning approval. However, it does not necessarily mean that planning approval would be refused. If you would like more information about the please contact the project mailbox or your local **planning authority**.

Note: We expect some changes to the NPPF in the coming year and will keep this page updated.

Q. Will access rights change as a result of AONB designation?

A. No, there will be no changes to access rights as a result of AONB designation. Access rights will remain the same as those that already exist.

Q. How will designation affect landowners and other land managers?

A. Ownership of land remains unchanged within an AONB; there are no changes to public access rights; and there are no additional restrictions on how land can be farmed. Landowners and managers may be able to benefit from grant schemes targeted at designated landscapes.

Q. How will designation affect nature conservation?

A. The natural beauty of an AONB includes its natural and cultural heritage features. Future management of the area will subsequently seek to ensure that important wildlife and habitats that are intrinsic to its natural beauty, are conserved and enhanced. The integrated management approach taken by an **AONB Partnership** will also assist with the management of any potential conflicts which may arise between wildlife and recreation.

Glossary of Terms

This Glossary is intended to act as a quick reference document, written in plain and simple English wherever possible. It sets out to help explain the terms and acronyms used within the various technical and consultation documents. It is not intended that this document provides a legal definition.

For a more detailed explanation of the process, particularly from a legal point of view, please refer to the documents provided within the **Consultation Pack** and **Supporting Information**.

Act: An Act is a law that has been passed by Parliament and given Royal Assent.

Ancient Woodland: An area that has been wooded continuously since at least 1600 AD. It includes ancient semi-natural woodland and plantations on ancient woodland sites (PAWS).

Annotate: Add notes to a document, drawing or image, for example.

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB): An Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is land protected by the **Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000**. It protects the land to conserve and enhance its natural beauty. There are 34 AONBs in England. The **CRoW Act 2000** sets out the roles and responsibilities that different organisations must follow to manage AONBs and/or to designate new AONBs or to extend existing ones.

AONB Management Plan: An AONB Management Plan is a statutory document which sets out the vision and management priorities for the AONB. Its purpose is to consider conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the AONB with continuity and consistency over time. The Plan provides a means by which all public bodies can judge, and be judged on, their duty to seek to further conservation and enhancement of the natural beauty of the AONB. It also provides a guide for residents, businesses and visitors on the actions they can take to help safeguard the special area.

AONB Partnership: AONB Partnerships are formed to assist local authorities in the management of an AONB within their area. AONB Partnerships bring together local people and representatives from various bodies who have an interest in the AONB. They work together to conserve and enhance the special qualities of the AONB. An AONB Partnership as a body does not own any land within the AONB.

Area of Search: An identified area that provides an initial starting point for the assessment of natural beauty.

Biodiversity: Biodiversity is the variety of all life on Earth: genes, species and ecosystems. It includes all species of animals and plants, and the natural systems that support them. Biodiversity matters because it supports the vital benefits humans get from the natural environment. It contributes to the economy, health and well-being, and it enriches our lives.

Bill: A bill is a proposed law which is introduced into Parliament. Once a bill has been debated and then approved by each House of Parliament (House of Commons and House of Lords), and has received Royal Assent, it becomes law as an Act of Parliament.

Candidate Area: ‘Candidate Area’ is a term used during the technical assessment process to describe land that meets the natural beauty requirements and is deemed desirable to designate. It is used during the time following the natural beauty assessment, but before the detailed boundary alignment is confirmed. A Candidate Area does not have a defined boundary.

Citizen Space: Citizen Space is an online engagement and **consultation** platform, originally developed as a joint initiative with the UK government, as a way to improve engagement at scale. It is used by governments, organisations, and **local authorities** to allow people a simple way to have their say on a wide range of issues, proposals, and surveys.

Conservation Area: A conservation area is an area of special architectural or historic interest, the character, appearance or setting of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance. Once designated, there are some extra planning controls and considerations in place to protect the historic and architectural elements which make the place special.

Conservation Board: An AONB Conservation Board has a similar role to that of an **AONB Partnership**. Under the **CRoW Act 2000**, an independent Conservation Board can be established to carry out the relevant functions required to deliver the AONB purpose (conserving and enhancing the natural beauty). However, Conservation Boards have an additional purpose - to increase the understanding and enjoyment by the public of the special qualities of the area. The **CRoW Act** also requires that whilst fulfilling their duties, a Conservation Board shall seek to foster the economic and social well-being of local communities within the AONB.

Currently, there are two AONBs with Conservation Boards; The Chilterns and The Cotswolds.

Consultation: Consultation is the name given to a process that enables interested organisations or bodies, and/or members of the public, to look at proposals that affect their lives, or where they live and work, and say what they think about them. It involves listening to, and learning from, local people before decisions are made or priorities are set.

Consultation Pack: A pack of documents that set out to explain the designation process and the proposals for a new AONB in the Yorkshire Wolds. Consultation Packs will be available to take home from drop-in events taking place in the local area during the **consultation** period, as well as being available online and via the post. Documents included within the Consultation Packs will comprise:

- A covering letter from Natural England
- A Fact Sheet providing a summary of the designation process, including the consultation
- A Consultation Document describing the designation process and how it has been applied to the proposed Yorkshire Wolds AONB, the proposed extent of the new AONB, what happens next, and the implications of designation
- Detailed Consultation Maps showing the proposed new AONB and its boundary
- A Response Form providing an opportunity for people to have their say on the proposals for a new Yorkshire Wolds AONB
- A return envelope to return completed responses

Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000: The CRoW Act became law in 2000. The Act sets out rights and responsibilities for a number of aspects relating to the countryside; including access to open land, public rights of way, nature conservation and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

Criterion: A standard of judgement. A criterion is a factor (aspect) that is used to judge or decide something.

Dendritic: If something is described as dendritic, it means it has a branched form or structure, resembling a tree or tree roots.

Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG): Now known as **Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities** (see below).

Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra): Defra is responsible for improving and protecting the environment. They also support the UK's food, farming and fishing industries. Defra is a ministerial department, supported by a number of agencies and public bodies.

Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC): The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities supports communities across the UK to thrive, making them great places to live and work. DLUHC is a ministerial department, supported by a number of agencies and public bodies.

Designation: An AONB designation is an official and legal recognition that a defined area of land has outstanding **natural beauty**. The overall designation process being run by **Natural England** is to determine whether land in the Yorkshire Wolds Area of Search should be designated as AONB.

Desirability Assessment: A Desirability Assessment is a technical assessment carried out during the **designation** process to consider whether it is desirable to designate areas that meet the **natural beauty** requirements as AONB. Refer to **Frequently Asked Questions** above for more details.

Development: Development is defined within Section 55 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) as:

‘the carrying out of building, engineering, mining or other operations in, on, over or under land, or the making of any material change in the use of any building or other land’

Development Plan: Every **local authority** must produce a development plan for their area, setting out planning policies to guide development, such as housing or employment, but also to restrain development in certain areas. There are many different types of Development Plan, including **Local Plans**, Local Development Frameworks, **Neighbourhood Plans** and Spatial Development Strategies.

The Development Plan is used to help decide whether an application for development should be approved, or not.

Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1995: An **Act** to make it unlawful to discriminate against disabled persons in connection with employment, the provision of goods, facilities and services or the disposal or management of premises; to make provision about the employment of disabled persons; and to establish a National Disability Council.

Environment Agency (EA): The Environment Agency is an executive non-departmental public body, sponsored by the **Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs**. They work to create better places for people and wildlife and support sustainable development.

Within England, the EA is responsible for:

- regulating major industry and waste
- treatment of contaminated land
- water quality and resources
- fisheries
- inland river, estuary and harbour navigations
- conservation and ecology
- managing the risk of flooding from main rivers, reservoirs, estuaries and the sea

Environmental Impact Assessment: A procedure to be followed for certain types of project to ensure that decisions are made in full knowledge of any likely significant effects on the environment.

Environmental Information Regulations (EIR) 2004: The Environmental Information Regulations 2004 provide public access to environmental information held by public authorities. The Regulations do this in two ways:

- Public authorities must proactively make environmental information available, and
- members of the public are entitled to request environmental information from public authorities.

For the purposes of the EIR, public authorities include government departments, local authorities, the NHS, police forces and universities. The Regulations also cover some other bodies that do public work that affects the environment. The Regulations apply only to the environmental information held by these bodies and by public authorities.

European Marine Site (EMS): European Marine Sites (EMSs) are areas of the marine (sea) environment that have been designated for protection under European legislation. They are sometimes referred to as Natura 2000 and are found across Europe. EMSs consist of two types, **Special Protection Areas (SPAs)** and **Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)**. EMSs aim to warrant (guarantee) long-term survival of Europe's most valuable and threatened habitats and species.

Evidence: Anything that gives good reason for believing something.

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000: The Freedom of Information Act 2000 provides public access to information held by public authorities. It does this in two ways:

- public authorities are obliged to publish certain information about their activities, and
- members of the public are entitled to request information from public authorities.

For the purposes of the FOIA, public authorities include government departments, **local authorities**, the NHS, state schools and police forces.

Geodiversity: Geodiversity defines the world around us. It is the mix of rocks, fossils, minerals, landforms, and soils, and the natural processes that continually shape them. Geodiversity directly influences our natural environment, our landscapes, and where and how we live.

Guidance, the: *Guidance for Assessing Landscapes for designation as National Park or Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in England*, June 2021

A document written by Natural England to provide guidance on how to assess whether land is likely to meet the statutory criteria for AONB or National Park designation, and the wider designation process to follow.

Heritage Coasts: Heritage Coasts are stretches of our most beautiful, undeveloped coastline which are managed to conserve their natural beauty and, where appropriate, to improve access for visitors. They were established to conserve the best stretches of undeveloped coast in England. A Heritage Coast is defined by agreement between the relevant maritime local authorities and Natural England.

Historic Environment: All aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time; including all surviving physical remains of past human activity, whether visible, buried or submerged, and landscaped and planted or managed flora.

(Access to) Information Requests: You have the right to request recorded information held by public authorities. This could include paper or electronic copies of formal documents, like policies or minutes of meetings, but could also include other kinds of records like emails, photographs, or audio recordings.

There are laws which give you this right of access:

- the ***Freedom of Information Act 2000***,
- the ***Environmental Information Regulations 2004***, and
- the INSPIRE Regulations.

If you ask for information, public authorities must provide it, unless there's good reason not to. Examples of public authorities include government departments, local councils; schools, colleges, and universities, public health services, publicly-owned companies, publicly-funded museums, galleries, and theatres, and the police and fire services.

Interfluve: An area of higher ground between two rivers in the same drainage system.

Irreplaceable Habitat: Habitats which would be technically very difficult (or take a very significant time) to restore, recreate or replace once destroyed, taking into account their age, uniqueness, species diversity or rarity. They include ancient woodland, ancient and veteran trees, blanket bog, limestone pavement, sand dunes, salt marsh and lowland fen.

Joint Advisory Committee (JAC): The role of an AONB Joint Advisory Committee (JAC) is one of advising and guiding the statutory authorities regarding issues within the AONB. It is not a Planning Authority.

Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC): The JNCC is a public body that advises the UK Government (and devolved administrations) on UK-wide and international nature conservation.

Karst Landscape: Karst is a type of landscape where the dissolving of the bedrock has created sinkholes, sinking streams, caves, springs, and other characteristic features. It is found in areas with soluble rock types such as limestone and chalk, and often results in the absence of surface streams and lakes.

Landscape: A landscape is the combination of all the features of an area of land. It can

contain both natural features and man-made features. An area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors.

Landscape Character: A distinct, recognisable, and consistent pattern of elements in the landscape that makes one landscape different from another, rather than better or worse.

Landscape Character Assessment: The process of identifying and describing variation in the character of the landscape. It seeks to identify and explain the unique combination of elements and features (characteristics) that make landscapes distinctive.

Landscape Value: The relative value or importance attached to a landscape (often as a basis for *designation* or recognition), which expresses national or local consensus, because of its quality; special qualities including perceptual aspects such as scenic beauty; tranquillity or wildness; cultural associations; or other conservation issues.

Local Nature Partnership: A body, designated by the **Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs**, established for the purpose of protecting and improving the natural environment in an area and the benefits derived from it.

Local Authority / Local Government: A local authority is an organisation that is officially responsible for all the public services and facilities in a particular area. The structure of local government is complex, and varies from area to area.

In much of England, there are three tiers of local government - county councils, district councils and parish or town councils. County councils cover the entire county and provide around 80% of the services in these areas, e.g. schools, social services, highways & public transportation. District councils (sometimes called borough or city councils) cover a smaller area and provide more local services, e.g. council housing, local planning, leisure, and refuse & recycling collection. In some areas, the most local tier of local government is a parish or town council. They maintain local amenities such as recreational areas, footpaths, and cemeteries. The parish council is also consulted on highway and planning applications.

Many large towns and cities, and some counties, have a single level of local government responsible for local services, known as a unitary authority, replacing the separate roles of county and district councils.

All councils in an area can come together and apply to central government to form a combined authority (CA), with a directly elected mayor, in return for a greater devolution of powers from central government. A CA is a legal body that enables a group of two or more councils to collaborate and take collective decisions across council boundaries.

Local Plan: A plan for the future development of a local area, drawn up by the **local planning authority** in consultation with the community. In law, a local plan is described as the development plan documents adopted under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

Local Planning Authority: The public authority whose duty it is to carry out specific planning functions for a particular area. The planning system is designed to be applied by local government and communities. Many parts of England have three tiers of local government:

- County councils
- District, borough, or city councils
- Parish or town councils

Local government administers much of the planning system, preparing **Local Plans**, determining planning applications and carrying out enforcement against unauthorised **development**.

District councils are responsible for most planning matters, other than transport and minerals and waste planning which are typically functions of the county council. In some areas of the country, single tier authorities have responsibility for both district level and county level planning matters. In London, the Mayor also has powers to determine certain planning applications of potential strategic importance. In a National Park, planning functions are carried out by the National Park Authority.

Where they exist, parish and town councils play an important role in commenting on planning applications that affect their area. Parish and town councils are also able to produce **Neighbourhood Plans** and Neighbourhood Development Orders. Where parish or town councils do not exist, representatives of the local community may apply to establish a neighbourhood forum to prepare a **Neighbourhood Plan** or **Order**.

Major Development: For housing, major development is generally considered to consist of development where 10 or more homes will be provided, or the site has an area of 0.5 hectares or more. For non-residential development it generally means additional floorspace of 1000m² or more, or a site of 1 hectare or more, or as otherwise provided in the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015. However, within National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the nature, scale and setting of a proposed development, and whether it could have a significant adverse impact on the purposes for which an area has been designated or defined, must be taken into account when deciding whether a proposed developed is 'major development'.

Management Advisory Group (MAG): The MAG is a group which brings together representatives from Natural England, local authorities with land in the area, and key stakeholders, to support a collaborative and effective approach to delivering the proposed Yorkshire Wolds AONB Designation Project.

Mean High Water Springs (MHWS): Mean High Water Springs (MHWS) is the average height throughout the year, of two successive high waters, during a 24-hour period in each month when the range of the tide is at its greatest (during Spring tides). MHWS can be used to indicate the normal tidal limit (highest level of the sea) around the United Kingdom's coastline.

Ministerial Department: A ministerial department is a department in the government that is headed by a minister and responsible for a specific function or area of administration. There are 24 ministerial departments in the UK government, and they are responsible for making decisions about many of the most important elements of our lives, e.g. the environment, education, and health.

National Character Areas (NCAs): National Character Areas help us to understand the different landscapes of England. Each NCA represents an area of distinct and recognisable character at the national scale. England has been divided into 159 distinct areas, based on the unique combination of landscape, biodiversity, cultural and economic activity, geodiversity, and history of each area. NCAs can be used to help with decision-making and planning for future change.

National Landscape: A National Landscape is one of 46 areas within England, Wales and Northern Ireland safeguarded in the national interest for their distinctive character and beauty.

The legal purpose is to ‘conserve and enhance the beauty of the area.’ National Landscapes were previously known as **Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty** (AONBs).

AONBs were rebranded as National Landscapes in November 2023, to recognise their importance and national significance. However, the legislation that sets out the requirements for the designation of National Landscapes/AONBs has not changed, and still refers to these areas as AONBs. This means that the legal designation of a National Landscape remains ‘Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.’

National Park: A National Park is an area of land that has been designated as a protected landscape because of its special qualities.

There are 10 National Parks in England, and they have specific legal purposes:

- To conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife, and cultural heritage
- To promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of national parks by the public

In carrying out these purposes, National Park Authorities are also required to seek to foster the economic and social well-being of local communities in the National Park.

National Parks and Access to Countryside Act 1949: An Act of Parliament that was passed in 1949 to conserve and enhance the most sensitive areas of the United Kingdom. It was a result of the findings of The Hobhouse Report and The John Dower Report - that were commissioned to respond to the wish of the public to have access to land for recreation.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF): The NPPF is a balanced set of national planning policies for England covering the economic, social, and environmental aspects of development. The policies in the NPPF must be taken into account in preparing **Local Plans** and **Neighbourhood Plans** and it is a ‘material consideration’ in deciding planning applications.

Clause 182 of the NPPF states that ‘great weight should be given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty which have the highest status of protection in relation to these issues.’

Please note that we expect some changes to the NPPF in the coming year and will keep this page updated.

National Trails: Long distance routes for walking, cycling and horse riding.

Natural Beauty: Natural beauty is the single technical **critterion** used to decide whether, or not, an area meets the requirements to be designated as an AONB. Natural beauty is more than just “beautiful scenery.” The **Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006** (NERC Act) clarifies that the wildlife and **cultural heritage** of an area as well as its natural features can contribute to the natural beauty of landscapes. The NERC Act also recognises that land used for agriculture, woodlands, or as a park, or other areas whose flora, fauna or physiographical features are partly the product of human intervention in the landscape, can still be considered to have natural beauty.

Natural Beauty Assessment: When considering whether an area should be designated as an **AONB**, a judgement must be made as to whether that area has sufficient **natural beauty**.

This process is called a ‘natural beauty assessment.’ Decisions about whether an area has natural beauty is **subjective** and therefore involves making a **value judgement**. To make this judgement in a transparent and consistent way, **Natural England** uses a set of factors which have long been considered to contribute to natural beauty. This process is described in more detail within the **Consultation Pack** and **Supporting Information** documents.

Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006: An **Act** to make provision about bodies concerned with the natural environment and rural communities; to make provision in connection with wildlife, **sites of special scientific interest**, **National Parks** and the Broads; to amend the law relating to rights of way; to make provision as to the Inland Waterways Amenity Advisory Council; to provide for flexible administrative arrangements in connection with functions relating to the environment and rural affairs and certain other functions; and for connected purposes.

The NERC Act 2006 sets out the creation and constitution of **Natural England**, including its purpose and functions.

Natural England: Natural England is the government’s adviser for the natural environment in England. Our purpose is to help conserve, enhance and manage the natural environment for the benefit of present and future generations. Natural England is an executive non-departmental public body, sponsored by the **Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs** (Defra). One of our roles is to have special responsibility for designating **National Parks** and **Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty** (AONBs).

Natural England Board: The Natural England Board is the decision-making body for Natural England. The main roles of the Board are to provide leadership for the organisation; and to ensure that effective arrangements are in place to provide assurance on risk management, governance, internal control, and use of public money.

Nature Recovery Network: An expanding, increasingly connected, network of wildlife-rich habitats supporting species recovery, alongside wider benefits such as carbon capture, water quality improvements, natural flood risk management and recreation. It includes the existing network of protected sites and other wildlife rich habitats as well as landscape or catchment scale recovery areas where there is coordinated action for species and habitats.

Neighbourhood Development Order: An **Order** made by a **local planning authority** (under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990) through which parish councils and neighbourhood forums can grant planning permission for a specific development proposal or classes of **development**.

Neighbourhood Plan: A plan prepared by a parish council or neighbourhood forum for a designated neighbourhood area. In law this is described as a neighbourhood development plan in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

Notice Period: The Notice Period is a key stage in the designation process. It is a time period during which documents for a proposed designation can be viewed, including a draft **designation Order**, and people can submit their thoughts about the proposals. Formal statutory notices must be published, giving details of the effect of the Order, as well as details about how and when people can view the relevant documents and make representations (respond).

Objective: Information or assessment based on factual data that is not influenced by personal beliefs or biases. Opposite of **subjective**.

Order: An Order is a decision issued by a court or authoritative body. There are many different types of Order. Designation Orders are a form of 'secondary legislation,' which is legislation made by a person or body under authority contained in primary legislation.

'Primary legislation' is the term used to describe the main laws passed by the legislative (making laws) bodies of the UK, e.g. Acts of the UK Parliament, Scottish Parliament, Welsh Parliament, and Northern Ireland Assembly. For the designation of new or extended **AONBs**, the primary legislation is the **Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000**.

Ordnance Survey: Ordnance Survey is the national mapping agency of Great Britain. It is the government department responsible for the official, definitive surveying and topographic mapping of Great Britain. As Ordnance Survey maps are topographic maps, they only show the physical features on the ground at the time of survey. Ordnance Survey maps never show legal property boundaries, nor do they show ownership of physical features.

Parliament: Parliament is separate from government. Made up of the House of Commons and the House of Lords, Parliament's role is to examine and challenge the work of the government through questioning ministers, debating issues, passing new laws and setting taxes.

Periglacial: A landscape that undergoes, or has undergone, seasonal freezing and thawing, typically on the fringes of past and present glaciated regions. These freeze-thaw cycles influence the landform of an area over time.

Permitted Development Rights: Permitted development rights allow you to carry out certain types of **development** without the need to apply for planning permission. Permitted development rights are subject to a number of conditions and limitations in order to control their impact. These conditions and limitations must be met in bringing forward any development in order for it to be lawful. In some areas of the country, such as an **AONB**, a **National Park**, a **Conservation Area**, the Norfolk or Suffolk Broads, or a World Heritage Site, permitted development rights are more restricted.

Planning Condition: A planning condition is an additional requirement or measure that is attached to a planning consent. They are intended to improve the quality of an approved **development**. For example, planning conditions can include requests for additional information to be submitted, restrictions on construction activities or materials, or requirements for when certain operations must occur. All planning conditions must be met, and discharged by the **local planning authority**, for a development to be lawful.

Previously Developed Land: Land which is or was occupied by a permanent structure, including the curtilage of the developed land (although it should not be assumed that the whole of the curtilage should be developed) and any associated fixed surface infrastructure. This excludes: land that is or was last occupied by agricultural or forestry buildings; land that has been developed for minerals extraction or waste disposal by landfill, where provision for restoration has been made through development management procedures; land in built-up areas such as residential gardens, parks, recreation grounds and allotments; and land that was previously developed but where the remains of the permanent structure or fixed surface structure have blended into the landscape.

Principal Tier Local Authority: A principal council is a local government authority carrying out statutory duties in a principal area in England and Wales. A 'principal area' in England is defined in the Local Government Act 1972, Section 270 as:

‘ “principal area” means a non-metropolitan county, a district or a London borough’

Priority Habitats and Species: Species and habitats of Principal Importance included in the England Biodiversity List published by the **Secretary of State** under section 41 of the **Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006**.

Protected Landscapes: A term used to collectively describe **National Parks** and **National Landscapes (AONBs)** in England.

Public Body: A public body is a formally established organisation that is (at least in part) publicly funded to deliver a public or government service, though not as a ministerial department. There are a wide range of public sector entities that are referred to as a Public Body.

Public Inquiry: Public inquiries are investigations set up by Government ministers to look at matters of public concern. Inquiries are different to court cases. All parties are there to examine the facts.

Ramsar Sites: Wetlands of international importance, designated under the 1971 Ramsar Convention.

Registered Park or Garden: A park or garden that is considered to be of specific historic interest and is included on the Register of Parks and Gardens. Like listed buildings, registered parks and gardens can be registered at Grade II, II* or I. Registration is a 'material consideration' in planning terms so, following an application for development which would affect a registered park or garden, local planning authorities must consider the historic interest of the site when deciding whether to grant permission. Local planning authorities are also specifically guided towards protecting registered parks and gardens when preparing development plans.

Royal Assent: Once a **bill** has completed all the parliamentary stages in both the House of Commons and House of Lords, it is ready to receive royal assent. This is when the current monarch formally agrees to make the bill into an **Act** of Parliament.

Secretary of State (SoS) for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs: The Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has overall responsibility for the **Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs** (Defra). They have specific responsibilities for budget, international relations, senior appointments, and economic growth.

The Secretary of State is responsible for signing the **Order** that designates an area as **National Park** or **Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty**.

Setting of a Heritage Asset: The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral.

Special Area of Conservation (SAC): An area classified under regulation 3 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 which has been given special protection as an important conservation site.

Special Protection Area (SPA): An area classified under regulation 15 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 which has been identified as being of international importance for the breeding, feeding, wintering or the migration of rare and vulnerable species of birds.

Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI): A site designated by Natural England under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 in order to protect areas of land that are considered particularly valuable for their wildlife, geology or landform features.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA): A procedure (set out in the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004) which requires the formal environmental assessment of certain plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.

Statutory Consultee: A statutory consultee is a particular organisation, body, or person, defined by statute (law), that must be consulted in particular situations, e.g. when considering planning applications. For an AONB designation project, it is a legal requirement that relevant local authorities be consulted on the proposals.

Subjective: Information or assessment based on a personal perspective, e.g. on feelings, opinions or emotions. Opposite of **objective**.

Supporting Information: As well as the **Consultation Pack** documents described above, additional Supporting Information documents will be available to view online and in libraries and local authority offices within the local area. The Supporting Information documents will provide more detailed information about the designation process and the various technical assessments that have been carried out.

Value Judgment: A value judgment is an opinion of the rightness or wrongness or usefulness of something based on personal opinion and what is considered to be 'good' or 'bad.' Value judgments are not true or false. This is because they are not **objective**.

Wildlife Corridor: Areas of habitat connecting wildlife populations.

Acronyms and Abbreviations

AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
CRoW Act 2000	Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000
DCLG	Department for Communities & Local Government (now DLUHC)
DDA	Disability Discrimination Act 1995
Defra	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
DLUHC	Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities
EA	Environment Agency
EIR	Environmental Information Regulations 2004
EMS	European Marine Site
FAQs	Frequently Asked Questions
FOIA	Freedom of Information Act 2000
JAC	Joint Advisory Committee
JNCC	Joint Nature Conservation Committee
MAG	Management Advisory Group
MHWS	Mean High Water Springs
NCA	National Character Area
NE	Natural England
NERC Act 2006	Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
OS	Ordnance Survey
PAWS	Plantation on Ancient Woodland Sites
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SoS	Secretary of State
SPA	Special Protection Area
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
YW AONB	Yorkshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Useful Information

Websites

To find out more about Natural England and the work that we do, please visit our website at:

www.gov.uk/government/organisations/natural-england

For more information about the proposed Yorkshire Wolds AONB designation project, and links to download documents, please visit the project website at:

www.yorkshire-wolds-designation-project.org/

To submit your responses to the Statutory & Public Consultation, please visit the consultation website at:

<https://consult.defra.gov.uk/ne-landscape-heritage-and-geodiversity-team/yorkshire-wolds-designation>

Email

To keep informed and/or request hard copies of the Consultation Pack documents, please email us on:

YorksWoldsDesignationProject@naturalengland.org.uk

Telephone

If you would like to request a copy of the Consultation Pack documents is sent to you at home, or would like to receive information in a different format, please give us a call on:

0300 060 3900

By Post

You can write to us at the following address:

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PO Box 295
HOLMFIRTH
HD9 9FS

www.gov.uk/natural-england

www.yorkshire-wolds-designation-project.org/

<https://consult.defra.gov.uk/ne-landscape-heritage-and-geodiversity-team/yorkshire-wolds-designation/>