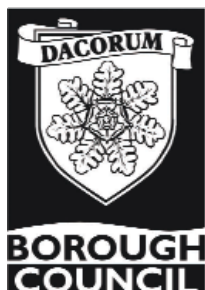


Landscape Character Assessment for Dacorum



A study of the Landscape Character of Dacorum Borough was commissioned by the Chilterns Conservation Board, Dacorum Borough Council and Hertfordshire County Council from The Landscape Partnership in 2002. The assessment complements other studies which overall contribute to a landscape strategy for the county of Hertfordshire. The Landscape Character Assessment for Dacorum contains an evaluation of the landscape and policy guidelines. It was formally adopted as supplementary planning guidance to Dacorum Borough Local Plan 1991-2011 by Dacorum Borough Council on 5th May 2004.

In 2000 a landscape character assessment was undertaken for southern Hertfordshire, the area broadly corresponding with the main potential areas of mineral extraction within the county. In 2001 a further study was carried out to give complete coverage to St. Albans District. These previous studies involved parts of Dacorum to the south and west of the borough: the remainder of the borough was not included. This document has been produced to provide a district-wide landscape character assessment for Dacorum Borough. Character area descriptions for areas included in the previous studies have been retained largely unmodified, as are their area numbers, (7-10, and 94-96 and 99). The new areas forming part of the 2002/3 study are areas 106 -127.

The preparation of the study followed a similar consultation process as for the previous studies in 2000 and 2001. This involved stakeholder input from the Hertfordshire Citizen's Panel and local interest groups. The process is set out more fully in the Introduction. The study was then formally presented as a Consultation Draft by the Borough Council, together with other planning documents, for public consultation.

At the time the study was being prepared, the Local Plan adopted in 1995 contained 'Landscape Conservation Areas' and 'Landscape Development Areas'. These have now been replaced by a more sympathetic approach to landscape assessment.

Hertfordshire County Structure Plan 1991-2011 (Adopted in April 1998) embraced the concept of landscape character assessment in accordance with government advice. Dacorum Borough Local Plan 1991-2011 (adopted in April 2004) develops the approach in:

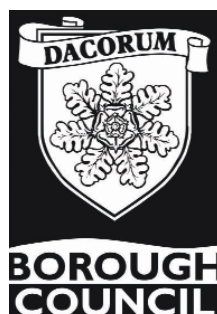
- Policy 96: Landscape Strategy; and
- Policy 98: Landscape Regions

The Landscape Character Assessment for Dacorum provides supplementary guidance to these policies.

Enquiries about this document should be directed to:

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