

Sensitivity Judgement

- 3.15. The information set out under the criteria above, allows an overall judgement on sensitivity to be determined. This judgement is on a five point scale: High, Moderate-High, Moderate, Moderate-Low and Low. A definition of the sensitivity scale is provided below:

Table 3.1: Definitions of Sensitivity

<p>High Sensitivity: Key features that make up the landscape are likely to be affected by introduction of development on the settlement fringes, which may lead to substantial change in landscape character. A highly valued landscape or containing highly valued components. A landscape and settlement edge in good condition/of high quality, with characteristics or elements that make a strong positive contribution to landscape character. Containing landscape characteristics/elements that would be irreplaceable or difficult to replace. The aim should be to conserve the landscape setting of the settlement.</p>
<p>High-Moderate Sensitivity: Many of the key characteristics of the landscape would be adversely affected by development on the settlement fringe. A valued landscape in moderate or good condition/or of good quality. The proposed change would result in a noticeable alteration to the character of the settlement fringe and its landscape setting.</p>
<p>Moderate Sensitivity: Some key features/characteristics that make up the landscape/settlement edge are likely to be affected by introduction of development on the settlement fringe. A moderately valued landscape or containing moderately valued or some valued elements. A landscape in moderate/good condition whose characteristics or elements make some positive contribution to wider landscape character. Containing landscape characteristics/elements that are likely to be replaceable to some extent. In considering any change, design and mitigation guidance should be followed.</p>
<p>Moderate-Low Sensitivity: Few key characteristics of the landscape would be adversely affected by new development/change. The landscape may be able to accommodate proposed development. Note that elements of this landscape may be locally valued. In considering any change, design and mitigation guidance should be followed. Opportunities for enhancement or creation of new character should be considered in relation to any future change.</p>
<p>Low Sensitivity: Key features/characteristics that make up the landscape are unlikely to be affected by introduction of new development /change. A landscape of limited/low value. A landscape in poor or declining condition whose characteristics or elements do not contribute positively to wider landscape character. Containing landscape characteristics/elements that are likely to be easily replaceable. Opportunities for enhancement or creation of new character and an enhanced settlement edge should be considered in relation to any future change.</p>