



**Drainage:** A well-drained landscape with an absence of water features.

### **Biodiversity and Vegetation Pattern**

- 8.4 This area is principally arable farmland and improved grassland, divided by hedgerows. There are important patches of ancient semi-natural and plantation woodland and the hedgerow network provides good linkages between areas of woodland. The woodlands range in size from small copses and shelter belts to larger woodlands.

### **Historical Influences**

- 8.5 Enclosed Clay Plateau Farmland is dominated predominantly by evidence of 17th and 18th century informal enclosure as indicated by the presence of large areas of regular fields with wavy boundaries and regular ladder fields. The presence of such field types suggests pre-parliamentary enclosure of earlier field systems or of an open landscape through a process of ad hoc and largely unsurveyed field demarcation. Only limited parliamentary enclosure is present within this Landscape Character Type.
- 8.6 Some post-1810 parkland development and post-1810 woodland plantations are present within this Landscape Character Type.

### **Settlement Pattern**

- 8.7 Settlements are small and sparse in this location and are of the Clay Upland and Plateau Settlement Type. In this landscape character type, settlements are located upon the clay-capped plateaus upon the chalk upland of the northern Test Valley. They also tend to be situated either on or above the 100m contour mark and tend to be nucleated at the juncture of two or more roads, often well-developed with a historic core.
- 8.8 Individual farms are relatively closely spaced across this area.

### **Communication Network**

- 8.9 Few main roads cross this Landscape Character Type and those that do are generally aligned northwest southeast or north south. These main roads tend to be reasonably straight despite the presence within a largely unsurveyed

agricultural landscape. It may be that they have instead been either cut through this earlier landscape or earlier main roads have been substantially remodelled at some time during the later post-medieval period.

## **Key Natural and Cultural Landscape Issues**

8.10 Key natural and cultural landscape issues as follows:

- Intensification of farming, in particular conversion of permanent pasture to arable
- Lack of appropriate management of woodlands
- Loss and fragmentation of hedgerow boundaries, mature hedgerow trees and adjacent grass verges
- Localised intrusion of roads on adjacent quiet areas with increased traffic on the road network and road improvements creating a more suburban character
- Communication masts and transmitters, and wind turbines, which, if not carefully sited, will be particularly visually intrusive on the predominantly open skyline and have an adverse impact on the sense of remoteness
- Amalgamation of farms resulting in large areas managed as single units with greater requirement for large buildings
- Intensification of farming and extensive fertiliser applications, resulting in large fields and the loss of archaeological features and biodiversity in particular the loss of unimproved mesotrophic grassland
- Conversions of farm building
- Loss of chalk downland to arable or scrub encroachment
- Lack of coppice management leading to a reduction of specialised species such as butterflies
- Isolation of small patches of habitat
- Declining farmland bird populations.

## **Land Management Guidelines**

8.11 All of the Borough wide land management guidelines in the introduction apply to this Landscape Character Type. Specific to this Landscape Character Type are:

### 8.12 **Agriculture**

- Discourage further amalgamation of fields and loss of hedgerows
- Encourage sustainable farming practices with a view to minimising the impact of new farming infrastructure and methods including spraying and fertiliser applications
- Encourage new farm buildings to be well sited and integrated into the landscape
- Encourage replanting of hedgerows and hedgerow trees

### 8.13 **Hedgerows**

- Restore lost and fragmented hedgerows on former hedgerow lines, ensure oak standards grow up to form hedgerow trees
- Maintain existing intricate pattern of hedgerows and links with tree belts and woodland

### 8.14 **Woodland and Trees**

- Promote good management of woodlands, including greater use of coppicing
- Promote the planting of new links between existing woodland and tree belts

### 8.15 **Biodiversity**

- Pursue opportunities for restoration of conifer plantation to native broadleaved woodland
- Explore opportunities for chalk grassland restoration and reversion along the northern part of the LCA and improving botanical diversity along field margins, particularly where there are connections to woodland
- Restore, enhance and positively manage the woodland, hedge and shelter belt habitat to enhance the network, with particular reference to hazel dormouse
- Investigate status of great crested newt around Enham Alamein and explore options for habitat enhancement including aquatic and terrestrial habitat

## **Land Use and Development Guidelines**

- 8.16 All of the Borough wide and Landscape Character Type land use and development guidelines apply to this Landscape Character Area. Specific to this character area are:

#### 8.17 **Built Development**

- Protect the area from suburbanising influences and inappropriate landscaping including over-sized gates and non-native boundary planting and from inappropriate infrastructure design

#### 8.18 **Infrastructure**

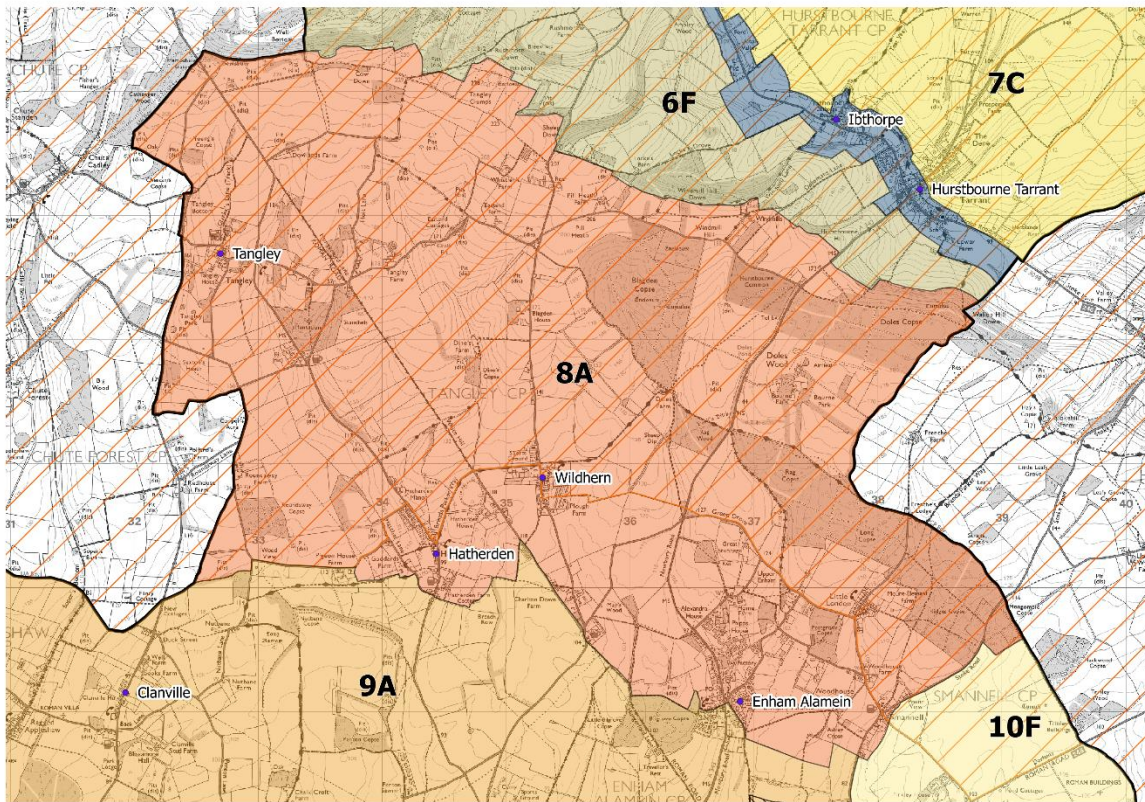
- Avoid intrusive development of tall and large structures except where they can be successfully integrated into the landscape

#### 8.19 **Recreation, Tourism and Access**

- Encourage management of woodlands to enable greater public access

## LCA8A Tangley and Doles Wood

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North Wessex Downs AONB area indicated with orange line hatch.

### General Description

- 8A.1. Tangley and Doles Wood is situated on a predominantly Clay and Flint plateau, which slopes in a south easterly direction from a height of around 220m down to 100m, dissected by a number of minor dry valleys with softer ridges of Clay and Flint.
- 8A.2. This is a complex landscape including large woodlands e.g. Doles Wood to the east, with small woodland copses which are linked across the landscape by a mix of hedgerows and shelter belts. Large arable fields can be found on the areas of higher ground and soft ridges. These fields are often devoid of hedgerows, which further increase their size creating large open exposed areas, as seen towards the northern boundary of this LCA.

- 8A.3. Smaller fields of arable and pasture are located adjacent to settlements creating an intricate patchwork of colour and texture, as seen in the vicinity of Enham Alamein.
- 8A.4. A number of parklands with grassland and scattered trees provide areas of contrast and interest to the wider open arable landscape, e.g. Tangley Park and Hatherden Park.

### **Location**

- 8A.5. Tangley and Doles Wood include the settlements of Hatherden and Enham Alamein on its southern boundary and it extends up to Rushmore Down. The area is bounded to the east and west by the Borough boundary.

### **Local Physical Influences**

- 8A.6. **Geology and Soils:** Chalk extensively overlain with Clay with Flints.  
**Landform:** Undulating landform, gently rising to a ridge of higher ground at 200m in the north west (some of the highest ground in the Borough).  
**Drainage:** A well-drained landscape with an absence of water features.

### **Local Biodiversity and Vegetation Pattern**

- 8A.7. This area is principally arable farmland and improved grassland, divided by hedgerows. There are important patches of ancient semi-natural and plantation woodland and the hedgerow network provides good linkages between areas of woodland. The woodlands range in size from small copses and shelter belts to larger woodlands. Larger areas of plantations on ancient woodland sites (PAWS) present to the eastern part of the LCA.
- 8A.8. There are small fragments of calcareous grasslands along the northern borders of the LCA.
- 8A.9. There has historically been a small population of great crested newt around Enham Alamein.
- 8A.10. The table below identifies the broad habitat types for LCA8A.

Broad habitat type	Area of habitat (Hectares)	Percentage of the LCA (%)
Arable and horticulture	1576.65	65.07
Boundary and linear features	29.66	1.22
Bracken	0.30	0.01
Broadleaved, mixed, and yew woodland	400.13	16.51
Built-up areas and gardens	81.68	3.37
Calcareous grassland	0.15	0.01
Coniferous woodland	49.81	2.06
Improved grassland	244.29	10.08
Standing open water and canals	0.21	0.01
Unidentified habitat	39.93	1.65
Unidentified water	0.35	0.01
Total	2423.17	

## Local Historical Influences

- 8A.11. This character area is dominated by a large expanse of regular fields with wavy boundaries indicating a process of informal enclosure across much of the area. This form of enclosure probably took place between the later medieval period and the 17th/18th century and dates to a period before the careful surveying of field boundaries and road alignments. All of these fields respect the line of Hungerford Lane which fossilises the course of an earlier Roman Road which extends north west – south east across the character area.
- 8A.12. Limited 19th century parliamentary enclosure is visible to the west of the Roman Road associated with the post-1810 Tangley Park which probably had a considerable influence over the development of the landscape in this area. Also associated with the parliamentary enclosures and Tangley Park are two areas of regular ladder fields which usually indicate the formal enclosure of downland.
- 8A.13. Hatherden House, another 19th century parkland, is located in the southeast of the area. The Roman Road forms the eastern boundary of the park; this parkland is separated from the other by a rectangular feature of pre 1810 plantation.



## Designations

8A.14. Designations that lie wholly or in part within this Landscape Character Area comprise:

8A.15. **Landscape**

- North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty<sup>1</sup>

8A.16. **Nature Conservation**

SINC

- 20 SINCS, mostly ancient semi-natural woodland, some semi-improved grassland and sites that support notable species

8A.17. **Historic**

Scheduled Monuments

- Berisbury camp near Hampshire Gate
  - Iron Age enclosure and associated earthworks in the north east corner of Blagden Copse
  - Banjo enclosure, two barrows and associated field system in Blagden Copse
- Listed buildings
- Significant numbers including clusters at Tangle, Hatherden and Wildhern and including Hatherden House Grade II listed building

## Settlement Pattern

8A.18. The settlement pattern consists of villages predominantly located towards the southern edge of this LCA. The majority of these settlements are located within valley locations, i.e. Enham Alamein, Little London and Hatherden, which have become linear in form as they have spread along the valley bottoms. Other settlements include Tangle which is located on a ridge and also has a strong historic relationship with the former Tangle House.

8A.19. There is also a scattering of farmsteads and large country houses throughout the area and small domestic houses linked to redundant chalk quarries, for example Eastend Cottages east of Tangle.

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<sup>1</sup> Regard should also be had to the North Wessex Downs AONB Landscape Character Assessment.

- 8A.20. The historic core of Tangley village is located at the north eastern corner of Tangley Park. Minimal 19th and 20th century settlement development has occurred within this village and what late post-medieval/modern development has occurred has been located generally at a distance the historic core.
- 8A.21. The other villages of Hatherden and Wildhern are generally later post-medieval linear developments associated with the large house and Plough Farm respectively.
- 8A.22. Farmsteads within this character area are found predominantly to the north of the line of the Roman Road within a large area of regular fields with wavy boundaries (a form of late medieval to 17th/18th century informal enclosure). These farms are fairly evenly spaced within the landscape with only one out of four farms (Plough Farm) closely associated with a formal settlement.
- 8A.23. The main road network aligns in a north south direction, with smaller minor rural roads criss-crossing the landscape linking settlements and farmsteads.

### **Local Settlements**

- 8A.24. Local Settlements and their corresponding Settlement Type (see Appendix 2 for more information):
- Hatherden: Estate Village Settlement Type
  - Tangley: Clay Upland and Plateau Settlement Type
  - Wildhern: Clay Upland and Plateau Settlement Type
  - Enham Alamein: Clay Upland and Plateau Settlement Type
  - Smannell: Clay Upland and Plateau Settlement Type

### **Remoteness and Tranquillity**

- 8A.25. Within this landscape away from the main north south route alignments, there are large tracts of secluded and remote areas of countryside, which have high levels of tranquillity.

### **Key Valued Characteristics**

- 8A.26. Key valued characteristics of LCA8A are as follows:
- Soft ridges of clay and flints overlaying the chalk

- Intricate patchwork of smaller arable and pasture fields with linking hedgerows and shelterbelts in the west
- Open arable landscape allows open views across the landscape including long uninterrupted views from exposed areas of high ground
- Extensive blocks of woodland in the east
- Complex network of narrow and winding rural lanes
- Large tracts of secluded and remote countryside, which have high levels of tranquillity away from the main roads
- Regular fields with wavy boundaries dominate the area to the east of the Roman Road and south of Hatherden House
- A Roman road crosses this area in a north west - south east direction clearly influencing the pattern of the local landscape
- Parkland landscape of Tangle Park and Hatherden Park
- Distinctive regular ladder fields appear to be associated with Tangle Park
- Local vernacular buildings are typically brick and flint with tile, but also include timber framing and chalk cob and thatch
- Low ridges provide a backdrop to the villages
- The villages are often characterised by open green spaces, hedge boundary treatments and trees within public spaces and gardens which blend with, and provide an important contribution to, the wider landscape character
- Separation between Andover and Enham Alamein

### **Key Detractors**

8A.27. Key detractors of LCA8A are as follows:

- The open arable landscape has a poor hedgerow cover in places

### **Local Natural and Cultural Landscape Issues**

8A.28. Local natural and cultural landscape issues for LCA8A are as follows:

- Potential of any development within the villages of Wildhern and Hatherden impacting upon the surrounding early most-medieval agricultural landscape

- Expansion of farmsteads and numerous conversions of farm buildings to residential
- Increased traffic on the narrow rural lane network, plus road improvements including kerbing, widening, signing and visibility splays
- Loss of tranquillity

## **Landscape Strategy and Guidelines**

8A.29. Landscape Strategy and Guidelines for LCA8A are as follows:

- Tangley and Doles Wood is valued for its strong sense of tranquillity away from the main roads and for its extensive woodland cover. The overall strategy is to conserve and enhance the quiet rural character and distinctive variety of Tangley and Doles Wood and protect and enhance the key valued characteristics.

## **Land Management**

8A.30. All of the Borough wide and Landscape Character Type land management guidelines apply to this Landscape Character Area. Specific to this Landscape Character Area are as follows:

### **8A.31. Landscape Distinctiveness**

- Maintain the balance between the open dramatic and the small intimate and intricate landscapes of this area
- Protect the area from erosion of its quiet unspoilt character
- Maintain wide open views from public vantage points on high ground

### **8A.32. Agriculture**

- Seek opportunities to retain remaining small areas of pasture and variations in the historic field patterns

### **8A.33. Woodland and Trees**

- Encourage the replanting of coniferous plantation with native broad-leaved species

### **8A.34. Historic Landscapes**

- Protect the historic landscape pattern along the alignment of the Roman road
- Protect the historic landscape setting to parkland and historic landscape features

- Maintain and enhance parkland layouts and features

### **Land Use and Development**

8A.35. All of the Borough wide and Landscape Character Type land use and development guidelines apply to this Landscape Character Area. Specific to this Landscape Character Area are:

8A.36. **Built Development**

- Retain distinction between small settlements
- Avoid introducing oversized houses into rural locations where they will not respect the historic hierarchy of built form and be intrusive in the landscape

8A.37. **Infrastructure**

- Maintain the existing pattern and character of rural roads



Open arable landscape allows open views across the landscape



Long uninterrupted views from open exposed areas of high ground



Roman Road at White Hill



Avenue and parkland tree planting at Hatherden Park