APPENDIX 2 - GLOSSARY

Landscape Character
Landscape character is the distinct and recognisable pattern of elements that occurs consistently in a particular type of landscape, and how these are perceived by people. It reflects particular combinations of geology, landform, soils, vegetation, land use and human settlement. It creates the particular sense of place of different areas of the landscape.

Characterisation
Characterisation is the value-free process of identifying areas of similar character, classifying and mapping them and describing their character.

Evaluation
Evaluation is the subjective process of making judgements about the sensitivity, value or capacity of a landscape, which may use one or a combination of approaches depending on the purpose of the exercise.

Characteristics
Elements, or combinations of elements, which make a particular contribution to distinctive character.

Elements
Individual components which make up the landscape, such as trees and hedges.

Features
Particularly prominent or eye-catching elements, like tree clumps, church towers, or wooded skylines.

Local Landscape Character Types
Local Landscape Character Types are distinct types of landscape defined at 1:25,000 scale within the study area that exhibit a relatively homogenous pattern of physical and cultural attributes, including geology, landform, historical evolution and land use. They are generic in nature and may reoccur in different parts of the study area, but wherever they occur they share broadly similar combinations of landscape characteristics.

Local Landscape Character Areas
Local Landscape Character Areas are discrete geographical areas of distinctive character defined at 1:25,000 scale within a Local Landscape Character Type. They are unique areas that comprise a particular pattern of physical and cultural characteristics that combine to create a distinctive sense of place, even though they may share some generic landscape characteristics with other areas encompassing the same Local Landscape Character Type.

Landscape Setting Areas
Landscape Setting Areas are discrete geographical areas of distinctive character defined at 1:10,000 scale that provide the landscape setting for a settlement. They are unique areas that comprise a particular pattern of physical and cultural characteristics that combine to create a distinctive sense of place.

Landscape Condition
Landscape condition refers to the physical state of the landscape, and its intactness, from visual, functional, and ecological perspectives. It also reflects the state of repair of individual features and elements which make up the character in any one place.

Landscape Sensitivity
Landscape sensitivity is a combination of the sensitivity of the landscape resource (in terms of both its character as a whole and the individual elements contributing to character); and the visual sensitivity of the landscape, assessed in terms of a combination of factors such as views, visibility and the number and nature of people perceiving the landscape (visual receptors). For the purposes of this study, the term ‘overall landscape sensitivity’ is used to refer primarily to the inherent sensitivity of the landscape itself, irrespective of the type of change or development that may be under consideration.

Landscape Value
Landscape value is concerned with the relative value that is attached to different landscapes. In a policy context the usual basis for recognising certain highly valued landscapes is through the application of a local or national landscape designation. A landscape may also be valued by different communities of interest for many different reasons without any formal designation, recognising, for example, perceptual aspects such as scenic beauty, tranquillity or wilderness; special cultural associations; the influence and presence of other conservation interests; or the existence of a consensus about importance, either nationally or locally.

Landscape Capacity
Landscape capacity refers to the ability of a landscape to accommodate change or development without significant adverse effects on its character. Landscape capacity reflects the inherent sensitivity of the landscape resource and its visual sensitivity, and the value attached to the landscape or to specific elements. For the purposes of this study, the term ‘indicative landscape capacity’ is used to refer to the capacity of the landscape to accommodate a specific type and nature of change or development within defined parameters.
GLOSSARY FOR THE KEY ON THE SETTLEMENT SETTING ASSESSMENT PLANS

Landscape Setting Areas:
Discrete geographical areas of distinctive character defined that provide the landscape setting for the settlement.

Landscape Sensitivity:
Overall landscape sensitivity evaluated using the methodology given in Section 2.4 and presented as a 5 point scale ‘very high’ to ‘very low’. (Source: field observations June/July 2014).

Landscape Features and Characteristics:

- **Remnant Historic Landscapes:**
  Landscapes with surviving features dating from before 1800. (Source: Sussex Historic Landscape Characterisation, August 2010). Sub-divided into ‘Historic’ and ‘Ancient’ categories as per methodology given in Section 2.4.

- **Culturally Important Landmarks:**
  Prominent features (man-made or natural) which are of cultural/historical importance, such as churches/historic manor houses/villages halls. They form the focus of views and contribute to the character of the adjacent landscape. (Source: field observations June/July 2014).

- **Landscape Detractors:**
  Features (usually man-made) which may detract from the character of the landscape/townscape, or disrupt views, such as modern industrial buildings, pylons and other forms of infrastructure or discordant land uses (e.g. solar panels, field divisions for equestrian uses/poly-tunnels etc). (Source: field observations June/July 2014).

- **Sensitive Urban Edge:**
  A settlement edge which is well-screened in views from the surrounding landscape by a strong landscape buffer of mature vegetation, including woodland, hedgerows or trees (Source: field observations June/July 2014).

- **Prominent Urban Edge:**
  A settlement edge which is highly prominent in views from the surrounding landscape due to a lack of a strong landscape buffer/screening (Source: field observations June/July 2014).

- **Watercourses/Waterbodies:**
  Rivers or major streams/ponds or lakes. (Source: field observations June/July 2014).

- **Significant Views:**
  Important views from the settlement to the open countryside, or from the countryside to specific landmarks in the settlement. Only views that contribute to the character or quality of the landscape and would be a consideration when determining the acceptability of new development in the area have been recorded. (Source: field observations June/July 2014).

- **Key Ridgelines:**
  Prominent ridgelines that dominate the skyline in views from the settlement. (Source: field observations June/July 2014).

- **Footpaths/Bridleways:**
  The routes of public rights of way providing access to the open countryside around the settlement. (Source: Wealden District Council, June 2014).

Conservation Designations:

- **Conservation Areas:**

- **Listed Buildings:**

- **Locally Listed Buildings:**

- **Historic Parks and Gardens:**
  The boundaries of registered parks and gardens of historic interest. (Source: English Heritage, May 2014).

- **Scheduled Monuments:**
  The boundaries of Scheduled Monuments (Source: English Heritage, May 2014).

- **Statutory Wildlife Designations/Local Wildlife Sites:**
  International, European and Nationally important wildlife designations (including SPAs, SACs, Ramsar sites and SSSIs). Local wildlife sites include non-statutory wildlife areas. (Source: Natural England, May 2014; Wealden District Council, May 2014).

- **Ancient Woodlands:**
  The boundaries of Ancient Woodland. Ancient Woodland is defined by Natural England as “land that has had a continuous woodland cover since at least 1600 AD and may be ancient semi-natural woodland (ASNW), which retains a native tree and shrub cover that has not been planted, although it may have been managed by coppicing or felling and allowed to regenerate naturally, or plantation on ancient woodland sites (PAWS) where the original tree cover has been felled and replaced by planting, often with conifers, and usually over the last century”. (Source: Natural England, May 2014).

- **Tree Preservation Orders:**
  Individual trees or boundaries of areas containing trees that are covered by Tree Preservation Orders. (Source: Wealden District Council, May 2014).

- **South Downs National Park:**
  Boundary of the South Downs National Park as designated in 2009. The South Downs National Park Authority is responsible for the management of the National Park and delivery of its statutory purposes. (Source: Natural England, May 2014).

- **High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty:**
  Boundary of the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty as designated in 1983. Four counties (Surrey, West Sussex, East Sussex and Kent) and eleven district authorities (including Wealden District Council) are responsible for coordinating the management of the AONB and delivery of its statutory purposes. (Source: Natural England, May 2014).