

## **APPENDIX 2: DESCRIPTIONS OF LANDSCAPE TYPES**

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### **RURAL TYPES**

#### **R1 LARGE-SCALE OPEN FARMLAND**

##### **R1a Elevated or low-lying, arable farmland with weak structure**

An exposed and open, distinctively flat landscape. Hedges are frequently gappy and in many places have been removed, leaving isolated, often stag-headed old hedgerow trees dotted across fields. The low-lying landscape has distant views to rising ground on the horizon, while the elevated areas are bleak and remote.

##### **R1b Flat, low-lying open wet pasture**

A flat, low-lying landscape associated with Rivers Ray, Cherwell, and Thames with a distinctive 'floodplain' character and high water table. The floodplain is mostly divided into large grazing fields divided by hedges and drainage ditches, although smaller field patterns are found.

#### **R2 LARGE-SCALE UNDULATING FARMLAND**

##### **R2a Rolling arable landscape with weak field pattern and isolated trees**

This is the most common landscape type. The degree of slope varies from gently undulating in the south of the district to quite steeply rolling in some areas, but the landscape is generally open, with views into the middle distance. The degree of hedgerow structure also varies. In some areas, the hedges are beginning to be thin and fields have recently been enlarged, but in some places have been completely removed.

##### **R2b Rolling arable landscape with strong field pattern, copses and small trees**

The topography of this type is as variable as for type R2a, but this landscape is more clearly defined. Dense hedges and lines of hedgerow trees provide a good structure, and small copses and coverts punctuate views over rolling arable fields. Many of the hedgerow trees are still in very good condition, although mature.

##### **R2c Elevated open pasture with occasional remnant heath vegetation**

An open upland landscape where rough pasture is grazed by sheep and cattle. Field boundaries are mainly post and rail or post and wire fences. Remnant heath vegetation, gorse and bracken, is dotted around pastures and along roadside verges.