WHAT IS LANDSCAPE?

• The European Landscape Convention, the first international convention dedicated exclusively to the protection, management and planning of all landscapes in Europe, describes ‘landscape’ as “an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors.”
WHAT IS LANDSCAPE?

- Landscape is the living record of the interaction between people and place.
- Human observation is a vital ingredient.
- Landscape is more than just an area of land with its individual arrangement of features: people bring their own knowledge, emotions, associations and understandings to imbue it with meaning.

WHAT IS LANDSCAPE?

Landscape can thus be thought of as a combination of:

- Natural components: geology, landform, soils, ecology etc.
- Human influence: land management, settlement, reshaping etc.
- Aesthetic qualities: visual and other sensory impressions
- Cultural values: historical, social and personal associations
**Landscape Contextual Factors**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Landscape Character</th>
<th>An appreciation of landscape character is the starting point for considering the visual impacts of woods and forests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Local distinctiveness</strong></td>
<td>An understanding of the factors that make a local place and landscape special</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Visual Sensitivity</strong></td>
<td>Familiar and distinctive landscapes or those that are visually prominent are sensitive to change so woodland proposals need to be carefully considered.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Historic Landscapes</strong></td>
<td>The landscape is a testament to the historical and cultural development of any country. Woodland is one key element that can be an integral part of the historic fabric in some situations or detrimental to it in others.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Designed Landscapes</strong></td>
<td>Trees have a major influence on designed landscapes; these are a valued art form and an important part of the cultural heritage.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Key design principles

- Shape
- Relationship to the landform (visual force)
- Scale
- Enclosure
- Nearness

- Coalescence
- Interlock
- Proportion
- Unity
- Diversity
- Spirit of place (Genius loci)
### INTENSIVELY MANAGED STANDS OF VALUABLE BROADLEAVED TREES

- Trees in the wider countryside
- Trees in special plantations
- Trees in the forest

### TREES IN THE WIDER COUNTRYSIDE

- Many landscapes feature VBTs in the agricultural setting of fields:
  - In hedgerows
  - In lines along boundaries and water courses
  - In clumps or as single trees near farmsteads
TREES IN SPECIAL PLANTATIONS

- Many landscapes feature plantations or groves of different tree species, including VBTs:
- Some are in traditional agro-forestry systems
- Plantations may be unusual in other landscapes
**TREES IN FORESTS**

- Areas of trees within forests also require design
- Shape and pattern of rows in a forest contrast with the surrounding areas.
Thanks for your attention