

LUC Study

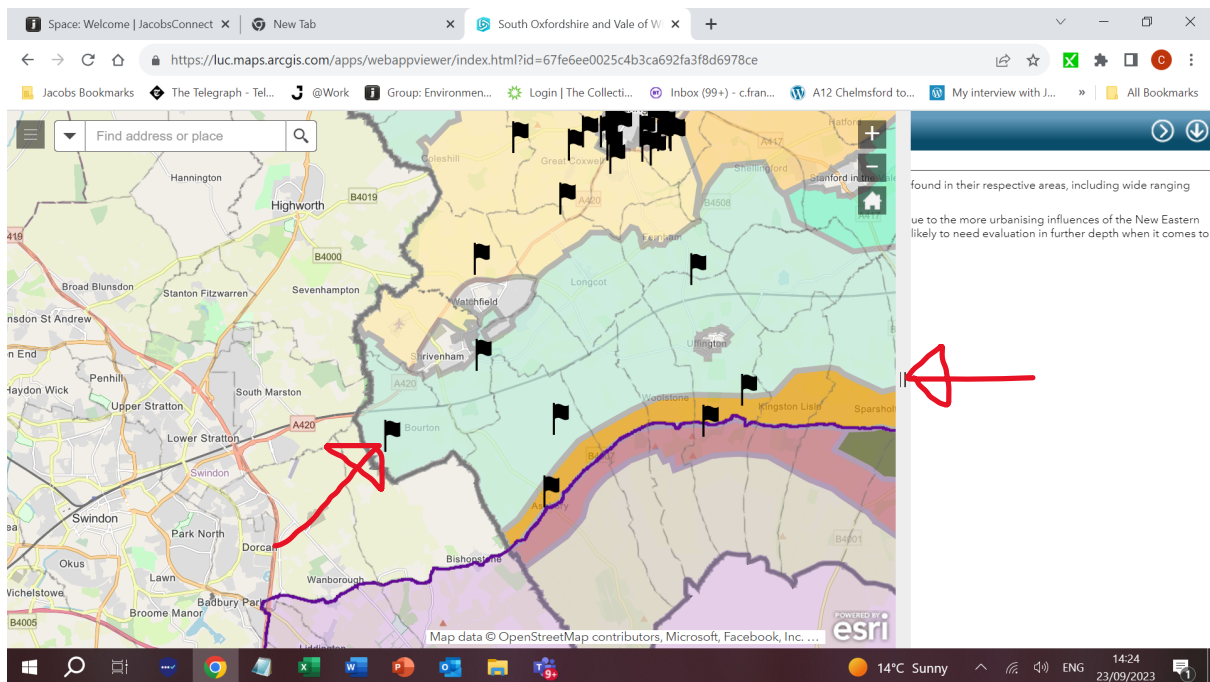
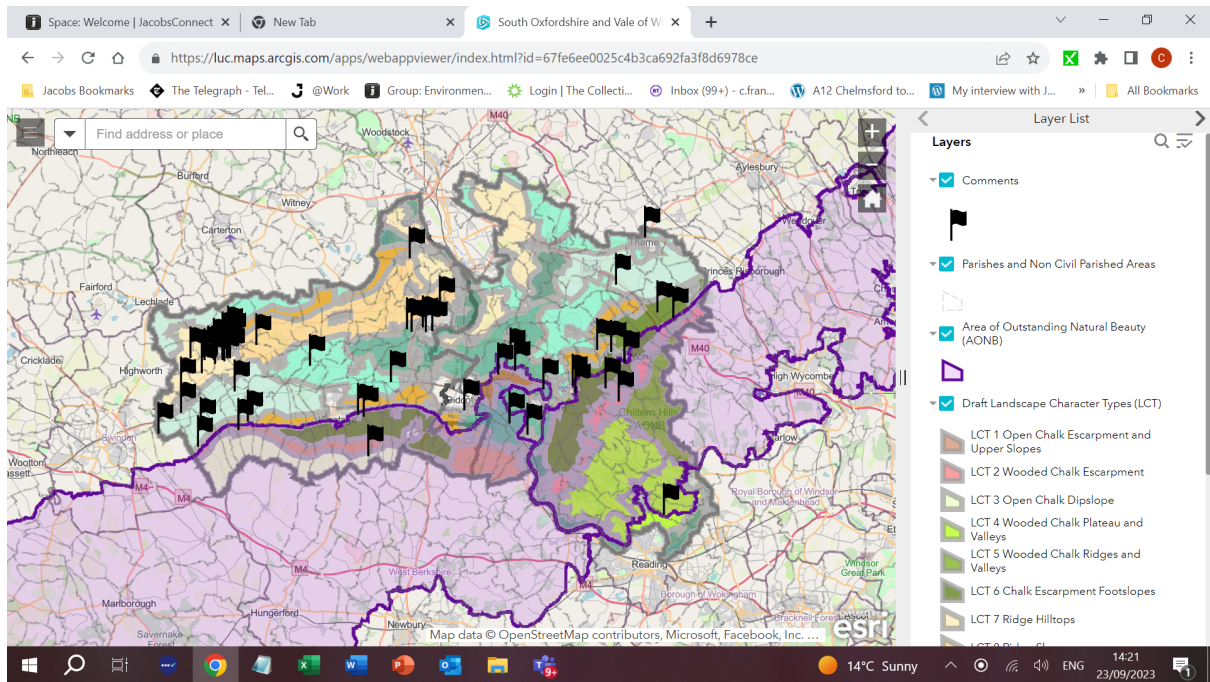
<https://south-and-vale-landscape-character-assessment-luc.hub.arcgis.com/>

Opening Page

Clicking on the link above brings you to the LUC landscape study. Scrolling down the page brings you to four coloured boxes, which link you to (1) an interactive map of the two local authorities including Bourton in the west/left hand side, (2) the questionnaire, (3) guidance on issues you may value in the landscape and landscape change, and (4) further guidance on LUC's study looking at dark skies, tranquillity, landscape character, valued landscapes, sensitivity and capacity studies, and green belt.

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the opening page of the LUC Landscape Character Assessment. The browser's address bar shows the URL: <https://south-and-vale-landscape-character-assessment-luc.hub.arcgis.com>. The page features a green header with the LUC logo and navigation links: Home, Landscape Values and Change, Landscape Evidence Base, Interactive Map, and Comments. Below the header is a large aerial photograph of a rural landscape with a winding path. The text "South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Landscape Character Assessment" is overlaid on the image. Below the image, there is a welcome message: "Welcome to the online consultation hub for the 2023 update of landscape character evidence for South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils." This is followed by a paragraph explaining the project's aim: "The overall aim of the project is to support the work of the Councils and to underpin policies in the emerging joint Local Plan by reviewing and refreshing existing landscape evidence. As part of this work a new joint Landscape Character Assessment will replace the existing separate studies for South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse." Below this is a section titled "What would we like your views on?" with a sub-heading: "A Landscape Character Assessment is not just a description of the physical landscape. To help inform planning policy and decision-making it is important that the Councils understand how different areas and elements of the local landscape are valued, and also what changes are affecting those valued qualities. Your input will help us with that." The bottom of the screenshot shows a Windows taskbar with various application icons and a system tray displaying "14°C Sunny" and the date "23/09/2023".

Plum Box – link to the interactive map



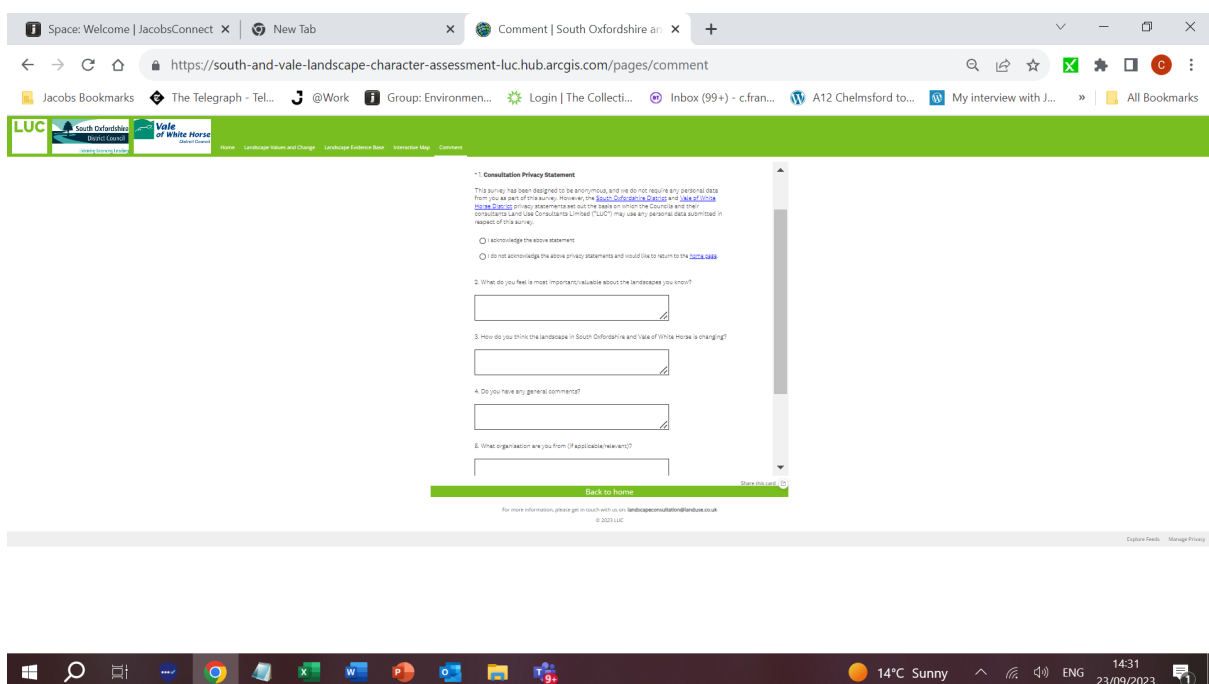
You can zoom in and out of the interactive map. If you click on the flag near Bourton, the messages pops up that there are two comments. Slide the map screen divider to the LHS and you can read these comments - the first is by Swindon BC Place Making Team. You can add your comments on what you value about the landscape by clicking on the blue box on the landing page.

Blue Box - Comments

This is where you can add your comments which will be recorded. There is a simple questionnaire with five questions which are:

- A privacy statement
- What do you feel is most important/valuable about the landscapes you know?
- How do you think the landscape in South Oxfordshire and the Vale of the White Horse is changing?
- Do you have any general comments?
- What organisation are you from (if applicable/relevant)?

While the survey has been designed to be anonymous, it looks like your comment would pop up in the interactive map.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://south-and-vale-landscape-character-assessment-luc.hub.arcgis.com/pages/comment>. The page features a green header with the LUC logo and navigation links. The main content area contains a survey form with the following sections:

- *1. Consultation Privacy Statement**: A text block explaining that the survey is anonymous and that personal data is not required. It includes a link to the [Data Access Policy](#).
- I acknowledge the above statement
- I do not acknowledge the above privacy statements and would like to return to the [Data Access Policy](#)
- 2. What do you feel is most important/valuable about the landscapes you know?**: A text input field.
- 3. How do you think the landscape in South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse is changing?**: A text input field.
- 4. Do you have any general comments?**: A text input field.
- 5. What organisation are you from (if applicable/relevant)?**: A text input field.

At the bottom of the form, there is a green button labeled "Back to Home" and a small note: "For more information please get in touch with us on landscapeconsultation@luc.gov.uk".

As ever, all comments should be respectful, even if you wish to express concerns for example over how the landscape is changing!

Green Box – Landscape Values and Change

The Green Box links you to some guidance on the sorts of things that you may value in the landscape around us and activities or issues that you think are changing the landscape.

Space: Welcome | JacobsConnect x | New Tab x | landscape-value | South Oxfordshire | x

https://south-and-vale-landscape-character-assessment-luc.hub.arcgis.com/pages/south-vale-landscape-value

Jacobs Bookmarks | The Telegraph - Tel... | @Work | Group: Environmen... | Login | The Collecti... | Inbox (99+) - c.fran... | A12 Chelmsford to... | My interview with J... | All Bookmarks

LUC South Oxfordshire District Council Listening Learning Leading | Vale of White Horse District Council

Home Landscape Values and Change Landscape Evidence Base Interactive Map Comment

Landscape Values

What do you feel is most important/valuable about the landscapes you know? Examples to consider might include:

- Areas valued for the natural or historic environment
- Areas valued for recreation
- Areas valued for their tranquillity and rural character
- Local views/landmarks
- Landscapes associated with events/people in history, or represented in art, literature or music

14°C Sunny 14:19 23/09/2023

Landscape Change

Space: Welcome | JacobsConnect x | New Tab x | landscape-value | South Oxfordshire | x

https://south-and-vale-landscape-character-assessment-luc.hub.arcgis.com/pages/south-vale-landscape-value

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Home Landscape Values and Change Landscape Evidence Base Interactive Map Comment

Landscape Change

How do you think the landscape in South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse is changing? This may be positive or negative. Examples may include:

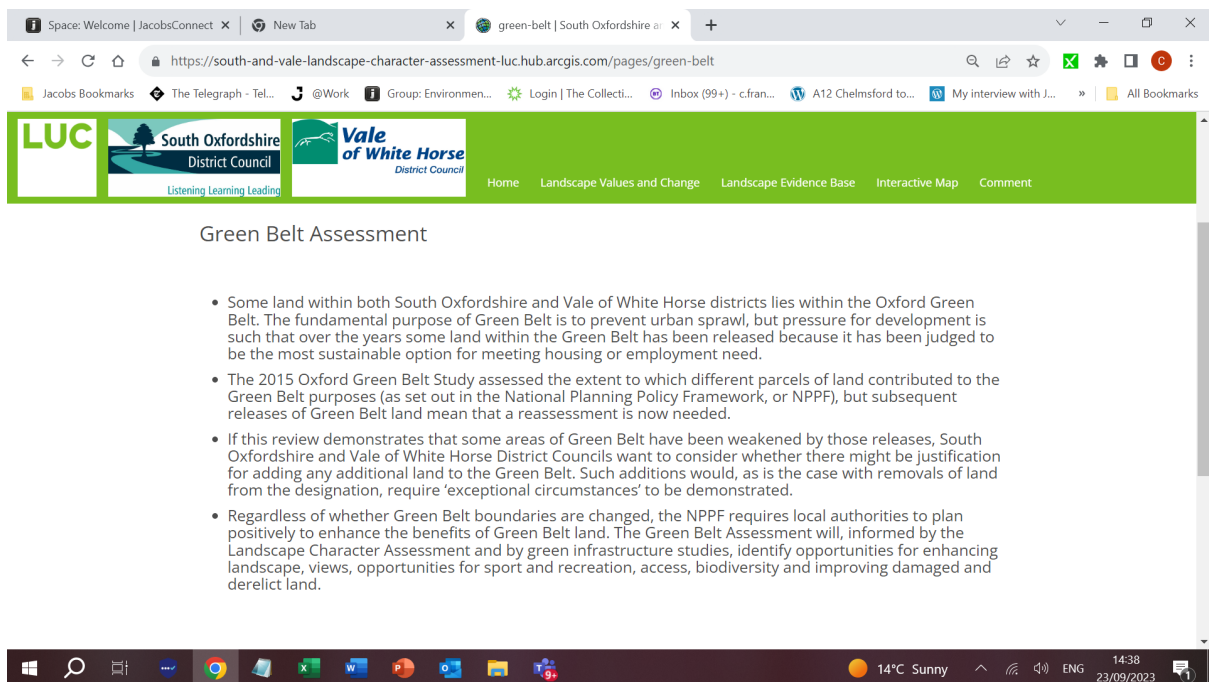
- Built development, for example new housing
- Climate change impacts and responses, for example increased flooding, new woodland planting, renewable energy development
- Agricultural and land use change, for example changes in types and seasonality of crops, increase in areas for wildlife
- Recreational change, for example in response to the health and well-being agenda

14°C Sunny 14:20 23/09/2023

Yellow Box - Landscape Evidence Base

This section provides you with more information about the study LUC is undertaking. For example, it explains how they are going to assess Dark Skies – an issue of great importance to people who like star gazing and don't like the orange night-time glow from Swindon. They will assess:

- Dark skies
- Tranquillity
- Landscape character
- Valued landscapes
- Sensitivity and capacity studies, and
- Green belt assessment.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the following details:

- Browser Tabs:** Space: Welcome | JacobsConnect x, New Tab x, green-belt | South Oxfordshire a x
- Address Bar:** <https://south-and-vale-landscape-character-assessment-luc.hub.arcgis.com/pages/green-belt>
- Page Header:** LUC, South Oxfordshire District Council, Vale of White Horse District Council. Navigation links: Home, Landscape Values and Change, Landscape Evidence Base, Interactive Map, Comment.
- Section Title:** Green Belt Assessment
- Content:**
 - Some land within both South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse districts lies within the Oxford Green Belt. The fundamental purpose of Green Belt is to prevent urban sprawl, but pressure for development is such that over the years some land within the Green Belt has been released because it has been judged to be the most sustainable option for meeting housing or employment need.
 - The 2015 Oxford Green Belt Study assessed the extent to which different parcels of land contributed to the Green Belt purposes (as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework, or NPPF), but subsequent releases of Green Belt land mean that a reassessment is now needed.
 - If this review demonstrates that some areas of Green Belt have been weakened by those releases, South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils want to consider whether there might be justification for adding any additional land to the Green Belt. Such additions would, as is the case with removals of land from the designation, require 'exceptional circumstances' to be demonstrated.
 - Regardless of whether Green Belt boundaries are changed, the NPPF requires local authorities to plan positively to enhance the benefits of Green Belt land. The Green Belt Assessment will, informed by the Landscape Character Assessment and by green infrastructure studies, identify opportunities for enhancing landscape, views, opportunities for sport and recreation, access, biodiversity and improving damaged and derelict land.
- Taskbar:** Windows taskbar showing various application icons, system tray with 14°C Sunny, and date 23/09/2023.

Feel free to click on the links and find out more about what LUC is planning to do.