

The information in the table below should assist with the preparation of character assessments. Not all of the sources of information presented in the table will necessarily be available or relevant to every type of study. Data will depend on the scale of the study and its purpose, rather than ‘using data for its own sake’. Available budget may also influence the level and type of data used in studies. As such, the information set out in the table is a starting point for those undertaking a study to choose from, identifying sources appropriate for their purposes.

SUBJECT/ TOPIC	POTENTIAL DATA SOURCES AND WHERE TO FIND	CHARACTER THEMES TO WHICH THE TOPIC RELATES		
		Physical	Cultural, social and economic	Perceptual and experiential
Landform and topography	Review of landscape character assessment (LCA) information as appropriate for outer London boroughs – source: Borough Landform panorama contour mapping – source from Ordnance Survey Topographic surveys - Produce in study team, or commission from surveyor, subject to resources	•		•
Geology and soils	British Geological Society (BGS) Geological Memoirs (Regional Geology Guides) describing geological evolution of an area, and supporting BGS Mapping – source from BGS/Borough Soil Association Soils Mapping – source from Borough, if relevant and available Regionally Important or Local Geological Sites location data, plus descriptions/citations – source from Borough, if available – such geology sites are usually identified by local geology groups and it therefore very much depends on how active the local group is within a borough	•		•

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		Physical	Cultural, social and economic	Perceptual and experiential
Hydrology and riverine environments	Catchment Management Plan and Strategic and Local Flood Risk Assessments, as appropriate, including relevant mapped layers and information on geology/aquifers and main rivers – source from Environment Agency/Borough Relevant All London Green Grid Area Frameworks and supporting mapping – source from GLA/Design for London	•	•	•
Open spaces	Greenspace strategies/Open Space Audits (formerly known as PPG17 Assessments/Audits) – source from Borough All London Green Grid Area Frameworks and relevant map data – GLA/Design for London Metropolitan Open Land (MOL) data – source from GLA/Borough London Parks and Gardens Inventory of Historic Green Spaces (particularly for landscape heritage aspects of London's open spaces, such as Registered Parks and Gardens, and London squares protected under the 1931 London Squares Act). The inventory is available from <a href="http://www.londongardensonline.org.uk/">http://www.londongardensonline.org.uk/</a>	•	•	•
Atmosphere and microclimate	Information will be largely collected through site survey and by appropriate local/stakeholder engagement			•
Habitats	London Wildlife Trust Living Landscape Areas and Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) and BAP Priority Habitats/targets, plus supporting mapped data – source from London Wildlife Trust and/or MAGIC, plus relevant maps from All London Green Grid area frameworks, as appropriate. Site survey can be used to confirm information 'on the ground' Also Phase 1 habitat surveys developed by ecologists, where available	•		•

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Trees	Tree Strategies and/or site specific management plans (whether landscape/conservation/ecological focus) – produce in study team, if required Woodland Trust Accessible Woodland data/National Woodland Inventory data; Ancient Woodland Inventory data – source from Woodland Trust/MAGIC ( <a href="http://www.magic.gov.uk">www.magic.gov.uk</a> )	•		•
Nature conservation designations: National/ international	RAMSAR Sites Natura 2000 Sites (Special Areas of Conservation or SAC; Special Protection Areas or SPA) Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) Sources: All of the above can be sourced from the relevant Borough, or from MAGIC Ancient woodlands – source: Woodland Trust Ancient Woodland Inventory	•	•	•
Nature reserves	National/Local Nature Reserves – source: MAGIC/ Borough Roadside Nature Reserves – source: Borough	•		•
Designated geology/ geodiversity	Local Geological Sites – source: Borough	•		•
Locally designated nature conservation interest	Local Wildlife Sites/Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation – source: Borough	•		•

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Urban grain and relationship of buildings to spaces	<p>Conservation Area Appraisals. Source: Borough</p> <p>Extensive/Intensive Urban Surveys. Source: English Heritage - <a href="http://www.englishheritage.org.uk/professional/research/landscapes-and-areas/characterisation/townscape-character">www.englishheritage.org.uk/professional/research/landscapes-and-areas/characterisation/townscape-character</a></p> <p>Pevsner's Buildings of England series – London volumes. Source: Local History Library or Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) Library</p> <p>Historic Ordnance Survey map sequences (Map regression). Source: Landmark Information Group (<a href="http://www.landmark.co.uk">www.landmark.co.uk</a>) or Old Maps (<a href="http://www.old-maps.co.uk">www.old-maps.co.uk</a>)</p> <p>Aerial photography. Source: On line resources/Google Earth</p> <p>Figure : Ground Mapping (also known as Nolli Mapping after Giambattista Nolli – a graphical technique for mapping relationship of built form to open space). Source: Produce within study team</p> <p>Elements of space syntax mapping e.g. isovists/permeability, movement corridors (Space Syntax mapping is a form of architectural theory based on understanding of movement patterns, developed by Hillier et al at the Bartlett School of Architecture, University College London (Hillier B, 1996,, Space is the Machine; A configurational theory of architecture (Cambridge University Press)<sup>1</sup>) Source: Produce within study team, using elements defined by Hillier (subject to need and resources)</p>	•		•

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Materials, detailing and building styles	Conservation Area Appraisals Extensive/Intensive Urban Surveys Listing descriptions/local listings – source: Borough	•	•	•
Building massing, density, height and scale	Conservation Area Appraisals Extensive/Intensive Urban Surveys Listing descriptions/local listings or descriptions for locally identified buildings of Townscape Merit, (where Boroughs use these terms) – source: English Heritage for national listings, Boroughs for local listings Building heights modelling (digital model, where available and subject to resources). Topographic surveys (produce in study team/commission from surveyor, subject to resources) – source: Likely to be produced by developer team as they bring schemes forward	•	•	•
Historic evolution of a place	Conservation Area Appraisals Extensive/Intensive Urban Surveys Local history studies, available from local history libraries	•	•	•

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Significance and values, including community values and perceptions and understanding of setting	Where applicable, World Heritage Site Management Plans for sites designated as World Heritage Sites, including associated statements of 'Outstanding Universal Value' – source: on line Information on significance and settings of both designated and non- designated heritage assets may also be gained through site survey to confirm e.g. views/visual analysis, understanding aspects such as function, land use, context and inter relationships or historic and aesthetic connections. Also through gaining an understanding of values via local engagement. Information on the setting of heritage assets can be found in English Heritage Guidance available on-line: English Heritage Guidance: The Setting of Heritage Assets – see <a href="http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/publications/setting-heritage-assets">www.english-heritage.org.uk/publications/setting-heritage-assets</a>	•	•	•
Built Heritage	Listing descriptions Conservation Area Appraisals Local history library/local archive or studies centre	•	•	•
Settlement pattern, hierarchy and morphology	Victoria County History (This was first published in 1899 and is an encyclopaedia of local history by county, recording England's places and people from the earliest period to the present day. Entries are available for London and Middlesex. It is available on line at <a href="http://www.victoriacountyhistory.ac.uk">www.victoriacountyhistory.ac.uk</a> Pevsner Conservation Area Appraisals Historic map sequences using historic editions of Ordnance Survey map data (available from on line sources such as <a href="http://www.old-maps.co.uk">www.old-maps.co.uk</a> )	•	•	•

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Cultural pattern and layers	Extensive/intensive urban surveys, plus relevant GIS layers and mapping produce for these studies Conservation Area Appraisals Listed building descriptions/local listing descriptions/ listed parks and gardens descriptions Historic landscape characterisation (for outer London boroughs – consideration of ‘fringe’ land in adjacent counties) – source: adjacent county council archaeology departments	•	•	•
Heritage Designations	This is mostly dealt with in the themes above, however sources for key designations are also identified below: World Heritage Sites – source: on line Conservation Areas – source: Borough Listed Buildings – source: English Heritage on line resources Locally listed buildings/buildings of townscape merit – source: Borough Registered parks and gardens – source: English Heritage/MAGIC; also consider parks, gardens and squares identified by the London Parks and Gardens Trust - London Parks and Gardens Inventory of Historic Green Spaces, available from <a href="http://www.londongardensonline.org.uk">http://www.londongardensonline.org.uk</a> Battlefield sites – source: MAGIC/Historic Environment Records Scheduled Monuments or Sites on the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR – formerly Scheduled Ancient Monuments or SAMs) – source: English Heritage National Monuments Record	•	•	•
Maritime heritage	Wreck sites – information available on line at <a href="http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/advice/our-planning-role/consent/protected-wreck-sites/">www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/advice/our-planning-role/consent/protected-wreck-sites/</a>	•	•	
Battlefields	MAGIC website for information on battlefield sites and related designations	•	•	
Scheduled (Ancient) Monuments	Historic Environment Record or National Monuments Record – source: English Heritage	•	•	•

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Designated views (LVMF)	London View Management Framework (LVMF SPG) – source : GLA (online) Aerial photography – source: on line resources Terrain and buildings modelling such as ZTV modelling overlaid on LVMF corridors) – source: Produce in study team, subject to resources	•	•	•
Locally important views	Local Views identified in Local Plan – source: Borough	•	•	•
Movement corridors, permeability and access/circulation	All London Green Grid (ALGG), including paths and rights of way, promoted routes/Green Chain and cycle route mapping – source: GLA/Design for London Relevant Open Space Studies/Strategies – source: Borough Local Transport Plan/Rights of Way Improvement Plans – source: Borough	•		•
Transport infrastructure/corridors	London Plan – source: GLA Local Plan evidence bases including transport studies/transport assessments – source: Borough Mapping of main rivers, canals, railways and M and A roads, Sustrans routes, promoted routes such as Capital Ring/Green Chains/London Loop/paths and paths and rights of way (PROWs), plus any relevant to access in All London Green Grid – source GLA/Design for London/Borough- Public Transport Accessibility Levels (PTAL) –source: GLA/TfL	•	•	

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Public realm and street scene	Conservation Area Appraisals All London Green Grid (ALGG); relevant Open Space Studies/Strategies, plus supporting mapped data/consultation findings Figure : Ground/Nolli mapping	•	•	•
Demography/ ethnicity/ socio economic profiles	CACI socio economic location profiles – source; online Socio economic/community profiling work undertaken for Local Plan evidence base, or Neighbourhood Plan – source: Borough, neighbourhood forums/groups		•	•
Need and deficiency, areas of opportunity	Open space assessments All London Green Grid Socio economic/community profiling work undertaken for Local Plan/Neighbourhood Plan	•	•	•
Crime and perception of crime	Crime and Disorder Reduction Reports/Strategies at Borough level, where available – source: Borough	•	•	•
Barriers, real and perceived	Crime and Disorder Reduction Report/Strategy, where available – source; Borough Mapping of river, canal and road/rail corridors – source: British Waterways/Environment Agency/Network Rail/GLA/Borough Indices of Multiple Deprivation Mapping (IMD) – source: Office of Public Sector Information (OPSI)	•	•	•

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Permeability, safety and security	Local engagement Crime and Disorder Reduction (CDR) Report/Strategy, where available – source: Borough Movement studies where available – source: Borough Mapping of promoted/strategic/local access and circulation routes and green travel routes, barriers to access (e.g. main roads, railways).	•		•
Land use and activity; use and misuse of spaces and places	National Land Use dataset (NLUD) and any more local Borough level information, where available – source: NLUD/Borough. More detailed information is likely to be revealed through local engagement and site survey.	•	•	•
Land ownership and land management	Many boroughs hold land ownership data, although this is often sensitive/confidential, and of often limited availability for this reason. Site specific management plans, where available.	•	•	
Literary and artistic associations with the place	Conservation Area Appraisals Pevsner Local museum or Local History Library/Local Studies Centre		•	•
Sensory aspects	Information captured through site survey	•	•	•
Colour and texture, light, shade and pattern	Information captured through site survey	•	•	•
Reactions – personal/emotional	Information captured through site survey	•	•	•

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Seasonal and temporal qualities of place	Information captured through site survey	•	•	•