



**Proposed Golf Driving Range,
Lambton Park
Chester-le-Street
Agricultural Land Classification
Summary Report
October 1996**

**Resource Planning Team
Leeds Statutory Group
ADAS Leeds**

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**PROPOSED GOLF DRIVING RANGE, LAMBTON PARK,
CHESTER-LE-STREET
AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY REPORT**

Introduction

1. This report presents the findings of a detailed Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) survey of 5.9 ha of land at Lambton Park, Chester-le-Street. The survey was carried out during October 1996.
2. The survey was commissioned by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF) Land Use Planning Unit, Northallerton in connection with the proposal to build a golf driving range on this site. This survey supersedes any previous ALC surveys.
3. The work was conducted by members of the Resource Planning Team in the Leeds Statutory Group in ADAS. The land has been graded in accordance with the published MAFF ALC guidelines and criteria (MAFF, 1988). A description of the ALC grades and subgrades is given in Appendix I.
4. At the time of survey the agricultural land on the site was under ley grass. Other land was found in the north, south and west and consisted of woodland and part of a car park/shopping complex.

Summary

5. The findings of the survey are shown on the enclosed ALC map. The map has been drawn at a scale of 1:5,000. It is accurate at this scale but any enlargement would be misleading.
6. The area and proportions of the ALC grades and subgrades on the surveyed land are summarised in Table 1.

Table 1: Area of grades and other land

Grade/Other land	Area (hectares)	% Total site area	% Surveyed Area
Subgrade 3b	3.9	66.1	100
Other land	2.0	33.9	-
Total surveyed area	3.9	-	100
Total site area	5.9	100	-

7. The fieldwork was conducted at an average density of one boring per hectare. A total of four borings and one soil pit were described.

8. Subgrade 3b, moderate quality agricultural land, covers the centre of the site. The soils are poorly drained and consist of medium clay loam topsoils overlying gleyed and slowly permeable heavy clay loam or clay subsoils at between 20 cm and 30 cm depth. Soil wetness is the factor which limits this land to Subgrade 3b.

9. Other land occurs in the south, north and west. In the south and north it consists of belts of woodland whilst in the west it consists of a car park and shopping complex.