

LANDSCAPE & VISUAL IMPACT APPRAISAL

WEST GREEN RECYCLING, CUDWORTH

PREPARED BY TPM LANDSCAPE LTD

FOR

E J LIDSTER (BARNSELEY) LTD

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6 Brewer St
Manchester
M1 2EU

Tel: 0161 235 0600
Fax: 0161 235 0601
email: info@tpmlandscape.co.uk

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1.0 CONTEXT

1.1 INTRODUCTION - PROJECT DESCRIPTION

TPM Landscape Ltd were commissioned by E J Lidster (Barnsley) Ltd in June 2024 to prepare a Landscape and Visual Impact Appraisal (LVIA) and other supporting landscape assessment and analysis for land associated with West Green Recycling in Cudworth. Following the submission, the application was refused and the subsequent appeal was dismissed in November 2025, in part due to landscape and visual matters. The inspectors concluded that the proposals would cause no harm to the landscape character of the receiving landscape. In visual terms, however, the development, particularly the filter press structure, was found to be prominent in views across the open land to the southeast of the site from an extended length of West Green Way, and from locations at the eastern end of Burton Road by the roundabout. The inspector identified the filter press as the most visually harmful element of the proposals.

In response, a revised LVIA has been prepared to address the identified landscape and visual concerns. The layout of the proposals has been amended and the landscape mitigation has been re-evaluated.

Supplementary planting is proposed in front of a revised boundary wall along the site frontage to create a natural screen and reduce the visual impact. Four revised viewpoints and accompanying photographic montages, modeled to include the amended filter press structure are provided to illustrate the revised proposals at year 1 (see appendix 1 views and visuals), when mitigation planting is newly established, and, at year15, when the mitigation planting is expected to have matured significantly.

Based on the viewpoints (view 1-10) presented in appendix 1 of the original LVIA, view 1a (from West Green Way and Barton Road) and view 10 (from West Green Way to the north-west) have been selected for reassessment. In addition, two further viewpoints from West Green Way (view 1b and 1c) have been introduced to illustrate visual effects from the receiving landscape and receptors where the inspector identified concerns. These are found at the end of this revised report in Appendix 1. All revisions and amendments are highlighted in green ink to indicate where changes to the report and assessment have been made.

This document is in support of the design proposals for the site seeking permission for a number of introduced elements and structures that our clients have sought to introduce to their existing operation to improve efficiency and scale. The LVIA will consider the baseline for both landscape and visual amenity and will seek to identify the sensitivity of each before considering the change that proposed development may introduce. Both the landscape and visual impact of the proposed development will be assessed and a strategy of mitigation planting or other methods will be explored where relevant to reduce identified impacts.

The landscape and visual appraisal were conducted between July 2024 when trees were in leaf. It is understood that the assessed effects on the visual resource are likely to be more pronounced during the winter months when the trees are not in leaf. Instances where this is particularly relevant have been considered and appraised in the assessment.

1.2 SITE DESCRIPTION

The site, measuring approximately 1.51 hectares in area, is located on the north-eastern side of West Green Way between the settlements of Cudworth, Lundwood and Carlton, within the administrative boundary of Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council.

The site (contained within the red line at (Figure 1 Appendix 2), which is in industrial use is occupied by the Applicant's company (West Green Recycling Limited). Additional land within the Applicant's ownership is contained within the blue line at Figure 1.

Although the majority of the site is laid to concrete, its northwestern extent and the access track (leading from West Green Way) is unmade, compacted ground, sitting atop a hardcore base. Within this area, waste material is stored in spoils before being treated.

The topography of the site itself and immediate surrounding area is relatively flat, however the spoils of non-hazardous waste on the site and land to the northwest have altered the topography significantly.

1.3 STUDY AREA

The local roads were driven and public footpath networks explored to determine the receptors to be appraised and the extents of the visual envelope. The visual envelope is contained by rising land to the north east with a rolling landscape that includes man made spoil heaps and other earth works associated with the areas previous use as a colliery and rail yards.

The settlement of Cudworth lies to the east of the proposal site on elevated ground above the surrounding landscape. The settlement of West Green lies to the immediate south and west and includes the substantial Ardagh industrial complex.

The land within the study area and site is largely made up of rough grassland and regenerating scrub woodland over land that is clearly regenerated industrial land and spoil heaps from the coal industry. These have been restored to woodland and parkland and in some areas are open to public use as recreational space. Industrial activity both on the site and within the study area is common place and is a clear character component of the landscape. Settlement is also present throughout and mostly concentrated within the West Green and Cudworth.

The west green way and Cudworth parkway form significant road routes. A disused rail line runs south to north past the sites eastern boundary and is a heavily wooded physical and visual barrier across this landscape, a well used path route along this line connects walking routes in the north to the settlement areas to the south.

The extent of the study area is illustrated in Figure 2 Study Area. The Topography and Factors influencing the visual envelope of the site of the study area are illustrated in Appendix 2 Figure 6.

1.4 DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

This application seeks retrospective planning permission for the installation of an aggregate wash plant; erection of a store, erection of an enclosure for external pipework and the erection of a substation; laying of concrete slabs; and construction of boundary treatments. The plant is made up of a number of components including a washing system, filter presses and tanks/silos.

The Applicant is also proposing to clad the exterior of the structure housing the filter presses. For full details of the proposals see the design and access statement and drawings accompanying the application. Further information is indicated in the plan at Figure 11 Appendix 2.

The proposed filter press has been significantly reduced in height from the previous application and turned through 90 degrees so as to present a smaller built form towards West Green Way and residential areas. A landscape buffer of 5m is provided in front of a revised boundary wall along the length of this revised section of the site layout.

The filter presses (x2) are mounted on a raised platform, which is supported by a long, rectangular, steel frame. The raised platform is accessed via external stairs. The filter presses' supporting structure has a height of 3.3m with the structure above reaching a max height from the ground of 7.65m (height in original application: 10.56m), a length of 19.926m (length in original application: 40m), and a width of 10.168m (width in original application: 5.12m).

The enclosure for the external pipework associated with the filter presses is a single storey structure occupying an approximate footprint of 22.6m² with a height of 2.7m to ridge.

The substation and store are as the previous application.

A concrete pad covers the majority of the site. In addition to the concrete pads, the Applicant has constructed walling along the majority of the site's boundaries using pre-cast concrete blockwork. The blocks are designed to slot together and are stacked four high (to reach a height of approximately 2.4 increased locally around the revised filter press to 3.3m).

1.5 DESIGNATIONS

The proposal site does not fall under any national landscape designations, such as National Park or AONB. Additionally, the proposal site is situated outside of any Conservation Area.

2.0 METHODOLOGY

2.1 METHODOLOGY

The site was visited and the surrounding road network driven. Positive and detracting elements in the landscape were recorded, as was the general land use and quality of the site. Viewpoints were identified based on public viewpoints (public footpaths), private viewpoints (residential properties) and key distant viewpoints to determine the wider impact on the landscape and where development would have the potential to affect the quality and character of existing views and in consideration of the nature of the proposed development. A study area of approximately 1km was assessed in consideration of the likely visual envelope. Potential longer distance views were also considered. A photographic record of the study area, surrounding context and important views/character were recorded.

The methodology seeks to use recognised, published industry standards and techniques to identify and describe a landscape and visual baseline and ascribe a sensitivity to these landscape and visual receptors which may be altered through the introduction of the proposed development. Landscape and Visual Impacts are considered separately although the conclusion on sensitivity and impact will have regard to both these related areas of study and proposals made for the mitigation of that impact.

The magnitude of change brought about through the proposed development is considered alongside the level of sensitivity for each landscape area or receptor and the level of landscape or visual effects is expressed as a combination of these two elements.

The methodology for landscape character appraisal and visual appraisal is summarised in sections 2.2 and 2.3, refer to APPENDIX 2 for tables 2.4 to 2.12.

The appraisal has been based on guidelines and information provided in the following publications:

- Landscape Character Assessment: Guidance for England and Scotland (The Countryside Agency and Scottish Natural Heritage 2002)
- Landscape Character Assessment: Guidance for England and Scotland (The Countryside Agency and Scottish Natural Heritage). Topic Paper 6: Techniques and Criteria for Judging Capacity and Sensitivity.
- Natural England's Published Landscape Character Assessments. (www.gov.uk)
- Barnsley Borough Landscape Character Assessment and Visual Appraisal 2002-2016
- Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (GLVIA) 3rd edition 2013.

2.2 LANDSCAPE CHARACTER APPRAISAL

A desktop study and site survey of existing landscape policies, planning designations and character appraisals was undertaken and an appraisal made of the landscape character of the surrounding area and the proposal sites value in landscape terms within this character area.

To determine the effects of development on the landscape three different key aspects or receptors are considered:

Elements: Individual elements within the landscape, which are quantifiable and include features such as hills, valleys, woods, trees, hedges and ponds;

Characteristics: Elements or combinations of elements that make a particular contribution to the character of the area i.e. scenic quality, tranquillity or wildness;

Character: A combination of geology, landform, soils, vegetation, land use and human settlement.

These key aspects or landscape receptors indicate the landscape condition, quality, value and susceptibility to change which are

considered when judging landscape sensitivity.

To assist in the appraisal of the sensitivity of the landscape resource each landscape encountered is considered against the criteria set out in the tables in Appendix 2. The tables identify the principal factors considered when assessing the sensitivity of the landscape, combining judgements of susceptibility to change from the proposed development (Table 2.1), landscape quality (Table 2.2) and landscape value (Table 2.3).

The criteria used to assess the landscape effects on key aspects or landscape receptors included:

- The susceptibility of the landscape (Table 2.1)
- The quality of the landscape (Table 2.2)
- The value of the landscape (Table 2.3)
- The sensitivity and type of the landscape receptor (Table 2.4)
- The magnitude of change (Table 2.5)
- The effects of development on the landscape (pre-mitigation) (Table 2.6)
- The effects of development on the landscape (post-mitigation) (Table 2.6)
- The nature of landscape effects (Table 2.7)
- The importance level of effects (Table 2.14)

2.3 VISUAL APPRAISAL

Visual appraisal relates to the change to views as a result of development, and the overall effects on visual amenity.

Considerations when judging sensitivity included:

- Location of the viewpoint
- Context of the view
- Activity of the receptor
- Frequency and duration of the view

To assist in the appraisal of the sensitivity of visual amenity each viewpoint is considered against the criteria set out in the tables in Appendix 2. The sensitivity of visual receptors is based on consideration of both susceptibility to change in views (Table 2.8), quality and value attached to each identified view (Table 2.9).

The criteria used to assess the visual effects on selected viewpoints included:

- The susceptibility of the visual receptor (Table 2.8)
- The quality and value of the visual receptor (Table 2.9)
- The sensitivity and type of visual receptor (Table 2.11)
- The magnitude of change (Table 2.10)
- The effects of development on the view (pre-mitigation) (Table 2.12)
- The effects of development on the view (post-mitigation) (Table 2.12)
- The nature of visual effects (Table 2.13)
- The importance level of effects (Table 2.14)

The appraisal of visual effects describes:

- The changes in the character of the available views resulting from the development and the changes in the visual amenity of the visual receptor.
- The appraisal process mirrors that of landscape effects in that it requires the collation of baseline information relating to the nature and type of views and the receptors which will receive them. As with landscape effects, visual effects are determined by considering the magnitude and nature of change evaluated in consideration of the sensitivity of the receptor (Table 2.11).
- The magnitude of change to the view will depend on numerous factors including the extent and nature of the current view, the distance to the proposed development, the time of year and whether other elements intervene in the view such as vegetation or moving traffic.

3.0 PLANNING POLICY

The overall planning context in relation to the Proposed Development is explored in greater detail within the separate Planning Statement that accompanies the planning application. The following provides a summary in relation to landscape and visual matters.

3.1 NATIONAL CONTEXT

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF updated Sept 2023 and December 2023)

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) published March 2012, revised at various points with the latest revision being September 2023 (an new revision has just been published in December 2023). It sets out the government's (national) planning policies. The NPPF is a key part of the reforms to make the planning system less complex and more accessible, to protect the environment and to promote sustainable growth .

In the updated NPPF the emphasis remains on achieving well designed places (12), conserving and enhancing the natural environment (15) and conserving and enhancing the historic environment (16).

The framework emphasises that developments be sympathetic to local character and history including surrounding built environment and landscape setting (12-135.c).

The framework places emphasis on: protecting and enhancing valued landscapes (15-180.a); recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside (15-180.b).

There is also direction that protection should be identified in relation to a distinguishable hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites with allocated land being found from those with the least environmental or amenity value.

The framework continues to identify National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty at the top of this hierarchy where the greatest weight for conservation and enhancement of the landscape and scenic beauty falls (15-181).

National Planning Policy Guidance (NPPG)

The National Planning Policy Guidance (NPPG) comprises of web based guidance categories first published from March 2014. The NPPG supports and informs the NPPF and sets out further specific planning guidance. NPPG categories relevant to the proposed development include: Design: process and tools (2019) and Natural Environment (2019). Design and Natural Environment categories emphasise a character based approach to design and proposed development.

3.2 LOCAL CONTEXT - BARNSELY LOCAL PLAN 2019

The adopted Development Plan for the Local Authority comprises the Barnsley Local Plan (adopted January 2019) and the Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham Joint Waste Plan (adopted March 2012)

For the purposes of the Development Plan, (as per the Local Plan map) the site is located within Urban Barnsley and belongs to a mixed-use allocation referred to as site reference: MU3, site name: Land between Shaw Lane & West Green Link Road. The southernmost extent of the site is also located within the Dearne Valley Green Heart Nature Improvement Area.

POLICY GD1 General Development

Policy GD1 of the Development Plan sets out what is expected of development in general terms. it states that development proposals will be approved if:

- They will not adversely affect the potential development of a wider area of land which could otherwise be available for development and safeguards access to adjacent land;
- They include landscaping to provide a high quality setting for buildings, incorporating existing landscape features and ensuring that plant species and the way they are planted, hard surfaces, boundary treatments and other features appropriately reflect, protect and improve the character of the local landscape;

- Any adverse impact on the environment, natural resources, waste and pollution is minimised and mitigated.

POLICY D1 High Quality Design and Place Making

Expects development to be of high-quality design and will be expected to respect, take advantage of, and reinforce the distinctive, local character and features of Barnsley.rk.

POLICY L1

expects development to retain and enhance the character and distinctiveness of the individual Landscape Character area in which it is located. As per the Landscape Character Assessment for Barnsley Borough 2002, the site is located within the North East Barnsley Settled Arable Slopes Landscape Character Area. .

POLICY NE1 BIO DIVERSITY AND GEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

The site lies adjacent to a Local Nature reserve and this policy seeks to ensure these areas are preserved and enhanced.

4.0 SITE CONTEXT

The proposed development site lies within a low lying valley landscape within undulating hills to the north east of Barnsley. The site lies within a wider landscape of previous industrial development and coal mining at Wharnecliffe Moor, with the site itself sitting over former railway lines and yards servicing the adjoining mine and works areas. The industrial activity around this area previously included brick works, bleach works and sewage works and the landscape is one where significant earth works, open mining and slag heaps are evident and the primary land use outside of settlement appears as rough grassland, scrub and natural regenerated woodland with many areas reclaimed for public recreation.

The modern landscape is also dominated by large industrial works with large buildings, chimneys and tall building elements located to the south east of the site at the Ardagh complex and further afield at the Carlton industrial estate.

The settlement of Cudworth lies to the east on rising ground while the settlement of West Green lies to the south and west of the proposal site following Burton Road towards Barnsley.

TOPOGRAPHY

The site lies within a low lying valley landscape surrounded by natural rolling hills and man made industrial mounding. The site is at or around 40m AOD with the landscapes to the north east rising to a high point at the edge of upper Cudworth at 75m AOD. To the north west the land rises over restored man made colliery spoil heaps towards a high point of 77m with further open space over high mounded land to the south west rising to around 70m.

LAND USE AND VEGETATION

The landscape is generally reclaimed and naturally regenerating land with some of the colliery spoil and other industrialised land returned to grass land which appears to be farmed or cut on a regular basis (wharnecliffe woodmoor). The rail lines running across this landscape are in part dis-used but are wooded throughout and provide strong natural green barriers and informal route ways. Scrub woodland and regenerating woodland and rough grassland are found throughout the area. Industrial development and settlement areas are also key components of this landscape.

ACCESS AND PUBLIC FOOTPATH NETWORK

The proposal site sits within a landscape that is well served with public access routes both formal and informal. The Trans Peninne trail runs north south and the the west of the proposal site. Linking public footpath routes cross the A628 towards Cudworth with further public routes to the north of the site across the Cudworth Marsh Nature Reserve. Between the reserve and the proposal site runs a dis-used rail line which is used as an informal walking route running south to north within a wooded corridor. Further permissive path routes cross remediated land to the north west (wharnecliffe woodmoor) and south west with views out across the valley landscapes.

SEE APPENDIX 2 FIGURE 5

HERITAGE AND CULTURAL ASSETS

There are limited heritage assets within the study area with a listed industrial chimney to the east being the only notable exception.

VISUAL AMENITY

Visually the study area is contained by the prevalence of woodland and scrub woodland throughout the area and by its occurrence along linear routes and tracks such as the existing and disused rail lines and along boundaries to former works and industrial areas. Elevated views over the landscape are possible from locations at the edge of Cudworth to the north east and from elevated remediated landscapes to the north and south west. Elsewhere views are often heavily constrained by vegetation with topography and existing development also playing a role.

Assessed Views have been selected to give an overview of the landscape within and surrounding area and the proposal site, See Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 Figure 3. An assessment of visual amenity and specific receptors is included in Section 7.

5.0 LANDSCAPE CHARACTER BASE LINE

5.1 EXTRACT OF NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA

Natural England's National Character Area (NCA) divide England into 159 distinct natural areas. Each is defined by a unique combination of landscape, biodiversity, geodiversity and cultural and economic activity. The proposal site area falls within National Character Area 38 Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield. The text is extracted from the national character area assessment to understand the characteristics of the NCA and whether the character area descriptions are relevant in the context of the proposal site.

SEE APPENDIX 2 FIGURE 7

5.2 EXTRACT OF NATIONAL CHARACTER AREA : NCA38

The Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield is an area that has seen great change over the past few centuries. Deposits of coal and iron, along with the water supply, brought large scale industry to the area. The impact on the landscape and settlement pattern is clear. So too is the influence on the visual and ecological landscape.

It is a generally low-lying area, with hills and escarpments above wide valleys. The landscape embraces major industrial towns and cities as well as villages and countryside. Over half of the NCA (64 per cent) is green belt, maintaining distinction between settlements.

Very little of the NCA is designated for geology or nature conservation. However, the landscape is dotted with many pockets of habitat where species find refuge. This is often on land that was once worked for minerals or occupied by major industry. Where these land uses once dominated, there are now options to create new landscapes. Links to past use will continue to provide a strong sense of place for local people.

The NCA is nationally important for industrial history, and its impact on the landscape. Historical features should be retained and restored. Once secure, these features can be used to educate and engage people with the landscape.

Rivers and waterways are important features in the landscape. They often link rural and urban areas, and provide green corridors and tranquil settings for people and wildlife. The source of the water is outside the NCA, as is the case for many ecosystem services. The large population means that the area is a key user of ecosystem services (such as water) that are provided by other NCAs.

Tranquillity

Based on the CPRE map of tranquillity (2006) it shows that the high percentage of urban land means that tranquillity is low in this NCA. There are only very small pockets of tranquil areas between the towns and villages.

Recreation:

A relatively high density of public rights of way, in an area with extensive built-up areas, creates opportunities for local populations to access the natural environment and its cultural heritage. The NCA offers a network of rights of way totalling 2,920 km at a density of just over 1.7 km per km² including the Trans Pennine Trail and Ebor Way long distance routes. There are also small areas of open access land covering 508 ha, or just 0.3 per cent of the NCA, and areas of open space resulting from the restoration of past mineral workings. Registered Parks and Gardens, accessible woodlands and country parks also provide opportunities for recreation

Key Characteristics

- *A low-lying landscape of rolling ridges with rounded sandstone escarpments and large rivers running through broad valleys, underlain by Pennine Coal Measures.*
- *Local variations in landscape character reflecting variations in underlying geology.*
- *Several major rivers flow through the rural and urban areas of the NCA, generally from west to east in broad valleys.*

- *A mixed pattern of built-up areas, industrial land, pockets of dereliction and farmed open country.*
- *Small, fragmented remnants of pre-industrial landscapes and more recent creation of semi-natural vegetation, including woodlands, river valley habitats and subsidence flashes, with field boundaries of clipped hedges or fences.*
- *Many areas affected by urban fringe pressures creating fragmented landscapes, some with a dilapidated character, separated by substantial stretches of intact agricultural land in both arable and pastoral use.*
- *A strong cultural identity arising from a history of coal mining, steel making and other heavy industry which resulted from the close relationship between underlying geology and resource availability, notably water power, iron ore and coal.*
- *Features of industrial heritage such as mills, goits, tips, old railway lines, canals and bridges are evident, along with former mining villages.*
- *Many large country houses and estates established by wealthy industrialists in the 18th and 19th centuries and ancient monuments create focal points and important recreational opportunities within the landscape, such as Bretton Hall, Wentworth, Woodhouse, Temple Newsam, Nostell Priory, Bolsover Castle and the ruins of Codnor Castle.*
- *Extensive urbanisation, such as in the major cities of Leeds and Sheffield, with terraced and back-to-back housing and grand 19th-century municipal buildings and churches at their centres, now surrounded by extensive housing and industrial development.*
- *Widespread influence of transport routes, including canals, roads and railways, with ribbon developments emphasising the urban influence in the landscape.*
- *An extensive network of multi-user trails on former railway lines and canal towpaths, such as the Trans Pennine Trail and the Ebor Way.*
- *Continuing development pressure including land renewal and regeneration projects, especially along river corridors and around towns.*

Statements of Environmental Opportunity

SEO1 : Restore and enhance existing areas and create new landscapes through the inclusion of woodland and networks of green infrastructure to raise the overall quality of design and location of new developments. Regeneration and restoration of industrial sites should seek to create green infrastructure that links fragments of the natural environment, leading to a functioning network for wildlife and access and recreational amenities for people.

SEO 3: Conserve, enhance and expand areas and corridors of semi-natural habitat such as grasslands and woodlands to create a functioning ecological network that links the fragmented patches of habitats through urban and sustainably farmed environments, thus assisting species and habitat adaptation to climate change, reducing soil erosion and diffuse pollution.

5.3 SUMMARY OF NCA 38 IN THE CONTEXT OF THE PROPOSAL SITE

The character of the study area has many characteristics that appear within the NCA description with the focus of the description often on areas that also go to the description of the study area. The key characteristics of particular note include:

- *A mixed pattern of built-up areas, industrial land, pockets of dereliction and farmed open country.*
- *Small, fragmented remnants of pre-industrial landscapes and more recent creation of semi-natural vegetation*
- *A strong cultural identity arising from a history of coal mining, steel making and other heavy industry*
- *Widespread influence of transport routes, including canals, roads and railways, with ribbon developments*
- *An extensive network of multi-user trails on former railway lines and canal towpaths, such as the Trans Pennine Trail*

Statements of opportunity that could be acted on by the proposals include: restoring and enhancing woodland and green infrastructure and conserving and enhancing semi natural habitat.

This is a settled and industrialised landscape that has undergone large change over recent centuries, leaving its mark on the modern landscape of the site and study area. Nationally the landscape of the study area are part of this wider story of industrialisation, urban and industrial expansion and its latter day demise with a return to, in places, semi natural landscapes. Recreational access across the study area matches that of the NCA with the Trans Pennine Trail being a connecting route between the local and National landscapes.

5.4 BARNSELY BOROUGH LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT 2002

SEE APPENDIX 2 FIGURE 8

At a more local level a landscape character assessment was prepared by Barnsley MBC in 2002 and reviewed again in 2016 with a separate update to this document being provided. The proposal site lies directly within C2 Lower Dearne Lowland River Floor LCA. The wider study area includes a further LCA which surrounds the valley landscape to both east and west, this is D1 North east Barnsley settled arable slopes.

C2 Lower Dearne Lowland River Floor

Key Characteristics Include:

- Flat valley floor of varying width and degrees of enclosure, framed by sloping valley sides outside the character area.
- Diverse range of land use including agriculture, recreation, residential, industry, commercial, communication, landscape renewal and nature conservation.
- Substantial areas of agricultural land both in arable and pastoral use, intermixed and surrounded by other landuses and linear features.
- Large areas without built development or without a dense covering of trees, giving a sense of openness in much of the character area.
- Small areas of scrub and trees scattered throughout the character area, often associated with reclaimed or abandoned land, dismantled railwaylines, watercourses and newly landscaped areas.
- Disused and active linear transport/communication routes running along and across the valley floor including dismantled railways, pylons, the River Dearne and the newly constructed A6195 road.
- Immature, newly created landscapes in the form of open grass areas and young tree planting, associated with reclaimed industrial areas and the A6195.
- Localised clusters of new warehouse style buildings bringing large scale buildings into the relatively open landscape.
- Open water in the form of the River Dearne, streams, dikes, flashes and man made lakes.

The landscape character area classified as C2 Lower Dearne Lowland River Floor is an extensive flat valley floor associated with the River Dearne and two small tributaries. Outside the character area the land slopes up to form broad valley sides. The width of the valley floor varies; in some locations it is wide and in other areas, where it is pinched by sloping landform, it is narrow.

The elevation of C2 is fairly constant, dropping gradually from approximately 50m AOD around much of the edge of the character area, where the ground starts to slope up at the valley sides, to approximately 15m AOD where the River Dearne flows out of the south east corner of the Borough.

Open water is present along the length of the character area in the form of the River Dearne, streams, dikes, subsidence flashes and man made lakes. The River Dearne follows a sinuous path through the valley, except for a short length in the south of C2 where it has been canalised. Some lakes and flashes are quite large, and groups of open water bodies, such as the Old Moor Wetland Centre, cover extensive areas. As well as being dominant features in the landscape, these large water bodies and surrounding washlands provide important habitats for wildlife, particularly for birds..

The flat landform bounded by gently sloping valley sides and scattered vegetation allows relatively open views both within and out of the character area. A diverse mixture of landuses, including housing, industry, reclaimed colliery spoil tips and farmland, can be seen outside the character area, close to the character area boundary, or higher up on the valley sides. Settlements on ridgetops in surrounding character areas dominate the skyline, bringing an urban influence to the overall character of the landscape. Views along the valleys, which are not interrupted by landform, can be open and distant. The landscape can feel urbanised in places due to the high population density of the scattered farms, the expansion of nearby settlements and previous mining activities.

The valley floor is covered in a diverse range of land uses, which reflect the wide range of functions the valleys have had over the years. Land use includes agriculture, recreation, residential, commercial, industry, communication, landscape renewal and nature

conservation. In recent years much of the land has undergone significant change. Collieries which were located in the valley bottom, where the coal seams were closest to the surface, have now closed, and the land has mostly been reclaimed. Some of this reclaimed land has been developed, or is in the process of being developed, for commercial use.

Small areas of scrub and trees are scattered throughout the character area, often associated with reclaimed or abandoned land, dismantled railwaylines, watercourses and newly landscaped areas.

Areas of farmland have survived the extensive industrial development, and are a reminder of the landscape that existed more widely before the industrial revolution. This farmland is now interspersed amongst, and often fragmented by, a diverse range of old and new landuses and features including reclaimed industrial land, newly developed industrial and commercial sites, roads, dismantled railwaylines and watercourses within the character area, and settlements that lie mostly outside the character area.

A key characteristic of C2 is its open appearance, free of substantial areas of built development. The valley floor provides an undeveloped green frame and corridor that winds its way through the more developed valley sides

Localised clusters of new, large warehouse style buildings are prominent features in the relatively open landscape. The scale and mass of these buildings are much larger and more bulky than other buildings in the character area, or than most buildings visible in adjacent character areas. Most industrial/commercial development in C2 is quite new. However, some pockets of industry that appears to have been present for some years are present.

LANDSCAPE CONDITION

The landscape of C2 Lower Dearne Lowland River Floor has been considerably changed in recent years, through reclamation and development. Most of these new areas of landscape are in good condition and generally well maintained. Farmland is generally intact but with some degradation of hedgerows. There are pockets of untidy land used for commercial/industrial activities. Overall the landscape condition is therefore considered to be moderate

LANDSCAPE SENSITIVITY AND CAPACITY

The general lack of enclosure within the C2 Lower Dearne Lowland River Floor character area results in a landscape which is visually sensitive to change. The broad, flat landform and scattered vegetation, means that there is little that might provide screening or buffering to help mitigate the visual effects of built form. Development would be visible from land within the character area and from settlements and land on the valley sides outside the character area. Built development is not characteristic of the valley floor, and the existing large warehouse style buildings appear as incongruous features. Further development, particularly at narrow points that are pinched between existing development either side of the character area, would break up the relatively continuous open valley floor and disrupt the continuous green corridor.

Landscape sensitivity to further built development is judged to be high and landscape capacity is considered to be low.

5.5 C2 LANDSCAPE IN THE CONTEXT OF THE PROPOSAL SITE

The character of the proposal site and study area is well described by the LCA description but is singular in its separation of this character area and the surrounding D1 LCA on higher ground. In reality the boundaries between these landscapes blur with a strong overall character present which is described within the NCA descriptions. The key characteristics of particular note are:

- Diverse range of land use including agriculture, recreation, residential, industry, commercial, communication, landscape renewal and nature conservation.
- Small areas of scrub and trees scattered throughout the character area, often associated with reclaimed or abandoned land, dismantled railwaylines, watercourses and newly landscaped areas.
- Disused and active linear transport/communication routes running along and across the valley floor including dismantled railways, pylons, the River Dearne and the newly constructed A6195 road.
- Immature, newly created landscapes in the form of open grass areas and young tree planting, associated with reclaimed industrial areas and the A6195.
- Localised clusters of new warehouse style buildings bringing large scale buildings into the relatively open landscape.

The character area in 2024 does not feel particularly open and views are typically tightly constrained by maturing vegetation, the review in 2016 identifies that the landscape has changed and included maturing reclamation of spoil heaps and the introduction of the Cudworth and West Green Bypass and other industrial development. It concludes that the strength of character and condition are weaker than in 2002 but still judged as moderate.

On reviewing the landscape sensitivity the review continues to maintain the landscape as a High Sensitivity and Low capacity area. I do not agree with this assessment and it seems not to have been followed when enabling the route for the Bypass and then subsequently allocating the proposal site for housing within the Local and Neighbourhood Plan.

My own view is that this is clearly a landscape which has undergone substantial and ongoing change which has included significant industrialisation and reclamation. The presence of this industry, both past and present, is ever present throughout both this character area and the adjoining character areas and as a consequence across the study area as a whole. There is no part of the landscape that does not appear as man made or altered with even areas of natural beauty being wholly created through the reclamation of land from previous uses.

The landscape does not appear as clearly separate from the surrounding higher land around the valley floor and intervisibility between the two areas is intermittent but regular.

This landscape, within the study area, appears to have demonstrated a continuing capacity to change and does not contain any elements or characteristics that are not a direct results of this. I assess the susceptibility to be medium-low with a low-moderate value and with a medium-low sensitivity and some capacity for further change.

5.6 D1 NORTH EAST BARNSELY SETTLED ARABLE SLOPES

SEE APPENDIX 2 FIGURE 10

Key Characteristics Include:

- Sloping/undulating landform with small valleys and ridges providing localised variation in terms of views and sense of enclosure.
- Arable farmland comprising medium to large field units with no obvious pattern.
- Large areas of residential and industrial development creating a strong urban influence.
- Distant views to Barnsley - industrial development and residential settlement outside the character area, bringing an additional urban influence to the overall character of the landscape.
- Irregular, degraded and declining field boundaries of varied materials.

- Lack of tree cover providing little in terms of enclosure or interest on the vertical plane.
- Pylons and power lines are visually striking elements across open farmland.
- Disused industrial quarries, tips and spoil heaps provide strong visual cues to industrial heritage and present day regeneration initiatives.
- Significant number of primary and secondary vehicular routes gives an active pace to the landscape.
- Disused railway lines are strong linear features of ecological significance.
- Scrubby margins, unmanaged field boundaries and compartmentalised field units on urban edges give a degraded quality to the landscape.
- Abrupt transitions between urban and rural land.

Classified as D1 North East Barnsley Settled Arable Slopes, this character area is defined by a complex relationship of previous and present day industrial activity, urban settlement and arable farming over varied landform.

Land cover and land use greatly influence the overall character of the landscape due to the complex interplay between the rolling, sloping, uncomplicated character of arable land and the sprawling density of urban form. Settlements are largely situated on areas of higher ground such as the length of ribbon development between Cudworth Common and Shafton sited on a subtle ridgeline. Development within adjacent character areas also plays a role in informing the landscape character. This is particularly influenced by clear views across to the town of Barnsley.

Developed land is a complex relationship of residential and industrial form, reflecting the intense historic development of the heavy coalfield industry. New industrial estates characterised by warehouses, of varying colour and size, combined with new housing developments of differing style and vernacular also characterise the landscape and are key physical indicators of a landscape in flux and of changing landscape character. Present day industrial activity is largely clustered north of Monk Bretton but evidence of previous historic industrial activity is found dotted across the wider landscape in the form of disused works, tips and spoil heaps. Some of these have been reclaimed.

STRENGTH OF CHARACTER

The strength of character is assessed as moderate.

LANDSCAPE CONDITION

Although there are extensive tracts of relatively intact farmland there is an overall sense of a landscape in decline due to extensive and seemingly uncoordinated development and growth.

Following the decline of the coal mining industry, some land is derelict, giving a sense of neglect. Landscape degradation is also apparent due to present day land use activity, most apparent at rural-urban interface where urban fringe pressures manifest themselves as fragmented farmland, unkempt allotments, and informal pony paddocks bound by temporary, scruffy margins. Extensive tracts of continuous urban areas, containing incongruous industrial and recreational centres, and exhibiting poor maintenance of boundaries, form a harsh and often unsightly backdrop the arable farmland beyond. In light of this, the overall condition of the landscape is considered to be poor.

LANDSCAPE SENSITIVITY AND CAPACITY

Landform plays a significant role in terms of its influence upon this landscape's capacity to accommodate development. D1 North East Barnsley Settled Arable Slopes has a more enclosing landform than character areas D2 East Dearne Settled Arable Slopes and D3 West Dearne Settled Arable Slopes, reducing the degree of intervisibility from both within and outside of the character area. There are, however, a number of undeveloped slopes on more open ground, visible from other adjacent character areas, that would be highly sensitive to change. The areas of highest elevation tend to be those already developed with ridgetop settlement a characteristic feature of the landscape (such as the continuous settlement between Shafton Two Gates and Cudworth Common). As such, the higher, flatter ground is considered less sensitive than the slopes when viewed in the context of existing settlement location and form.

There is little in terms of screening vegetation. This considered, in the context of large areas of gently sloping land of little enclosure, many areas of the landscape can be seen as vulnerable to development. There are, however, significant tracts of already degraded urban fringe land, which offer scope for development. In light of the above, landscape sensitivity to and capacity for, development are both judged to be medium.

5.7 D1 NORTH EAST BARNSELY SETTLED ARABLE SLOPES IN THE CONTEXT OF THE PROPOSAL SITE

The character of the proposal site and study area has some strong correlations with this landscape type. key characteristics that are present and notable within the study area are:

- Sloping/undulating landform with small valleys and ridges providing localised variation in terms of views and sense of enclosure.
- Large areas of residential and industrial development creating a strong urban influence.
- Distant views to Barnsley - industrial development and residential settlement outside the character area, bringing an additional urban influence to the overall character of the landscape.
- Irregular, degraded and declining field boundaries of varied materials.
- Disused industrial quarries, tips and spoil heaps provide strong visual cues to industrial heritage and present day regeneration initiatives.
- Significant number of primary and secondary vehicular routes gives an active pace to the landscape.
- Disused railway lines are strong linear features of ecological significance.
- Scrubby margins, unmanaged field boundaries and compartmentalised field units on urban edges give a degraded quality to the landscape.
- Abrupt transitions between urban and rural land.

As with the landscape descriptions for C2 this landscape has moved on since 2002 when the original study was completed with much more tree and scrub woodland cover present creating a more enclosed landscape with less openness and visual connection. It is never the less a landscape that is strongly connected to the lower valley areas, particularly within the study area, with influences of urban housing and industry across this landscape.

The 2016 review identifies that this landscape has continued to develop.

In respect of Cudworth, Shafton and Brierley to the east, the most significant change has been the construction of the by-pass, which provides a strong western boundary. Elsewhere, Shafton ALC has been erected in part to replace Willowgarth Secondary School, which is proposed to be redeveloped for housing. The construction of the by-pass lends weight to the recommendation in the study that some development may be possible to the northwest of Cudworth without adversely affecting landscape character.

The review considers that the overall landscape capacity in the North East Barnsley Settled Arable Slopes character area was medium and this was considered to remain the case. I would broadly concur with this but consider that the changes highlighted which specifically reference the potential for development would more likely support a susceptibility of low-medium. The value of the landscape is low-moderate reflective of the initial assessment of a poor landscape condition. In my assessment this landscape area is also one where a sensitivity of medium-low is most appropriate and best reflects the ongoing ability of the landscape to accept and absorb changes.

6.0 LANDSCAPE APPRAISAL

6.1 LOCAL LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA APPRAISAL

The existing landscape character assessments available are detailed assessments of both the wider area and the study area and proposal site.

Conclusions have been drawn as regards the susceptibility of the landscapes of the study area and the value and quality of these landscapes. This then can be used to determine an overall sensitivity to change for that landscape.

6.2 LANDSCAPE SUSCEPTIBILITY

The extent to which a landscape can accept change of a particular type and scale without unacceptable adverse effects on its character

National Landscape Character

The National Character Area is large and contains both settlement and open countryside. The study area, proposal site and surrounding landscapes are well described by the National description and clearly identify a landscape that has undergone substantial change through time leading to landscapes heavily influenced by industrial development and urban settlement. The landscape susceptibility is assessed as medium-low with change very much part of the ongoing and established landscape character.

Local Landscape Character

The proposal site falls within a landscape character area that is largely defined through its lowland characteristics within a valley landscape. The study area also includes the surrounding rolling upland areas that surround these valley landscapes and a combination of these two landscape areas offers an accurate description of a landscape that has undergone substantial and ongoing change and which has included significant industrialisation and reclamation. The presence of this industry, both past and present, is ever present throughout both character areas and as a consequence across the study area as a whole. There is no part of the landscape that does not appear as man made or altered with even areas of natural beauty being wholly created through the reclamation of land from previous uses.

The landscape does not appear as clearly separate from the surrounding higher land around the valley floor and intervisibility between the two areas is intermittent but regular.

This landscape, within the study area, appears to have demonstrated a continuing capacity to change and does not contain any elements or characteristics that are not a direct results of this. I assess the susceptibility to be medium-low.

6.3 LANDSCAPE VALUE

The landscape value of at National NCA scale is one which covers a large range of varied landscape and urban centres and as such this is assessed as a medium level of Moderate.

At a local level the landscapes of the study area are strongly suggestive of landscapes of lower than average condition and with a local value that extends to some of the historic and reclaimed landscapes but not to those more urban and industrial elements. The value is assessed as low-moderate.

6.4 LANDSCAPE SENSITIVITY

The sensitivity of the National landscape is assessed as Low-Medium reflecting the susceptibility and value of the NCA.

The sensitivity of the Local landscapes have been assessed as below the high sensitivity suggested by the published landscape character work. This is not least a reflection of the need to distinguish a hierarchy of sensitivity between landscape types across the UK where typically the most highly sensitive landscapes are those that are typically protected through planning designation

and represent some element of pristine or natural landscape of value. The LCA areas C2 and D1 are areas where large scale industrial change has marked almost all aspects of the current landscape and as such I do not believe they are the most sensitive of landscapes. I have assessed the sensitivity for both as Low-Medium.

6.5 LANDSCAPE EFFECTS - NATIONAL AND REGIONAL LANDSCAPES

The magnitude of change of the proposed development on the wider landscape is assessed as being Low-negligible. The proposals are within an existing developed and working site with a history of working equipment and mounds of materials. Visually the proposals do not have an influence that extends to the wider landscape and at a National scale this is a negligible change.

6.6 CHANGE AND LANDSCAPE EFFECTS TO LOCAL LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS

Change in elements, characteristics, character and qualities of the landscape as a result of development.

C2

The proposals will introduce a number of tall built elements into the landscape of the proposal site which will be visible from some areas within this low lying valley landscape. Other aspects of change including the hard standing, smaller structures and walling are not visually prominent or noticeable within this landscape and sit alongside an established industrial working area. The character of this part of the LCA is already one where industrial use is apparent. The large mounds of material stored and worked on in the proposal site are also well established and form existing visually notable and detracting elements of industrial activity on the site.

Visually the site and the proposals, most notably the filter presses and washing system, are only visible from a small number of locations. The most obvious of these is along the West Green way where, for vehicular users, these buildings are briefly prominent features. elsewhere in this LCA views are very much screened by trees and vegetation and from other urban features of built form and bridges.

There will be no loss of landscapes features or character elements and no loss of agricultural land or land associated with river routes or water bodies. The landscape within the proposal site and study area will continue to demonstrate a working area of activity and industry.

The landscape change is assessed as low.

In addition this is a landscape area that is currently proposed as part of an area of residential development which would infill the land between the west way and the disused rail line and extend north across the active rail line. As such any change in the context of this proposal that would urbanise all of this section of the LCA would appear as relatively small. This allocation as part of the Carlton Masterplan Framework would suggest a large capacity for development change for the site and wider landscape area surrounding the site. The continuing use of the proposal site for the purpose of recycling would have no effect on the ability of this land being brought forward in time for this residential use.

D1

The wider surrounding landscapes and rising ground to the east, west and south are remote from the proposal site and so would undergo no physical change through the introduction of the various elements proposed as part of this application. Visually this landscape does offer some areas where elevated views towards the site are possible, these are however very limited and are almost always seen against a background where the Ardagh works dominate the horizon and where other industrial and residential development is prominent.

Visual change from this LCA is restricted to the larger, covered elements of the wash system and presses. These can be made out from elevated locations to the south in areas of public open space and from elevated section of Wharnecliffe Woodmoor. Both of these are sections of permissive path routes over reclaimed areas of land now given over to public open space. Views from the trans pennine trail and the public footpath network are generally not possible being screened by trees, vegetation and other built form.

Where views of the proposals are visible so too are views of the established recycling business including large worked mounds, machinery and smaller structures.

The landscape change to these landscape areas remote from the immediate site and surroundings is assessed as low-negligible.

6.7 LANDSCAPE CHARACTER MITIGATION

Certain direct interventions have been proposed to the visual appearance of the larger elements of the proposals to simplify their appearance and offer a stronger and less cluttered form within the landscape. This has been achieved primarily through covering the taller structure elements of the plant.

6.8 SUMMARY ASSESSMENT OF LANDSCAPE EFFECTS

The Wider Landscape

The wider landscape has been considered through the National Character Assessment. The proposals would represent very small change in this wider landscape and would not change, remove or alter any of the key characteristics or elements. There would be some change over an established industrial area but this would be in character and not widely visible across the NCA.

The Local Landscape

There will be a noticeable change across an area of established industrial activity and within a wider landscape setting where industry and industrialisation has continued to shape and dominate the fundamental appearance and functionality of the landscape.

There will be some notable visual change from locations from the highway close to the proposal site and a much smaller visual effect from elevated vantage points around the wider landscape. The overall visual character of this area is judged not to be significantly altered through the proposals as:

- a) the site has established elements of industrial activity which are visually prominent and contribute to the existing baseline; and
- b) the proposals when visible are almost always seen against a backdrop of existing large scale industry and settlement.

In addition the capacity of this landscape to accept substantial change appears to have been tested through the allocation of land that includes the proposal site for housing development.

Table 1 - SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE EFFECTS

Landscape Receptor	Hierarchy of Importance	Sensitivity	Change to Landscape (Impact)	Landscape Effect	Landscape Effect
				Year 1 pre-mitigation	Year 15 with mitigation
National Landscape Character Effects					
NCA 64	National	Medium	Negligible	Negligible adverse	Negligible adverse
Local Landscape Character Effects					
C2	Local	Low-Medium	Low	Slight-Moderate adverse	Slight-Moderate adverse
D1	Local	Low-Medium	Low-Negligible	Low-Negligible	Low-Negligible

7.0 VISUAL APPRAISAL

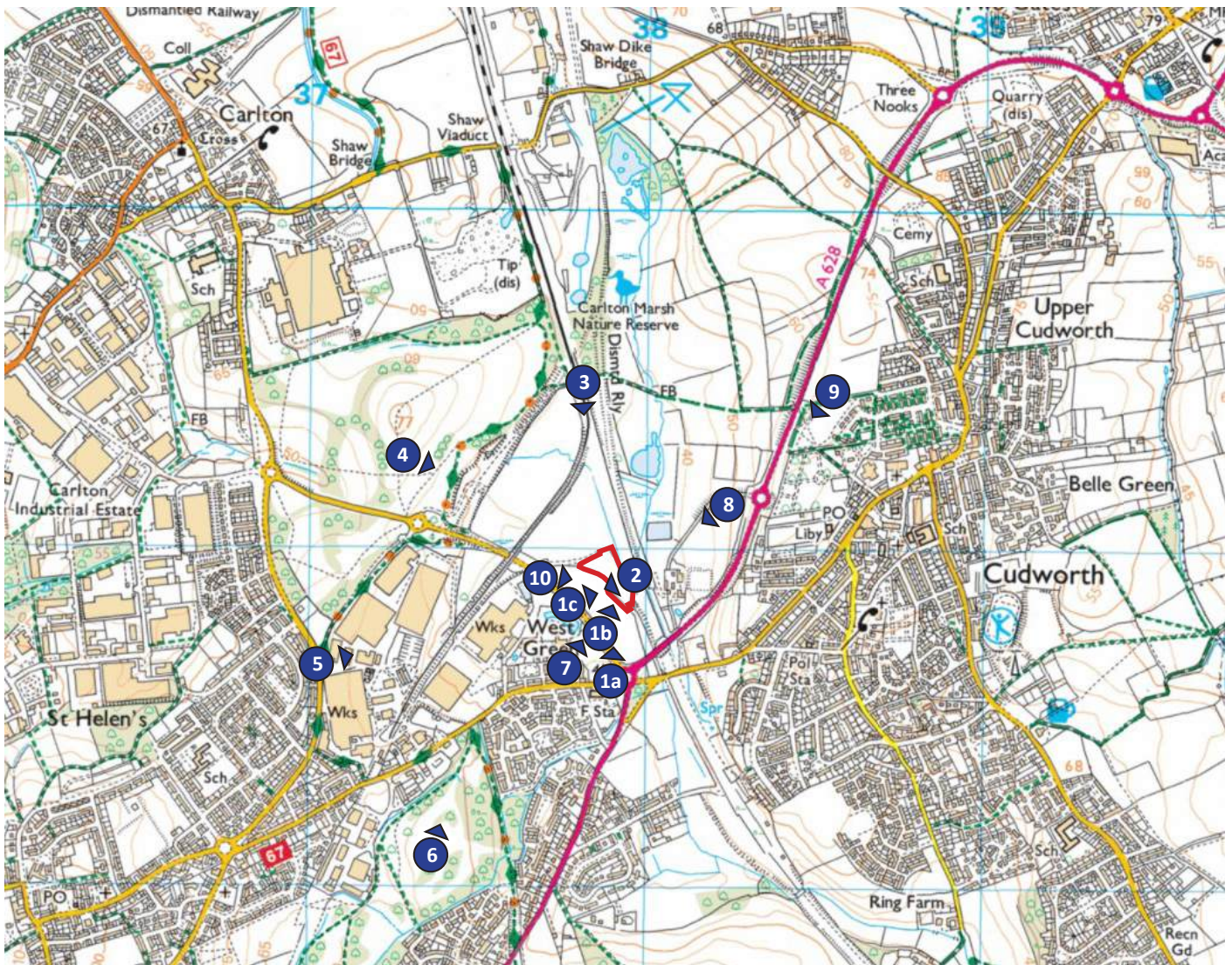


Figure 1. Viewpoint / Receptor Location Plan

Please refer to Appendix 1.0 for Visual Receptor Figures

7.0 VISUAL APPRAISAL

7.1 VISUAL APPRAISAL - RECEPTORS

Viewpoints have been selected from various locations and possible vantage points identified through site visits and analysis. Views for the appraisal have been chosen to be both representative of the range of differing receptors (public, community, residents and visitors) within the study areas and of the visual amenity available at points north, south, east and west of the proposal site.

7.2 SENSITIVITY

The sensitivity of each receptor is considered as part of the appraisal, with views from the principle rooms of residential properties and those from footpaths when the site forms a prominent part of the experience being described as having High Sensitivity. Residential with secondary rooms, together with people engaged in outdoor recreation where the focus is not on the landscape or view are described as having Medium Sensitivity. Low Sensitivity receptors are typically those where the experience of the view is not of great importance such as people at their place of work and journeys through a landscape within cars, trains or other forms of transport (transient) when the view is not considered part of the experience. The viewpoints have then been categorised into the type of receptors and views selected which are representative of a typical view of that type of receptor. A selected view may be representative of more than one receptor type (e.g. residential property and public footpath). The viewpoints have then been categorised into the type of receptors and views selected which are representative of a typical view of that type of receptor.

The Sensitivity is derived from a combination of susceptibility to change for the receptor and view and the value of the view.

Residential Receptors

Two representative residential receptors have been identified and assessed:

VIEW 5 - Representative view from residential properties on Fish Dam Lane with views towards the site across the valley. The Ardagh works in the immediate fore-ground block all but the smallest of views of the proposals. Value and quality is assessed as Poor-Ordinary. Susceptibility is assessed as Low-Medium.- Low-Medium Sensitivity

VIEW 7 - Representative view from the edge of settlement close to the junction with West Green Way. A group of terrace houses may have some limited and oblique upper floor views but from ground level views towards the site are obscured by built form and vegetation. Value and quality is assessed as Poor-Ordinary. Susceptibility is assessed as Medium. -Medium Sensitivity

Generally the proposals are not visible from residential properties.

Pedestrian Receptors - Public Footpaths

Six pedestrian receptors have been identified and assessed:

VIEW 2 - Representative view for the permissive path following the dis-used rail line to the east of the proposal site. For the majority of this route the proposals are not visible and the path is swathed in dense woodland vegetation. Over a short stretch directly opposite the proposal site much of the proposed development is visible. Susceptibility is Medium, Value and Quality Ordinary.-Medium Sensitivity.

VIEW 3 - Representative view from location north on the permissive rail path where it connects to the PROW network. Vegetation encloses these routes with little visibility out to the surrounding landscape. Susceptibility is Medium-High. Value and Quality Ordinary-Moderate. Sensitivity Medium.

VIEW 4 - Representative view from footpath routes, the Trans Pennine Trail and from permissive paths around these. Generally from path routes vegetation forms a strong visual screen preventing open views across the valley and towards the proposal site. From elevated locations on the permissive routes this opens up allowing a more open views across the surrounding landscape. The site and proposals can be made out amongst woodland and the backdrop of residential housing along the ridgeline. Susceptibility

is Medium-High, Vale and Quality Moderate -Medium-High Sensitivity.

VIEW 5 - Representative view for the Trans Pennine Trail as it travels along Fish Dam Lane and past the Ardagh works. Susceptibility is Medium, Vale and Quality Ordinary-Poor. -Medium Sensitivity.

VIEW 6 - Representative view for the permissive paths over parkland to the south of the proposal site and connected by a public footpath. The land rises over reclaimed land with path across this enabling some views from elevated location back towards the north. Susceptibility is High-Medium, Vale and Quality Ordinary. -High-Medium Sensitivity.

VIEW 9- Representative view from public footpaths running west out of Cudworth Park to the north east of the proposal site and over elevated ground. Views are across the site and include the prominent Ardagh industrial complex. Susceptibility High. Quality and Value Ordinary. High Sensitivity.

The proposal site has no public footpaths running through it with the nearest paths the permissive ones running to the immediate east along the disused rail line. Generally views of the proposals are very limited and occasional and a small part of an overall path route which is typically enclosed or partly within woodland and scrub vegetation. Some elevated views from parkland areas over reclaimed landscape are possible but these typically also include the existing large scale industrial Ardagh complex and residential development.

Travel Receptors

Six representative travel receptors have been identified and assessed:

VIEW 1a - Representative view from The junction of Burton Road and West Green Way. Susceptibility Low-Medium, Value is ordinary. Low-Medium Sensitivity

VIEW 1b - Representative view from West Green Way with the proposal site in the fore-ground of the view. Susceptibility Low. Value and quality is ordinary-poor. Low sensitivity.

VIEW 1c - Representative view from West Green Way with the proposal site in the fore-ground of the view. Susceptibility Low. Value and quality is ordinary-poor. Low sensitivity.

VIEW 5 - Representative views from locations on Fish Dam Lane. Susceptibility Low-Medium, Value is ordinary-poor. Low-Medium Sensitivity

VIEW 8 - Representative view from road access off the enclosed route of the Cudworth Parkway. Views are elevated and look over the site towards the south west. Susceptibility -Low. Value and Quality is Ordinary. Sensitivity Low.

VIEW 10 - Representative view from West Green Way with the proposal site in the fore-ground of the view. Susceptibility Low. Value and Quality is ordinary. Sensitivity low.

The proposal site is visible from only a short section of the West Green Way A628 with the proposals remaining within the lowland landscape and not appearing above the horizon line.

7.3 VISUAL QUALITY AND VALUE

The value of a particular area or view in terms of what is seen.

The quality of the views of the surrounding landscape vary but are generally of an ordinary or poor nature. The condition of the landscape is clearly previous industrial in nature with both open and wooded landscapes appearing as reclaimed and regenerating. Large scale industrial buildings and residential development are prominent in almost all views from public and private locations. Some elevated locations offer more open and panoramic views where the value is lifted towards moderate.

7.4 VISUAL SENSITIVITY SUMMARY

There are some high sensitivity receptors along public rights of way routes to the north east and along the Trans Pennine Trail and path routes to the west. Most of the potentially affected routes however are on permissive paths which cross or run along reclaimed landscapes that are now returned to natural landscapes and regeneration and that are available for access to the public. The permissive paths have been identified as medium sensitivity receptors reflecting their informal status.

There are views from a small number of residential properties at the settlement edge off Burton Road. Generally though views from residential properties are not possible and settlement at Cudworth is screened by mature vegetation surrounding its boundaries. Views are generally restricted to upper floor views and are often oblique. Sensitivity is assessed as a reflection of this and is typically Medium.

The highway network runs adjacent to the proposal site and services the surrounding settlements and industrial areas. Views are possible from the West Green Way running past the site but only over a short section of road. Sensitivities are Low and Medium for users other than vehicles. The faster of these routes (A roads) are judged generally not to be routes used by cyclists or other users on a regular basis.

7.5 CHANGE AND VISUAL EFFECTS

Twelve representative viewpoints were assessed with further description of the assessed change in Appendix 1. A summary of the considered change for all seven receptors is below:

Burton Road Highway Representative View 1a - Low-Medium Change

Highway West Green Way Representative View 1b - Medium Change

Highway West Green Way Representative View 1c - Medium Change

Permissive path along disused rail line View 2 - Low Change

Permissive path linking to PRow network View 3 - No Change

PRow routes Representative View 4 - Low-Negligible Change

Tran Pennine Trail and Highway Representative View 5 - Negligible Change

Permissive paths and PRow routes View 6 - Low Change

Residential properties at settlement edge Representative View 7 - Low-Negligible Change

Highway Representative View 8 - Negligible Change

PRow Representative View 9 - Low-Negligible Change

Highway West Green Way Representative View 10 - Medium Change

7.6 ASSESSMENT OF VISUAL EFFECTS

The following assessment has been made using the Submitted Plans in Appendix 2 fig4 and adopts the mitigation measures described in section 8. Table 2 illustrates the assessment criteria to determine visual effects and whether the receptor is at a local, regional or national importance.

Residential Receptors

Two representative residential receptors have been identified and assessed (5&7). Residential properties to the immediate north and south of the proposal site will experience largely negligible effects with the highest effect recorded as slight adverse. Generally the proposals are not visible from residential areas.

Pedestrian Receptors

Six representative pedestrian receptors have been identified (2,3,4,5,6, and 9) ranging from highway footpath to public rights of way and including a number of permissive routes and routes across open, reclaimed parkland. The largest effects are Slight-Moderate adverse, effects that are less than notable or significant. The proposals are glimpsed from occasional vantage points along these routes that circle the proposal site and are always views experienced within the context of a wider landscape that has large scale industrial development and residential forms within them.

Vehicle Receptors

Six representative travel receptors have been identified and assessed. No vehicle users will experience notable change and generally views are transient with the largest change to views from a section of the West Green Way directly opposite the proposal site. The existing works on the site are also visible and prominent with the spoil mounds of material to be recycled a noticeable local feature visible from these locations. As with other affected views, the changes to the proposal site are always seen in the wider visual context of large industrial development and residential and urban buildings throughout this landscape.

Table 2 - SUMMARY OF VISUAL EFFECTS					
View	Hierarchy of Importance	Sensitivity	Change to view (Impact)	Visual Effect	Visual Effect
				Year 1 pre-mitigation	Year 15 with mitigation
1a	Local	Low-Medium	Low-Medium	Slight-Moderate adv	Slight adv
1b	Local	Low	Medium	Slight-Moderate adv	Slight adv
1c	Local	Low	Medium	Slight-Moderate adv	Slight adv
2	Local	Medium	Low	Slight-Moderate adv	Slight adv
3	Local	Medium	None	None	None
4	Local	High-Medium	Low-Negligible	Slight adv	Slight adv
5	Local	Low-Medium	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible
6	Local	High-Medium	Low	Slight/Moderate adv	Slight adv
7	Local	Medium	Low-Negligible	Slight adv	Slight adv
8	Local	Low	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible
9	Local	High	Low-Negligible	Slight-Moderate adv	Slight adv
10	Local	Low	Medium	Slight-Moderate adv	Slight adv

8.0 MITIGATION

8.1 MITIGATION PROPOSALS

Mitigation for the proposals are built into the design of the structures and taller elements and look to simplify their appearance and form through covering in a simple surface, the filter and washing structures. This application has an amended layout and structure with a significantly lower and more compact built form offering a much smaller profile to potential views from West Green Way.

Potential planting and architectural detailing have also been added as part of the proposals to screen and assimilate the proposals better into the views. The proposed filter press has been significantly reduced in height and turned through 90 degrees so as to present a smaller built form towards West Green Way and residential areas. A landscape buffer of 5m is provided in front of a revised boundary wall along the length of the revised section of the site layout.

SEE APPENDIX 1 Figure 7.1-7.9, 7.18-7.20

Four revised views (view 1a, 1b, 1c, and 10) and photographic montages, modeling the proposed revised buildings (the filter press) alongside a landscape strip 5m wide, that has been provided in front of the active site, boundary wall and buildings. The modeled montage views illustrate the revised proposals at year 1 when mitigation planting is small and undeveloped and again at year 15 when the mitigation planting is expected to have matured to a significant degree.

The proposed landscape mitigation comprises a 5-metre-wide strip of British native woodland and shrub planting, designed to form a natural visual screen. The planting will incorporate a proportion of evergreen species along the site frontage to ensure year-round screening benefits. The landscape buffer zone will comprise an area of approximately 213 m², within which ten trees are proposed, supplemented by native planting. The selected species are capable of attaining heights up to approximately 10 metres at maturity. This mitigation strategy is intended to soften the appearance of the proposed building and reduce its visual prominence when viewed from surrounding receptors. As the planting matures, it will increasingly integrate the development into the surrounding landscape.

9.0 SUMMARY & CONCLUSION

9.1 LANDSCAPE RESOURCE SUMMARY

The landscape and visual appraisal has been assessed and concluded from desk top based research, site visits and in consideration of the most recent national and local character assessment guidelines. The following summary has been made using the proposed layout in Appendix 2 Fig4 and adopts the mitigation measures described over the page.

The proposal site is not within a designated landscape area.

Wider Landscape Character

The proposal site lies within the National Character Area 38 Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfields.

This is a settled and industrialised landscape that has undergone large change over recent centuries, leaving its mark on the modern landscape of the site and study area. Nationally the landscape of the study area are part of this wider story of industrialisation, urban and industrial expansion and its latter day demise with a return to, in places, semi natural landscapes. Recreational access across the study area matches that of the NCA with the Trans Pennine Trail being a connecting route between the local and National landscapes. The landscape effects are assessed as -Negligible.

The Local Landscape

At a Local level the landscape of the site and its surroundings are described within the Barnsley Borough Landscape Character Assessment. The site lies within character area C2 Lower Dearne Lowland River Floor with a further character area D1 North East Barnsley Settled Arable slopes surrounding this lowland valley landscape and providing the setting for the remainder of the study area.

The character of these two areas combined creates the landscape baseline for the proposal site and is a lowland, flat valley landscape surrounded by rising slopes. These local landscape continue to exhibit the character expressed at National Level of a landscape that has undergone fundamental changes over the past centuries leaving behind a post industrialised landscape that is now maturing as a part regenerative natural space and one where settlement and modern industries continue to play a dominant role in defining the character.

The proposals will bring a noticeable change across an area of established industrial activity and within a wider landscape setting where industry and industrialisation has continued to shape and dominate the fundamental appearance and functionality of the landscape.

There will be some notable visual change from locations from the highway close to the proposal site and a much smaller visual effect from elevated vantage points around the wider landscape. The over visual character of this area is judged not to be significantly altered through the proposals as:

- a) the site has established elements of industrial activity which are visually prominent and contribute to the existing baseline; and
- b) the proposals when visible are almost always seen against a backdrop of existing large scale industry and settlement.

In addition the capacity of this landscape to accept substantial change appears to have been tested through the allocation of land that includes the proposal site for housing development.

This is in contrast to the higher sensitivity and low capacity the published character assessment places over the study area, an assessment that, even though reviewed in 2016, appears not to be supported by the analysis of the landscape in 2024 nor the recent allocation for housing across a large proportion of these landscape character areas, and the entirety of the proposal site.

The highest landscape effect recorded is Slight-Moderate adverse for area C2 which contains the proposal site. This is not a notable level of effect and one which appears in character with the wider landscape of regenerating industrial land, industry and housing.

9.2 VISUAL RESOURCE SUMMARY

The proposed development has been considered from ten representative viewpoint locations. The study area is contained to approximately 1km where views of or towards the proposals site are assessed as possible. Views of the proposals are typically only part of the view for receptors and are often only glimpsed or short sections of a route or pathway. Where views of the proposals are possible they are almost always set against a wider visual backdrop that includes large scale industrial buildings and settlement.

The site itself is not undeveloped and prior to the proposals being erected contained established industrial workings that include large material storage mounds and machinery. These elements also form part of the visual baseline.

Mid to Long Distance Views

The proposal site lies within a lowland landscape with maturing regenerative vegetation and rolling hills and spoil heaps that create strong visual cover. Distance views are only possible from occasional areas over elevated land, typically across permissive paths crossing former mine spoil heaps that have been reclaimed as natural parkland. Views of the proposals from these locations are always in the context of wider, often panoramic views, that include the large scale industrial Ardagh plan and settlement at Cudworth and West Green.

Residential Properties

Residential properties to the immediate north and south of the proposal site will experience largely negligible effects with the highest effect recorded as slight adverse. Generally the proposals are not visible from residential areas.

Footpaths Users

Pedestrian receptors range from highway footpaths to public rights of way and include a number of permissive routes and routes across open, reclaimed parkland. The largest effects are Slight-Moderate adverse, effects that are less than notable or significant. The proposals are glimpsed from occasional vantage points along these routes that circle the proposal site and are always views experienced within the context of a wider landscape that has large scale industrial development and residential forms within them.

Vehicle Users

No vehicle users will experience notable change and generally views are transient with the largest change to views from a section of the West Green Way directly opposite the proposal site. The existing established works on the site are also visible and prominent with the spoil mounds of material to be recycled a noticeable local feature visible from these locations. As with other affected views, the changes to the proposal site are always seen in the wider visual context of large industrial development and residential and urban buildings throughout this landscape

Mitigation Measures

With the proposed mitigation in place, including the use of appropriate material cladding to the tallest elements of the proposals to reduce and simplify their visual appearance, the development is anticipated to become largely screened as the landscape planting establishes and matures. At year 15, the mixed tree and shrub planting is expected to form a robust visual screen, substantially reducing the visibility of the proposed development from surrounding receptors. The resulting magnitude of visual change is assessed as low, giving rise to slight adverse to negligible residual visual effect, which is not significant in LVIA terms.

9.3 CONCLUSION

The development proposals seek retrospective permission for equipment, plant and works as part of an active recycling business located to the east of West Green Way. The land is part of a historically industrialised area with the site formerly part of railway lines and sidings associated with the nearby collieries. The collieries and other 19th and 20th century industry has left its mark across this entire landscape with the character and appearance clearly of a regenerating and reclaimed landscape largely given over to natural open grass land, scrub and woodland.

In addition, large scale industrial works, warehousing and settlement are also prominent features throughout the study area.

The landscape character continues to evolve and appears to have matured beyond its appearance when assessed for the Barnsley Landscape Character Assessment 2002 (reviewed 2016). It is a landscape that includes a strong existing industrial appearance set within a strong natural infrastructure of restored colliery spoil and dis-used railway lines. The proposal site itself is set within the lowland valley running between West Green and Cudworth with rising ground to the east and west.

Although previous studies have suggested a high sensitivity and low capacity for change this is a landscape that, in 2024, exhibits characteristics that would suggest it has a good capacity to absorb change through development.

The proposals would introduce a combination of machinery plant, hard standing, structures and buildings to further develop and make more efficient, the existing recycling business operating on the site. These changes, although noticeable, would be set within a site that has existing workings, industrial activity and large and prominent material spoil heaps.

In the context of the wider landscape these changes would be visible only from locations immediately adjacent to the site or else from occasional locations on elevated routes around the study area.

Both landscape and visual effects are assessed as not being notable/significant and being below a moderate adverse level.

The proposal site is also part of a longer term masterplan and vision which would see a large area, including and surrounding the site, being developed for housing. This development allocation strongly suggests a landscape that can accommodate substantial change without harm and one that is capable of absorbing the change brought through the proposals without significant adverse effects over the landscape character and visual amenity of the area.

APPENDIX 1.0

VISUAL RECEPTORS - SEPARATE A3 DOCUMENT



Representative Viewpoint	VP1a
Visual Receptor	Highway
Location	N-085 E-378 Looking north
Receptor description	Highway and highway footpath at roundabout junction of West Green Way and Burton Road.
View and orientation	View constrained by vegetation and built form. north
View elevation	41.4m
Proximity to proposals	300m
Extent of Visibility	proposals will be visible in 0-10% of view
Receptor Susceptibility	Low-Medium

Description of View	The view is from Burton Road on the approach to the junction with West Green Way. The landscape is urban being on the edge of settlement with open rough ground and scrub to the north. The landscape is clearly one of former industrial use with man made spoil heaps forming noticeable features, now returning to nature through natural regeneration. The site can be seen between vegetation and becomes more prominent on turning onto West Green Way. Existing workings on site are also notable. The wider view includes large scale industrial buildings.
Change to View	The view includes the introductions of the the Filter Press and Washing Systems. The elevated and covered Filter Press is the most prominent element in the view but other machinery and activity from the existing operation are also visible. The Filter Press does not break the skyline and the buildings and structures do not stand out in what is clearly a landscape of substantial past industrial use. Change is low-medium.

Value and Quality of view	Ordinary
Susceptibility of receptor	Low-Medium
Sensitivity of receptor	Low-Medium
Magnitude of Change	Low-Medium
Hierarchy of receptor	Local
Summary - Visual Effects	
Slight-Moderate adverse. A noticeable but not prominent change to view that includes industrial structures and activity.	
Mitigation	
Natural visual screening. A landscape buffer of 5 metres wide strip of British native woodland and shrub planting.	



Figure: 7.1 Viewpoint 1a
Project: West Green Recycling
Client: West Green Recycling

Year 1 - Proposed Development



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Figure: 7.2 Viewpoint 1a
Project: West Green Recycling
Client: West Green Recycling

Year 15 - Proposed Development



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Figure: 7.3 Viewpoint 1a
Project: West Green Recycling
Client: West Green Recycling

Existing Development



Representative Viewpoint	View 1b
Visual Receptor	Highway
Location	N-086 E-379 Looking north west
Receptor description	West Green Way
View and orientation	looking north west
View elevation	40.5m
Proximity to proposals	170m
Extent of Visibility	70%
Receptor Susceptibility	Low

Description of View	The view is representative of views from the West Green Way as it passes the proposal site. The road is a fast moving A road with views over the proposal site for a section of the road. The landscape is flat and low lying surrounded by higher rising landscapes to the west.
Change to View	Some of the elements of the existing operation on the proposal site are visible from locations along this section of road with the mounds of spoil material to be worked particularly prominent. The raised and covered elements of the proposals - washing system and presses are visible appearing alongside the existing industrial elements. The change is noticeable but congruous with the surroundings.

Value and Quality of view	Ordinary
Susceptibility of receptor	Low
Sensitivity of receptor	Low
Magnitude of Change	Medium
Hierarchy of receptor	Local
Summary - Visual Effects	
Slight-Moderate adverse. A noticeable change but within a landscape with established industrial uses which are visually prominent.	
Mitigation	
Natural visual screening. A landscape buffer of 5 metres wide strip of British native woodland and shrub planting.	



Figure: 7.4 Viewpoint 1b

Project: West Green Recycling

Client: West Green Recycling

Year 1 - Proposed Development



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Figure: 7.5 Viewpoint 1b
Project: West Green Recycling
Client: West Green Recycling

Year 15 - Proposed Development



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Figure: 7.6 Viewpoint 1b
Project: West Green Recycling
Client: West Green Recycling

Existing Development



Representative Viewpoint	View 1c
Visual Receptor	Highway
Location	N-087 W-378 Looking west
Receptor description	West Green Way
View and orientation	looking west
View elevation	42.3m
Proximity to proposals	150m
Extent of Visibility	30%
Receptor Susceptibility	Low

Description of View	The view is representative of views from the West Green Way as it passes the proposal site. The road is a fast moving A road with views over the proposal site for a section of the road. The landscape is flat and low lying surrounded by higher rising landscapes to the east.
Change to View	Some of the elements of the existing operation on the proposal site are visible from locations along this section of road with the mounds of spoil material to be worked particularly prominent. The raised and covered elements of the proposals - washing system and presses are visible appearing alongside the existing industrial elements. The change is noticeable but congruous with the surroundings.

Value and Quality of view	Ordinary
Susceptibility of receptor	Low
Sensitivity of receptor	Low
Magnitude of Change	Medium
Hierarchy of receptor	Local
Summary - Visual Effects	
Slight-Moderate adverse. A noticeable change but within a landscape with established industrial uses which are visually prominent.	
Mitigation	
Natural visual screening. A landscape buffer of 5 metres wide strip of British native woodland and shrub planting.	

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Figure: 7.7 Viewpoint 1c

Project: West Green Recycling

Client: West Green Recycling

Year 1 - Proposed Development



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Figure: 7.8 Viewpoint 1c
Project: West Green Recycling
Client: West Green Recycling

Year 15 - Proposed Development



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Figure: 7.9 Viewpoint 1c
Project: West Green Recycling
Client: West Green Recycling



Representative Viewpoint	V2
Visual Receptor	Permissive Path
Location	N-088 E-379 Looking west
Receptor description	Permissive path following dis-used rail line
View and orientation	west
View elevation	39.9m
Proximity to proposals	20m
Extent of Visibility	100%
Receptor Susceptibility	Medium

Description of View	The view is from a location adjacent to the site. This is an isolated opening in an otherwise heavily wooded route following a disused rail track running from the 628 northwards. The path is not an official route but is obviously well used as a recreation resource by local people. Over a short section the site is visible with various elements of plant and machinery in view. For the majority of the route there is no visibility over the site or the surrounding landscape. Existing and large spoil mounds dominate the skyline and other machinery and equipment pre-dating the application are also in view.
Change to View	The Washing system and Filter Press structure are the most prominent elements of the proposal in the view but hard standing, retaining wall elements and other infrastructure within the proposed application are also visible if not notable. Other established elements ensure an existing industrial character. The change is over a very short section of path and is assessed as Low.

Value and Quality of view	Ordinary
Susceptibility of receptor	Medium
Sensitivity of receptor	Medium
Magnitude of Change	Low
Hierarchy of receptor	Local
Summary - Visual Effects	
Slight-Moderate adverse. A short section of path effected over a view that has historically always included industrial activity	
Mitigation	
Natural visual screening. A landscape buffer of 5 metres wide strip of British native woodland and shrub planting.	

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Figure: 7.10 Viewpoint 2
Project: West Green Recycling
Client: West Green Recycling



View from FP33 and the trans Pennine trail



View from permissive path and rail line



Representative Viewpoint	V3
Visual Receptor	Permissive path into FP33 and trans Pennine trail.
Location	N-094 E-376 Looking south
Receptor description	permissive path crossing existing rail line and joining further north the line of footpath number 34 and the trans Pennine trail.
View and orientation	looking south
View elevation	44.8m
Proximity to proposals	534m
Extent of Visibility	0%
Receptor Susceptibility	Medium-High

Description of View	The existing view is from the junction of the disused rail track connecting to existing an existing PRoW network and the trans Pennine trail. The scrub woodland of the rail embankments develops in places into large mature blocks of woodland enclosing the routes and screening views of the surrounding countryside and town..
Change to View	The site cannot be seen from these locations.

Value and Quality of view	Ordinary-Moderate
Susceptibility of receptor	Medium
Sensitivity of receptor	Medium
Magnitude of Change	None
Hierarchy of receptor	Local
Summary - Visual Effects	
No View	
Mitigation	
N/A.	



Figure: 7.11 Viewpoint 3
Project: West Green Recycling
Client: West Green Recycling



Representative Viewpoint	V4
Visual Receptor	PRoW Barnsely FP33 trans Pennine trail and park
Location	N-092 E-372 Looking south east
Receptor description	The footpath runs through a public park area over the old colliery site
View and orientation	looking south east
View elevation	63.7m
Proximity to proposals	500m
Extent of Visibility	0-10%
Receptor Susceptibility	High-Medium

Description of View	The view is from an elevated location above the footpath route on publicly accessible park land across a former colliery site. The landscape is gently rolling with scrub woodland and rough grassland over former industrial sites the over arching character. Large Industrial development at the Ardagh with chimneys and structures features prominently in the view. The spoil heaps north of the site are in view as are workings and machinery on the site.
Change to View	The proposed elements within the site are not visible but working elements of the site and the established spoil heaps are noticeable. Views from the path route are heavily screened by vegetation. Views from elevated locations within the park areas enable a wider panoramic view towards the site. The most prominent elements - the washing system and presses are not visible. Low-negligible change.

Value and Quality of view	Moderate
Susceptibility of receptor	High-Medium
Sensitivity of receptor	High-Medium
Magnitude of Change	Low-Negligible
Hierarchy of receptor	Local
Summary - Visual Effects	
Slight adverse. The change will small and largely unnoticed alongside the existing and lawful industrial activities on the site and within the wider view.	
Mitigation	
Natural visual screening. A landscape buffer of 5 metres wide strip of British native woodland and shrub planting.	



Figure: 7.12 Viewpoint 4
Project: West Green Recycling
Client: West Green Recycling



Representative Viewpoint	V5
Visual Receptor	PRoW, highway, residential
Location	N-086 E-370 Looking east
Receptor description	FP33 and the trans Pennine trail joins the highway
View and orientation	east
View elevation	66.6m
Proximity to proposals	adjacent
Extent of Visibility	5%
Receptor Susceptibility	Low-Medium

Description of View	The view is from Fish Dam Lane looking over the Ardagh industrial complex. Residential properties line the road to the west with views out over the buildings and working areas. Gaps between the buildings allow for limited views of the landscapes to the east. The character of the view is dominated by the industrial works and is urban. Glimpses of the site can be made out
Change to View	There will be little or no change to this view and any glimpse of the proposed machinery and working on the site will be set against the context of this heavily industrialized vista. change - negligible.

Value and Quality of view	Ordinary-Poor
Susceptibility of receptor	Low-Medium
Sensitivity of receptor	Low-Medium
Magnitude of Change	Negligible
Hierarchy of receptor	Local
Summary - Visual Effects	
Negligible. There will be no change to the character or nature of this view	
Mitigation	
N/A	

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Figure: 7.13 Viewpoint 5	
Project: West Green Recycling	
Client: West Green Recycling	



Representative Viewpoint	View 6
Visual Receptor	PRoW and paths over parkland
Location	N-081 E-373 Looking north east
Receptor description	Barnsley FP 94 and paths over parkland
View and orientation	looking north east
View elevation	66m
Proximity to proposals	950m
Extent of Visibility	10%
Receptor Susceptibility	High-Medium

Description of View	The is from elevated ground over former colliery spoil heaps, now a publicly accessible park. Footpath 94 runs across this area but at a lower level with less clear views towards the site. The view looks towards the site and beyond to the rising land and ridge line in the north east. The site can be made out from some locations, most clearly from areas of higher ground. The buildings and chimneys of the Ardagh works dominate the close views of settlement.
Change to View	The change is principally through the visible introduction of the Filter Press system which can be made out in the mid distance. Other aspects of the working site cannot be seen as they fall behind the Press structure. The roofs of houses sit just below the site in the view. The overall character of the view will not change and the introduction of structures does not dominate and is congruous in this landscape of industry and past industry. Low change.

Value and Quality of view	Ordinary
Susceptibility of receptor	High-Medium
Sensitivity of receptor	High-Medium
Magnitude of Change	Low
Hierarchy of receptor	Local
Summary - Visual Effects	
Slight/Moderate - A visible change but from limited locations and in keeping with the overall character of the landscape and view	
Mitigation	
Natural visual screening. A landscape buffer of 5 metres wide strip of British native woodland and shrub planting.	



Figure: 7.14 Viewpoint 6
Project: West Green Recycling
Client: West Green Recycling



Representative Viewpoint	View 7
Visual Receptor	Residential
Location	N-086 E-377 Looking north east
Receptor description	small number of properties on Charity and Grace St
View and orientation	looking north east
View elevation	44.5m
Proximity to proposals	345m
Extent of Visibility	0%
Receptor Susceptibility	Medium

Description of View	View from properties on the edge of the settlement with upper floor view which may look towards the site. From ground floor levels the view is enclosed by buildings and vegetation with a strongly urban character. Both buildings and road are prominent in the view and the edge of settlement location is evident but not dominant. The site and its structures cannot be made out.
Change to View	The change will only be from upper floor locations and then may only be from a small number of properties. It is likely the Screen Washing and Press elements of the proposals will be visible and these will sit alongside the established large spoil heaps and machinery on the site. If views are possible the character will not change as this will be of scrub woodland and post industrial grasslands interspersed with existing industry. change low-negligible.

Value and Quality of view	Ordinary=Poor
Susceptibility of receptor	Medium
Sensitivity of receptor	Medium
Magnitude of Change	Low-Negligible
Hierarchy of receptor	Local
Summary - Visual Effects	
Slight adverse. Potential change to a view already influenced by industrial working.	
Mitigation	
Natural visual screening. A landscape buffer of 5 metres wide strip of British native woodland and shrub planting.	

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Figure: 7.15 Viewpoint 7
Project: West Green Recycling
Client: West Green Recycling



Representative Viewpoint	View 8
Visual Receptor	Highway
Location	N-091 E-382 Looking south west
Receptor description	A628 elevated above the site from a property access road
View and orientation	looking south west
View elevation	54.3m
Proximity to proposals	465m
Extent of Visibility	10%
Receptor Susceptibility	Low

Description of View	The view is representative of views from the A628, elevated above the site and overlooking Cudworth and surrounding landscape. The landscape appears well wooded and rolling with industrial structures and chimneys across this view. Housing and industry form part of the character of the landscape and but the site and its spoil heaps are screened from view.
Change to View	Some visibility of the site may be possible from locations along these routes but generally the site and proposals are not visible and there is negligible change.

Value and Quality of view	Ordinary
Susceptibility of receptor	Low
Sensitivity of receptor	Low
Magnitude of Change	Negligible
Hierarchy of receptor	Local
Summary - Visual Effects	
Negligible	
Mitigation	
N/A	



Figure: 7.16 Viewpoint 8
Project: West Green Recycling
Client: West Green Recycling



Representative Viewpoint	View 9
Visual Receptor	PRoW/Bridleway and Cudworth Park
Location	N-093 E-384 Looking north
Receptor description	Barnsley FP /Bridleway 5 from Cudworth Park
View and orientation	looking north
View elevation	72.6m
Proximity to proposals	500m
Extent of Visibility	10%
Receptor Susceptibility	High

Description of View	The view is from the footpath and bridleway routes running to the rear of Cudworth Park. The park itself is held within mature vegetation with no views out onto the surrounding countryside. From the linking path routes the elevated location allows views north towards the town and site. The Ardagh industrial complex dominates the skyline and as elsewhere the landscape appears as regenerating industrial land, industry and settlement. The site is visible below the horizon and largely screened by intervening vegetation.
Change to View	The top of the Filter Press building can be made out sitting below the prominent Ardagh industrial complex. Other aspects of the site such as the spoil mounds may also be visible when trees are not in leaf. There will be no change to the character of the view and the change will be in the context of existing industrial activity both on the site and elsewhere. Low-Negligible change

Value and Quality of view	Ordinary
Susceptibility of receptor	High
Sensitivity of receptor	High
Magnitude of Change	Low-Negligible
Hierarchy of receptor	Local
Summary - Visual Effects	
Slight/Moderate-Slight neutral. The character of the view will remain one where industrial buildings and settlement are common place.	
Mitigation	
Natural visual screening. A landscape buffer of 5 metres wide strip of British native woodland and shrub planting.	



Figure: 7.17 Viewpoint 9
Project: West Green Recycling
Client: West Green Recycling



Representative Viewpoint	View 10
Visual Receptor	Highway
Location	N-089 E-376 Looking south east
Receptor description	West Green Way
View and orientation	looking south east
View elevation	46.3m
Proximity to proposals	200m
Extent of Visibility	30%
Receptor Susceptibility	Low

Description of View	The view is representative of views from the West Green Way as it passes the proposal site. The road is a fast moving A road with views over the proposal site for a section of the road. The landscape is flat and low lying surrounded by higher rising landscapes to the east and west. The character of the view is regenerated industrial land with existing industry evident throughout and in the view.
Change to View	Some of the elements of the existing operation on the proposal site are visible from locations along this section of road with the mounds of spoil material to be worked particularly prominent. The raised and covered elements of the proposals - washing system and presses are visible appearing alongside the existing industrial elements. The wider view includes the A road and other industrial development to the the west. The change is noticeable but congruous with the surroundings.

Value and Quality of view	Ordinary
Susceptibility of receptor	Low
Sensitivity of receptor	Low
Magnitude of Change	Medium
Hierarchy of receptor	Local
Summary - Visual Effects	
Slight-Moderate adverse. A noticeable change but within a landscape with established industrial uses which are visually prominent.	
Mitigation	
Natural visual screening. A landscape buffer of 5 metres wide strip of British native woodland and shrub planting.	



Figure: 7.18 Viewpoint 10

Project: West Green Recycling

Client: West Green Recycling

Year 1 - Proposed Development



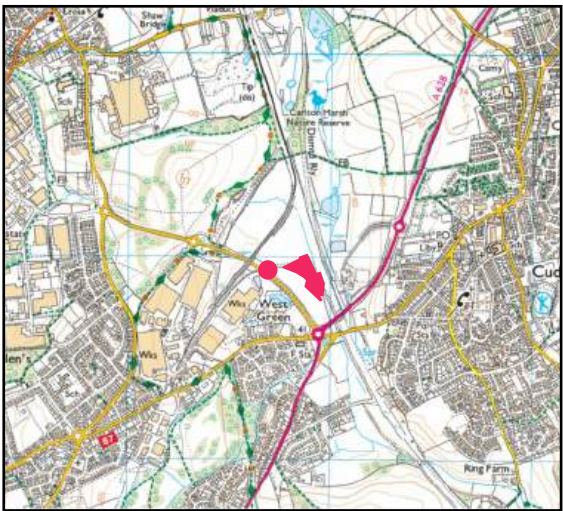
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Figure: 7.19 Viewpoint 10

Project: West Green Recycling

Client: West Green Recycling

Year 15 - Proposed Development



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Figure: 7.20 Viewpoint 10
Project: West Green Recycling
Client: West Green Recycling

APPENDIX 2.0

FIGURES

- 1 Location Plan**
- 2 Study Area**
- 3 View Locations**
- 4 Aerial Photograph**
- 5 PRow and Access map**
- 6 Planning**
- 7 Topography**
- 8 National Character Areas**
- 9 Local Landscape Character**
- 10 Green Belt**
- 11 Development Proposals**



Figure 1. Site Context

 Proposal Site

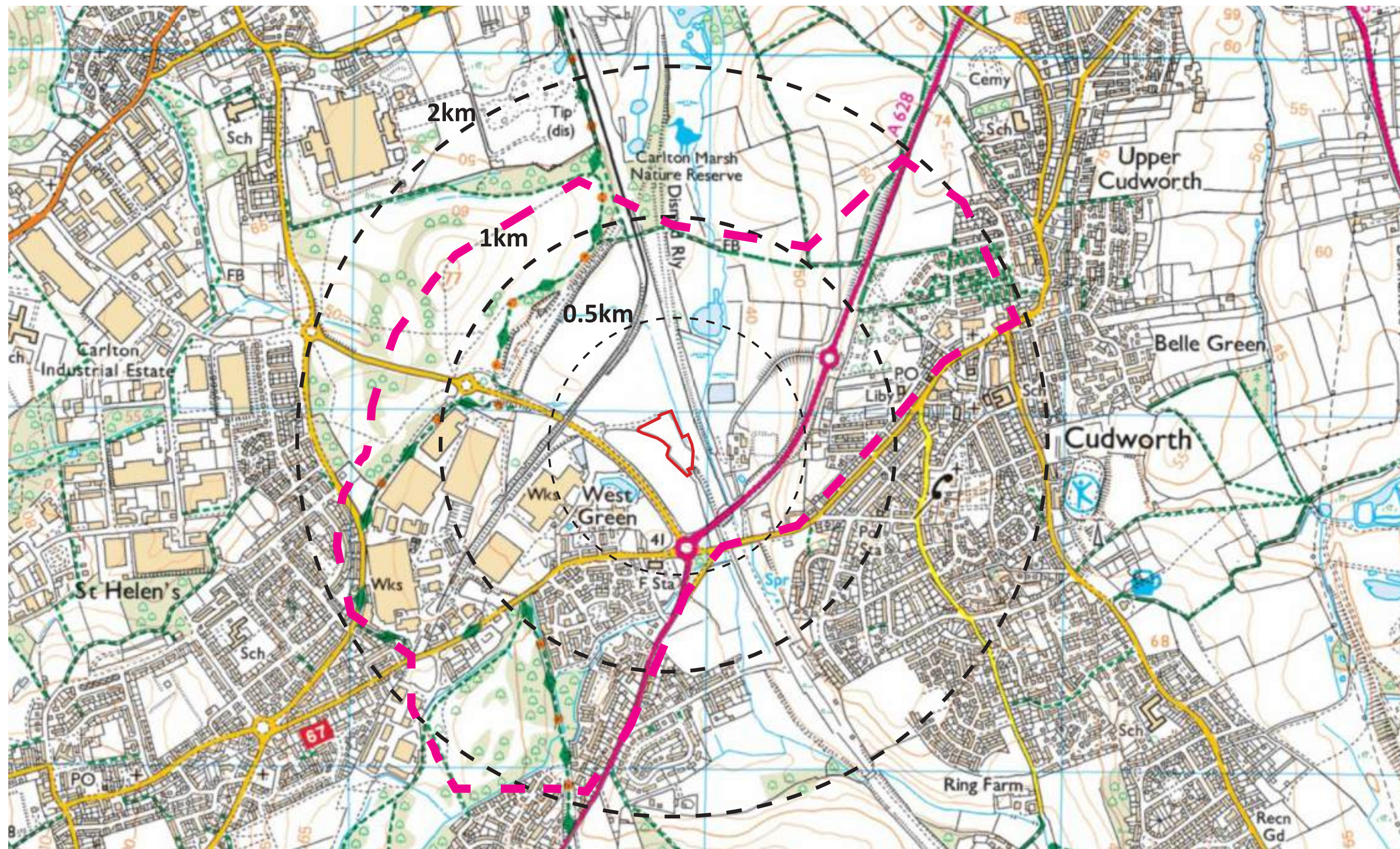


Figure 2. Study Area



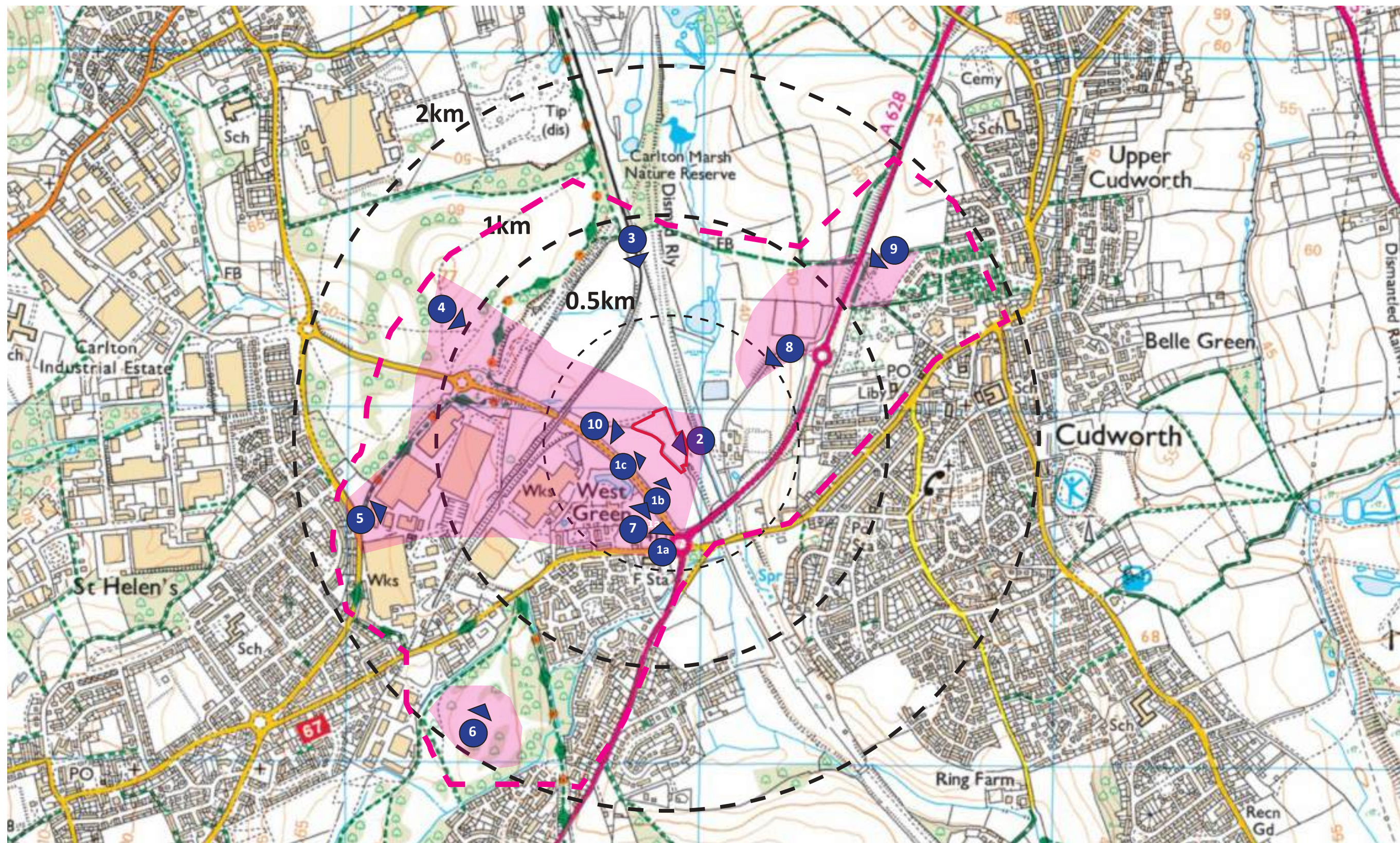


Figure 3. View Locations

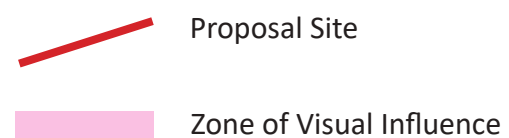




Figure 4. Aerial View - Site



Proposal Site

	Drawing No. FIGURE 4	Project: West Green Recycling	Client: Crowley Associates
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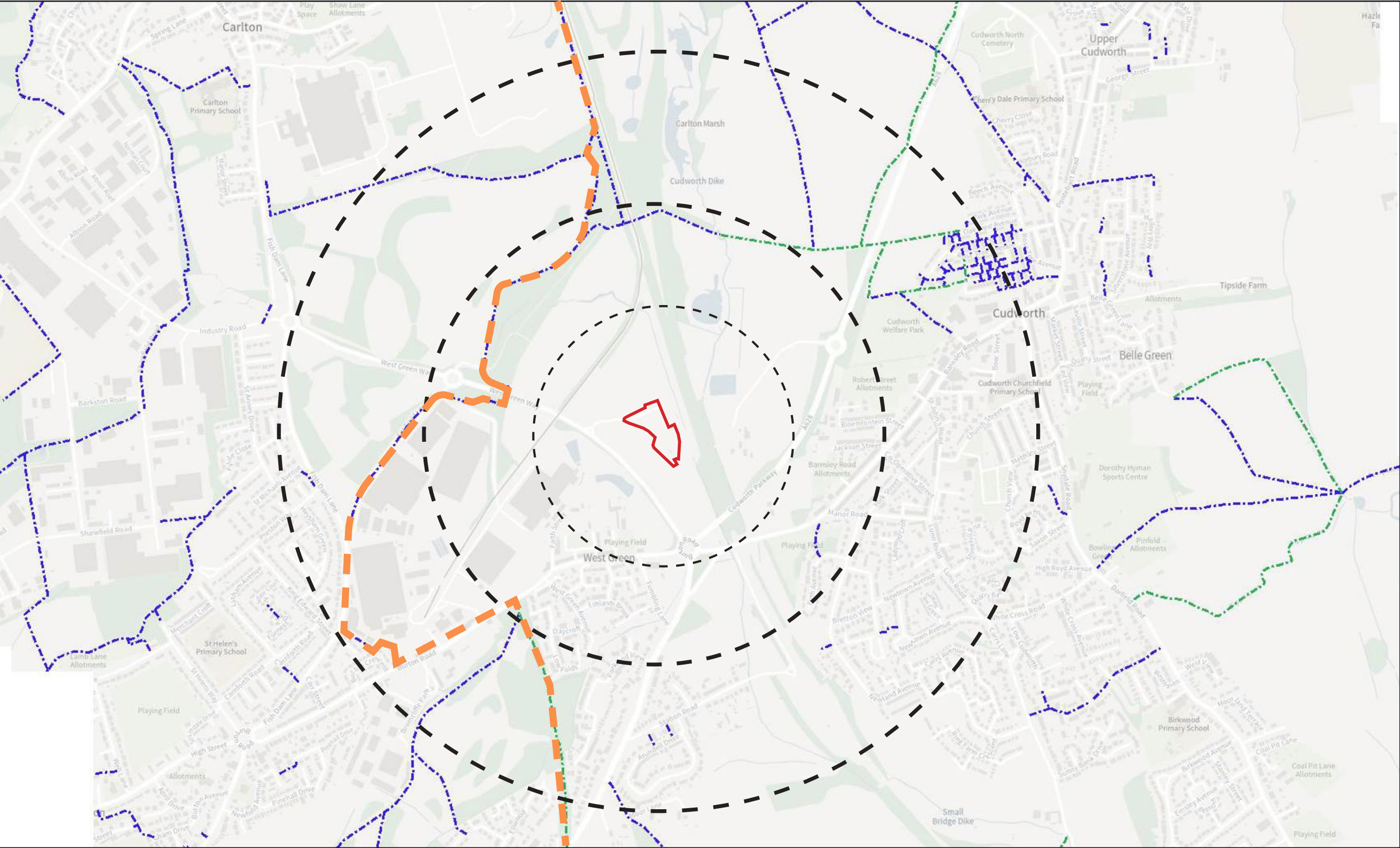


Figure 5. PRoW, <https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/barnsley-maps/public-rights-of-way-map/>

- Proposal Site
- Public Rights of Way (Footpath)
- Public Rights of Way (Bridleway)
- National Trail
- Study Area

	Drawing No. FIGURE 5	Project: West Green Recycling	Client: Crowley Associates
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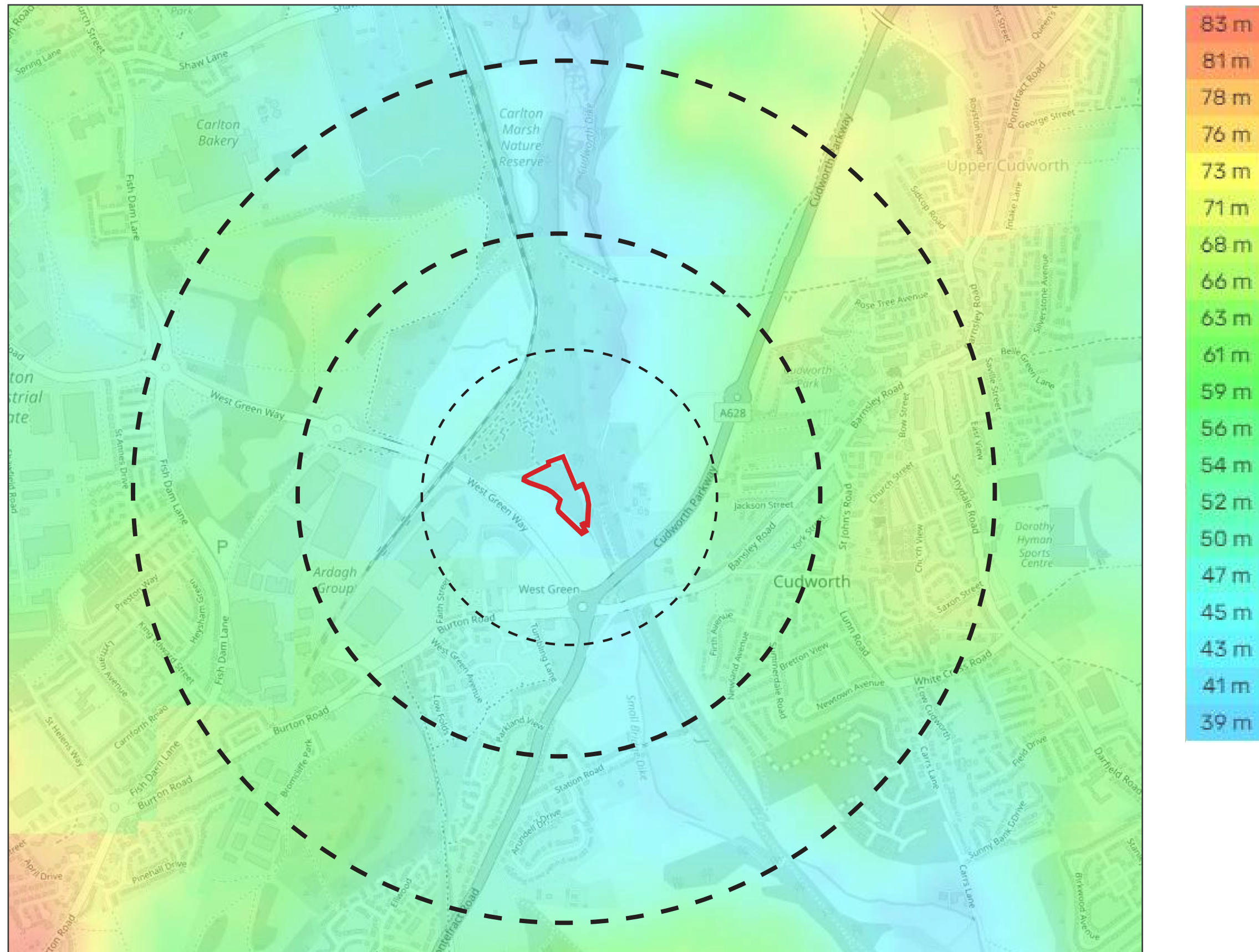


Figure 6. Topographic,
en-gb.topographic-map.com

— Proposal Site
- - - Study Area



Figure 7. National Character Area, Extract from NCA Profile: 38 Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield (NE402),

 Proposal Site

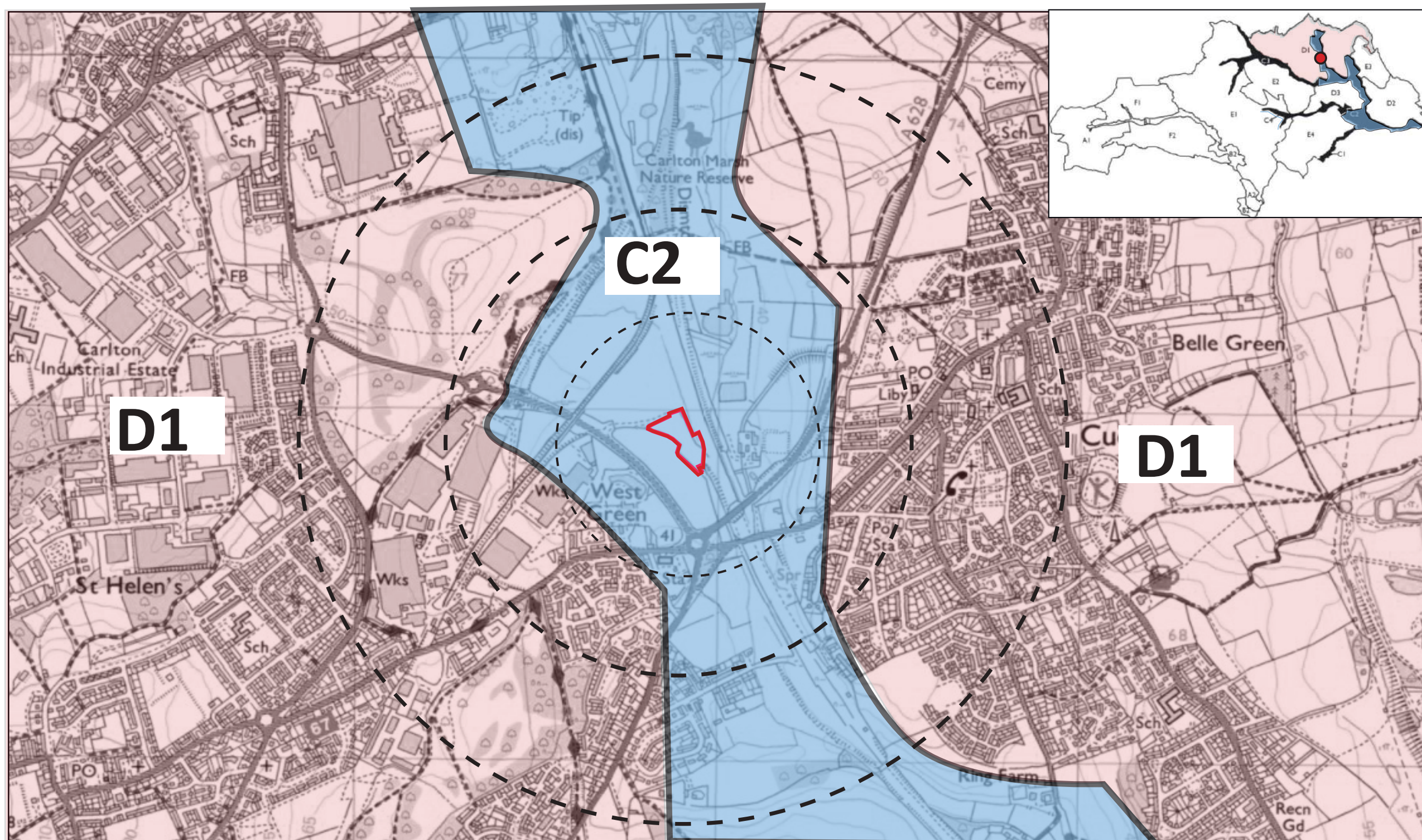


Figure 8. Landscape Character Assessment Barnsley Borough Council 2002(updated2016), LUC

— Proposal Site
- - - Study Area

■ C2 Lower Dearne Lowland River Floor
■ D1 North East Barnsley Settled Arable Slope

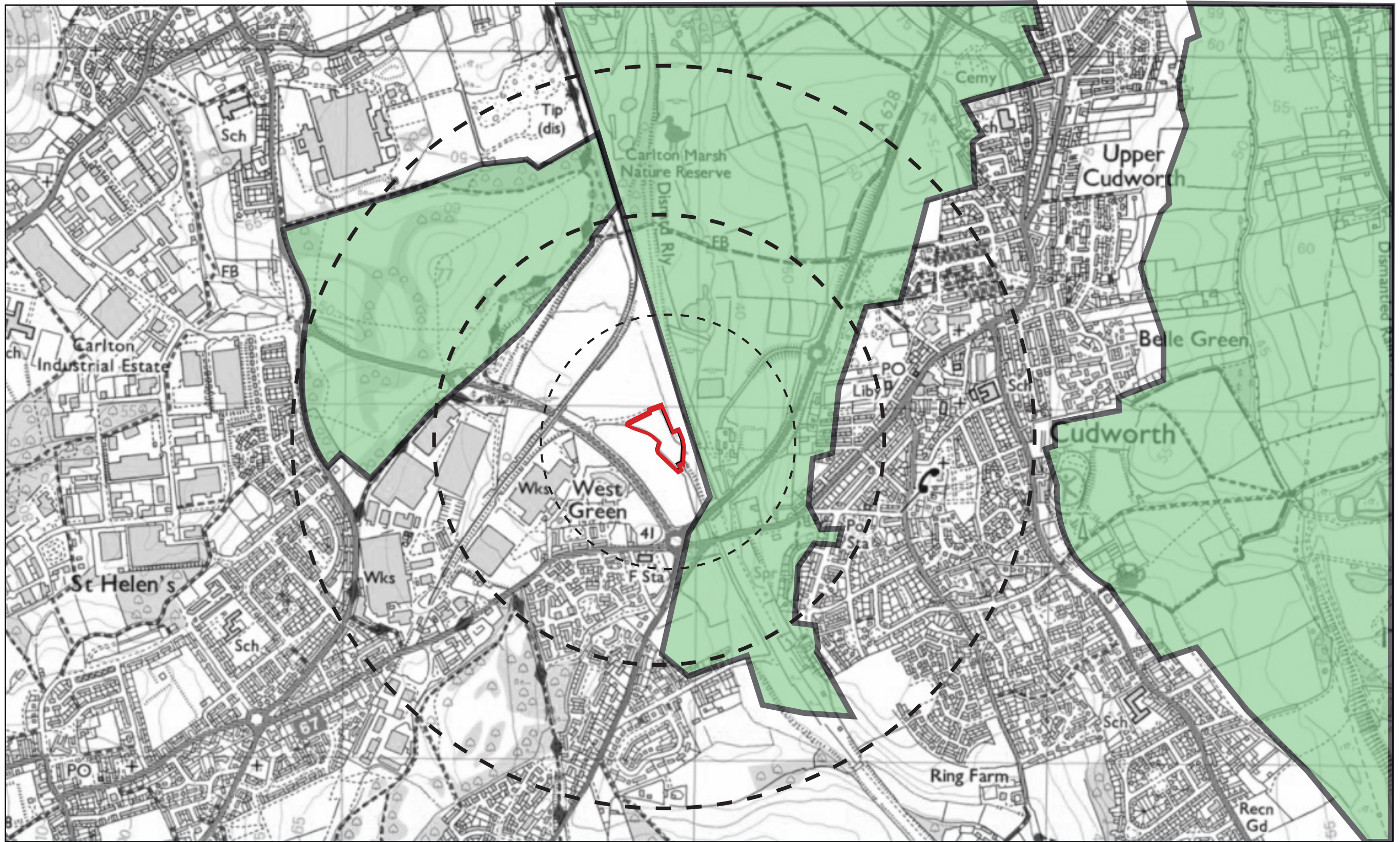


Figure 9. Local Green Belt, Extract from
Green Belt Assessment, , Bransley
Metropolitan Borough Council ARUP

 Proposal Site
 Study Area

 Local Plan Green Belt



Figure 10. Neighborhood plan, Carlton Masterplan Framework, Bransley Metropolitan Borough Council ARUP Gillespies

 Proposal Site
 Study Area

 Road
 National Cycle Network/ Trans Pennine Trail
 Footpath
 Bridleway
 Railway Line
 Former Railway Alignment

 Carlton Primary Academy
 Watercourse/ Water Body
 Trees
 Housing within Site
 Allotments
 Residential
 Public Open Space
 Community Garden

 Grow Garden
 National Cycle Network New Route
 Carlton Adacemy Expansion
 Vehicular Movement Link
 Landscaped Active Travel R

 Recreational Trail
 Small Local Shop
 Equipped Play Area
 Water Attenuation Pond
 Wildlife Corridor
 Potential Rail Station (Indicative Location)
 Premier Foods Expansion

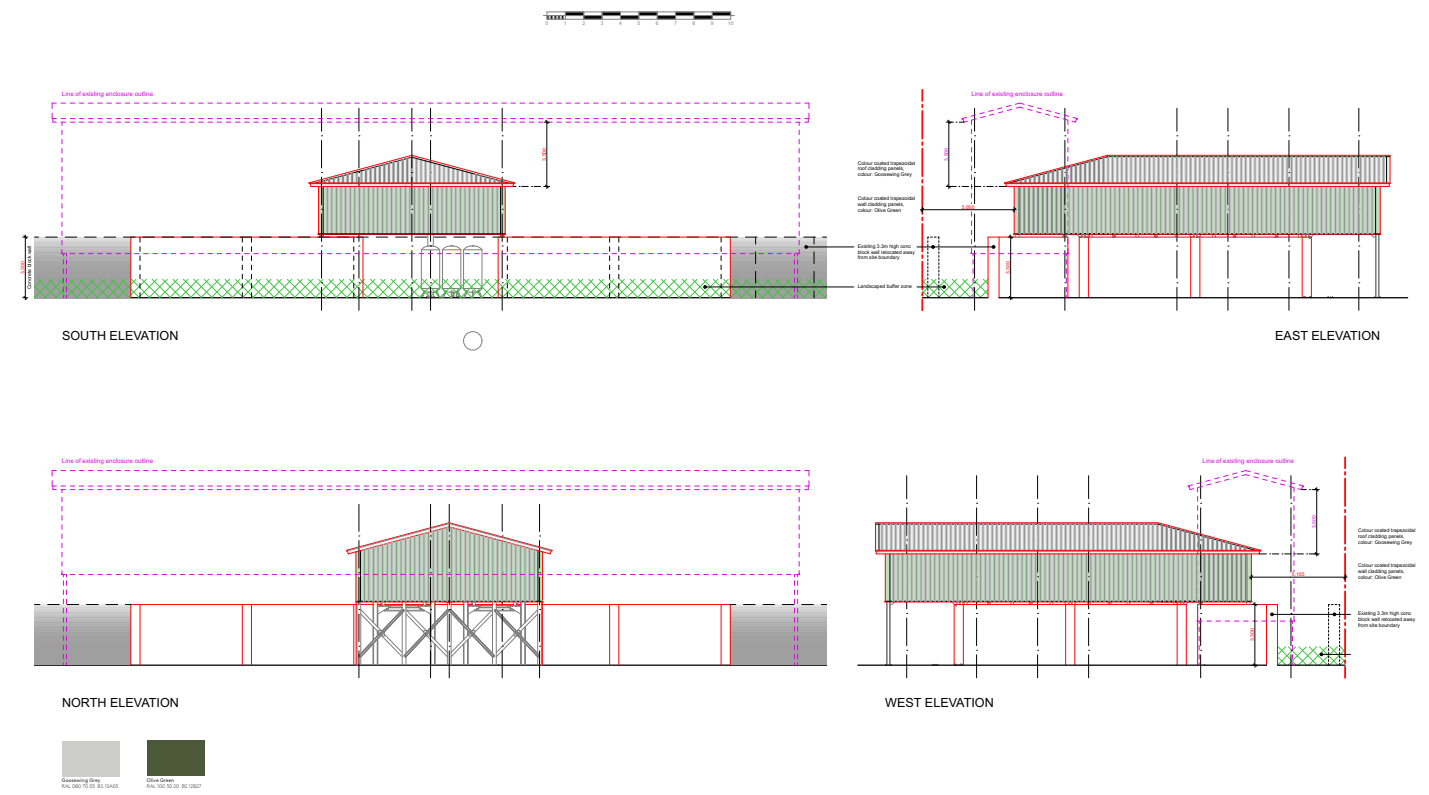
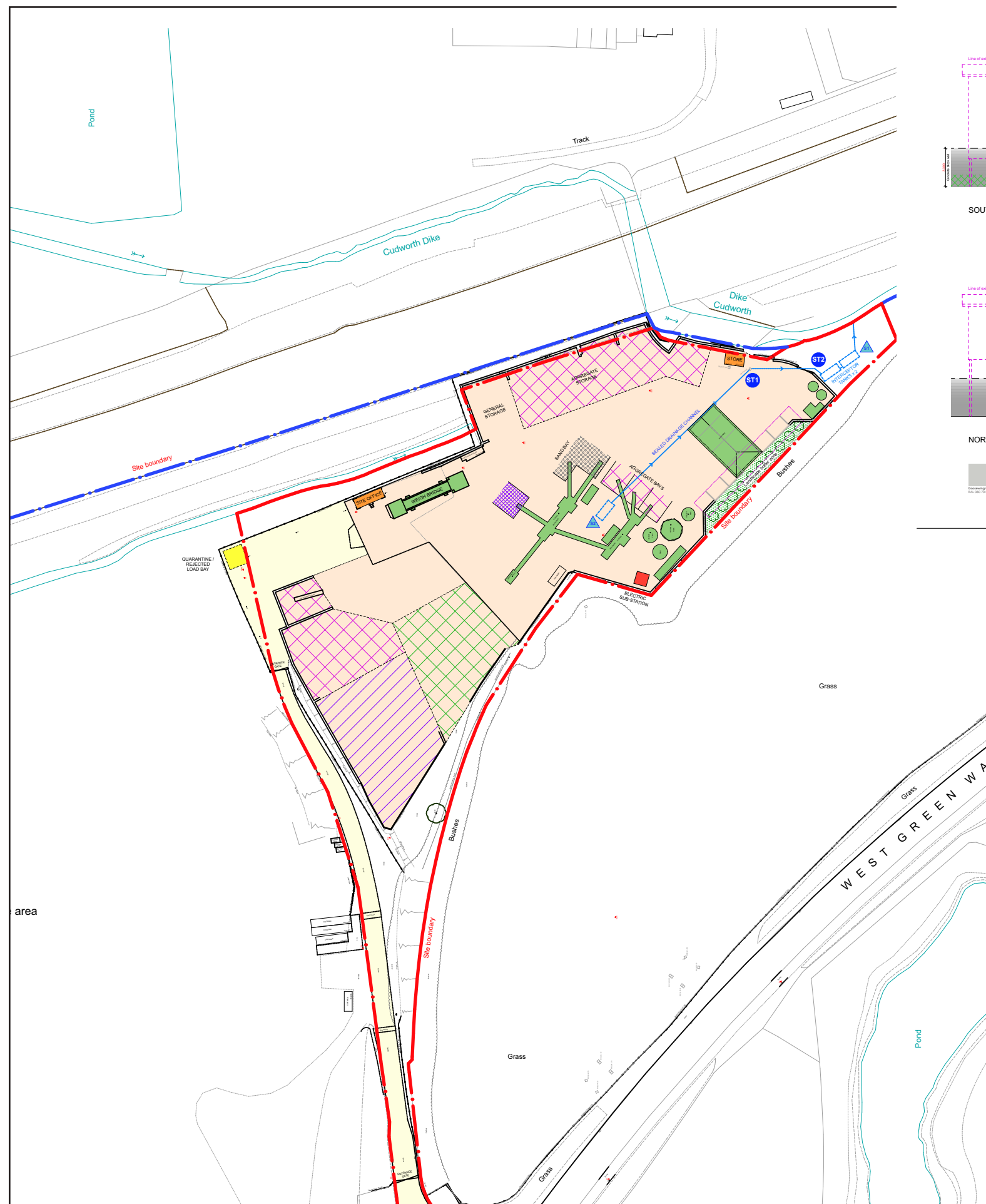


Figure 11. Proposed Development and elevations of the Filter Press

APPENDIX 3.0

METHODOLOGY

LANDSCAPE BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY

i CRITERIA FOR DESCRIBING LANDSCAPE SUSCEPTIBILITY

Landscape Sensitivity is a combination of judgements of susceptibility to the type of change proposed and the value attached to the landscape.

Susceptibility to change *the ability of the landscape receptor (whether it be the overall character or quality/condition of a particular landscape type or area, or an individual element and/or feature, or a particular aesthetic and perceptual aspect) to accommodate the proposed development without undue consequences for the maintenance of the baseline situation and/or the achievement of landscape planning policies and strategies.*

Baseline studies for assessing landscape effects require a mix of desk study and field work to identify and record the character of the landscape and the elements, features and aesthetic and perceptual factors which contribute to it.

Following this each aspect of the assessment should be judged for its susceptibility to change from the proposed development and the value attached to this aspect of the landscape. Value can apply to areas of landscape as a whole, or to individual elements and feature.

Table 1 illustrates the aspects of landscape character used to inform the susceptibility of a landscape, or elements of the landscape to change.

Table 1 CRITERIA FOR DESCRIBING LANDSCAPE SUSCEPTIBILITY

Landscape	High	Medium	Low
Landscape designation	A landscape of distinctive character susceptible to relatively small changes. Includes national or regionally designated landscapes, e.g. National Scenic Area; Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes on the National Register; AONB; National Parks	A landscape of moderately valued characteristics. Including local landscape designations.	A landscape of relative unimportance, the nature of which is tolerant to substantial change. No landscape designation.
Landscape resource and/or habitats	Important landscape resources or landscapes of particularly distinctive character and therefore likely to be subject to national designation or otherwise with high values to the public. Is susceptible to minor changes that would alter access or the character and experience of the resource.	Moderately valued characteristics reasonably tolerant of change. Susceptible to changes that would remove access and fundamentally change the nature of the existing resource.	Relatively unimportant/immature or damaged landscapes tolerant of substantial change.
Scale and enclosure	Small intimate landscape susceptible to changes that alter scale, form and enclosure. Large scale landscapes susceptible to the introduction of uncharacteristic elements which impose enclosure or development at a scale inappropriate to the setting.	Medium scale landscape susceptible to changes that introduce elements which alter the scale or understanding of landscape context.	Large scale open landscapes susceptible to changes that introduce elements that are of an appropriate scale and/or landscape context. Small scale landscapes susceptible to changes that introduce intimate and contained development appropriate to the context.
Landform and topography	Mountainous or large dominating hills and valleys. Intimate small scale landscapes defined through easily identifiable elements in the immediate landscape.	Rolling landform with small hills and valleys. Some intimacy and human scale through landscape elements such as hedgerows and woodland copses.	Large scale open landscape. Little intimacy or human scale, few character elements or features.

Settlement and Urban landscapes	Organic land cover pattern, urban forms that follow a <u>recognisable</u> historical growth over time which is retained with the layout, building fabric or through other elements. Urban grain and layout that define character and give a sense of place. Conservation Areas or areas with a high collection of listed buildings or notable features.	Urban form with some <u>recognised</u> form and structure that defines a character for the settlement or urban area. An area with noted buildings or form may include listed buildings.	Urban form that is degraded or creates a limited sense of place or character through either its grain, layout, building fabric or other elements. 20th and 21st century suburban layouts and industrial and commercial areas may fall into this category.
Historical and Cultural Landscapes	Landscapes with important historical or cultural associations notable either through physical structures, landmarks or features or else through association with literature, historical events or cultural significance. Registered park or gardens, landscape with a national cultural significance susceptible to small change.	Landscapes with notable historical and cultural associations at Regional or Local level. Landscape susceptible to change that would alter or remove the elements or features important to the association.	Landscape with no <u>recognised</u> individual features or elements
Remoteness and tranquillity	Remote location, little evidence of human activity. Landscape susceptible to small changes.	Landscapes with aspects of tranquillity and remoteness but where human activity and presence is notable. Susceptible to changes that would further <u>urbanise</u> or bring activity to areas where this is only partially present.	Highly developed countryside areas with continuous evidence of human activity. Susceptible only to very high levels
Visual and Sensory	A landscape with wide ranging and open views to distance which are part of the character. Susceptible to change that leads to enclosure or loss of notable views or view points. High quality views.	A landscape with open aspects or views but moderate or low visual connections to distance. Susceptible to change that remove views or fundamentally alters the visual amenity.	An enclosed landscape with little or no visual connection to distant locations. A landscape where view quality is low and/or degraded in character.

ii Table 2 CRITERIA FOR DESCRIBING LANDSCAPE QUALITY

Landscape Quality	Definition	Typical Example
Exceptional	Strong landscape structure, characteristics, patterns, and/or clear urban grain identifiable with a historic period or event; Appropriate management for land use and land cover and/or a well maintained urban environment of distinction, intact and good landscape condition; Distinct features worthy of conservation, historic architectural grain; Sense of place exceptional local distinctiveness; No detracting features.	Internationally or nationally recognised, World Heritage Sites, National Parks, National Scenic Area, AONB
High	Strong landscape structure, characteristic patterns and/or clear urban grain; Appropriate management for land use and land cover, but potentially scope to improve; Distinct features worthy conservation; Sense of place; Occasional detracting features.	Nationally, regionally recognised e.g. parts of National Scenic Area, notable Conservation Area or Listed status; Registered Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes; Special Landscape Area;
Good	Recognisable landscape structure and/or urban grain Scope to improve management for land use and land cover; Some features worthy of conservation; Sense of place; Some detracting features.	Regionally or locally recognised e.g. localised areas within National Park, Regional Parks, Village Greens, Special Landscape Areas, Conservation Areas.
Ordinary	Distinguishable landscape structure, characteristics, patterns of landform and land cover often masked by land use; Fractured urban grain with patterns of use difficult to distinguish; Scope to improve management of vegetation; Some features worthy of conservation; Some detracting features	Locally recognised landscape without specific designation.
Poor	Weak landscape structure, characteristic patterns of landform and land cover are missing, little or no recognisable urban grain; Mixed land use evident; Lack of management and intervention has resulted in degradation; Frequent detracting features.	A landscape without note or one singled out as being degraded or requiring improvement.
Very Poor	Degraded landscape structure, characteristic patterns and/or urban grain missing; Mixed land use or dereliction dominates; Lack of management/ intervention has resulted in degradation; Extensive detracting features.	A Landscape likely to be singled out as needing intervention or regeneration.

iii Table 3 CRITERIA FOR DESCRIBING LANDSCAPE VALUE

Value can apply to areas of landscape as a whole, or to individual elements, features and aesthetic or perceptual dimensions which contribute to the character of the landscape.

The range of factors that can help in the identification of valued landscapes may include:

- **Landscape Quality** (see table 2) - a measure of the physical state of the landscape;
- **Scenic Quality** - landscapes that appeal primarily to the senses
- **Rarity** - the presence of rare elements or features in the landscape;
- **Representativeness** - whether the landscape contains particular characters and or features or elements which are considered particularly important examples;
- **Conservation Interests** - the presence of features of wildlife, earth science, archaeological, historical and cultural interest;
- **Recreation Value** - evidence that the landscape is valued for recreational activity;
- **Perceptual Aspects** - e.g. wilderness and/or tranquility;
- **Associations** - Some landscape are associated with particular people, such as artists or writers, or events in history.

Landscape Value	Definition	Typical Example
High	An iconic landscape or <u>element(s)</u> held in high regard both nationally, regionally and by the local community; A landscape or <u>element(s)</u> widely used by both the local community and a broader visiting community; Features of particular historical protected significance ; Landscape or space which defines or is closely associated with a community and its life and livelihood; A landscape that defines a particular character area being both representative but also definitive in terms of its elements, features or characteristics.	Nationally, regionally <u>recognised</u> e.g. parts of National Park; National Scenic Area; AONB; Registered Historic Garden and Designed Landscape; World Heritage Sites. Village Green/Park or Community Recreational Space with strong and varied use by the whole community over a period of 20 years or more. Regional Parks and Country Parks. An area with good and varied access and high visual amenity.
Good	A landscape or <u>element(s)</u> <u>recognised</u> regionally and locally as important ; A landscape widely used by the local community; Features or elements widely used or visited and held in <u>association</u> with the area or community; A landscape that is particularly representative of the character descriptions and assessments available for the study area including some key aspects or features that if lost would effect the overall landscape description.	Conservation or Listed status; Village Greens/Parks; , Culturally important sites. Access via PROW and permissive paths other <u>routeways</u> . An area of good access and good visual amenity.
Moderate	A landscape of local importance ; A landscape used by the local community through PROW; A sense of place <u>recognisable</u> and associated with the local area.	Area of local landscape importance with limited access and some visual amenity
Low	A landscape without particular noted significance; A landscape or elements infrequently used by the local <u>community</u> ; A landscape which is not distinct and does not add to the overall context of the area.	A landscape with little or no access and no visual amenity

Landscape Sensitivity	Definition	Typical Examples
High	A landscape that demonstrates a high level of susceptibility to the nature and level of change proposed across the majority of criteria assessed. A landscape of high or moderate value that includes key aspects, elements or features of the recognised landscape character. The proposal is likely to change the nature and description of the receiving landscape character.	Internationally or Nationally recognised. World Heritage Sites, National Parks, National Scenic Area, AONB. Nationally, Regionally recognised e.g. parts of National Scenic Area, notable Conservation Area or Listed status; Registered Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes; Special Landscape Areas; Valued landscapes of good quality or above which define or have definite characteristics of a landscape character type or area.
Medium - High	A landscape that demonstrates a medium to high level of susceptibility to the change proposed. A landscape of medium to high level value where care is required to consider the aspects of landscape value and how these might be retained or mitigated if affected by the proposals.	Regionally recognised e.g. areas within National Park, Regional Parks, Special Landscape Areas, Conservation Areas. Valued and/or good landscapes that are representative of a broader landscape character type or area.
Medium	A landscape that demonstrates a medium level of susceptibility to the change proposed but that can accommodate some of this change without altering or affecting the principle characteristics of the receiving landscape. A landscape of medium level value where some care is required to consider the aspects of landscape value and how these might be retained or mitigated if affected by the proposals.	Regionally or locally recognised e.g. Regional Parks, Village Greens, Locally recognised landscape without specific designation. Locally valued and/or good or ordinary landscapes that are representative of a broader landscape character type or area.
Low - Medium	A landscape of low susceptibility to change where the proposals will only affect or alter the key characteristics, features or elements of the receiving landscape in a very limited way, whilst predominantly maintaining the same landscape character description and definition as before. A landscape of moderate to low value.	A landscape without note or one singled out as being predominantly degraded or requiring some improvement. A Landscape likely to be singled out as needing intervention or regeneration. A landscape of ordinary quality with few recorded value characteristics. A landscape that includes limited key characteristics, elements or features and is partially representative of a landscape character type or area.
Low	A landscape of low susceptibility to change where the proposals will not affect or alter the key characteristics, features or elements of the receiving landscape and where the landscape would be left essentially within the same landscape character description and definition as before. A landscape of moderate to low value.	A landscape without note or one singled out as being degraded or requiring improvement. A Landscape likely to be singled out as needing intervention or regeneration. A landscape of ordinary or poor quality with few or no recorded value characteristics. A landscape that does not include key characteristics, elements or features and is only partially representative of a landscape character type or area.

LANDSCAPE EFFECTS

v Table 5 MAGNITUDE OF CHANGE (LANDSCAPE)

Magnitude of Change	Examples
High	The development would result in a prominent change to the landscape character type or area (enhance or degrade). Major alteration to significant elements or features or the removal/introduction of substantial elements. The alteration of a landscape to substantially increase/decrease both the landscape value and quality.
Medium	The development would result in a noticeable change to the landscape character or part of a landscape character type or area (enhance or degrade). Alteration to elements or features or partial removal/introduction. The alteration of a landscape to increase/decrease both the landscape value and quality.
Low	The development would result in a slight change to the landscape character (enhance or degrade). Alteration to minor elements or features or the removal/introduction. The alteration of a landscape to increase/decrease both the landscape value and quality.
Negligible	A very minor change which is not uncharacteristic and maintains the quality and value of the landscape.

vi Table 6 SUMMARY TABLE TO DETERMINE LANDSCAPE EFFECTS

		Magnitude of Change			
		High	Medium	Low	Negligible
Sensitivity	High	Substantial	Moderate - Substantial	Moderate	Negligible
	Med - High	Moderate - Substantial	Moderate - Substantial	Slight- Moderate	Negligible
	Medium	Moderate - Substantial	Moderate	Slight - Moderate	Negligible
	Low - Med	Moderate	Slight - Moderate	Slight	Negligible
	Low	Moderate	Slight - Moderate	Slight	Negligible
	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	None

The summary of effects on landscape can be expressed as an adverse or beneficial effect depending on the assessor’s view regarding the nature and quality of the existing resource and how this has been changed. In some circumstances the change may be described as a neutral change if the expectation of the viewer or the fundamental nature and characteristics of a landscape appear unaffected.

Landscape Effect	Nature of the Effect
Substantial Moderate - Substantial	Adverse effects may include the loss or removal of elements or features that are characteristic or otherwise determine value or importance, the degradation of landscape quality, the loss or reduction of value and/or a perception of change that is negative. Change that is against recommended management and maintenance proposals or other landscape objectives. Beneficial effects may include the introduction of elements or features that are characteristic or otherwise will create value. The improvement of landscape quality and change that is recommended as part of management and maintenance proposals or other landscape objectives. Neutral effects would represent change that is neither adverse or beneficial or is a combination of both leading to a balance in terms of how the change is perceived. A change that is accepted into the existing landscape character type or is assimilated into an associated landscape character type through the introduction of beneficial mitigation measures, the shift of a landscape character type/ area into another existing character type/ area.
Moderate	Adverse effects may include the loss or removal of some of the elements or features that are characteristic or otherwise determine value or importance, the degradation of landscape quality, the loss or reduction of aspects of value and/or a perception of change that is negative. Change that is against recommended management and maintenance proposals or other landscape objectives. Beneficial effects may include the introduction of elements or features that are characteristic or otherwise may create value. The improvement of landscape quality and change that is recommended as part of management and maintenance proposals or other landscape objectives. Neutral effects would represent change that is neither adverse or beneficial or is a combination of both leading to a balance in terms of how the change is perceived. A change that is accepted into the existing landscape character type or is assimilated into an associated landscape character type through the introduction of beneficial mitigation measures, the shift of a landscape character type/ area into another existing character type/ area.
Slight - Moderate Slight	Adverse effects may include the loss or removal of some of the elements or features that are characteristic or otherwise determine value or importance, the further degradation of landscape quality, the loss or reduction of aspects of value and/or a perception of change that is negative or re-asserts the existing negative aspects of the site. Change that is against recommended management and maintenance proposals or other landscape objectives or that fails to halt identified failings of land management. Beneficial effects may include the introduction of elements or features that are or were historically characteristic for the site or otherwise may create value. The improvement of landscape quality and change that is recommended as part of management and maintenance proposals or other landscape objectives. Neutral effects would represent change that is neither adverse or beneficial or is a combination of both leading to a balance in terms of how the change is perceived. A change that is accepted into the existing landscape character type or is assimilated into an associated landscape character type through the introduction of beneficial mitigation measures, the shift of a landscape character type/ area into another existing character type/ area.
Negligible - None	A very minor change which is not uncharacteristic and maintains the quality and value of the landscape.

VISUAL BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY

viii CRITERIA FOR DESCRIBING VISUAL SUSCEPTIBILITY

The susceptibility of different visual receptors to changes in views and visual amenity is mainly a function of:

- the occupation or activity of people experiencing the view at particular locations; and
- the extent to which their attention or interest may therefore be focused on the views and the visual amenity they experience at particular locations.

Table 8

Receptor Susceptibility	Description
High	Occupiers of residential properties with views from principle rooms or outdoor spaces Users of outdoor recreational facilities, including public rights of way, whose attention may be focused on the landscape Elevated panoramic viewpoints Communities where the development results in changes in the landscape setting or valued views enjoyed by the community
Medium	Residential properties with restricted views or views from non principle rooms where the focus is not on the landscape or view People engaged in outdoor recreation where enjoyment of the landscape is incidental rather than the main interest People travelling through the landscape where the views involved are transient and sporadic but have a special significance in either the journey or the expression of the landscape or community being visited. Users of highway footpath routes, cyclists or horse riders where the speed of travel may allow for consideration and enjoyment of the view
Low	People at their place of work, industrial facilities. People travelling through the landscape in cars, trains or other transport such that the speed and nature of the views involved are short lived and have no special significance

ix Table 9 CRITERIA FOR DESCRIBING VISUAL QUALITY AND VALUE

View Quality and Value	Description
High	Iconic views or skylines which are individual character elements in their own right. Protected views through Supplementary Planning Guidance or development framework. View mentioned in the listing for a conservation area, listed building or scheduled monument as being important with regard to its setting. Wide panoramic distant views of a valued landscape(s). Views that are acknowledged or recorded in guide books or other publications and/or with references in culture such as literature or art.
Moderate	Views with strong and distinctive features. Uninterrupted views. Views over a landscape of recognised character and quality
Ordinary	A view typical of the locality. Generally attractive, some detracting features
Poor	Restricted views or views over a landscape of low value and quality.

x Table 10 MAGNITUDE OF CHANGE (VISUAL)

Magnitude of Change	Examples
High	The development would result in a prominent change to the existing view and would change the quality of the view. The development would be easily noticed by the observer. The development may break the skyline or form some other substantial change to the view.
Medium	The development would result in a noticeable change in the existing view that may change the character and quality of the view. The change would be readily noticed by the observer but would not dominate the view.
Low	The development would result in a perceptible change in the existing view but this would not affect its character or quality. The development will appear as a small element in the wider landscape which may be missed by the casual observer. The view may be at such a distance as to reduce the appearance of the development.
Negligible	Only a small part of the development will be discernible and this may be for only part of the year or be a filtered view. The view may be at such a distance as to render the change virtually indiscernible without aid or reference. The quality and character of the view will remain unchanged.

xi Table 11 SENSITIVITY (VISUAL)

Visual Sensitivity	Description	Typical Examples
High	A view or visual receptor that demonstrates a high level of susceptibility to the nature and level of change proposed. A view of high or moderate value that includes views or vistas of recorded value or quality or with some specific cultural significance. The proposal is likely to change the nature and quality of view.	Protected views or vistas through planning policy or published guidance. Notable viewpoints or vistas recorded in maps, publications or other public record. Culturally significant views within noted areas of landscape value or through art, painting or literature. Views from residential properties where change to views from principle rooms could be anticipated. Views from public footpaths where change would affect the visual amenity of the route.
Medium - High	A view or visual receptor that demonstrates a medium to high level of susceptibility to the change proposed. A view of medium to high level value where care is required to consider aspects of view and how these might be protected if affected by the proposals.	Regionally recognised view locations e.g. areas within National Park, Regional Park, Special Landscape Areas, Conservation Areas where views or visual amenity is recorded as being one of the characteristics of value. Views from residential properties where change to principle rooms may not be typical or where views of the proposal are oblique. Views from public footpath routes where the direction of the route and focus of the view is not towards the proposal site.
Medium	A view or visual receptor that demonstrates a medium level of susceptibility to the change proposed but that can accommodate some of this change without altering or affecting the quality and value of the view. A view of medium level value where some care is required to consider aspects of view and how these might be protected if affected by the proposals.	View locations within Parks, Village Greens, or locally recognised landscapes. Views from residential properties where principle rooms or outdoor amenity areas will not be affected. Views from public footpaths where the quality and value is such (low) that the proposals may not alter the visual amenity.
Low - Medium	A view or visual receptor of low susceptibility to change where the proposals are able only to affect the view in a very limited way, whilst predominantly maintaining the same visual amenity as before. A view of moderate to low value.	Views from vehicular routes or roadways for traffic that may have some appreciation of the view due to the speed of travel such as cyclists, horse riders and pedestrians. Views from transport routes where the view is a noted part of the journey experience such as rail routes through National Parks or AONB.
Low	A view of low susceptibility to change where the proposals will not affect or alter the key characteristics, features or elements of the view and where the proposals are only able to affect the view in a very limited way. A view of moderate to low value.	A view without note or one singled out as being degraded or requiring improvement. Views from vehicular routes where the nature and speed of travel dictates a low level of engagement with the view.

xii **Table 12 SUMMARY TABLE TO DETERMINE VISUAL EFFECTS**

		Magnitude of Change			
		High	Medium	Low	Negligible
Sensitivity	High	Substantial	Moderate - Substantial	Moderate	Negligible
	Med - High	Moderate - Substantial	Moderate - Substantial	Slight- Moderate	Negligible
	Medium	Moderate - Substantial	Moderate	Slight - Moderate	Negligible
	Low - Med	Moderate	Slight - Moderate	Slight	Negligible
	Low	Moderate	Slight - Moderate	Slight	Negligible
	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	None

The summary of effects can be expressed as an adverse or beneficial effect depending on the assessor's view regarding the nature and quality of the existing resource and how this has been changed. In some circumstances the change may be described as a neutral change if the expectation of the viewer or the fundamental nature and characteristics of a view appear unaffected.

xiii **Table 13 SUMMARY TABLE TO DETERMINE NATURE OF VISUAL EFFECTS**

Visual Effect	Nature of the Effect
Substantial Moderate - Substantial	Adverse effects may include the loss of key views, the removal of long distance views, the degradation of quality and/or value of the view. The introduction of elements or features that are perceived as negative. Beneficial effects may include the introduction of key views, vistas or views to long distance where this is seen as advantageous. The introduction of elements that are perceived as positive and/or the screening off of negative aspects of a view. Neutral effects would represent change that is neither adverse or beneficial or is a combination of both leading to a balance in terms of how the change is perceived. A change that is accepted into the existing landscape or is assimilated into the existing view.
Moderate	Adverse effects may include the loss of notable views, the removal of views to distance , the degradation of quality and/or value of the view. The introduction of some elements or features that are perceived as negative. Beneficial effects may include the introduction of new views or vistas or views. The introduction of elements that are perceived as positive and/or the screening off of negative aspects of a view. Neutral effects would represent change that is neither adverse or beneficial or is a combination of both leading to a balance in terms of how the change is perceived. A change that is accepted into the existing landscape or is assimilated into the existing view.
Slight Moderate Slight	Adverse effects may include the loss of views, the removal or change of existing views, the degradation of quality and/or value of the view. The introduction of elements or features that are perceived as negative. Beneficial effects may include the introduction of new views or vistas. The introduction of elements that are perceived as positive and/or the screening off of negative aspects of a view. Neutral effects would represent change that is neither adverse or beneficial or is a combination of both leading to a balance in terms of how the change is perceived. A change that is accepted into the existing landscape or is assimilated into the existing view.
Negligible - None	A very minor change which is not uncharacteristic and maintains the quality and value of the view.

Magnitude of Change	Examples
International	World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments of exceptional quality, or assets of acknowledged international importance or can contribute to International research objectives. Grade I Listed Buildings and built heritage of exceptional quality Grade I Registered Parks and Gardens and historic landscapes and townscapes of international sensitivity.
National	Scheduled Monuments, or assets of national quality and importance or than can contribute to national research objectives. Grade II* and Grade II Listed Buildings, Grade II* and II Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Battlefields, historic landscapes and townscapes of outstanding interest, quality and importance, with exceptional coherence, integrity, time-depth, or other critical factor(s)
Regional	Designated or undesignated assets of regional quality and importance that contribute to regional research objectives. Conservation Areas with very strong character and integrity, other built heritage that can be shown to have exceptional qualities in their fabric or historical association. Designated or undesignated special historic landscapes and townscapes which are well preserved and exhibiting considerable coherence, integrity time-depth or other critical factor(s)
County	Undesignated archaeological remains of county importance with the potential to contribute to research objectives and understanding at a County level. Conservation Areas with very strong character and integrity, other built heritage that can be shown to have exceptional qualities in their fabric or historical association. Designated or undesignated historic landscapes and townscapes with reasonable coherence, integrity, time-depth or other critical factor(s)
Borough	Undesignated assets of borough importance with the potential to contribute to borough and local research objectives. Locally Listed Buildings, other Conservation Areas, historic buildings that can be shown to have good qualities in their fabric or historical association. Assets that form an important resource within the community, for educational or recreational purposes.
Local	Assets compromised by poor preservation and/or poor survival of contextual associations and with limited potential to contribute to research objectives. Historic (unlisted) buildings of modest quality in their fabric or historical association. Historic landscapes and townscapes with limited sensitivity or whose sensitivity is limited by poor preservation, historic integrity and/or poor survival of contextual associations. Assets that form a resource within the community with occasional utilisation for educational or recreational purposes.
Negligible	Assets with very little or no surviving cultural heritage interest. Buildings of no architectural or historical note. Landscapes and townscapes that are badly fragmented and the contextual associations are severely compromised or have little or no historical interest.