

LANDSCAPE & VISUAL APPRAISAL

JULY 2025

Stairfoot Quarry
Barnsley

U R B A N
G R E E N



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1.0 INTRODUCTION & SCOPE OF APPRAISAL

This Landscape and Visual Appraisal (LVA) has been prepared by Urban Green and provides an assessment of the proposed development of the Site at Stairfoot Quarry, Barnsley. The location of the Site is shown at Fig. 1.1, opposite.

The proposals comprise the restoration of Yew Tree Quarry through the infill of non-hazardous excavated soil materials.

The aim of this document is to identify the key landscape and visual sensitivities of the Appraisal Site, and provide recommendations to support the appropriate redevelopment of the Site.

The location of the Site is shown at Fig. 1.1, opposite. This document considers changes to:

- The character of the landscape, vegetation, landscape features and designations within and surrounding the Site; and
- The composition of selected views from identified visual receptors as a result of the proposed development.

The landscape and visual analysis was prepared following Site visits in January 2025. This assessment describes and evaluates the anticipated change to landscape and visual amenity, and the extent to which these changes will affect the perception and views of the landscape.

KEY

-  Site Boundary
-  1km
-  2km

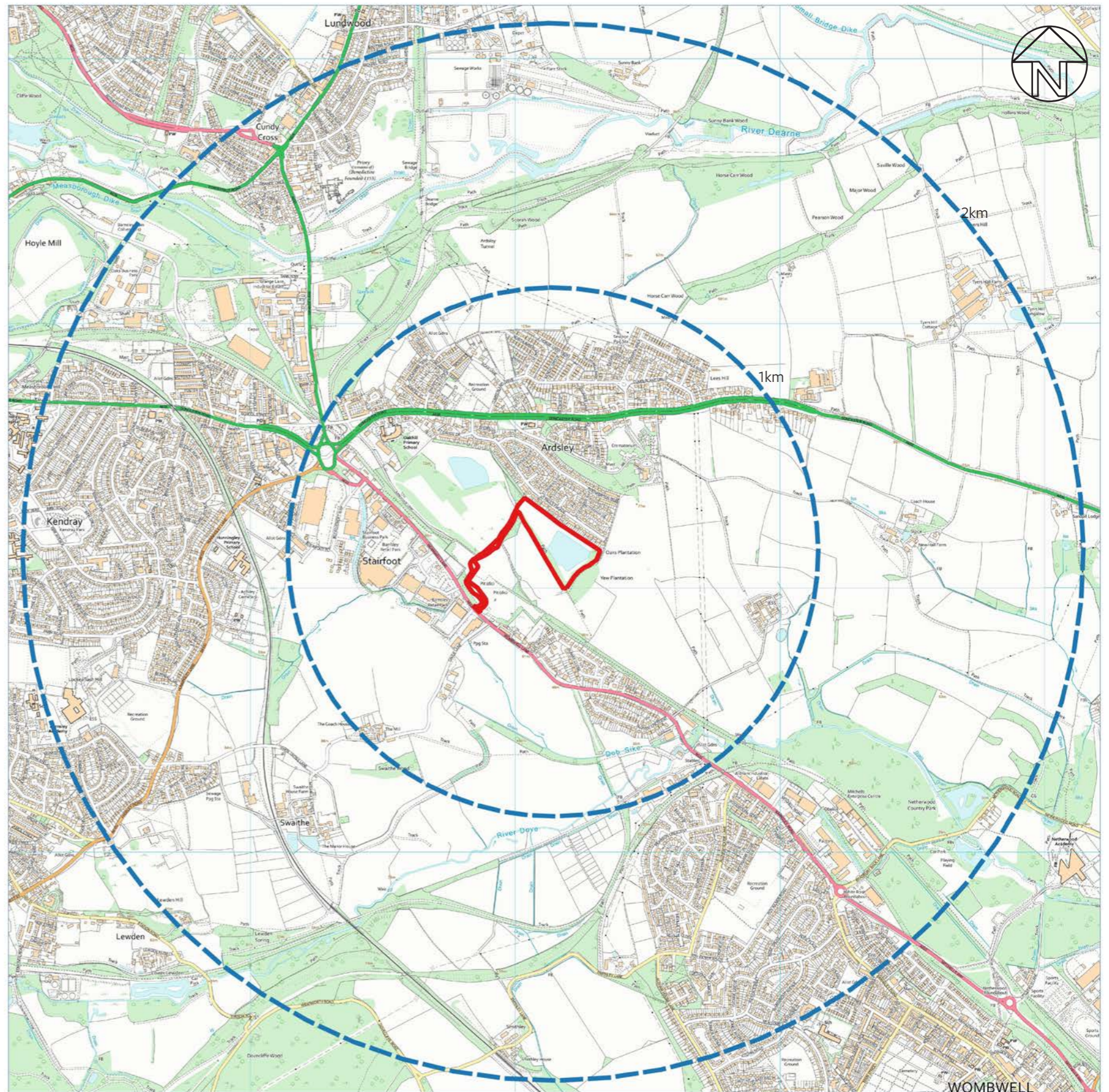


Figure 1.1 - Site Location

2.0 PLANNING POLICY CONTEXT

National Planning Policy Framework

The National planning policy for England is defined within the National Planning Policy Framework (herein referred to as the NPPF) that has distilled the content of previous Planning Policy Statements into one comprehensive document. The NPPF is the relevant national planning policy document against which to test the proposals. A revised NPPF was issued by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government on 12 December 2024.

General Considerations

As a central theme, the NPPF has a presumption in favour of sustainable development (para. 11) for which it defines three mutually interdependent objectives of sustainability (para. 8) to be jointly sought (economic, social and environmental). With relevance to landscape and visual matters the third objective states:

“an environmental objective – to protect and enhance our natural, built and historic environment; (...)”

The planning system is identified as the vehicle for guiding development to sustainable solutions but in doing so should take local circumstances into account, to reflect the character, needs and opportunities of each area.

Strategic Policies

Paragraph 20 discusses the role of strategic policies within the plan-making framework. It suggests that sufficient provision should be made for the:

d. *“conservation and enhancement of the natural, built and historic environment, including landscapes and green infrastructure, and planning measures to address climate change mitigation and adaptation.”*

Section 12 Achieving well-designed places

This section of the NPPF identifies that the creation of high-quality, beautiful and sustainable buildings and places is fundamental to what the planning and development process should achieve (para. 131) it states that policy should ensure that developments (para. 135):

- b. *“(...) are visually attractive as a result of good architecture, layout and appropriate and effective landscaping;*
- c. *are sympathetic to local character and history, including the surrounding built environment and landscape setting, while not preventing or discouraging appropriate innovation or change (such as increased densities);*
- d. *establish or maintain a strong sense of place, using the arrangement of streets, spaces, building types and materials to create attractive, welcoming and distinctive places to live, work and visit;*
- e. *optimise the potential of the site to accommodate and sustain an appropriate amount and mix of development (including green and other public space) and support local facilities and transport networks; (...)”*

In regards to trees in new developments, paragraph 136 states:

“Trees make an important contribution to the character and quality of urban environments, and can also help mitigate and adapt to climate change. Planning policies and decisions should ensure that new streets are tree-lined, that opportunities are taken to incorporate trees elsewhere in developments (such as parks and community orchards), that appropriate measures are in place to secure the long-term maintenance of newly-planted trees, and that existing trees are retained wherever possible. Applicants and local planning authorities should

work with highways officers and tree officers to ensure that the right trees are planted in the right places, and solutions are found that are compatible with highways standards and the needs of different users.”

Section 15 Conserving and Enhancing the Natural Environment

This section of the NPPF identifies a requirement in favour of (para. 187):

- a. *“protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils (in a manner commensurate with their statutory status or identified quality in the development plan);*
- b. *recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services – including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, and of trees and woodland; (...)”*

As listed in the NPPF, these valued landscapes include:

- National Parks;
- The Broads; and
- National Landscapes.

The Appraisal Site is not located within any of the above mentioned valued landscapes.

Section 16 Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment

For proposals affecting heritage assets, the NPPF places a requirement on applicants to (para. 207):

“describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets’ importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance.”

Para. 208 also states:

“Local planning authorities should identify and assess the particular significance

2.0 PLANNING POLICY CONTEXT

of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal (including by development affecting the setting of a heritage asset) taking account of the available evidence and any necessary expertise. They should take this into account when considering the impact of a proposal on a heritage asset, to avoid or minimise any conflict between the heritage asset’s conservation and any aspect of the proposal.”

Para. 210 states:

“In determining applications, local planning authorities should take account of:

- a. the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;*
- b. the positive contribution that conservation of heritage assets can make to sustainable communities including their economic vitality; and*
- c. the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness.”*

It is also considered that (Para. 220):

“Not all elements of a Conservation Area or World Heritage Site will necessarily contribute to its significance.”

Local Planning Policy

The Appraisal Site and study area lie within the jurisdiction of Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council. Key local policies relating to landscape and visual matters are briefly outlined below.

Adopted Policy

Section 38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 places a requirement upon local authorities when determining planning applications to do so in accordance with the adopted development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

The current development plan comprises:

- Barnsley Local Plan – Adopted January 2019

The relevant policies within the above noted document are as follows:

Policy GD1 discusses general development and states that:-

“Proposals for development will be approved if: There will be no significant adverse effect on the living conditions and residential amenity of existing and future residents;

They are compatible with neighbouring land and will not significantly prejudice the current or future use of the neighbouring land;

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; Adequate access and internal road layouts are provided to allow the complete development of the entire site for residential purposes, and to provide appropriate vehicular and pedestrian links throughout the site and into adjacent areas;

Any drains, culverts and other surface water bodies that may cross the site are considered;

Appropriate landscaped boundaries are provided where sites are adjacent to open countryside;

Any pylons are considered in the layout; and Existing trees that are to remain on site are considered in the layout in order to avoid overshadowing.”

Policy D1 considers high quality design and placemaking and states that:-

“Design Principles:

Development is expected 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, including:

Landscape character, topography, green infrastructure assets, important habitats, woodlands and other natural features;

Views and vistas to key buildings, landmarks, skylines and gateways; and Heritage and townscape character including the scale, layout, building styles and materials of the built form in the locality.

Through its layout and design development should:

Contribute to place making and be of high quality, that contributes to a healthy, safe and sustainable environment;

Complement and enhance the character and setting of distinctive places, including Barnsley Town Centre, Penistone, rural villages and Conservation Areas;

Help to transform the character of physical environments that have become run down and are lacking in distinctiveness;

Provide an accessible and inclusive environment for the users of individual buildings and surrounding spaces;

Provide clear and obvious connections to the surrounding street and pedestrian network;

Ensure ease of movement and legibility for all users, ensure overlooking of streets, spaces and pedestrian routes through the arrangement and orientation of buildings and the location of entrances;

Promote safe, secure environments and access routes with priority for pedestrians and cyclists; Create clear distinctions between public and private spaces;

Display architectural quality and express proposed uses through its composition, scale, form, proportions and arrangement of materials, colours and details;

Make the best use of high quality materials;

Include a comprehensive and high quality scheme for hard and soft landscaping;

2.0 PLANNING POLICY CONTEXT

KEY

-  Site Boundary
-  1km
-  2km
- Planning Policy**
-  School Grounds
-  Greenspace Site
-  Country Parks
-  Green Belt

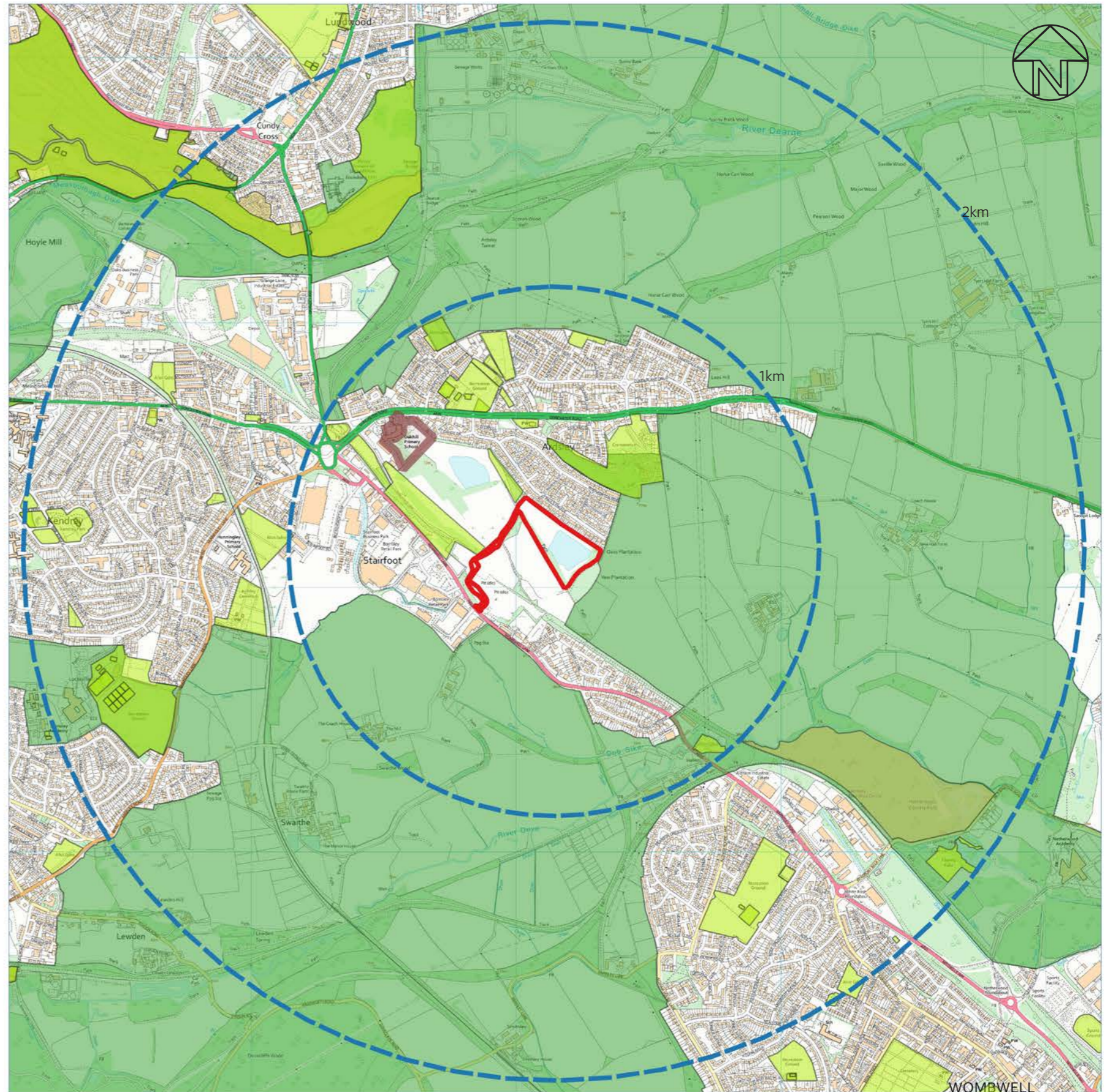


Figure 2.1 - Local Planning Policy

2.0 PLANNING POLICY CONTEXT

and Provide high quality public realm.

In terms of place making development should make a positive contribution to achieving qualities of a successful place such as character, legibility, permeability and vitality."

Policy LC1 discusses Landscape Character and state that:-

"Development will be expected to retain and enhance the character and distinctiveness of the individual Landscape Character area in which it is located (as set out in the Landscape Character Assessment of Barnsley Borough 2002 and any subsequent amendments).

Development which would be harmful to the special qualities of the Peak District National Park will not be allowed."

Policy HE1 considers the historic environment and states that:-

"We will positively encourage developments which will help in the management, conservation, understanding and enjoyment of Barnsley's historic environment, especially for those assets which are at risk.

This will be achieved by:-

- a. *Supporting proposals which conserve and enhance the significance and setting of the borough's heritage assets, paying particular attention to those elements which contribute most to the borough's distinctive character and sense of place.*

These elements and assets include:-

The nationally significant industrial landscapes of the Don Valley which includes Wortley Top Forge and its associated water management system.

Elsacar Conservation Village, its former ironworks and its workshops which were once part of the Fitzwilliam Estate.

A number of important 18th and 19th century designed landscapes and parks including Wentworth Castle parkland (the only grade I Registered Park and Garden in South Yorkshire), and Cannon Hall Park.

The well preserved upstanding remains of the Cluniac and Benedictine monastery at Monk Bretton.

18 designated conservation areas of special and architectural interest including three town centre conservation areas, as well as large areas incorporating Stainborough Park, Cawthorne, Penistone and Thurlstone.

The 17th century Rockley Blast Furnace and its later engine house.

Gunthwaite Hall Barn, a large 16th century timber framed barn.

Barnsley Main Colliery Engine House and Pithead structures.

The 17th century Worsbrough Mill (the only historic working water mill in South Yorkshire).

Relatively widespread evidence of pre-historic settlements, and occupation which are often archaeological and below ground but sometimes expressed as physical or topographic features.

The boroughs more rural western and Pennine fringe characterised by upland and (often) isolated settlements or farmsteads surrounded by agricultural land and dominated by historic and vernacular buildings built from local gritstone.

- b. *By ensuring that proposals affecting a designated heritage asset (or an archaeological site of national importance such as a Scheduled Ancient Monument) conserve those elements which contribute to its significance. Harm to such elements will be permitted only where this is outweighed by the public benefits of the proposal. Substantial harm or total loss to the significance of a designated heritage asset (or an archaeological site of national importance) will be permitted only in exceptional circumstances where there is a clearly defined public benefit.*
- c. *By supporting proposals that would preserve or enhance the character or appearance of a conservation area. There are 18 conservation areas in the borough and each is designated for its particular built and historic significance. This significance is derived from the group value of its constituent buildings, locally prevalent styles of architecture, historic street layouts and its individual setting which frequently includes views and vistas both into and out of the area. Particular attention will be given to those elements which have been identified in a Conservation Area Appraisal as*

making a positive contribution to its significance.

- d. *By ensuring that proposals affecting an archaeological site of less than national importance or sites with no statutory protection conserve those elements which contribute to its significance in line with the importance of the remains. In those cases where development affecting such sites is acceptable in principle, mitigation of damage will be ensured through preservation of the remains in situ as a preferred solution. When in situ preservation is not justified, an understanding of the evidence to be lost must be gained in line with the provisions of Policy HE6.*
- e. *By supporting proposals which conserve Barnsley's non-designated heritage assets. We will ensure that developments which would harm or undermine the significance of such assets, or their contribution to the character of a place will only be permitted where the benefits of the development would outweigh the harm.*
- f. *By supporting proposals which will help to secure a sustainable future for Barnsley's heritage assets, especially those identified as being at greatest risk of loss or decay."*

Policy GI1 considers Green Infrastructure and states that:-

"We will protect, maintain, enhance and create an integrated network of connected and multi functional Green Infrastructure assets that:

Provides attractive environments where people want to live, work, learn, play, visit and invest;

Meets the environmental, social and economic needs of communities across the borough and the wider City Regions;

Enhances the quality of life for present and future residents and visitors; Helps to meet the challenge of climate change; Enhances biodiversity and landscape character;

Improves opportunities for recreation and tourism; Respects local distinctiveness and historical and cultural heritage;

Maximises potential economic and social benefits; and

2.0 PLANNING POLICY CONTEXT

KEY

-  Site Boundary
-  1km
-  2km
- Ecological**
-  SSSI
-  Local Nature Reserve
-  Ancient Woodlands

0 200 400 600 800 1,000 m

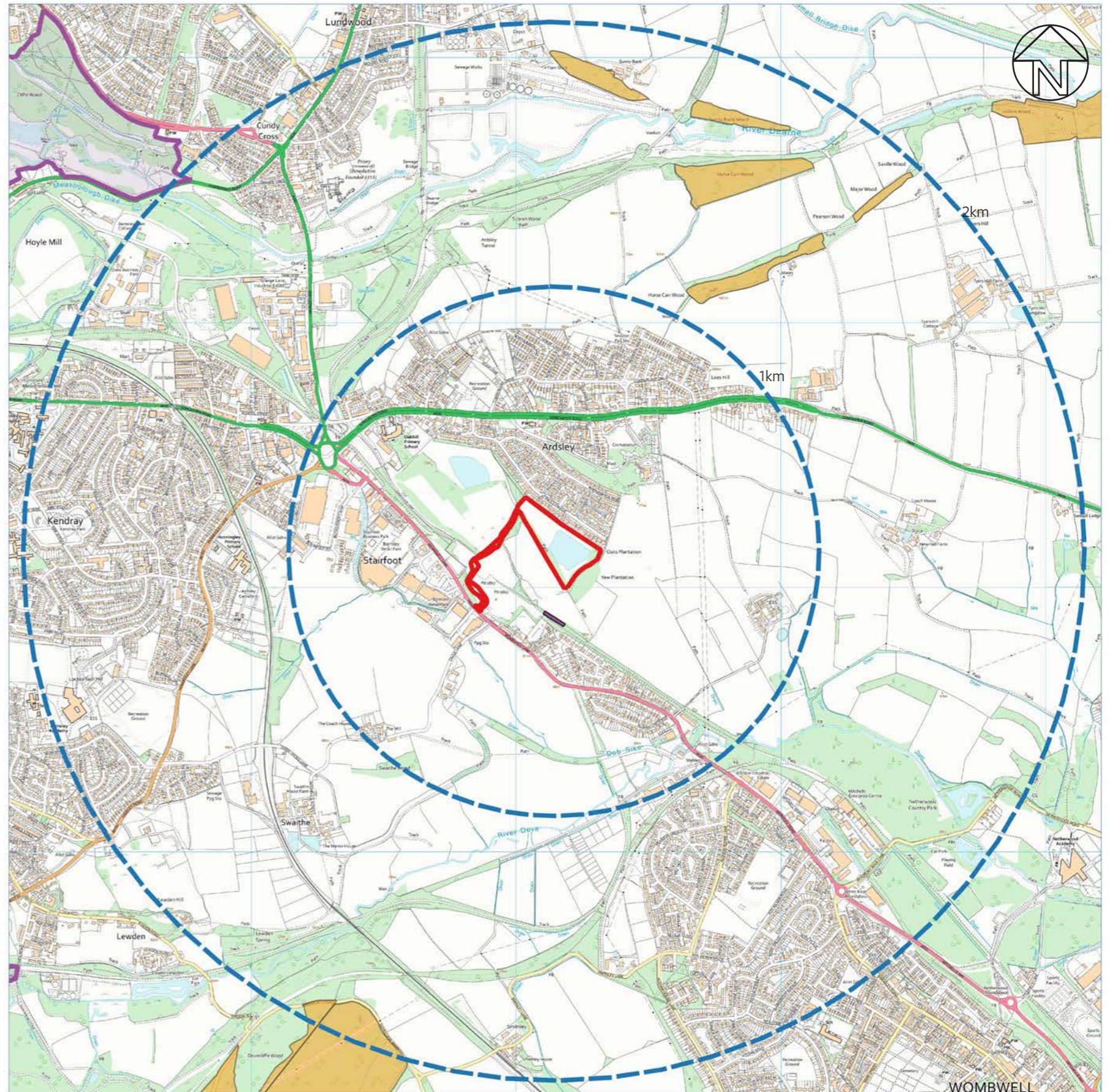


Figure 2.2 - Local Planning Policy - Ecological Designations

2.0 PLANNING POLICY CONTEXT

Secures and improves linkages between green and blue spaces;

At a strategic level Barnsley's Green Infrastructure network includes the following corridors which are shown on the Green Infrastructure Diagram:

River Dearne Valley Corridor.

River Dove Valley Corridor.

River Don Valley Corridor.

Dearne Valley Green Heart Corridor.

Historic Landscape Corridor.

The network of Green Infrastructure will be secured by protecting open space, creating new open spaces as part of new development, and by using developer contributions to create and improve Green Infrastructure.

We have produced a Green Infrastructure Strategy for Barnsley which is informed by the Leeds City Region and South Yorkshire Green Infrastructure Strategies."

Policy GS1 discusses Green Space and states that:-

"We will work with partners to improve existing green space to meet the standards in our Green Space Strategy.

Green Spaces are green open areas which are valuable for amenity, recreation, wildlife or biodiversity and include types such as village greens, local open spaces, country parks, formal gardens, cemeteries, allotments, woodlands, recreation grounds, sports pitches and parks.

Proposals that result in the loss of green space, or land that was last used as green space, will not normally be allowed unless:

An assessment shows that there is too much of that particular type of green space in the area which it serves and its loss would not affect the existing and potential green space needs of the borough; or

The proposal is for small scale facilities needed to support or improve

the proper function of the green space; or

An appropriate replacement green space of equivalent or improved quality, quantity and accessibility is provided which would outweigh the loss.

In order to improve the quantity, quality and value of green space provision we will require qualifying new residential developments to provide or contribute towards green space in line with the standards set out in the Green Space Strategy and in accordance with the requirements of the Infrastructure and Planning Obligations Policy. The Supplementary Planning Document 'Open Space Provision on New Housing Developments' offers guidance to developers on what will be expected in terms of open space provision in order to achieve those standards.

Where there is a requirement to provide new green space an assessment will be carried out to determine the most appropriate provision, taking into account site characteristics and constraints. In cases where it is deemed unsuitable to make provision for open space within or adjacent to a development site, suitable off-site open space facilities may be acceptable either as new facilities or improvements to those existing. Where appropriate new green space should secure access to adjacent areas of countryside."

Policy GS2 considers Green Ways and Public Rights of Way and states that:-

"We will protect Green Ways and Public Rights of Way from development that may affect their character or function.

Where development affects an existing Green Way or Public Right of Way it must:

Protect the existing route within the development;

or Include an equally convenient and attractive alternative route.

Where new development is close to a Green Way or Public Right of Way it may be required to:

Provide a link to the existing route; and/or

Improve an existing route; and/or

Contribute to a new route.

In some cases, we will ask developers to make a financial contribution to meet these requirements in accordance with the Infrastructure and Planning Obligations Policy."

Policy BIO1 discusses biodiversity and geodiversity and states that:-

"Development will be expected to conserve and enhance the biodiversity and geological features of the borough by:

Protecting and improving habitats, species, sites of ecological value and sites of geological value with particular regard to designated wildlife and geological sites of international, national and local significance, ancient woodland and species and habitats of principal importance identified via Section 41 of the Natural Environment & Rural Communities Act 2006 (for list of the species and habitats of principal importance) and in the Barnsley Biodiversity Action Plan.

Maximising biodiversity and geodiversity opportunities in and around new developments.

Conserving and enhancing the form, local character and distinctiveness of the boroughs natural assets such as the river corridors of the Don, the Dearne and Dove as natural floodplains and important strategic wildlife corridors.



Proposals will be expected to have followed the national mitigation hierarchy (avoid, mitigate, compensate) which is used to evaluate the impacts of a development on biodiversity interest. Protecting ancient and veteran trees where identified. Encouraging provision of biodiversity enhancements.

Development which may harm a biodiversity or geological feature or habitat, including ancient woodland and aged or veteran trees found outside ancient woodland, will not be permitted unless effective mitigation and/or compensatory measures can be ensured.

Development which adversely effects a European Site will not be permitted unless there is no alternative option and there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI)."

2.0 PLANNING POLICY CONTEXT

KEY

-  Site Boundary
-  1km
-  2km

Heritage

Listed Buildings

-  I
-  II
-  II*
-  Scheduled Ancient Monument

0 200 400 600 800 1,000 m

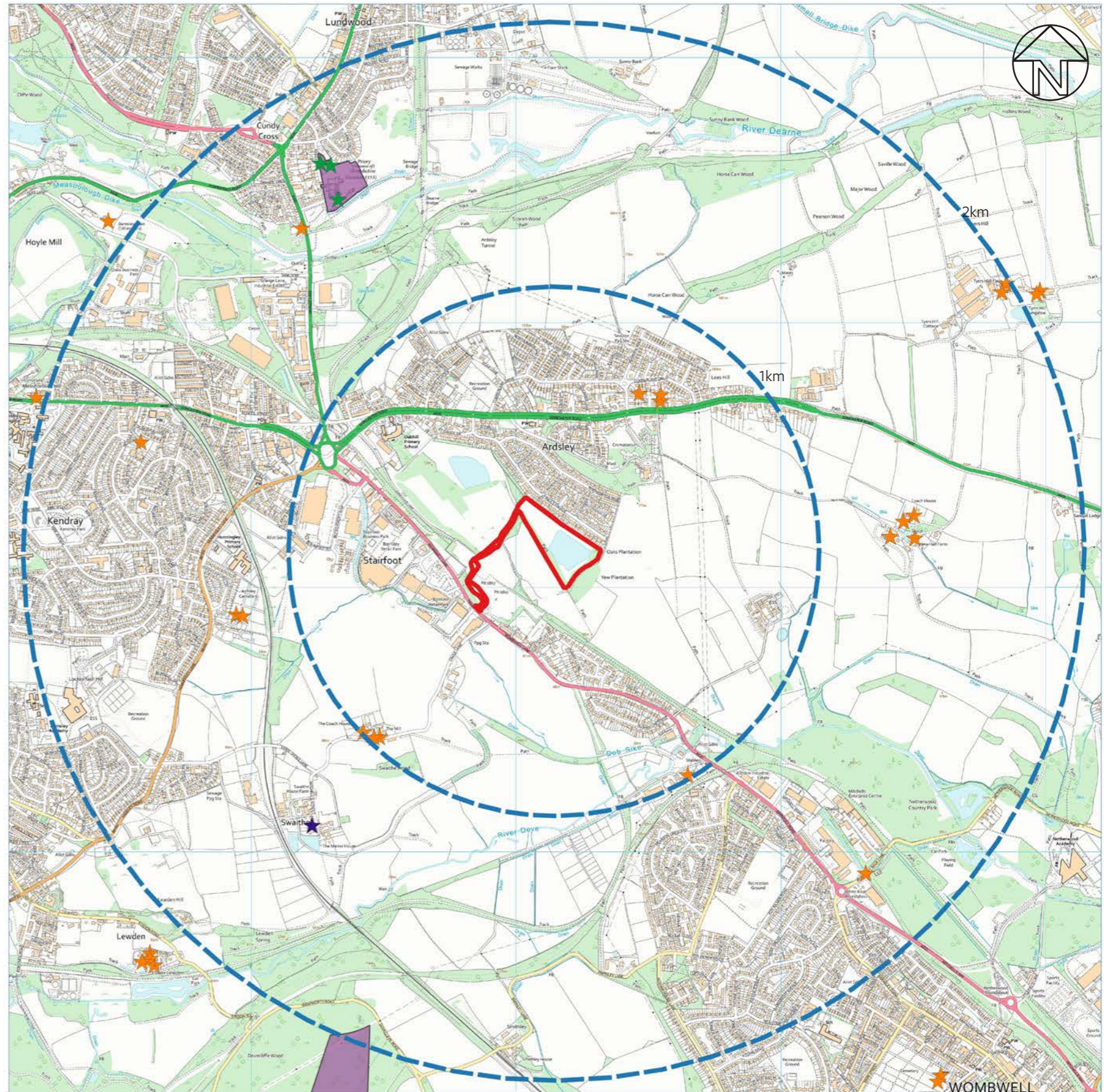


Figure 2.3 - Local Planning Policy - Heritage Assets

2.0 PLANNING POLICY CONTEXT

The Site does not lie within Green Belt designation, however there are areas within the study area which do lie within Green Belt. Policy GB1 considers the protection of Green Belt and states that:-

[...] *“Green Belt will be protected from inappropriate development in accordance with national planning policy.”*

The Site is located adjacent to the Green Belt and is identified as “Urban Fabric” and “Site with Planning Permission for Mineral Extraction” within the adopted Barnsley Local Plan.

3.0 LANDSCAPE BASELINE

Landscape Baseline – Landscape Character

The assessment of landscape character is a method of understanding the particular attributes or factors that have influenced the historic development, current and future features of an area, and what makes that area distinctive from other areas. Natural England describes landscape character assessment as a:

“...systematic way of analysing and describing landscape identifying areas of distinctive character, classifying and mapping them. The process involves identifying the patterns, elements and features that give landscapes homogeneity and make them different from each other.”

Landscape characterisation is a process which has been developed by local authorities to assist them in the planning process. Published studies of landscape character provide a source of information to enable the fuller understanding of landscape character – whether at a regional scale or at a local district scale; it is of course possible to carry through the process of analysis to individual sites or parts of sites. Typically, the published assessments provide character descriptions of specific areas and consider factors likely to influence future character and / or set out prescriptions for change.

There is a range of published assessments at national, regional, and local levels relevant to the Appraisal Site. Each is considered below. That at a national level pre-dated the guidance set out in the ‘Landscape Character Assessment; Guidance for England and Scotland (2002)’ – widely regarded as the definitive guidance on the subject. That said, it is important to recognise that these assessments are purely assessments of landscape character; they are not, and are not intended to be, the development plan, and thus what the documents may say about the potential effects of development in any location cannot of itself be considered determinative as a matter of policy.

National Landscape Character Appraisal

At a National level the Appraisal Site lies within National Character Area (NCA) 38 Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield. The key characteristics pertinent to the study area and Site are described as:

- *“ 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.”*

3.0 LANDSCAPE BASELINE

KEY

 Site Boundary

 1km

 2km

National Character Area

 Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield

0 200 400 600 800 1,000 m

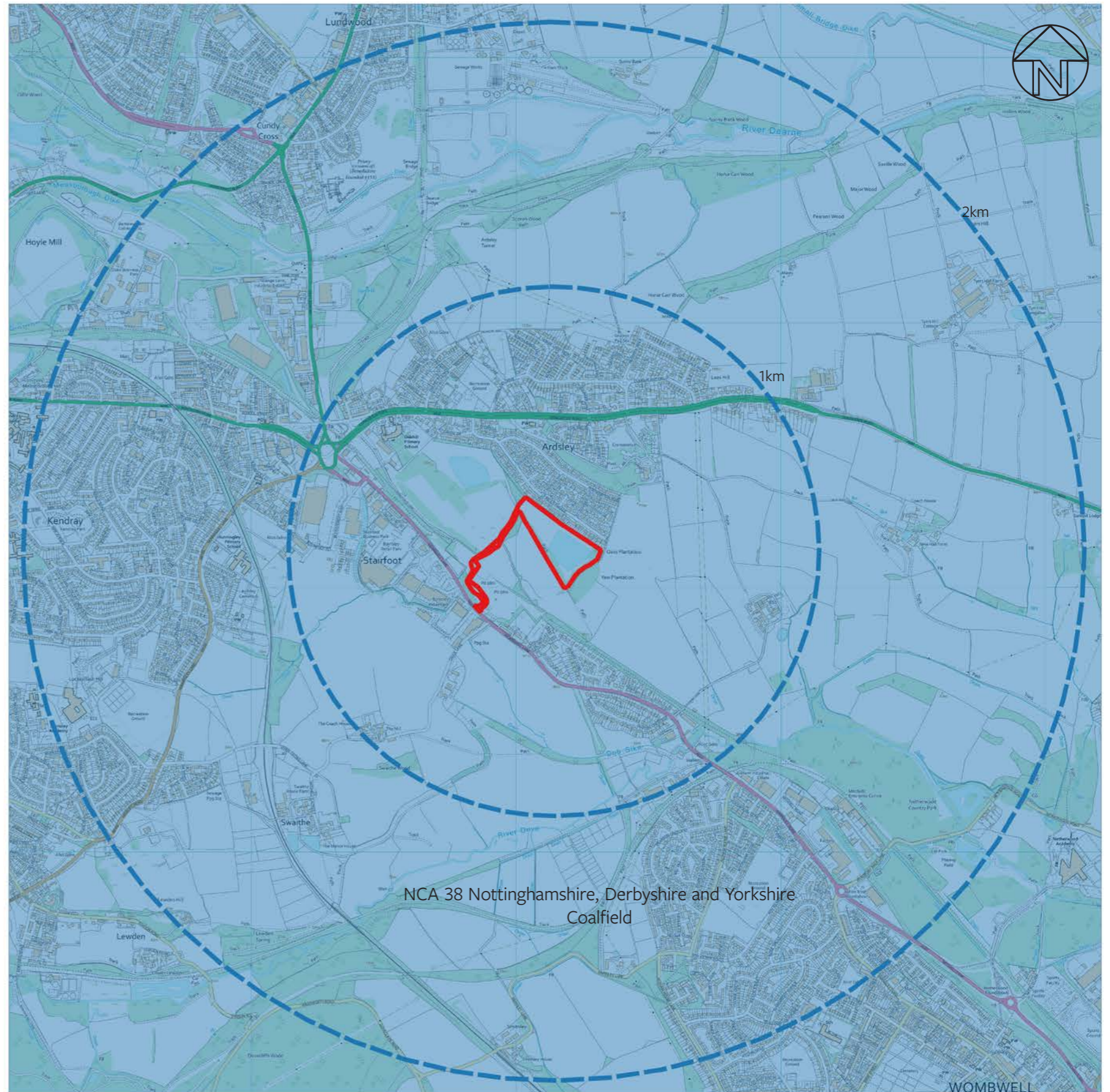


Figure 3.1 - Landscape Character

3.0 LANDSCAPE BASELINE

County / Local Landscape Character Appraisal

At a local level, the Site is located within Landscape Character Type D: Settled Arable Slopes as listed in Barnsley Borough Landscape Character Assessment 2002 and subsequent review in 2016. This Landscape Character Type is then further broken down into Landscape Character Area: D3: West Dearne Settled Arable Slopes Landscape character is said to be moderate with landscape condition poor in this area.

The Settled Arable Slopes Landscape Character Type is described as:-

“The Settled Arable Slopes landscape type is largely characterised by its landform and land use patterns. The landform varies from stronger undulations to areas of gentle, even slopes with the latter particularly evident at lowland elevations close to the adjacent river valleys, and at higher elevations on the broader ridge tops. Land use activity is largely characterised by large scale arable farming and residential settlement. There are significant tracts of relatively intact arable farmland but many areas on the urban-rural interface exhibit signs of landscape decline. Settlements are typically former colliery villages or towns and are predominantly residential although recent light industrial estates are a feature. The settlements indicate the area’s heavy industrial past, further emphasised by the presence of disused spoil heaps, workings, and railway lines found across the landscape. Field boundaries or divisions are inconsistent varying from stonewalls, and short flailed and overgrown hedgerows, to post and rail fencing or none at all. Low tree cover results in a sense of exposure. The dominance of infrastructure and built development, commonly located on ridge or hilltops, but often spreading down valley sides, compound a striking sense of urbanisation across much of the landscape.”

Key Characteristics within the Landscape Character Area: D3: West Dearne Settled Arable Slopes are described as:-

- *“Rolling landform consisting of broad rounded ridge that gently slopes towards the Rivers Dove and Dearne.*
- *Land use mainly agriculture and residential but with some commercial, industrial, communication and landscape renewal.*
- *Tracts of arable farmland with some short term ley and horse grazing.*
- *Degraded hedgerow field boundaries and some post and wire fencing.*
- *Scattered stone farmsteads, some with modern outbuildings.*
- *Untidy areas adjacent to farmsteads with scrap machinery, farm waste and*

horse grazing.

- *Traditional mining settlements within to the character area – Ardsley, Darfield.*
- *Intact farmland up to urban edge in many locations.*
- *Stone walls and infrequently managed hedgerows form boundaries between roads and farmland.*
- *Small infrequent blocks of deciduous trees on valley slopes, but few mature trees on the more exposed higher ground.*
- *Views beyond character area boundaries to settlements, reclaimed tips, working warehouse units and upland part of the Borough. [...]*

Landscape Management Issues and Opportunities

Landscape character area D3 West Dearne Settled Arable Slopes consists mainly of agriculture with associated farmsteads and two large settlements. This former strength of character has been weakened by the presence of incongruous features as discussed previously. Its condition has declined and there are continued forces for negative change.

The overall strategy objective for this landscape character area should be to restore, and enhance the landscape character of the rural environments and the interface with the built environment. Landscape strategy objectives should include:

- *Restore landscape character and habitat diversity by enhancing condition and quality of hedgerows on field boundaries.*
- *Restore and enhance fences on field boundaries, or replace with hedgerows.*
- *Restore and improve roadside boundaries, such as old stone walls and hedges that are currently in poor condition.*
- *Restore and enhance condition of stone farm buildings and tidy land in and around farmsteads.*
- *Protect the open and undeveloped character of the rural landscape by resisting any further encroachment of built development into the intact farmland.”*


Landscape strength of character is said to be moderate with landscape condition poor in this area. Landscape sensitivity to further built development

is judged to be Medium and landscape capacity to the amount of further built development that can be accommodated is considered as Low.

3.0 LANDSCAPE BASELINE



KEY

 Approximate Site Location

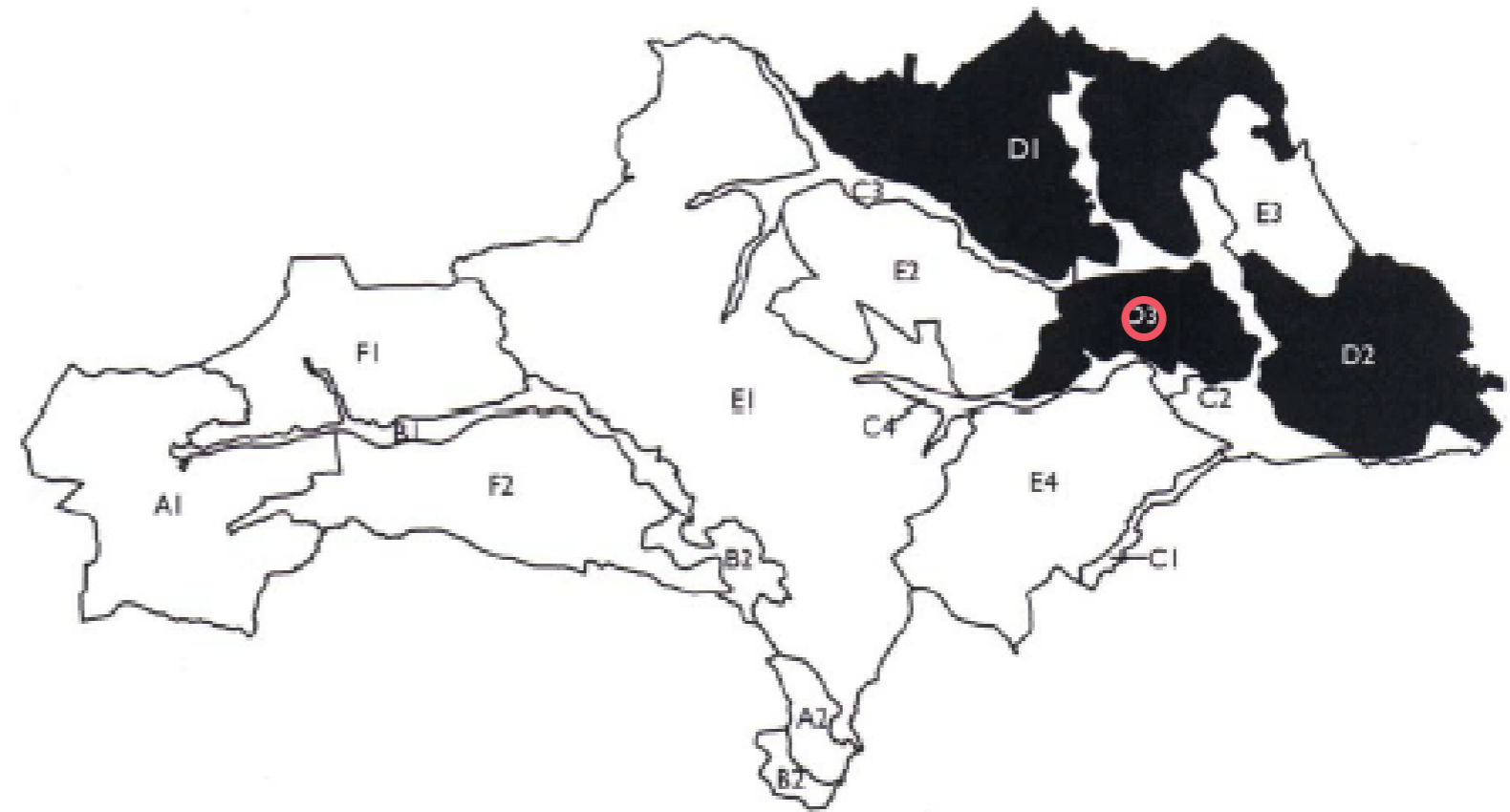





Figure 3.2 - Local Landscape Character - Image taken from Barnsley Borough Landscape Character Assessment : Edit 2002. D3 : West Dearne Settled Arable Slopes

3.0 LANDSCAPE BASELINE

KEY

-  Site Boundary
-  1km
-  2km
- Public Right of Way**
-  Footpath
-  Bridleway
-  National Cycle Network Trans Pennine Trail
-  CRoW Access Land

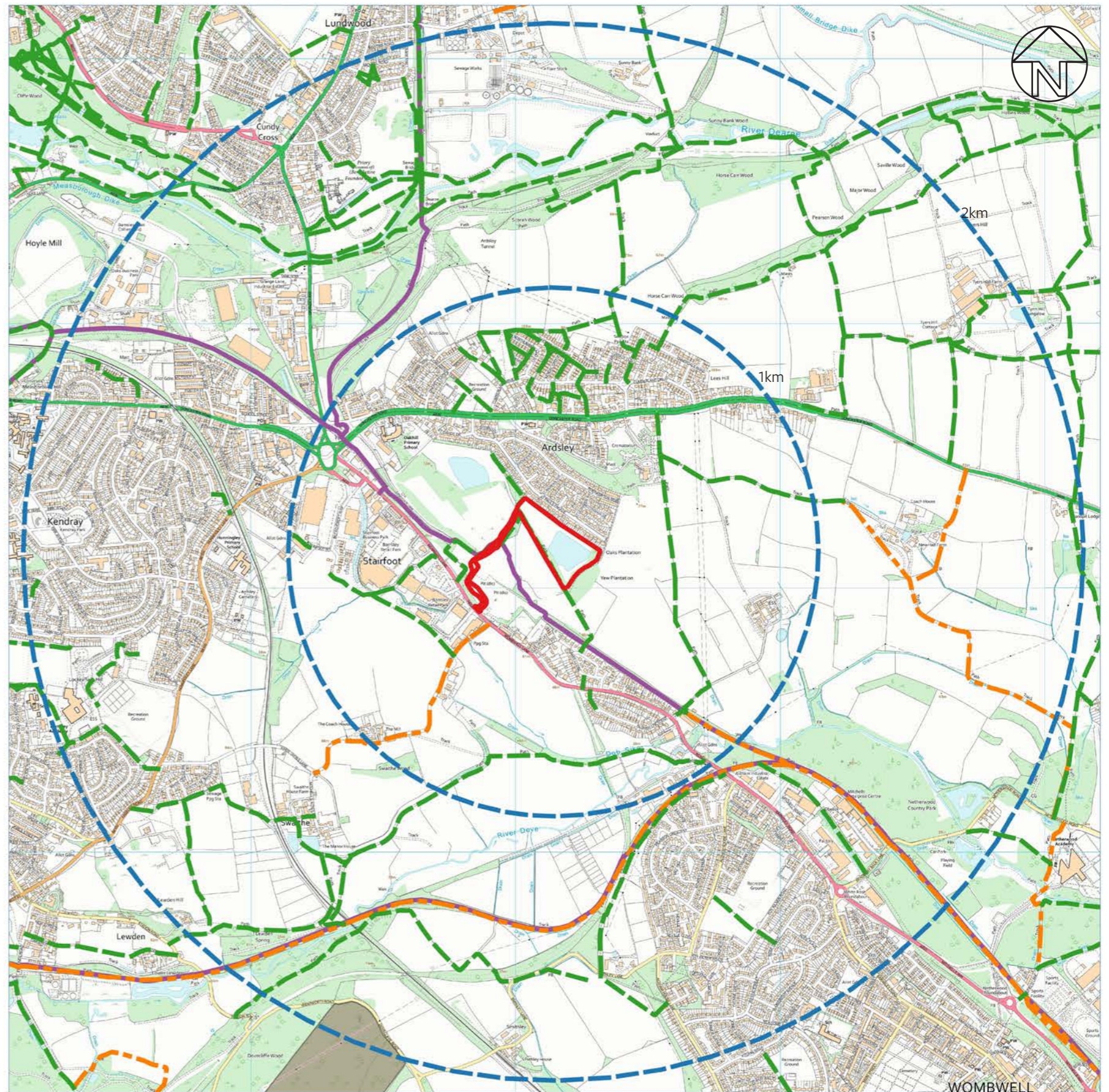




Figure 3.2 - Public Rights of Way












3.0 LANDSCAPE BASELINE

KEY

-  Site Boundary
-  1km
-  2km

Topographical

-  Watercourses

- 10m
-  20
 -  30
 -  40
 -  50
 -  60
 -  70
 -  80
 -  90
 -  100
 -  110
 -  120

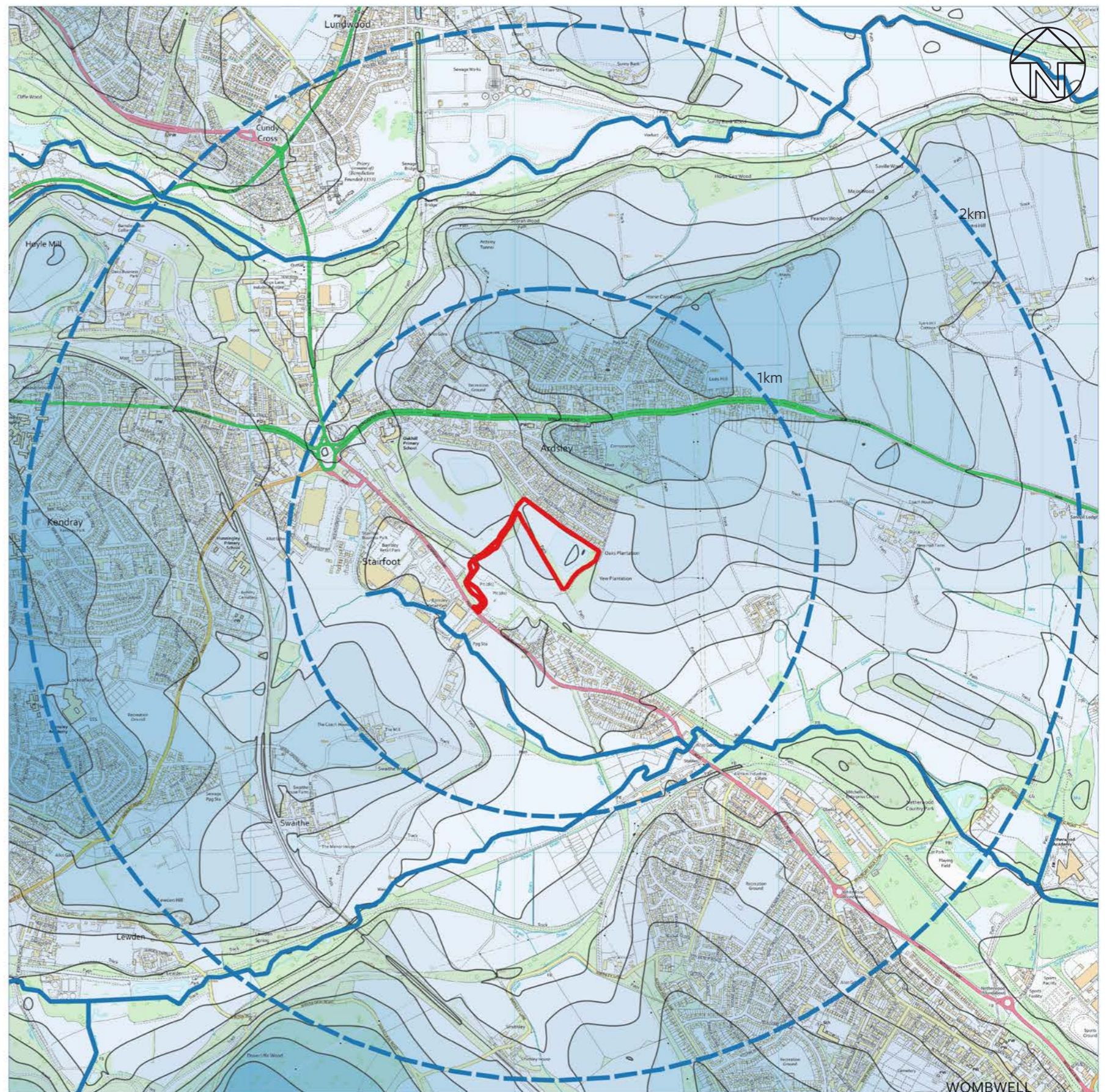


Figure 3.3 - Landform

3.0 LANDSCAPE BASELINE

Characteristics of the Appraisal Site

Land Use

The Site is part of a wider former quarry, located within a peri-urban area of Ardsley, Barnsley. In addition to the quarried area, the Site features dense areas of woodland; large areas of open grassland; a large body of water; and a network of public footpaths. The Site is bounded by residential properties to the north; agricultural land to the east; and a blend of residential and commercial properties to the west and south.

Topography

The Appraisal Site lies at approximately 62.00 AOD to the north of the existing quarry parcel 47.55 AOD in the south adjacent to the near vicinity of the proposed access road. The Site is located on the south east facing slope of a minor ridge line which rises to the north of the Site.

Vegetation

A tree survey of the Site has been carried out in accordance with BS 5837:2012 'Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction' by Urban Green in June 2024.

There are currently two TPO's currently in effect to the north east of the Site, eternal to the operational Site boundary Woodland TPO Reference Number 7, Tree Reference Number W1; and Individual Tree TPO Reference Number 7, Tree Reference Number T1.

There are two individual trees, eleven tree groups, four hedgerows, and seven woodlands present on Site. Of these there were:-

- One category 'A' Woodland
- One individual tree, six tree groups, one hedgerow and five woodlands were assessed as Category 'B'
- One individual tree, five tree groups, three hedgerows and one woodland were assessed as Category 'C'.

All the surveyed trees, tree groups, hedgerows and woodlands are within the site ownership boundary; however, only G6 and portions of W15 and G16 are

within the provided development boundary.

The tree cover comprises a mixture of planted and self- set woodland, with a broad range of predominantly native or naturalised species present. Species include:-

Hawthorn, Hazel, Field Maple, Goat Willow, Silver Birch, Pedunculate Oak, Elder, Rowan, Ash, Willow sp., Rose sp., Common Alder, Italian Alder, Buckthorn, Dogwood, Aspen, Sycamore, Rowan, Whitebeam, Beech.

The trees within the Appraisal Site form a strong landscape structure, with those along the Site boundaries reinforcing screening and therefore views into the Site.

Water Features

There is standing water present within the existing quarry parcel to the north of the Site. There are no further water features within the boundaries of the Site.

Built Elements

There are no existing buildings within the Site itself. Boundary fencing exists in the form of post and wire / barbed wire fencing, and metal vehicular gates. A large area of concrete hardstanding exists where the proposed route of the access road is present.

Public Rights of Way

Footpath BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|323#2 exists to the north west portion of the Site. Footpath BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|324#1 traverses the southern boundary of the northern parcel diagonally from north west to south east, adjoining the National Cycle Network to the south. Footpath BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|323#1 flanks the proposed route of the access road to the east, then travels south and west to Wombwell Lane. The Trans Pennine Trail / Green Way is present to the south of the Site running west to east.

Heritage

There are no Heritage Assets within the Appraisal Site. The closest to the Site is Grade II Listed Ardsley Manor House and Ardsley Manor Cottage approximately 600m to the north east of the Site. Further Heritage Assets include:-

- Grade II Listed Number 726 and attached former barn at Ardsley (approximately 580m);
- Grade II Listed Cartshed to the north of Ardsley Manor House, and (approximately 620m);
- Grade II Listed Swaithe Hall Farmhouse, Rosebower Cottage and Swaithe Hall (approximately 640m);
- Grade II Listed Cruck Barn at East Side of Entrance to Swaithe Hall Farm, and (approximately 620m);
- Grade II Listed Stable Block At West Side Of Entrance To Swaithe Hall Farm (approximately 625m).

Scheduled Ancient Monument Monk Bretton Priory Cluniac and Benedictine Monastery exists approximately 1300m to the north west of the Site, and Romano-British settlements in Wombwell Wood 1630m to the south west of the Site.

Ecology

There are no statutory ecological designations within the Appraisal Site. SSSI Stairfoot Brickworks exists approximately 115m to the south of the Appraisal Site. There is a group of Ancient Woodlands approximately 1015m to the north of the Site. Dearne Valley Park Local Nature reserve exists 1800m to the north west of the Site.

Landscape Designations

There are no landscape designations within or in close proximity to the Site.

Landscape Baseline – Landscape Resource

Landscape character areas differ in their range of Landscape features and the patterns these create, and consequently in their ability to accommodate different types of development. Some areas may be particularly sensitive and others more resilient. The Appraisal Site is considered to be in Poor Condition. This condition is reached on the basis that there is a weak landscape structure, characteristic patterns of landform and landcover masked by landuse with a lack of management and intervention that has resulted in degradation.

Landscape Baseline – Landscape Receptors

From the above analysis of the Landscape Baseline, it is concluded that the Landscape Receptors relevant to the assessment site that need to be assessed in

3.0 LANDSCAPE BASELINE

the following section on Landscape Effects are:

- Landscape Character Areas both on Site and within the study area;
- Vegetation and landscape features within the Site and along its boundaries;
- Landform;
- Public Rights of Way within the Site and its vicinity.

3.0 LANDSCAPE BASELINE

KEY

- Site Boundary
- Planning Policy**
- School Grounds
- Greenspace Site
- Green Belt
- Heritage**
- Listed Buildings
- ★ II
- Ecological**
- SSSI
- Public Right of Way**
- Footpath
- Bridleway
- National Cycle Network Trans Pennine Trail

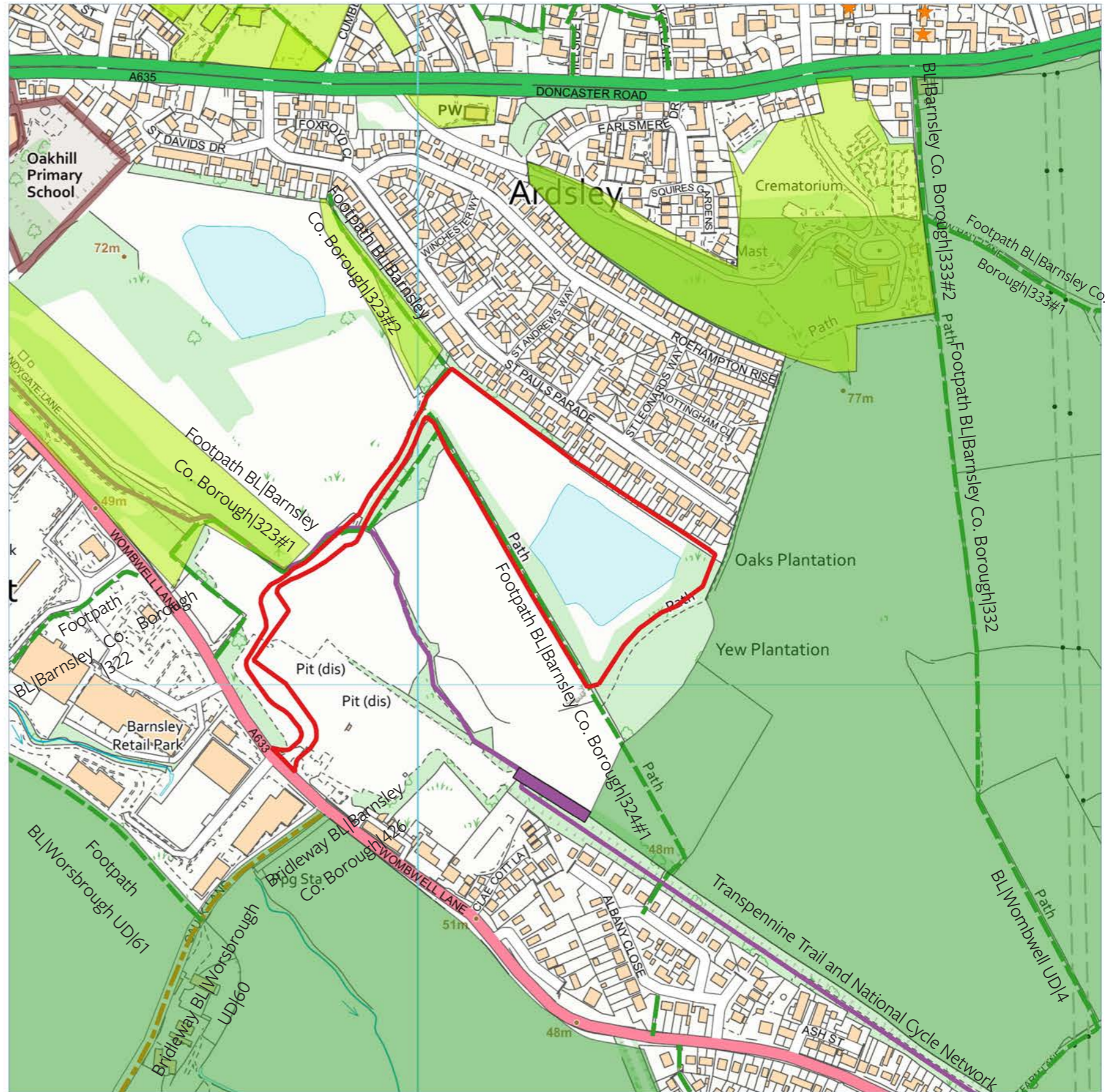







Figure 3.4 - Designations - Site Level

3.0 LANDSCAPE BASELINE

A visual inspection of the Appraisal Site was conducted on the 23rd January 2025.

- KEY**
-  Site Boundary
 -  1km
 -  2km
 -  Internal Viewpoints

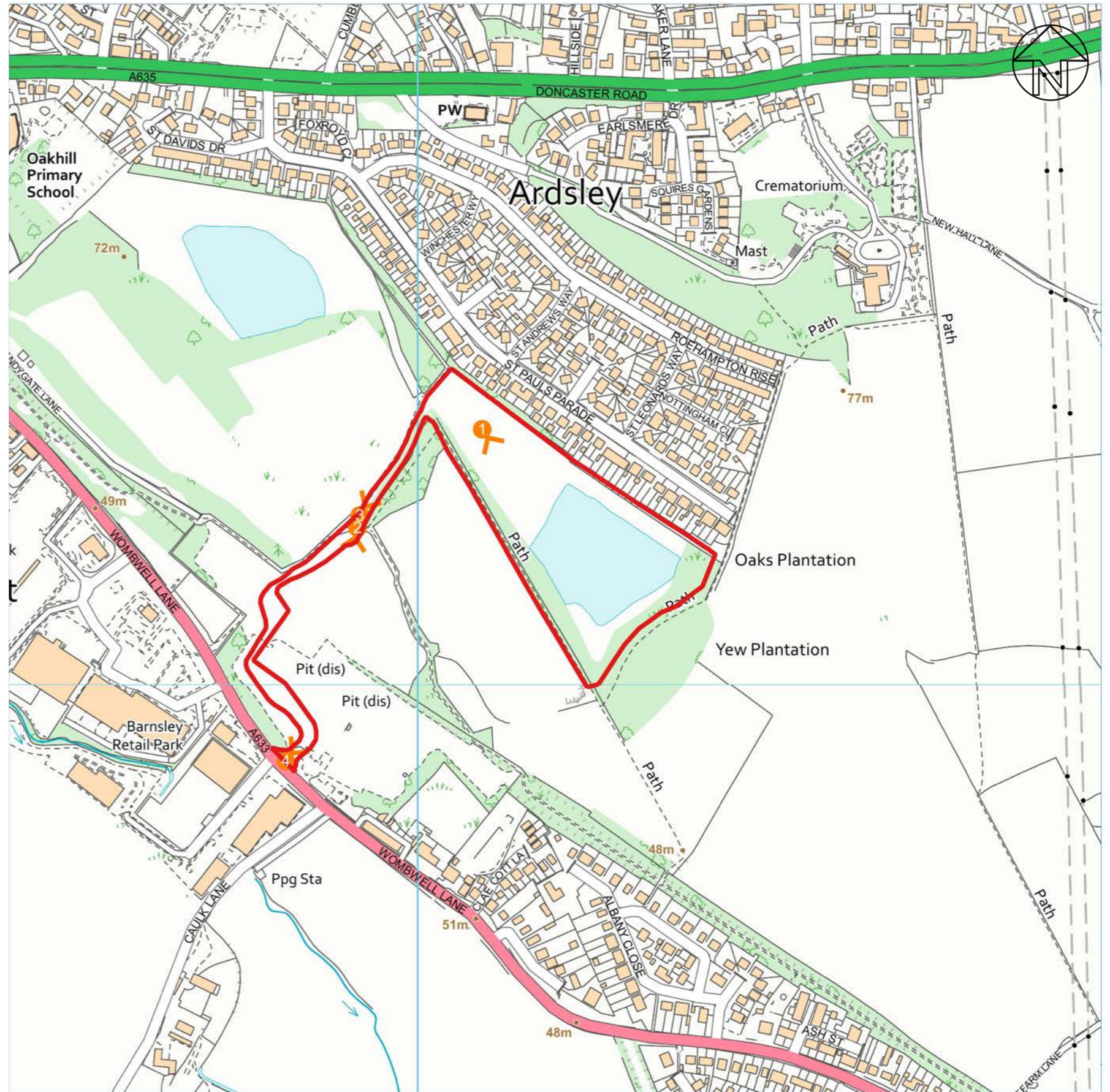


Figure 3.5 - Internal Site Context Photographs

3.0 LANDSCAPE BASELINE

Existing quarry infill and standing water



Internal Site Context Viewpoint 1 - View looking south east internally within the Appraisal Site across the northern portion of the Site. Views of the existing quarry parcel can be seen centrally within the view, with standing water present in the distant views. Existing trees line the boundary of the Site. Views out of the Site to the left and right are truncated.



Internal Site Context Viewpoint 2 - View looking south internally within the Appraisal Site. Existing mounding is present in the foreground view. Views of the proposed route of the access road are present centrally within this view. Views out are truncated due to the existing mounding and existing vegetation.

3.0 LANDSCAPE BASELINE

Footpath BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|323#1



Internal Site Context Viewpoint 3 - View looking north west internally within the Appraisal Site. Views of the proposed route of the access road can be centrally within the view, flanked by existing vegetation. Views of the existing quarry parcel cannot be seen from this point. Views out are truncated due to the existing mature vegetation.

Existing concrete hardstanding and Site entrance



Internal Site Context Viewpoint 4 - View looking east internally within the Appraisal Site. Views of the proposed route of the access road / entrance point can be seen amongst the existing concrete surfacing within the Site. Existing mature trees can be seen lining Wombwell Lane outside of the Site to the left of the view. Views of the existing quarry parcel cannot be seen from this point due to the intervening mature vegetation.

4.0 VISUAL BASELINE

This LVA considers a study area of 2 km radius from the Site boundary, in order to establish the spatial parameters of the Site and identify the potential landscape and visual effects of the proposed development. It is considered that views from receptors beyond 2 km will be at such distances that the proposals would form only a very minor proportion of the wider view and are barely perceptible to the casual observer.

A field survey was undertaken in January 2025 which identified a range of views offering a wide coverage of the Site from a number of representative viewing locations, ranging from within the Appraisal Site and its immediate proximity, to longer distance views. A summary of key visual receptors is provided below, and a selection of representative viewpoints is presented at Table 4.1.

Residents of Dwellings

There are partial views from dwellings to the north of the Site including views from sections of St Paul's Parade and Roehampton Rise, (refer to Viewpoints 6 and 7) where anticipated views of the Appraisal Site may be viewed from the upper portions of dwellings. Views to the Site however are considered to be partially screened by existing vegetation lining the Site's northern boundary and within the rear gardens of dwellings on St Paul's Parade. There are also anticipated partial oblique views for residents of dwellings to the Appraisal Site from St Leonard's Way and St Andrew's Way.

There are also anticipated partial glimpsed, distant views from the upper portions of dwellings for residents from The Mill (refer to Viewpoint 12) to the route of the proposed access road within the Site. There are also anticipated partial glimpsed views of the Appraisal Site from the southern section of upper portions of dwellings from Nottingham Close, seen through existing built form, to portions of existing vegetation within the Site. The existing quarry parcel cannot be viewed for residents of dwellings from the above locations.

Further views to the Site are wholly truncated for residents of dwellings within the study area due to the intervening, mature vegetation, landform or built form or are seen at a distance where the Site is not readily discernible.

Road Users

There are open and partial views of the Site from the south from the junction of Wombwell Lane, to the route of the proposed access track.

There are partial views from the north from sections of St Paul's Parade and Roehampton Rise, (refer to Viewpoints 6 and 7). Views to the Site are transient, and include upper portions of existing vegetation within the Site. Views are seen

through gaps in existing built form. There are also anticipated partial views for road users from St Leonard's Way and St Andrew's Way, including the upper portions of existing vegetation within the Site.

The existing quarry parcel cannot be viewed for road users from the above locations.

Further views to the Site are wholly truncated for road users within the study area due to the intervening, mature vegetation, landform or built form or are seen at a distance where the Site is not readily discernible.

Public Rights of Way

There are open and partial views from portions of Bridleway BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|426 (refer to Viewpoint 1) and Footpath BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|323#2 (refer to Viewpoint 5) within the close proximity to the Site.

Viewpoint 1 includes views to the route of the proposed access track. Viewpoint 5 adjacent Footpath 323#2 is in close proximity to the Site and views include the quarry site itself and surrounding existing mature vegetation. There are also open and partial views from portions of Footpath 323#1, where the Footpath is in close proximity to the route of the proposed access road. Further views are truncated due to the presence of mature existing vegetation.

There are partial views of the Appraisal Site from Footpath (refer to Viewpoint 9) BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|324#1, in close proximity to the Site including the existing boundary vegetation which lines the Site. Viewpoint 12 offers partial glimpsed views from portions of Bridleway BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|426, where the route of the proposed access road within the Site as well as existing mature vegetation within the Site can be seen.

The existing quarry parcel can be viewed only in close proximity to the Site, (refer to Viewpoint 5) from Footpath BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|323#2, and through gaps in dense vegetation from BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|324#1 running east to west to the south of the existing quarry parcel.

Further views towards and over the Site from Public Rights of Way within the study area are anticipated to be truncated by the existing mature vegetation and built form surrounding the Site, and are anticipated to be less than significant.

Heritage Assets





There are not anticipated to be any views to the Site for visitors to the assets within the study area due primarily to the intervening mature vegetation, landform and built form.

Employees at their place of work

There is the potential for open and partial views for Employees from portions of Barnsley Retail Park to the south of the Appraisal Site, where views of the route of the proposed access road and existing vegetation in the Site is visible.

Further views to the Site are wholly truncated for Employees within the study area due to the intervening, mature vegetation, landform or built form or are seen at a distance where the Site is not readily discernible.

4.0 VISUAL BASELINE

- KEY**
-  Site Boundary
 -  1km
 -  2km
 -  Viewpoints

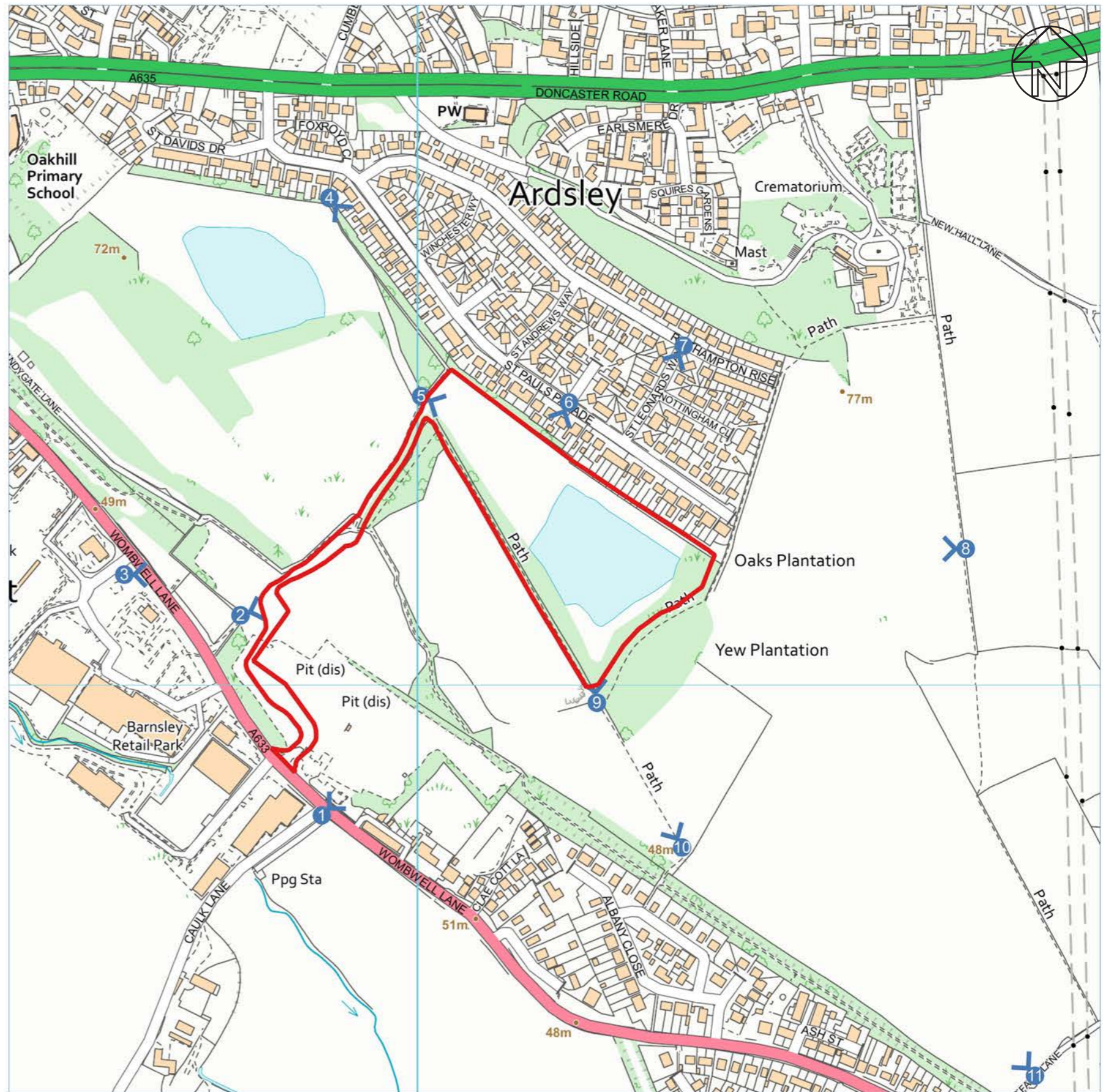






Figure 4.1 - Viewpoints - Close Range

4.0 VISUAL BASELINE

- KEY**
-  Site Boundary
 -  1km
 -  2km
 -  Viewpoints

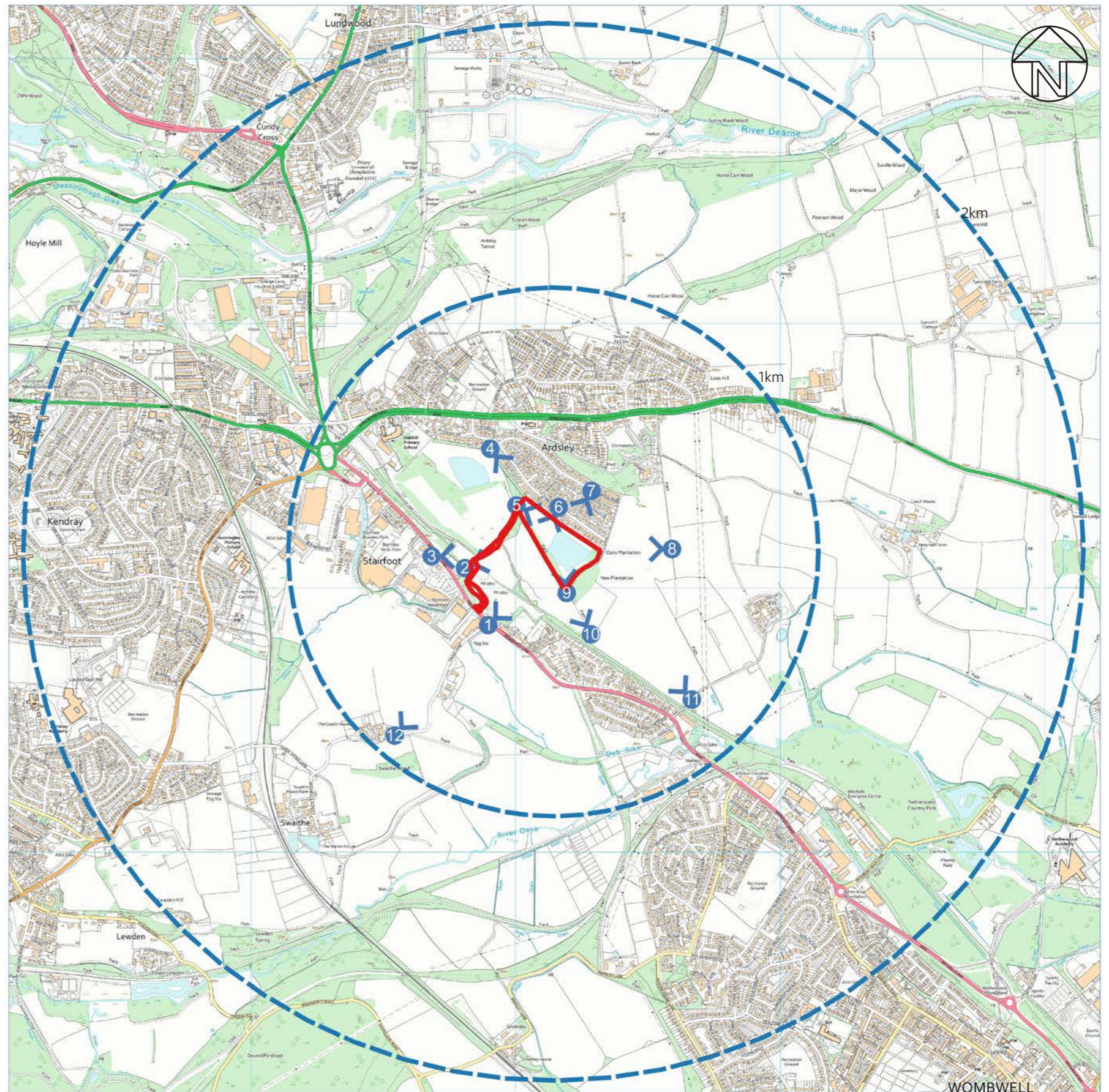


Figure 4.2 - Viewpoints

4.0 VISUAL BASELINE

KEY

-  Site Boundary
-  1km
-  2km
-  ZTV

Note: Data used was from the DEFRA LiDAR Survey and was a Digital Surface Model at 1m dated 2022. © Environment Agency copyright and/or database right 2022. All rights reserved.

0 200 400 600 800 1,000 m

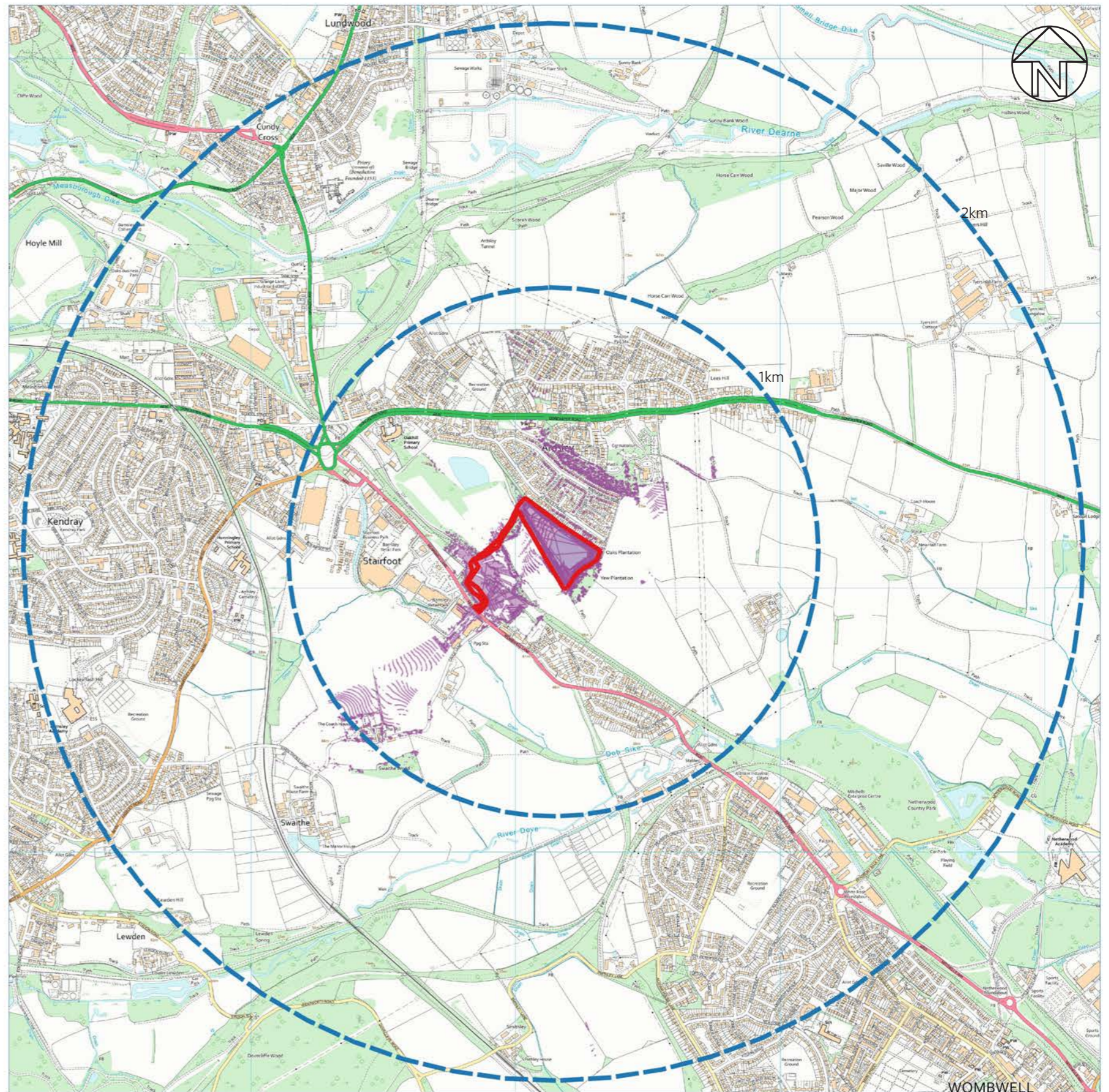


Figure 4.3 - Zone of Theoretical Visibility

4.0 VISUAL BASELINE

Table 4.1 - Visual Receptors					
Viewpoint No.	Location	Viewing Direction	Distance to Site	Visual Receptor(s)	Visibility of Site
1	Junction of Bridleway BL Barnsley Co. Borough 426 and Wombwell Lane	North east	~60m	Bridleway users, Road users, Employees at their place of work	Open and partial views
2	Footpath BL Barnsley Co. Borough 323#1	East	~25m	Footpath users	Views are truncated
3	Junction of Footpath BL Barnsley Co. Borough 322 and Wombwell Lane	East	~140m	Footpath users, road users, Employees at their place of work	Views are truncated
4	Footpath BL Barnsley Co. Borough 323#2	South east	~230m	Footpath users, residents of dwellings	Views are truncated
5	Footpath BL Barnsley Co. Borough 323#2	East	~10m	Footpath users	Open and partial views
6	St Paul's Parade	South	~50m	Road users, residents of dwellings	Partial views
7	Roehampton Rise	South	~180m	Road users, residents of dwellings	Partial views
8	Footpath BL Barnsley Co. Borough 332	West	~260m	Footpath users	Partial glimpsed views
9	Footpath BL Barnsley Co. Borough 324#1	North	~15m	Footpath users	Partial views
10	Footpath BL Barnsley Co. Borough 324#1	North west	~200m	Footpath users	Views are truncated
11	Footpath BL Wombwell UD 4	West	~640m	Footpath users	Views are truncated
12	Bridleway BL Worsbrough UD 60/ The Mill	North east	~565m	Bridleway users, residents of dwellings	Partial glimpsed views

4.0 VISUAL BASELINE



Viewpoint 1 - View looking north east towards the Appraisal Site from the junction of Bridleway BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|426 and Wombwell Lane. There are open and partial views of the Appraisal Site from this location, including the proposed access track.



Viewpoint 2 - View looking east towards the Appraisal Site from Footpath BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|323#1. Views of the Appraisal Site are truncated from this location due to the existing vegetation.

4.0 VISUAL BASELINE



Viewpoint 3 - View looking east towards the Appraisal Site from the junction of Footpath BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|322 and Wombwell Lane. Views of the Appraisal Site are truncated from this location due to the existing mature vegetation.



Viewpoint 4 - View looking south east towards the Appraisal Site from Footpath BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|323#2. Views of the Appraisal Site are truncated from this location due to the existing mature vegetation.

4.0 VISUAL BASELINE

Approximate extent of Appraisal Site

Footpath BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|323#2



Viewpoint 5 - View looking east towards the Appraisal Site from Footpath BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|323#2. There are open and partial views of the Appraisal Site including existing vegetation within the Site, and Footpath BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|323#2 to the right of the view.

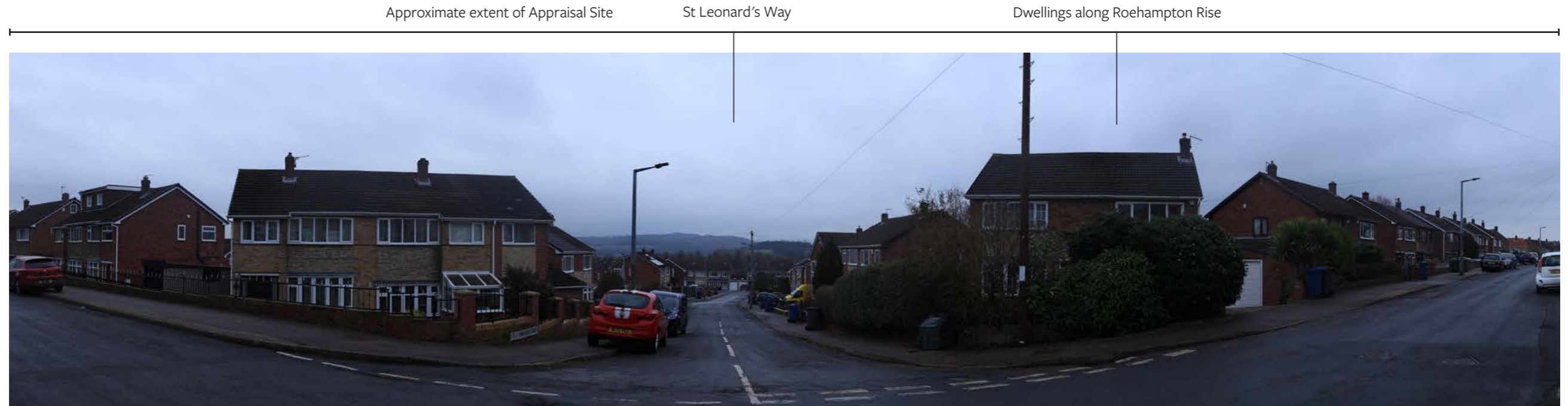
Approximate extent of Appraisal Site

Dwellings along St Paul's Drive



Viewpoint 6 - View looking south towards the Appraisal Site from St Paul's Parade. There are partial views of the Appraisal Site including existing vegetation through gaps in existing built form along St Paul's Drive.

4.0 VISUAL BASELINE



Viewpoint 7 - View looking south towards the Appraisal Site from Roehampton Rise. There are partial views of the Appraisal Site from this location including distant views of existing mature vegetation within the Site seen in the context of the existing built form.



Viewpoint 8 - View looking west towards the Appraisal Site from Footpath BL[Barnsley Co. Borough]332. There are partial glimpsed views of the Appraisal Site from this location, including the existing mature vegetation within the Site.

4.0 VISUAL BASELINE



Viewpoint 9 - View looking north towards the Appraisal Site from Footpath BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|324#1. There are partial views of the existing boundary vegetation which lines the Site flanking Footpath BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|324#1.



Viewpoint 10 - View looking north west towards the Appraisal Site from Footpath BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|324#. Views of the Appraisal Site are truncated from this location due to the existing mature vegetation.

4.0 VISUAL BASELINE

Approximate location of Appraisal Site



Viewpoint 11 - View looking west towards the Appraisal Site from Footpath BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|324#1. Views of the Appraisal Site are truncated from this location due to the existing mature vegetation and landform.

Approximate location of Appraisal Site



Viewpoint 12 - View looking north east from Bridleway BL|Worsbrough UD|60. There are partial glimpsed views of the Appraisal Site including the route of the proposed access road within the Site as well as existing mature vegetation within the Site.

5.0 LANDSCAPE STRATEGY



The physical assessment of the Site, subsequent review of its constraints and opportunities and the requirements identified in the NPPF, local planning policies and the local landscape management guidance for the area has led to the development of the landscape proposals. The plan is landscape led, has evolved in conjunction with Green Earth Developments and the consultant team and includes the following key landscape elements:

- The proposals comprise the restoration of Yew Tree Quarry through the infill of non-hazardous excavated soil materials with the proposed landform within the infill quarry area to be the least visually intrusive to adjacent receptors, with levels raised from approximately 49.00 AOD to the highest point at 66.00;
- To provide a landscape context for the proposed development that is consistent, in scale with, and reinforces the landscape character of the locality and of the surrounding landscape context as set out within the local landscape management guidance;
- The retention of existing vegetation adjacent the boundaries of the Appraisal Site;
- New native woodland and scrub of appropriate species characteristic of the local landscape to provide screening to the main infill areas of the quarry to the west and east to strengthen the existing mature vegetation to the boundaries of the proposals;
- New native hedgerow lining existing footpaths to the south of the infill quarry area and to the northern boundary;
- The sowing of neutral grassland to the main infill area of existing quarry.

5.0 LANDSCAPE STRATEGY



Figure 5.1 - Landscape Masterplan

6.0 APPRAISAL OF LANDSCAPE & VISUAL EFFECTS

Landscape Effects

The following paragraphs summarise the anticipated landscape effects as in respect of each main landscape receptor. The criteria for the determination of sensitivity and magnitude of landscape effects is set out in the methodology at Appendix 1.

Landscape Character

At a national level, the anticipated landscape effects of the future development of the Site are anticipated to be Negligible and entail a Negligible change to the existing landscape as the effects are limited to a very small part of NCA 38 Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield, in an area already subject to a number of urbanising influences including existing residential development to the north and commercial development and former Yorkshire Brickworks to the south.

West Dearne Settled Arable Slopes Landscape Character Area's landscape strength of character is said to be moderate with landscape condition poor in this area. Landscape sensitivity to further built development is judged to be Medium and landscape capacity to the amount of further built development that can be accommodated is considered to be Low. There are a number of existing detracting and urbanising features within and in the vicinity of the Site including the former Yorkshire Brickworks land. The landscape character in the local area is described as Moderate and in poor condition. The magnitude of effect on this area is considered to be Small due to the change from a former quarry to the infilling and landscaping of the area, the removal of the standing water within the area, the minor loss of existing mature vegetation, the provision of a new landscape structure and the limited intervisibility of the Site within the wider area resulting in an overall Minor Adverse significance of effect on this LCA.

The development of the Site would maintain much of the existing green infrastructure within and adjacent to the Site boundaries where possible. A limited amount of mature vegetation would be required to be removed to facilitate the areas of infill within the quarry area. Site levels would be raised across the infilled area of the Site but would be a maximum of approximately 66.00 AOD and would tie into the existing landform adjacent to the Site boundaries. New proposals would include new native woodland to the north west and north east of the existing quarry infill. There would be neutral grassland proposed to the raised/ filled area within the quarry, again with proposed native woodland and scrub to the eastern corners / eastern boundary of the infilled area.

At the Site level, the Site is considered to be of Ordinary value, Low susceptibility and therefore Low sensitivity. The magnitude of effect on the Site is considered to be Small, due to the removal of the existing quarry area the minor loss of existing mature vegetation and the provision of extensive new native planting within the Site resulting in an overall Negligible significance of effect.

Landscape Features and Vegetation

The Site boundaries and the immediate areas surrounding the Site have significant areas of Green Infrastructure consisting of individual trees, tree groups and mature hedgerows. The proposed development necessitates the removal of a section of one Moderate quality woodland (W15) and a section of one tree group (G16) within the Site boundary. The sensitivity of the Appraisal Site to change is considered to be Medium. The infill proposals would require the removal of a limited number of sections of woodland and tree groups within the Site boundary. Considering the scale of the extent of removal required for the development, and the extensive proposed native tree and shrub planting within the Site, the anticipated magnitude of effects on this resource are considered to be Small, resulting in an overall Minor Adverse significance of effect in terms of vegetation on completion of the proposed landscape scheme.

Landform

Levels would be raised across the infilled area of the Site but would be a maximum of approximately 66.00 AOD within the infilled area, and will tie into the existing landform adjacent to the Site boundaries. Considering the scale and extent of the change in level to the proposed infilled area of the Site and associated surrounding landscaping works, the anticipated magnitude of effects on the resource are considered to be Medium - Small, resulting in an overall Moderate - Minor Adverse significance of effect in terms of landform on completion of the proposed landscape scheme.

Heritage Assets

The existing Listed Buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monument within the study area are physically and visually separated from the Appraisal Site due to a combination of distance, landform, intervening built form and mature vegetation and would not be affected by any future development proposals.

Water Courses / Bodies

There is standing water present within the existing quarry parcel to the north of the Site. This is of limited value and is in poor condition. There are no further water features within the boundaries of the Site. The anticipated magnitude of effects on this resource are considered to be small, resulting in an overall Negligible Beneficial significance of effect on completion of the proposed landscape scheme. Following the implementation of the landscape scheme, natural grassland is proposed surrounded by native species hedgerow and woodland, therefore supporting and improving the local biodiversity and green infrastructure in the local vicinity.

Public Rights of Way

During construction, the routes of Footpaths 323#2, 324#1 and 323#1 and a short section of the Trans Pennine Trail would require temporary diversions and views into the Site are anticipated to be limited. Once completed the Site would be landscaped with the routes positively integrated into the proposals. The Footpaths are considered to be of High overall sensitivity in landscape terms.

The anticipated magnitude of effect on this resource is considered to be Small, with High sensitivity, resulting in a Moderate Adverse significance of effect on Public Rights of Way.

Overall Conclusions on Landscape Effects

In overall terms the proposed development of the Appraisal Site is anticipated to give rise to some Negligible effects to the existing landscape character at a national level, Minor Adverse and Negligible effects at the local and Site level, and Minor Adverse effects on landscape features and vegetation at the Site level, and Moderate - Minor Adverse effects on landform within the Site. There is a Negligible Beneficial significance of effect on water courses / bodies within the Site, and a Moderate Adverse significance of effect on Public Rights of Way.

There are not anticipated to be any further landscape effects on receptors in the study area. It is therefore considered that the development of the Site would not constitute an overall significant or unacceptable environmental effect.

7.0 APPRAISAL OF LANDSCAPE & VISUAL EFFECTS

Visual Effects

The following paragraphs summarise the visual effects in respect of each identified category of visual receptor. The criteria for the determination of sensitivity and magnitude of visual effects are set out in the methodology at Appendix 1.

Residents of Dwellings

Anticipated views towards the Appraisal Site from residential properties within the study area are limited to those dwellings in close proximity to the northern boundaries where there are the potential for partial views including sections of St Paul's Parade and Roehampton Rise where anticipated views of the Appraisal Site may be viewed from the upper portions of dwellings. Views to the Site are considered to be partly screened by existing vegetation lining the Site's northern boundary and within the rear gardens of dwellings on St Paul's Parade. There are also anticipated partial oblique views for residents of dwellings to the Appraisal Site from St Leonard's Way and St Andrew's Way and southern sections of upper portions from Nottingham Close. Potential views are seen through existing built form to existing vegetation within the Site. There is the potential for further anticipated distant partial glimpsed views of the Site for residents of dwellings from the south at The Mill, where the route of the proposed access road will be discernible. This view however is seen in the context of the existing detracting landscape of the former Yorkshire Brick Works. Levels will be raised across the infilled area of the Site but would be a maximum of approximately 66.00 AOD within the infilled area, and would tie into the existing landform adjacent to the Site boundaries.

Residential receptors are considered to be of High sensitivity and the magnitude of effects of the potential development of the Site on this visual receptor are considered to range from Negligible to None for the above mentioned dwellings, (excluding St Paul's Parade), leading to an overall Minor Adverse to Negligible significance of effect on residents largely in close proximity to the Site, depending upon their distance and orientation to the Site. For residents of dwellings on St Paul's Parade, the potential development of the Site on this receptor are considered to be of Small magnitude, leading to overall Moderate - Minor Adverse significance of effect.

The anticipated overall significance of effect on further residents of dwellings within the study area is Neutral.

Users of Public Rights of Way

There are potential open and partial and partial views to the Site for users of

Public Rights of Way from Bridleway BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|426 (refer to Viewpoint 1) including the proposed access road to the west, however views to the infilled quarry parcel would be truncated due to intervening mature vegetation. Open and partial views to the infilled quarry area of the Site are also available from Footpath BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|323#2 to the west of the Site (refer to Viewpoint 5), due to proximity to the Site for users. Parts of the access road may be also available from this location. Partial views to the Site would be available from Footpath BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|324#1, including proposed vegetation within the Site, (refer to viewpoint 9). Further views to the Site are truncated from this location. To the east (refer to Viewpoint 8), Footpath BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|332 partial glimpsed views of the Site are available, including proposed vegetation within the Site. Views to the proposed access road would be available for users from portions of Footpath BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|323#1 and also the Trans Pennine Way where they dissect the Site centrally.

There are not anticipated to be any further views to the Site for users of Public Rights of Way within the study area due to primarily the intervening mature vegetation and landform.

Users of the Public Rights of Way Network are considered to be of medium - high value, high susceptibility and therefore high sensitivity. The proposed development to the Site is considered to give rise to a Negligible magnitude of effect, resulting in a Minor Adverse significance of effect for users of Bridleway BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|426, Footpath BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|332, Footpath BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|323#1 and Trans Pennine Way, Small - Negligible magnitude of effect, resulting in a Moderate - Minor Adverse significance of effect for users of Footpath BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|323#2 and BL|Barnsley Co. Borough|324#1, due to the relative close proximity of the proposed Site for users. Effects are anticipated to reduce over time as the additional proposed native planting to the within the Site matures. The magnitude of the effect for further users of the Public Rights of Way network within the study area is considered to be None and the overall significance of effect is therefore considered to be Neutral.

Road Users

Views towards the Site for road users are served for portions of Wombwell Lane to the south of the Site, St Paul's Parade and Roehampton Rise, St Leonard's Way and St Andrew's Way, in close proximity of the Site. Road users are considered to be of low sensitivity and the development of the Site is considered to give rise to a small to Negligible magnitude of effect, resulting in an overall significance of effect of Negligible to None for road users limited to views in

close proximity to the Site.

Employees at their place of work

There is the potential for partial or partial glimpsed views to the Appraisal Site from portions of Barnsley Retail Park to the south of the Appraisal Site, where views of the route of the proposed access road will be discernible. This view however is seen in the context of the existing detracting landscape of the former Yorkshire Brick Works. With Low sensitivity, and a Negligible magnitude of effect the overall significance of effect on employees in close proximity to the Site's southern boundary is therefore considered to be Negligible, due to the very limited change to the existing view.

Overall Conclusions on Visual Effects

The potential development of the Site is therefore considered to have a range of Negligible to Moderate - Minor Adverse effects on visual effects within the study area, primarily for receptors within or immediately adjacent to the Site. The Site is generally visually contained specifically to the existing quarry parcel to the north, and with the proposed landscape strategy in place, any adverse effects are anticipated to reduce over time as planting matures.

8.0 CONCLUSIONS

This Landscape and Visual Appraisal (LVA) has been prepared on the Third Edition of the Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment by the Landscape Institute and the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (Routledge, 2013). The appraisal of the Site at Stairfoot Quarry has been carried out to inform the landscape design response to the outline development proposals in consideration of the landscape and visual issues, current planning policy and emerging guidance.

The Appraisal Site, a former quarry within a peri-urban setting, is situated adjacent to Green Belt land to the east and south but holds no statutory landscape, ecological, or heritage designations itself. It lies within the National Character Area (NCA) 38 (Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, and Yorkshire Coalfield) and the Local Landscape Character Area (LCA) D3 (West Dearne Settled Arable Slopes), characterised as having moderate landscape strength but poor condition, low capacity for development, and medium sensitivity. Existing views towards the site are largely limited or truncated due to intervening vegetation, landform, and built form, with key visual receptors including nearby residents of dwellings and users of Public Rights of Way (PRoW).

The proposed development involves infilling the quarry with inert materials, raising land levels to a maximum of approximately 66.00 AOD, and implementing a landscape strategy focused on retaining boundary vegetation, establishing new native woodland and scrub for screening, introducing species-rich neutral grassland, and enhancing hedgerows along footpaths. This strategy is informed by national planning policy (NPPF), particularly its emphasis on protecting Green Belt openness and enhancing biodiversity, and aligns with relevant Barnsley Local Plan policies (e.g., GD1, D1, LC1, G1) which advocate high-quality design, landscape character reinforcement, and green infrastructure provision.

The appraisal identifies predominantly Minor Adverse effects on the Local Landscape Character Area (D3) and site-level landscape resources (vegetation, landform), reflecting the change from a former quarry to restored landform and the minor loss of some existing vegetation, offset by new planting. A Moderate Adverse effect is anticipated on PRoW during the infill period due to temporary diversions, though integration into the final landscape scheme would mitigate long-term impacts. Visual effects are assessed as ranging from Negligible to Moderate - Minor Adverse, primarily affecting nearby residents (e.g. St Paul's Parade) and PRoW users in close proximity (e.g. Footpaths 323#2, 324#1), where partial views of the access road or altered landform may be perceptible initially. Crucially, these effects are expected to diminish over time as proposed screening vegetation matures. A Minor Beneficial effect is anticipated for landscape features through the replacement of low-value standing water with grassland and native planting.

In summary, while the development would modify the site-level landscape character, it is designed to integrate sensitively within the wider local and regional landscape context. Adverse landscape and visual effects are largely confined to the immediate site vicinity and are mitigated through the proposed landscape strategy. The scheme aligns with planning policy objectives for sustainable development, landscape enhancement, and biodiversity gain, ensuring the restored site will constitute an acceptable environmental outcome with no significant residual effects.

APPENDIX 1 – LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL APPRAISAL METHODOLOGY

Guidance and Publications

This appraisal has been carried out in light of the latest relevant guidance as set out in 'Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment' (GLVIA3), published by the Landscape Institute and the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (2013), and 'Landscape Character Assessment: Guidance for England and Scotland' published by the Countryside Agency and Scottish National Heritage (2002). These documents do not set out a prescriptive approach to how assessments or appraisals should be undertaken, but rather identify key principles and good practice.

Whilst this methodology refers to landscape appraisals, the same general principles are also applicable in townscape settings. Further guidance on townscape appraisal is given at page 74 of GLVIA3 (2013).

The following guidelines and publications have also been considered when producing this appraisal:

- 'Seeing the History in the View: A Method for Assessing Heritage Significance within Views' (English Heritage; 2011);
- 'The Setting of Heritage Assets: Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 3 (Second Edition)' (Historic England; 2017); and
- 'Visual Representation of Development Proposals - Technical Guidance Note 06/19' (Landscape Institute; 2019)

The appraisal comprises the following stages:

- A summary of the relevant aspects of extant and emergent landscape planning policies;
- A definition the scope of the appraisal, Site reconnaissance and desktop background research;
- A description of the existing conditions in respect of the landscape baseline (dealing with matters of current landscape character and existing landscape resources), and the visual baseline (dealing with matters relating to the visibility of the Appraisal Site);
- Summary of key landscape and visual sensitivities relating to the Appraisal Site and surrounding land;

- A description of the development proposed on the Appraisal Site;
- An appraisal of landscape effects; and
- An appraisal of visual effects.

Baseline Appraisal Methodology

The following specific desk-based tasks have been undertaken:

- A review of the planning policy relevant to the Appraisal Site;
- A review of any existing landscape character appraisals relating to the study area;
- A review of landscape designations from the English Heritage database and local authority sources; and
- Identification of landscape character and key landscape elements.

The baseline description in this appraisal comprises two separate elements:

- a. Landscape Baseline; and
- b. Visual Baseline.

In this appraisal, a distinction has been drawn between the study area and the Appraisal Site. The Appraisal Site is the area proposed for development whilst the study area takes in the wider surrounds of the Appraisal Site. The determination of the study area has been informed by desk top studies of maps and aerial photographs to assess how topography, vegetation and built form in the area surrounding the Site were likely to control views towards the Appraisal Site.

This work was followed by Site visits to determine the potential visibility of the Appraisal Site. The study area boundaries were then set to ensure that all relevant areas of potential visibility were assessed. In general terms, it is assumed that the extent of visibility of the Appraisal Site (and ultimately of proposed development upon it) will not exceed a 2km radius.

The Landscape Baseline

The Landscape Baseline comprises two elements; the existing Landscape Character and the existing Landscape Resource.

Landscape Character is defined in GLVIA3 as "a distinct, recognisable and consistent pattern of elements in the landscape that makes one landscape different from another, rather than better or worse." As such, character is influenced by the physical constituent components of the landscape including geology, soils, topography, vegetation, water features, land utilisation and built elements. Landscape Character Appraisal is the process of identifying variation and change in the landscape and using that information to assist in managing future landscape change (arising from development or other factors). Landscape Character Appraisals – at differing scales – have typically been prepared by, or on behalf of, national and local government or agencies, and provide a starting point for the consideration of landscape character. As a generality, the more detailed the existing Landscape Character Appraisal, the more relevant it will be to the specific Appraisal Site and/or the development proposal. There are four main levels at which landscape character appraisal has been, or may be carried out, as follows:

- a. National Level (the National Character Area Profiles prepared by Natural England);
- b. Regional Level (typically produced for Natural England or a regional grouping of local authorities);
- c. Local Authority Level (normally at a County, or District level, or for a number of Districts (or specific parts thereof)); and
- d. Local Level (typically of a settlement or a group of settlements within a local authority).

APPENDIX 1 – LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL APPRAISAL METHODOLOGY

In addition to referencing these published documents, a local level character appraisal of the Appraisal Site and its surrounding has been undertaken which describes, in summary, the following elements:

- a. Existing Land Use;
- b. Adjoining Land Uses;
- c. Topography;
- d. Vegetation;
- e. Water Features; and
- f. Public Rights of Way.

The Landscape Resource baseline considers two separate aspects; landscape condition – the physical state of the landscape – and landscape value – how different areas of landscape are valued by society. The following criteria have been used to categorize landscape condition, which is described in the appraisal text. The typical examples given provide an indication of the likely landscape condition but it does not necessarily follow that because a Site is within a specific designated area that the categorisation of landscape condition will automatically follow; much will depend on specific Site conditions.

Category	Criteria	Typical Example
Exceptional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Strong landscape structure, characteristic patterns, balanced combination of landform and landcover; ii. Appropriate management for land use and landcover; iii. Distinct features worthy of conservation; iv. Sense of place; v. No/ negligible detracting features. 	Internationally or Nationally recognised e.g. all or the great majority of which would be World Heritage Site, National Park or AONB.
High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Strong landscape structure, characteristic patterns, balanced combination of landform and landcover; ii. Appropriate management for land use and landcover but potentially scope to improve; iii. Distinct features worthy of conservation; iv. Sense of place; v. Occasional detracting features. 	Nationally or Regionally recognised e.g. parts of National Park or AONB, all or the great majority of AGLV.

Good	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Recognisable landscape structure, characteristic patterns and combinations of landform and cover are still evident; ii. Scope to improve management for land use and landcover; iii. Some features worthy of conservation; iv. Sense of place; v. Some detracting features. 	
Ordinary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Distinguishable landscape structure, characteristic ii. Patterns of landform and landcover often masked by land use; iii. Scope to improve management of vegetation; iv. Some features worthy of conservation; v. Some detracting features. 	
Poor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Weak landscape structure, characteristic patterns of landform and landcover are often masked by land use; ii. Lack of management and intervention has resulted in degradation; iii. Frequent detracting features. 	
Very poor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Degraded landscape structure, characteristic patterns and combinations of landform and landcover are masked by land use; ii. Lack of management / intervention has resulted in degradation; iii. Extensive detracting features. 	
Damaged	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Damaged landscape structure; ii. Disturbed or derelict land requires treatment; iii. Detracting features dominate. 	
Derelict	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Land so damaged by industrial or other development that it is incapable of beneficial use without treatment. 	

The following criteria have been used to categorise the landscape value of the Site. The categories of Exceptional and High are informed directly by reference to development plan documents; the other categories entail a judgement in respect of the attributes of the area / locality or may be informed by published landscape character appraisals.

Value	Typical Criteria	Typical Scale	Typical Example
Exceptional	Very high importance (or Quality) and Rarity. No or extremely limited potential for substitution.	International, National.	World Heritage Site, National Park or AONB.
High	High Importance (or Quality) and Rarity. Limited potential for substitution.	National, Regional, Local	National Park, AONB, AGLV, ALLI
Good	Medium Importance (or Quality) and Rarity. Limited potential for substitution.	Regional, Local	Undesignated but value perhaps expressed through non-official publications or demonstrable use.
Ordinary	Low Importance (or Quality) and Rarity.	Local	Areas identified as having some redeeming feature or features and possibly identified for improvement.
Poor	Low Importance (or Quality) and Rarity.	Local	Areas identified as having few redeeming features and lots of scope for improvement.
Very poor	Low Importance (or Quality) and Rarity.	Local	Areas identified for recovery.

From these separate appraisals of landscape character and the landscape resource, the overall sensitivity of landscape receptors – defined as those aspects of the landscape that have the potential to be affected by the proposed development - is determined.

The Visual Baseline

The extent of visibility of the Appraisal Site, and of the proposed development, is determined by the buildings/development surrounding the Site, as well as by existing vegetation and topography. An initial appraisal was made, using OS mapping and aerial photographs of potential locations from where the Appraisal Site might be seen by visual receptors - defined as individuals or groups who have the potential to be affected by the proposal. Potential locations that are identified include residential and commercial properties, roads, PRoW, and areas of public open space/ recreational land.

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A field visit was carried out in January 2025. The Site was viewed from the surrounding area from a range of locations, including those identified through the desk study and other locations that became apparent from the field appraisal. At the time of the field appraisal vegetation was not in leaf and thus visibility in winter months – i.e. usually taken to be the ‘worst case’ - was assessed. In the appraisal the potential visual receptors are identified on plan and described in tabular form, which categorizes the receptor by type (i.e. residential property etc.) and distance from the edge of the Appraisal Site (using the terms set out in Table 3).

Distance of Views	Definition
Adjoining	On the edge of the Appraisal Site
Close	Less than 250m from the edge of the Appraisal Site
Middle	From 250m to 500m from the edge of the Appraisal Site
Long	500m or greater from the edge of the Appraisal Site

From the field appraisal, a number of viewpoints have been identified which are representative of visual receptors in proximity. The viewpoints selected essentially cover three types of views:

- Representative viewpoints: typical of a particular type of visual receptor, e.g. certain points along a PRoW;
- Specific Viewpoints: a key or promoted viewpoint within the landscape possibly related to local visitor attractions or associated with a designated landscape or a cultural landscape; and
- Illustrative Viewpoints: where a particular effect may only be available from certain locations.

Not all of these types of viewpoints will necessarily be present or need to be considered in all appraisals. Generally, but not exclusively, the majority of viewpoints identified will be representative viewpoints. All of the viewpoints identified are public viewpoints. Whilst private locations, such as houses, were not visited during the field appraisal, an appraisal of the likely views from these properties and their visual context was made from nearby locations.

Viewpoint locations are shown in plan form and the views available from the selected viewpoints shown as photographs in the appraisal.

Appraisal of Landscape and Visual Effects – General Approach

As defined in GLVIA3, landscape effects are those effects on the landscape as a resource in its own right, and visual effects are those effects on specific views and on the general amenity as experienced by people. The judgement made in respect of both landscape and visual effects is a combination of an appraisal of the sensitivity of the receptor against the magnitude of the landscape or visual effect.

The judgement to be made in respect of sensitivity is a combination of the susceptibility of those receptors to the specific change occasioned by the proposed development (for both landscape and visual receptors) along with the value attached to that receptor (again for both landscape and visual receptors). Similarly, the judgement to be made in respect of the magnitude of landscape and / or visual effects is derived from a combination of the size or scale of the effect(s); the duration of the effect(s); and whether such effect(s) is / are reversible (or not). The appraisal of landscape and visual effects give rise to separate considerations and these are set out in more detail below.

Appraisal of Landscape Effects

In respect of the judgment to be made of the sensitivity of landscape receptors, the susceptibility to specific change for each landscape receptor is categorized as set out in the following tables.

Receptor	Susceptibility of Receptor to Change		
	High	Medium	Low
Landscape Character	A highly distinctive and coherent landscape character, with an absence of detracting or intrusive elements. Low or no capacity to accept change.	Distinctive character, with a general consistency, notwithstanding the presence of some detracting or intrusive elements. Some capacity to accept change.	Mixed character, where there is a lack of coherence and detracting or intrusive elements have become dominant or have eclipsed original character. Significant capacity to accept change.
Designated Areas	National designated Landscape such as National Park and National Landscape / AONB	Local landscape designations (e.g. AGLV/Areas of Local Landscape Importance (ALLI) (or similar)	Not designated
Landscape Features	Largely or completely intact, in good condition	Largely in moderate condition – may be in process of improvement	Undesignated but value perhaps expressed through non-official publications or demonstrable use.
Aesthetic / Perceptual Aspects	Recognised formally as a coherent area/ feature of aesthetic attraction	Some areas/ features of aesthetic attraction	Not noted for aesthetic qualities

The value for each landscape receptor is taken from Table 2 above. The overall sensitivity of each receptor is then categorised on a High/ Medium / Low/ Negligible basis. In respect of the magnitude of landscape effects, Table 5 sets out the judgements to be made, and the categories adopted in respect of the separate considerations of scale, geographic extent, duration.

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Table 5: Magnitude of Landscape Effects

Type of Effect	Magnitude of Effects			
Size/Scale	Major	Moderate	Minor	Negligible / None
	Total loss of, or major alteration to key elements/ features/ characteristics of the Site and/ or the introduction of elements totally uncharacteristic to the receiving landscape	Partial loss of or alteration to one or more key elements/ features/ characteristics of the Site and/ or introduction of elements that would be evident, but not necessarily uncharacteristic to the receiving landscape	Limited loss of or alteration to one or more key elements/ features/ characteristics of the Site and/ or introduction of elements characteristic with the receiving landscape.	Very minor or no loss or alteration to one or more key elements/ features/ characteristics of the Site and/ or introduction of elements characteristic within the surrounding landscape – approximating to a “no change” situation.
Geographic Extent	Extensive	Major	Localised	Restricted
	Effects would be experienced over many landscape character types or area	Effects would extend over the major part of the landscape character type or area	Effects would be confined to the immediate setting of the Appraisal Site	Effects would not extend beyond the Appraisal Site
Duration	Long	Medium	Short	Construction Stage
	Over 15 years after completion of construction works	5-15 years after completion of construction works	0-5 years after completion of construction works	Restricted to construction stage (explain likely length of construction and any key stages)

The overall magnitude of landscape effects is then described on the basis of professional judgement on a Large / Medium / Small / Negligible / None basis. The separate appraisals in respect of sensitivity and magnitude have been drawn together in the appraisal in a single tabular form. An overall conclusion in respect of landscape change – the likely significant landscape effects - is set out in the appraisal text. That overall conclusion is expressed by reference to the terms set out in the matrix at Table 6, showing the interrelationship between sensitivity of the landscape receptor and the magnitude of landscape effect. The principal conclusions deriving from the tabular presentation are then summarised in the appraisal text.

Table 6: Landscape Effects

		Sensitivity of Receptor		
		High	Medium	Low
Magnitude of Effect	Large	MAJOR	MAJOR/ MODERATE	MODERATE
	Medium	MAJOR/ MODERATE	MODERATE	MINOR
	Small	MODERATE	MINOR	NEGLIGIBLE
	Negligible	MINOR	NEGLIGIBLE	NEGLIGIBLE
	None	NEUTRAL	NEUTRAL	NEUTRAL

In Table 6 the terms used to describe overall landscape effects are taken to have the following meanings, particularly in respect of the purpose of the Appraisal to identify likely significant environmental effects:

- Major: Would fundamentally change the existing landscape and would thus constitute a significant environmental effect.
- Major / Moderate: Would substantially change the existing landscape and would thus constitute a significant environmental effect.
- Moderate: Would bring about some change to the existing landscape but would not constitute a significant environmental effect.
- Minor: Would entail only limited change to the existing landscape and would not constitute a significant environmental effect.
- Negligible: Would entail negligible change to the existing landscape and would not constitute a significant environmental effect.
- Neutral: Would be approximate to a no-change situation.

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Appraisal of Visual Effects

In respect of the judgment to be made of the sensitivity of visual receptors, the susceptibility to specific change for each landscape receptor is categorised as set out below.

Table 7: Susceptibility of Visual Receptors to Change		
Type of Visual Receptor	Susceptibility of Specific Change	Notes
Residential Property	High	Residential properties are considered the most sensitive of potential visual receptors and are thus accorded a High susceptibility. It is an established tenet that the planning system does not serve to protect private interests; the issue is not whether owners and occupiers of neighbouring properties would experience financial or other loss (including visual effect) from a particular development but whether such development would unacceptably affect amenities and the existing use of land and buildings which ought to be protected in the public interest. Thus, in seeking to assess the visual effects of development account should be taken of the effects on residential property, but it is pertinent to note that purely private interests may carry less weight than public interests.
Commercial Property / Places of Employment	Low to Medium	Indoor workers are likely to have a Low susceptibility; outdoor workers (e.g. in agriculture) a Medium susceptibility.
Public Roads	Low to Medium	The degree of susceptibility will vary according to the nature of the road and its primary purpose for users. Motorways and trunk roads are taken to have a Low susceptibility; A class roads a Low to Medium susceptibility, and all other roads a medium susceptibility.
Public Rights of Way / Cycleways	High	The degree of susceptibility will vary according to the nature of the PRoW and its primary purpose for users. Bridleways and PRoW designated locally as specific routes are taken to have a High susceptibility.

Informal Paths	Medium to High	Informal paths have been taken to have a Medium to High susceptibility.
Public Open Space	High	Users of areas of POS are likely to be at leisure, and thus such areas are taken to have a High susceptibility.
Cultural Heritage Sites	High	Users of areas of cultural heritage sites are likely to be at leisure, and thus such areas are taken to have a High susceptibility.
Recreational Land	Medium	Users of recreational land are likely to be at leisure but are taken to be focussed primarily on the recreational activity, and thus such areas are taken to have a Medium susceptibility.

The value of views is categorized as set out below:

Table 8: Criteria for Value of Views	
Magnitude	Criteria
High	A unique or identified view (e.g. shown as such on OS map or marked on a tourist map) or one noted in literature
Medium	A typical and/ or representative view from a particular receptor type
Low	Undistinguished or unprepossessing view

In respect of the magnitude of visual effects, Table 9 below sets out the judgements to be made, and the categories adopted in respect of the separate considerations of scale, geographic extent, duration, and reversibility.

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Table 9: Criteria for Determination of Visual Effect

Type of Effect	Magnitude of Effects			
Size/Scale	Major	Moderate	Minor	Negligible / None
	The proposals form a significant and immediately apparent part of the view that will change its overall character.	The proposals will form a visible and recognisable new element within the overall view and will be readily noticed by the observer.	The proposals constitute only a minor component of the wider view, which might be overlooked by the casual observer. Awareness of the proposals will not have a marked effect on the overall quality of the view.	Only a very small Part (or no part) of the proposal will be discernible and / or it will be at such a distance that it will be scarcely appreciated, and consequently it will have very little/ no effect on the view.
Geographic Extent	Extensive	Major	Localised	Restricted
	Effects would affect all the visual receptor/ and/ or would be seen at close distance.	Effects would extend over the major parts of the visual receptor and/ or would be seen at medium distance.	Effects would be confined to part/s of the visual receptor and/ or would be seen at long distance.	Effects would be confined to edges of/ glimpse views from the visual receptor and/ or would be seen at long distance.
Duration	Long	Medium	Short	Construction Stage
	The visual effect, even considering mitigation works, will still obtain 15 years after completion of construction works	The visual effect, taking into account mitigation works, will obtain for between 5-15 years after completion of construction works	The visual effect, taking into account mitigation works, will obtain for up to 5 years after completion of construction works	Restricted to construction stage (explain likely length of construction and any key stages)
Reversibility	Irreversible		Reversible	
	The development will entail a permanent effect on the view.		If the development was de-constructed/ demolished the existing view (i.e. without development) would be returned.	

The overall magnitude of visual effects is then described on the basis of professional judgement on a Large / Medium / Small / Negligible / None basis. The separate appraisals in respect of visual sensitivity and magnitude have been drawn together in the appraisal in a single tabular form. An overall conclusion in respect of visual change – the likely significant visual effects - is set out in the appraisal text. That overall conclusion is expressed by reference to the terms set out in the matrix at Table 10, showing the interrelationship between sensitivity of the visual receptor and the magnitude of visual effect. The principal conclusions deriving from the tabular presentation are then summarised in the appraisal text.

Table 10: Visual Effects

Magnitude of Effect	Sensitivity of Receptor		
	High	Medium	Low
Large	MAJOR	MAJOR/MODERATE	MODERATE
Medium	MAJOR/MODERATE	MODERATE	MINOR
Small	MODERATE	MINOR	NEGLIGIBLE
Negligible	MINOR	NEGLIGIBLE	NEGLIGIBLE
None	NEUTRAL	NEUTRAL	NEUTRAL

In Table 10 the terms used to describe overall visual effects are taken to have the following meanings, particularly in respect of the purpose of the Appraisal to identify likely significant environmental effects:

- Major: Would fundamentally change the existing view and would thus constitute a significant environmental effect.
- Major/ Moderate: Would substantially change the existing view and would thus constitute a significant environmental effect.
- Moderate: Would bring about some change to the existing view but would not constitute a significant environmental effect.
- Minor: Would entail only limited change to the existing view and would not constitute a significant environmental effect.
- Negligible: Would entail negligible change to the existing view and would not constitute a significant environmental effect.
- Neutral: Would be approximate to a no-change situation.

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Overall Appraisal of Landscape and Visual Effects

The separate conclusions in respect of likely significant landscape and visual (as described above) are set out in the appraisal text.

Visual Baseline Conditions

The following specific desk-based tasks have been undertaken:

- Consultation with the local planning authority within the detailed study area, regarding methodology, key views and viewpoint locations.
- Identification and field appraisal of potential receptors within the visual envelope and an appraisal of their sensitivity.
- Appreciation of the nature and importance of existing views experienced by the identified receptors.

The visual appraisal involved an initial desk-based review of OS mapping to establish the wider context within which views initially appear to be set, followed by Site surveys to establish the form and nature of specific views and the role of the proposed development area in such views.

Methodology for Preparation of Photographs

The Site survey includes a photographic record of the viewpoints. At each of the viewpoints the following details are recorded;

- The grid reference (of the viewpoint);
- The viewer height (measured to the lens of the camera);
- The date (of survey);
- The distance to the development (from the viewpoint).

The photographs have been taken using a digital SLR camera with a 50mm fixed focal length lens, giving a focal length equivalent to 75mm on a 35mm film camera. The photographs were taken in accordance with guidance outlined in the document 'Visual Representation of Development Proposals - Technical Guidance Note 06/19' (Landscape Institute; 2019);

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