



High Grove Solar

Preliminary Environmental Information Report Appendix 10.2 Landscape Baseline and Effects

April 2025

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1 Introduction

1.1.1.1 This appendix sets out:

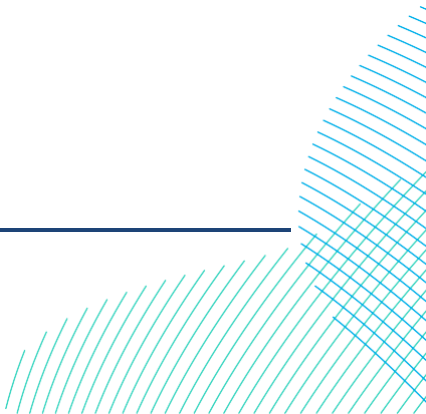
- Detailed baseline descriptions of the following landscape receptors:
 - National Character Areas
 - Published Landscape Character Areas (LCA)
 - Applicant derived Local Landscape Character Areas (LLCA)
- Detailed descriptions of the likely impacts and effects of High Grove Solar (hereafter referred to as the 'Proposed Development') on landscape receptors during construction, at operation year 1, operation year 15 and during decommissioning.

1.1.1.2 The assessment follows the methodology set out in PEIR Chapter 10 Landscape and Visual Effects.

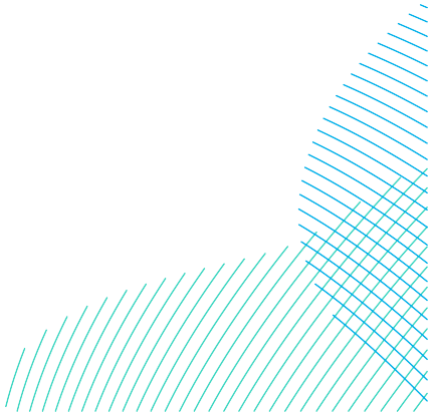
1.1.1.3 Landscape receptors are shown on Figure 10.10, Figure 10.11 and Figure 10.12.

Table 1 NCA 84: Mid Norfolk - Baseline

NCA 84: Mid Norfolk			BASELINE			
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area			
National	n/a		n/a			
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments			
Natural England National Character Area Profiles	Within the draft Order Limits		Norfolk Vanguard (EN010079) Norfolk Boreas (EN010087) Dudgeon Onshore Substation (3PL/2012/0703/F)			
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape					
NCA 84 covers the northern section of the East Anglian Plain, a broadly flat plateau dissected by streams and river valleys. The whole area is underlain by cretaceous chalk, which forms a principal aquifer serving a much wider area. This is ancient countryside with a long-settled agricultural character, where arable land is enclosed by winding lanes and hedgerows, interspersed with woodland and heath and dissected by lush pastoral river valleys. A patchwork of cultivated land, numerous church spires, distant wooded horizons and big skies dominate the landscape. This is a tranquil place, with isolated market towns, and scattered villages and farmhouses, their red brick and flint walls and pantile roofs an intrinsic component of Norfolk character. The many public rights of way (including the Peddars Way and Norfolk Coast Path National Trail and long-distance footpaths), country estates and parklands provide recreational opportunities.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations
	A very small part of the NCA is covered by The Broads National Park where its boundary follows the River Wensum towards Norwich city centre.	Conservation Area Registered Parks and Gardens Scheduled Monuments County Wildlife Sites Local Nature Reserves SPA SAC SSSI National Cycle Network National Trails Country Parks	The River Wensum is especially rich in biodiversity with over 100 plant species and a diverse invertebrate fauna, including the bullhead, brook lamprey, white-clawed crayfish, Desmoulin’s whorl snail, water crowfoot and water starwort. The Nar is a small chalk stream with intermittent flows which is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) for its characteristic chalk stream community, with starwort and reed sweet-grass in particular found within NCA 84. The mosaic of wetland, woodland and grassland habitats found in NCA 84 river valleys provides a tranquil haven for biodiversity. NCA 84 contains the largest stand of ancient woodland now remaining in Norfolk, Foxley Wood (SSSI), which is thought to be 6,000 years old and is mentioned in Domesday Book. The wood is exceptionally rich in flora with over 250 species recorded, including herb paris, early purple orchid and lily-of-the valley, and is particularly noted for its swathes of bluebells in the spring.	A large number of 17th- and 18th-century country house estates of various sizes can be found throughout the area, frequently accompanied by parkland and their own church and village, as at Heydon. This idyllic isolated village, with its central village green and well, church, pub and cluster of cottages, sits just outside the gates to the Heydon Hall estate, and has remained unchanged by new buildings since 1887 The area, like Central North Norfolk NCA, is also unusually rich in medieval churches, with a particularly notable cluster in the middle of the area, near Reepham. Salle has been pronounced, by C.L.S. Linnell, to be ‘not only the most marvellous church in a county of marvellous churches but one of the most beautiful in all England’.	Recent changes to the landscape have been far less radical than has been the case for other parts of the country, so the area has retained its strongly rural character. Much of the land was enclosed by the 16th century, and only 20th-century agricultural rationalisation has changed it. Fields are variable in size and the small scale and irregularity of early enclosure has given way, in many areas, to a larger, more regular pattern. Some areas of regular enclosure mark the 18th- and 19th-century improvement for agriculture of the blocks of heathland that characterised the area. The change is also seen in the contrast between mixed hedgerows with frequent hedgerow oaks in areas with less rationalisation, and areas of poor or remnant hedgerow in the more intensively farmed areas.	The historic field patterns date back to the time of the18th-century work of Viscount Charles ‘Turnip’ Townshend of Raynham Hall who had a major role in the agricultural revolution: he made the ‘Good Sands’ the most famous farming area in the country as he pioneered the four-field crop rotation and the large-scale cultivation of turnips.



NCA 84: Mid Norfolk			BASELINE			
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area			
			Cereal field margins and hedgerows are important refuges for wildlife with key species found in farmland areas including the barbastelle bat, brown hare, corn bunting, grey partridge, skylark, tree sparrow and turtle dove. Rare arable wild flowers, including the cornflower, are also an important feature. The NCA has three sites designated as part of the wider Norfolk Valley Fens SAC: Booton Common to the east of Reepham, and Badley Moor and Potter and Scarning Fens just south of Dereham. These sites are designated for their alkaline valley fen habitat which supports an exceptionally diverse plant community, including rare bryophytes and a number of uncommon mosses and liverworts. Scarning Fens is the only site in England which supports the Norfolk flapwort. The fens are also of great importance for their invertebrate communities and support rare species of damselfly including the small red damselfly. Breeding birds include snipe, woodcock, grasshopper warbler and lesser whitethroat.			
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)	Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)		Functional



NCA 84: Mid Norfolk			BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area		
• Extensive arable cropping and some areas of mixed farming. Fertile and versatile light soils known as the ‘Good Sands’ in the east. The arable habitats support nationally important assemblages of farmland birds, including grey partridge and turtle dove. • The shallow dip slope of a low Chalk escarpment containing important aquifers slopes west to east, separated from the coastal strip along The Wash by a distinctive scarp slope. • Smaller-scale, intimate pastoral character within river valleys. • Significant belts of mixed woodland and plantation and some remnant heath on the Greensand in the west. • Dominant pattern of large-scale rectangular fields, with well-trimmed hawthorn hedges and mature hedgerow trees (predominantly oak and beech) away from the northern area. Scots pine rows are striking field boundary features in the west. • Rivers are prominent in the west and north of the area where they contribute to a more intimate, pastoral character, with small areas of flood plain grazing marsh. • Evidence of rich archaeological remains and surviving heritage features include barrows, Roman villas and the Roman fort at Blakeney, and medieval moated sites, as well as the ruins of a significant number of priories or abbeys. • Small villages and outlying farms with flint, usually clay-tiled, buildings but some built from distinctive orange sandstone (carstone) and sometimes chalk on the western escarpment, with clunch – an impure variety of chalk – sometimes used further east. • Large estates and country houses, often concealed by tree belts fringing parkland, bring a unified and well-managed quality to the landscape – such as Holkham, Sandringham, Houghton and Raynham. • There is a dispersed settlement pattern, often clustered around a green, common or pond, and linked by a few roads, straight and often with very wide verges, especially in the northern part of the area. Some of the villages attract large numbers of tourists and, in the case of Walsingham, pilgrims. • The Peddars Way and Norfolk Coast Path National Trail is well used by walkers; the adjacent north Norfolk coast attracts many tourists from far and wide.	The landscape largely consists of arable farmland, of which field patterns display historic integrity to varying extents. The character area is unusually rich in medieval churches and 17th and 18th century country park estates which serve as distinctive features in the landscape.	NCA 84 has limited recreational opportunities but is well served by the public rights of way network, which includes extensive bridleways. A 13-km section of the Peddars Way and Norfolk Coast Path National Trail – which extends from The Brecks NCA 85, north east to the coast and Hunstanton in North West Norfolk NCA 76 and then along the North Norfolk Coast NCA 77 to Cromer in Central North Norfolk NCA 78– runs through the far west of the NCA near Swaffham.	The general flatness of the topography means that long views are possible, with prominent features such as church spires, visible from a distance. Wide open views with wooded horizons and big skies are common.	There are higher levels of relative tranquillity within the landscape away from main roads and settlements and along river valleys. Less tranquil areas are mainly around market towns and A roads and close to Norwich, especially along the A47 and A1067, where urbanisation creeps westwards with a string of commuter villages of 19th- and 20th-century origin.	Land cover is predominately agricultural with extensive areas of arable land and some pasture along the valley floors. Cereals dominate, with break cropping of sugar beet and oilseed rape. Norwich is a major urban core within the character area.
	Value		Susceptibility		Sensitivity
	Medium		Medium		Medium
	A very small part of the NCA is covered by The Broads National Park where its boundary follows the River Wensum towards Norwich city centre. The designated area is very small and is located approximately 26km to the east of the Proposed Development. Due to the very small proportion of the NCA which is designated, it has little impact on the overall value of the NCA. The NCA has some cultural and natural heritage features and valued recreational routes such as a section of the Peddars Way and Norfolk Coast Path National Trail, however it is predominantly a modern agricultural landscape comprising common rural features.		Land cover is predominately agricultural with extensive areas of arable land in a large-scale rectangular field format, which has a lower susceptibility to change. Valley landforms, historic estates and the small area designated as National Park contribute to localised higher susceptibility to change across the character area.		The high value attached to the landscape and the medium susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a high sensitivity.

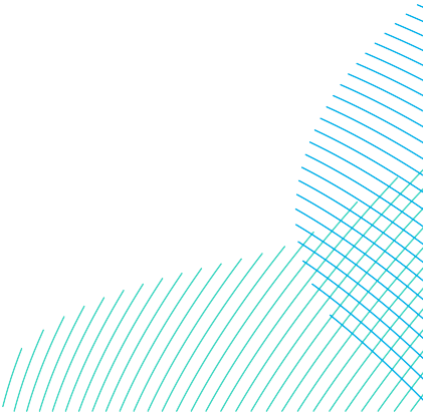
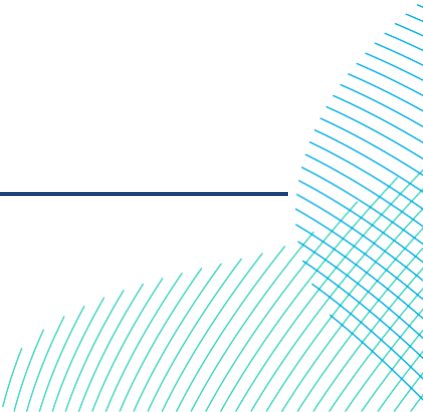


Table 2 NCA 84: Mid Norfolk - Assessment of effects

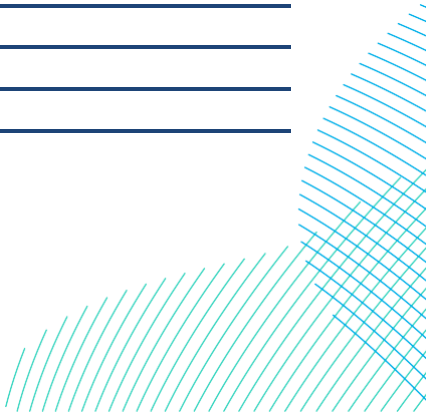
NCA 84: Mid Norfolk	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
Medium	Minor adverse
Construction of parcels C-03, C-05, C-07, C-08 and all of the northern, eastern and southern parcels would take place within NCA 84.	The medium magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in minor adverse effects which is not considered significant.
The majority of construction would take place across arable fields in the south western part of the NCA.	
Construction compounds within the NCA would include those within C-05, C-07, N-01, N-02, N-03, N-08, E-01, E-08, E-07, E-10, S-02, S-04, S-11, S-12 and S-18. These would include the presence of vehicles and machinery and storage of materials, regular deliveries and access to the compounds via haul routes would increase construction activity across these areas.	
The northern part of the LCA would include cable laying corridors C-C1, C-C2 and C-N. Activity across the area would include localised vegetation clearance, topsoil stripping and stockpiling and excavation via trenching to lay cables. Further cable laying corridors at the fringes of the LCA around Ashill and Bradenham, include E-S, S-S2, S-S3, S-S4 and S-S5.	
Cable Corridors C-C1, C-C2, C-N, N-N1, N-N2, N-E1, N-E2, E-E1, E-E2, E-E3, E-S, S-S2, S-S3, S-S4 and S-S5 would be located within the NCA. Activity across this area would include localised vegetation clearance, topsoil stripping and stockpiling and excavation via trenching to lay cables.	
Within parcels, activity would include; construction of access roads which would require topsoil stripping and excavations; piling for the frames of solar PV modules and presence and operation of associated machinery; installation of BESS and inverters; and the stockpiling and installation of solar PV module frames. 132kV substations are located within parcels C-03, C-07, E-05, E-08, S-02 and S-09 and would require tall lifting equipment and associated machinery.	The low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in minor adverse effects which is not considered significant.
The majority of the construction of the Proposed Development would be located within the large NCA. Impacts would be confined to the south western part of the NCA and would cover a small part of the overall large NCA. These impacts are therefore considered to be small-scale and would occur across a small geographical extent.	
Construction impacts would be short term and reversible.	
Year 1 operation (winter)	
Low	Minor adverse
Parcels C-03, C-05, C-07, C-08 and all of the northern, eastern and southern parcels would be located within NCA 84.	The low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in minor adverse effects which is not considered significant.
The Proposed Development would be located in the south western part of the NCA.	
The parcels would introduce massing across areas that are currently arable land and aesthetic and perceptual landscape character would be altered due to the regular pattern and form of solar arrays and colour tones of the solar frames and solar arrays which differs from the majority of surrounding agricultural fields. Vegetation pattern would be retained across parcels with appropriate offsets applied.	
132kV substations would be located within parcels C-03, C-07, E-05, E-08, S-02 and S-09 and would introduce further differing infrastructure to that of the regular form and pattern of solar arrays, resulting in a slight increase in the perception of scale of development within the locality.	
Landform would be reinstated across cable laying corridors C-C1, C-C2, C-N, N-N1, N-N2, N-E1, N-E2, E-E1, E-E2, E-E3, E-S, S-S2, S-S3, S-S4 and S-S5. In the first few months of operation reinstated areas along the cable laying corridors which were previously grassland would remain perceptible due to newly establishing grassland or replacement ground cover. Small areas of reinstatement planting would be perceptible due to the age of replacement planting and presence of stakes and tree guards.	
The static nature of the Proposed Development would retain a similar perception to the open and still character of agricultural land with the frequency of maintenance activities remaining similar to that of activity typical of agricultural fields.	The majority of the Proposed Development would be located within the large NCA. Impacts would be confined to the south western part of the NCA and would cover a small part of the overall large NCA. These impacts are therefore considered to be small-scale and would occur across a small geographical extent.
Proposed hedgerow enhancements, visual screening and buffer planting and green infrastructure connectivity planting across the Proposed Development would not have established.	
Permissive pathways located in parcels C-05 near Swaffham, C-07 near Sporle, N-02 near Wendling, and S-09, S-10, S-11, S-13, S-14, to the north east of Ashill, would increase recreational accessibility locally.	
The majority of the Proposed Development would be located within the large NCA. Impacts would be confined to the south western part of the NCA and would cover a small part of the overall large NCA. These impacts are therefore considered to be small-scale and would occur across a small geographical extent.	
Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	
Year 15 operation (summer)	



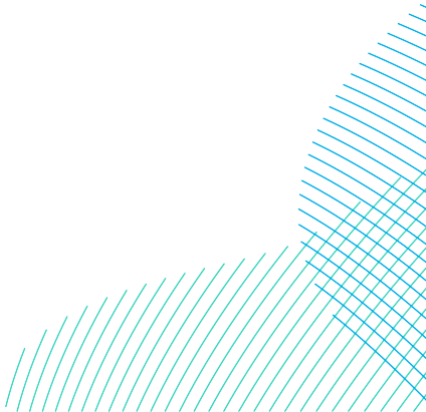
NCA 84: Mid Norfolk	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Low	Minor adverse
At operation year 15, established planting across all parcels within the NCA would help integrate the parcels into the landscape. Hedgerow enhancement planting across parcel C-07 and woodland buffer planting along its western boundary would strengthen field boundaries and the pattern of the landscape as well as strengthening the sense of enclosure across the parcel and limiting its zone of influence. Hedgerow planting along the northern boundary of parcel S-02 would also contribute to the strengthening of field pattern locally. Hedgerow enhancements and new hedgerows planting across parcels N-01 and N-02 would aid with the integration of the solar arrays by breaking up massing, they would also contribute to the reinstatement of historic field patterns. In general, across all parcels, buffer planting for visual screening purposes would be established and would reduce the perception of built form and development across the rural landscape. Native grassland proposed below solar arrays would be established and would be beneficial for landcover and biodiversity value. Reinstatement planting across Cable Corridors C-C1, C-C2, C-N, N-N1, N-N2, N-E1, N-E2, E-E1, E-E2, E-E3, E-S, S-S2, S-S3, S-S4 and S-S5 would be established resulting in cable routes being barely perceptible within the landscape. Beneficial changes such as green infrastructure improvements and strengthening of landscape pattern through improvements to boundary planting are balanced against the long term presence of solar arrays and associated infrastructure including substations and BESS. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in minor adverse effects which is not considered significant.

Table 3 NCA 85: The Brecks - Baseline

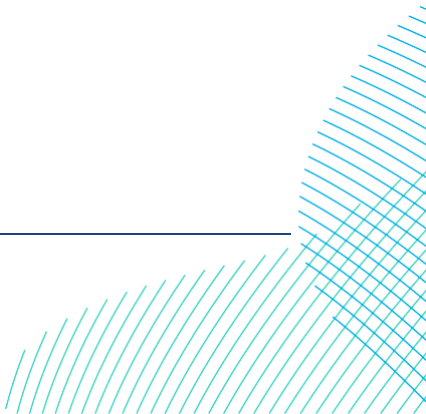
NCA 85: The Brecks		BASELINE
Hierarchy	National Character Area	District Character Area
National	n/a	n/a
Source	Part of Proposed Development	Relevant future baseline developments
Natural England National Character Area Profiles	Within the draft Order Limits	Land to the South of Lynn Road (FUL/2023/0047)
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape	



NCA 85: The Brecks				BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area			
Spanning areas of Norfolk and Suffolk and a small part of Cambridgeshire at the centre of East Anglia, the Brecks shares with the surrounding National Character Areas (NCAs) an underlying geology of Middle and Upper Chalk, with overlying superficial deposits, originating from glacial drift deposited by the Anglian ice sheet. One of the most intriguing and uniting features of East Anglian scenery is its general flatness, forming landscapes well known for their wooded horizons and spectacular big skies. However, the Brecks’ gently undulating plateau is very different from the areas that surround it, despite their similar topography.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the NCA.	Conservation Area Registered Parks and Gardens Scheduled Monuments County Wildlife Sites Local Nature Reserves SPA SAC SSSI National Cycle Network National Trails Country Parks	The unique combination of underlying geology, low-fertility soils, soil disturbance, a dry, frost-prone climate and grazing by sheep together with the presence of rabbits has strongly influenced the natural and cultural evolution of the landscape. It has given rise to one of the most extensive areas of lowland heathland and lowland acid and calcareous grassland remaining in the United Kingdom today. Lowland heath is one of Europe’s rarest and most threatened habitats and it is for this reason that the Brecks’ heaths are now recognised as internationally important. They support a diversity of flora and fauna reliant on open and disturbed ground including ground-nesting birds such as stone curlew, woodlark and nightjar On hot summer days, the heaths, which have a primeval, steppe-like quality, teem with ants, spiders, beetles and solitary bees, with characteristic butterflies including the brown argus and dingy skipper on the chalk while small copper, grayling and green hairstreak are typical of the acid heaths The rivers have mostly been modified for drainage and flood defence reasons and support rich aquatic habitats containing the native white-clawed crayfish (in the Little Ouse) together with otters and water voles.	Throughout the NCA, a long history of settlement has left a wealth of historical features that range from prehistoric earthworks, flint mines and pits dating from the Neolithic period to the remains of extensive medieval and post-medieval rabbit warrens. All are strong visible reminders of the history of the Brecks and the ways in which human activity has helped to shape this distinctive landscape. The numerous relics of early cultures indicate that for most of the prehistoric period the Brecks was an important cultural centre in the British Isles. Visible evidence includes Neolithic flint mines, primitive trackways, bronze-age barrows and iron-age and Romano-British settlements.	The Brecks' rich and distinctive wildlife heritage has experienced extraordinary change and loss of species and habitats in the last 60 years. The surviving remnants of dry heath and grassland support a great diversity of plants, invertebrates and breeding birds, which have also adapted to live in forestry and arable habitats. The greatest extent of the Brecks’ heaths is today centred on the Elveden Estate in Suffolk and the Stanford Training Area to Brettenham Heath area in Norfolk, which is in poor condition. Several other important sites are found near the main town of Thetford. The remainder are relatively small, scattered survivors of formerly extensive areas.	The physical austerity, marginal profits and ethereal beauty all frame the historic narrative of authors and poets. Thomas Wright Esquire in 1668 vividly describes the Great Sand Floods resulting from soil erosion that encroached, swamped and destroyed settlements such as Santon Downham. Mary Mann’s novels such as The Fields of Dulditch (1902) portray the grim lives of agricultural workers of that time, yet W G Clarke (Breckland Wilds, 1925) was inspired by the fragile beauty of the heathland wilderness.



NCA 85: The Brecks			BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area		
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)	Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)	Functional
• A largely open, gently undulating landscape with a low-lying, dry plateau that rises to the north. Subtle long slopes lead to alluvial flats containing shallow, meandering wooded river valleys. • The chalk solid geology lies close to the surface and is covered by thin deposits of sand and flint. The effects of repeated freeze and thaw in the tundra-like climate of the last ice age have produced intricate ground patterns, with patches of calcium-rich soils interspersed with acidic conditions. • Remnants of collapsed pingos and other ground-ice depressions which formed in periglacial conditions are typically found in the valleys, and are characteristic features at Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) such as Thompson Common, East Walton Common and Foulден Common. • Vast commercial conifer plantations form a forest landscape, unique in lowland England. The regular geometric shape and form and the repeated occurrence of plantations and shelterbelts unify the land cover pattern, forming wooded horizons and framing views into adjacent landscapes. • Predominantly agricultural land use focused on arable production, with planned courtyard farmsteads and large, regular 18th- and 19th century enclosure fields often clearly defined by Scots pine and beech shelterbelts or neat hawthorn hedges, indicative of large estate enclosure. The regular field layouts combine with long, straight, undulating roads to create a geometric landscape character. • Outdoor pigs and intensive indoor and outdoor poultry-rearing units are also characteristic. • Free-draining geology and soils with naturally low fertility support internationally important lowland heathland and mosaics of lowland acid and calcareous grassland that bring colour and textural variation to the landscape and provide a biodiversity-rich resource. • Narrow and meandering lush shallow river valleys (some of which contain unusually fast-flowing streams) form a marked but limited contrast to the dry, extensively arable upland catchment which they drain. All flow westward and are fed by nutrient-poor calcareous groundwater and support important wetland habitats. • A high concentration of important archaeological features, resulting from a long continuity of human settlement, include Neolithic flint mines, medieval churches, priories and rabbit warrens, 18th- and 19th-century designed parklands and estate villages, Second World War defence features and 20th-century abandoned settlements in the military training area known as the Stanford Training Area (STANTA). • The settlement pattern is sparse with nucleated villages scattered along the river valleys. Farm buildings and	Sense of place and cultural heritage services are dominated by the mosaic of arable land and conifer forest. Semi-natural features include remnant heathlands, grasslands and wetlands interspersed with distinctive periglacial landforms including pingos and karst features. The Scots pine lines or ‘deal rows’ define a strong geometric field pattern and give the Brecks its strongest visual identity. Localised contrast is provided by lush, shallow river valleys. There are historic features such as large estate parklands and associated model villages, isolated farmsteads and churches (in Norfolk), sparse settlement and vernacular buildings of traditional knapped flint, clunch and ‘white’ brick.	Thetford Forest and Kings Forest are a positive focus for access with thousands of hectares providing formal and informal countryside recreation. Part of the Peddars Way and Norfolk Coast Path National Trail also provide recreation opportunities. In general, the NCA has a sparse public rights of way network which results from private land ownership (particularly large estates), land use and dispersed settlement patterns.	Views between the NCA and neighbouring NCAs are often framed by areas of conifer plantation. From within the NCA the gently rolling, low landform means that there are views of varying distance, frequently shaped by pine shelterbelts and plantation blocks of Thetford Forest.	Away from the main A-road transport corridors where traffic is consistently busy including the A11, A1065 and A134, the area remains still and peaceful. On the approach roads to Swaffham, Watton and Thetford, vertical structures, including communications masts and the Swaffham and North Pickenham wind turbines, dominate the landscape. There is also intermittent low flying from military aircraft which can feel intrusive.	Predominantly agricultural land use focused on arable production, with planned courtyard farmsteads and large, regular 18th- and 19th century enclosure fields often clearly defined by Scots pine and beech shelterbelts or neat hawthorn hedges, indicative of large estate enclosure. The regular field layouts combine with long, straight, undulating roads to create a geometric landscape character. Vast commercial conifer plantations form a forest landscape, unique in lowland England. The main population centre is Thetford.
	Value		Susceptibility		Sensitivity
	High		Medium		High
	The NCA includes a wealth of historic features and natural heritage features, including lowland heath which is recognised as internationally important. Whilst parts of the NCA exhibit characteristics of valued landscape in the context of the NPPF paragraph 187, such as internationally important habitats and distinctive land cover, the NCA also washes over areas of settlement and modern agricultural land which do not exhibit characteristics of valued landscape. The NCA is not covered by any statutory landscape designations. Overall, this landscape is not considered to meet the threshold to be considered valued landscape in the context of National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) paragraph 187(a).		The character area comprises predominantly agricultural land use focused on arable production and fields are typically modern in scale and have a lower susceptibility to change. The character area also includes vast conifer plantations, a wealth of natural features including lowland heath and shallow river valleys, and a concentration of important archaeological features which contribute to localised higher susceptibility to change.		The high value attached to the landscape and the medium susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a high sensitivity.



NCA 85: The Brecks			BASELINE
Hierarchy	National Character Area	District Character Area	
churches have considerable impact, but elsewhere the landscape is very empty. Large military air bases are a feature. • The main population centre is Thetford with road and rail links radiating out from the town. • Traditional knapped flint, clunch (a form of impure chalk) and ‘white’ brick are characteristic building materials.			

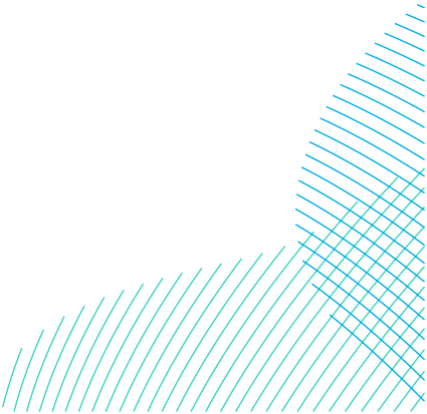
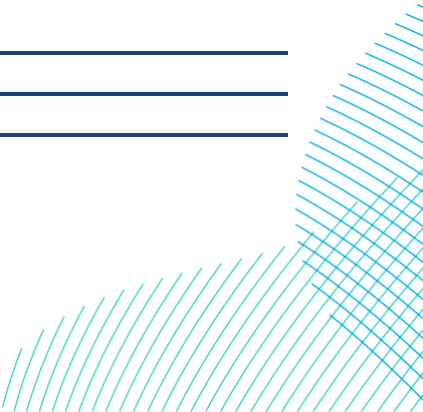


Table 4 NCA 85: The Brecks - Assessment of effects

NCA 85: The Brecks	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
Very Low	Minor adverse
Construction of parcels W-01, W-02, W-03, C-02 and C-03 would take place within the NCA. The majority of construction would take place across arable fields in the northern part of the NCA. Construction compounds within the NCA would include those within W-01, C-02 and C-03. These would include the presence of vehicles and machinery and storage of materials, regular deliveries and access to the compounds via haul routes would increase construction activity across these areas. Cable laying corridors W-C and C-C would be located between parcel W-01 and the north of Swaffham. Activity across the area would include localised vegetation clearance, topsoil stripping and stockpiling and excavation via trenching to lay cables. Within parcels, activity would include; construction of access roads which would require topsoil stripping and excavations; piling for the frames of solar PV moduless and presence and operation of associated machinery; installation of BESS and inverters; and the stockpiling and installation of solar PV modulesl frames. 132kV substations are located within parcels W-01 and C-03 and would require tall lifting equipment and associated machinery. Construction activity would occur across a very small part of the large NCA and the majority of impacts would be close to Swaffham and RAF Marham where levels of tranquillity are lower. These impacts are therefore considered to be very small-scale and would occur across a very small geographical extent. Construction impacts would be short term and reversible.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the high sensitivity of the receptor would result in minor adverse effects which is not considered significant.
Year 1 operation (winter)	
Very Low	Minor adverse
Parcels W-01, W-02, W-03, C-02 and C-03 would be located within the NCA. The parcels would introduce massing across areas that are currently arable land and aesthetic and perceptual landscape character would be altered due to the regular pattern and form of solar arrays and colour tones of the solar frames and solar arrays which differs from the majority of surrounding agricultural fields. Vegetation pattern would be retained across parcels with appropriate offsets applied. 132kV substations would be located within parcels W-01 and C-03 and would introduce further differing infrastructure to that of the regular form and pattern of solar arrays, resulting in a slight increase in the perception of scale of development within the locality. Landform would be reinstated across cable laying corridors W-C and C-C. In the first few months of operation reinstated areas along the cable laying corridors which were previously grassland would remain perceptible due to newly establishing grassland or replacement ground cover. Small areas of reinstatement planting would be perceptible due to the age of replacement planting and presence of stakes and tree guards. The static nature of the Proposed Development would retain a similar perception to the open and still character of agricultural land with the frequency of maintenance activities remaining similar to that of activity typical of agricultural fields. Proposed hedgerow enhancements, visual screening and buffer planting and green infrastructure connectivity planting across the Proposed Development would not have established. Permissive pathways located in parcels W-01 and W-02, near Swaffham Heath and C-03, north of Swaffham, would increase recreational accessibility locally. A small part of the large NCA would contain solar infrastructure as a result of the Proposed Development and impacts would be close to Swaffham and RAF Marham where levels of tranquillity are lower. These impacts are therefore considered to be very small-scale and would occur across a very small geographical extent. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the high sensitivity of the receptor would result in minor adverse effects which is not considered significant.
Year 15 operation (summer)	
Very Low	Minor adverse



NCA 85: The Brecks	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
At operation year 15, established planting across all parcels within the NCA would help integrate the parcels into the landscape. New hedgerows alongside Swaffham Road would aid with the integration of parcels W-01, W-02 and W-03 and would reinstate the rural character of the road by screening infrastructure. Woodland buffer planting along the northern boundary of parcel C-03 would aid with the integration of the parcel by blending with woodland cover in the wider landscape. In general across all parcels, buffer planting for visual screening purposes would be established and would reduce the perception of built form and development across the rural landscape. Native grassland proposed below solar arrays would be established and would be beneficial for landcover and biodiversity value. Reinstatement planting across Cable Corridors W-C and C-C would be established resulting in cable routes being barely perceptible within the landscape. Beneficial changes such as green infrastructure improvements and strengthening of landscape pattern through improvements to boundary planting are balanced against the long term presence of solar arrays and associated infrastructure including substations and BESS. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the high sensitivity of the receptor would result in minor adverse effects which is not considered significant.

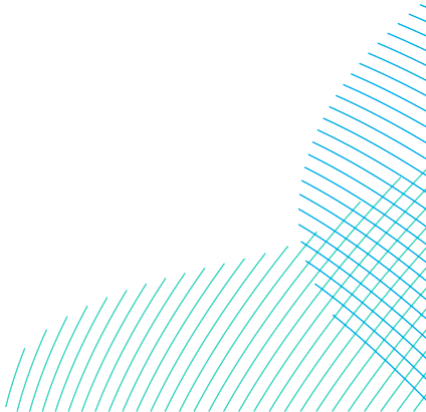
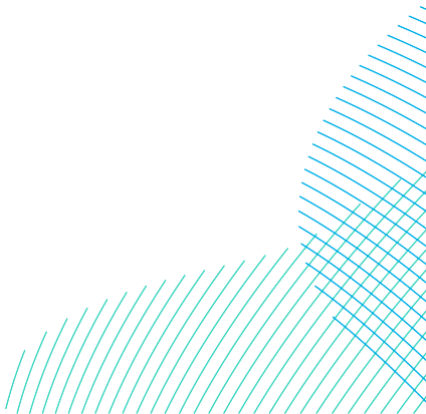


Table 5 LCA A3: River Wissey - Baseline

LCA A3: River Wissey				BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area			
District	The Brecks		Breckland District			
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments			
Breckland District Landscape Character Assessment (2007)	Within the study area		n/a			
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape					
The River Wissey flows in a south westerly draining catchment in the west of Breckland District rising at Bradenham flowing south through Breckland and then west into Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Borough. The character area is composed of the floodplain and valley sides of the River Wissey, being defined by the extent of drift deposits and by topography - the 30m -40m contour broadly marking the valley crest. The upper valley beyond South Pickenham is not clearly defined within the landscape and is included in the adjacent character area - B5: River Wissey Settled tributary farmland.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LCA.	Conservation area Registered Parks and Gardens County Wildlife Sites SPAs SAC SSSI National Cycle Network Country Parks	The mosaic of natural habitats, including flood meadow, neutral grassland, marsh, fen and swamp are important both in terms of ecological value and in defining landscape character. They include stands of wet woodland and carr woodlands (e.g. Bodney Carr and Blacksmith Carr), reedbeds (Diddlington Lakes SSSI), meadows (Hooks Wells Meadows SSSI) and fenland (Great Cressingham SSSI). All of these habitats are priority areas of the Norfolk Biodiversity Action Plan. The section of Breckland Forest SSSI within the character area is largely coniferous with small blocks of broadleaf woodland. The Wissey supports a range of species including crayfish.	Built form includes scattered Halls and farm buildings and former mills. Ickburgh is the only settlement located on the valley floor, other settlements such as Mundford have spread over the crest of the ridge with predominantly modern 20th century edge development. Traditional building materials are red brick and flint, with some thatch. St Peter's Church at Ickburgh is an example of this local vernacular (flint with brick detailing). Pig farming is a small scale but visually prominent land use on the valley sides within the predominantly pasture and wooded landscape.	This is a functional landscape that is traditionally managed by grazing. However, some elements are not representative of the valley landscape including areas of pig farming on the valley sides and plantation woodland. Although coniferous woodland is dominant, blocks of wet woodland and carrs are present on the valley floor. The mosaic of wetland habitats represented by the SSSIs and Country Wildlife Sites demonstrate the ecological diversity and integrity of much of the valley.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)	Functional



LCA A3: River Wissey			BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area		
• A south westerly draining catchment underlain by the Upper Chalk and overlying chalky boulder clay, with glacial drift deposits of sand, gravel, clay and silt plus later alluvial sediments. • Landform is that of a broad shallow valley. With a flat valley floor and gentle valley sides rising to 30 – 40m AOD. • The river follows a natural meandering course. Open water bodies, notably near Ickburgh are the legacy of past mineral extraction and exploitation of drift deposits within the valley floor. A chain of lakes also forms part of the designed landscape at Didlington Hall. • On the valley floor, land use is characterised by a mosaic of permanent pasture fields and a variety of woodland types planting including semi-natural wet woodland, carr and dense plantation. • Presence of woodland creates an enclosed character with framed views, particularly across the flat valley floor, and along the rural road network, although there are occasional views to the valley sides and crests. • Pig farming is a small scale but visually prominent land use on the valley sides within the predominantly pasture and wooded landscape. • Pasture fields on the valley floor are divided by water-filled ditches or post and wire fencing. Willows, alder and poplar frequently fringe the watercourse and boundaries. • A mosaic of wetland habitats – carr woodland, reedbed, meadow, neutral grassland and fen defined as SSSI and County Wildlife Sites contribute to a strong valley character. The valley also contains part of the Breckland Forest SSSI west of Ickburgh and a section of Breckland Farmland within the Stanford Training Ground. • Evidence of historical occupation and land use is scarce, although several parklands (e.g. Langford and Ickburgh) are marked on Faden’s Map and a number remain today as at Didlington. • Settlement within the valley character area is scant, the largest settlement being the linear village of Ickburgh. Other built form incorporates scattered Halls and farm buildings and former mills. • Settlements are generally located on the valley crest as at Great Cressingham, Hilborough and Mundford and included within the adjacent character areas.	The meandering river course and mosaic of wetland habitats and pasture create a strong valley character. The river course is generally crossed by only minor roads and lanes with small scale bridges or fords and settlement is limited. The valley has a peaceful, natural character breached only by views to coniferous plantation woodland and occasional interruptions such as the A1065.	Recreational access is facilitated by a small number of rights of way, although there is little direct access to the river, other than at the historic crossing points with small scale bridges and fords.	Views within the character area are framed, partly by the valley sides, but more significantly by the woodland blocks, both the large-scale plantation blocks and smaller scale stands of wetland woodland and carrs. The sloping valley sides and large blocks of plantation woodland restrict views both within the character area and to adjacent character areas. Views to the more open valley crests are sensitive due to the largely undeveloped skyline interrupted by occasional woodland blocks. There are also some key channelled views along the valley floor.	A generally tranquil character area with occasional roads crossing the valley rather than running along the valley floor. The A1065 is locally dominant close to Ickburgh.	The character area is a mosaic of plantation woodland, pasture fields and wet woodland.
	Value		Susceptibility		Sensitivity
	Medium		High		High
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is important at a community level due to its natural features such as the river, its associated landform and woodland cover. The tranquillity of the natural landscape is important at a community level but there is limited accessibility to the landscape due to a lack of PRow. Much of the area is designated as SSSI.		The character area is defined by the river and its valley landform, the valley includes a high proportion of vegetation cover and small-scale field pattern which would be susceptible to change.		The high value attached to the landscape and the high susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a high sensitivity.

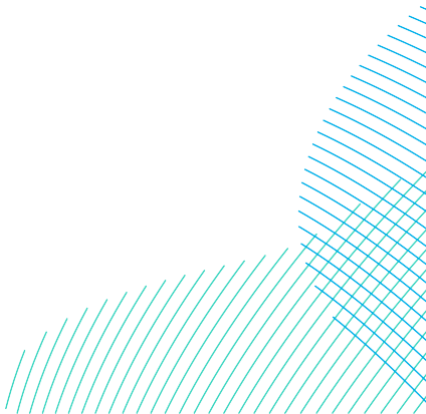


Table 6 LCA A3: River Wissey - Assessment of effects

LCA A3: River Wissey	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by construction of the Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 3km away at the closest point, and the enclosed nature of the river valley LCA.	No effect
Year 1 operation (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 3km away at the closest point, and the enclosed nature of the river valley LCA.	No effect
Year 15 operation (summer)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the Proposed Development. Furthermore, there are no important views between the landscape receptor and the Proposed Development that would impact the setting of the landscape receptor.	No effect

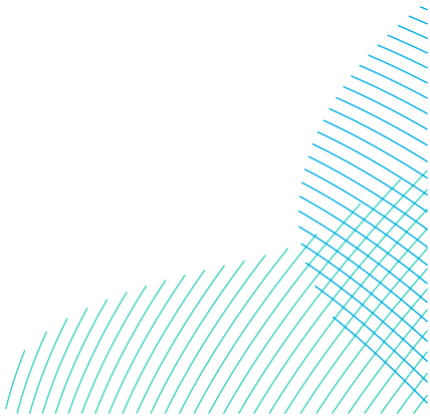
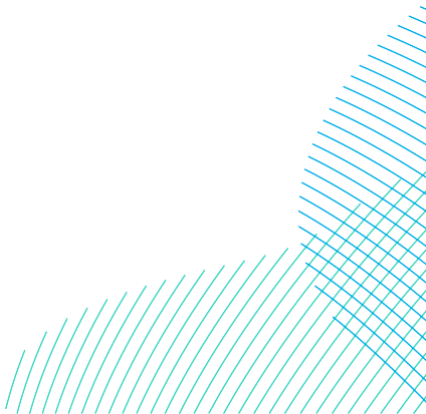
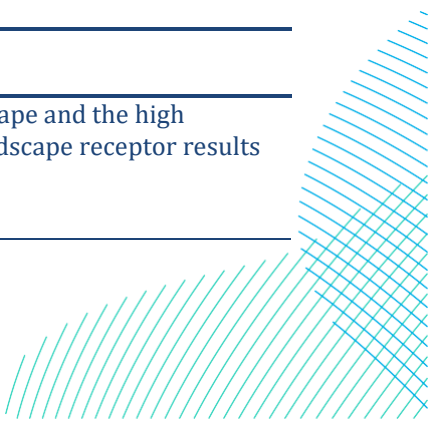


Table 7 LCA A4: River Wensum and Blackwater - Baseline

LCA A4: River Wensum and Blackwater				BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area			
District	Mid Norfolk		n/a			
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments			
Breckland District Landscape Character Assessment (2007)	Within the study area		Norfolk Vanguard (EN010079) Norfolk Boreas (EN010087)			
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape					
The Wensum and Blackwater in the north eastern part of Breckland District flows east from North Norfolk in the north and continuing into Broadland District to the east. The valley character is distinct from the surrounding Wensum and Tud Settled tributary farmland.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LCA.	Conservation Area Registered Parks and Gardens County Wildlife Sites SAC SSSI SPA National Cycle Network Country Parks	Drift deposits of sand and gravel were deposited by glacial meltwater and are a characteristic feature of the valley sides. The drift deposits have a strong influence on the soils in the valley and have significantly influenced both the early colonisation and the development of agriculture and industrial activity. The mosaic of meadow and marsh habitats, including one of the most extensive reedbeds in the country outside the Broads, provides a niche for a wide variety of specialised flora and fauna. The ecological importance of the character area is represented by the number of ecological designations, and the designation of the entire River Wensum as an SSSI and SPA (SAC). In addition, Bentley and Hoe Meadows, Mill Common and Dillington Carr are all designated as SSSI's. Important habitats include osier and alder plantations and carrs, pollarded willows which occur along the river bank and calcareous grassland on the valley floor. Alder carrs have been evident in Norfolk since the 13th Century. A small number of ancient woodlands occur within the	Land within the floodplain is still traditionally managed for hay crops and by grazing, creating a range of important grassland habitats some of which are seasonally inundated. Numerous weirs were constructed along the River Wensum in the 19th century to control the water level, providing an adequate head of water for the mills. Mills were used for a variety of uses, but particularly for the production of paper. Substantial areas of parkland were laid out in the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries, the houses themselves often being constructed outside of the River Wensum character area, but their grounds having a strong influence on character within the valley, for example Sennowe Park in the north (with Sennowe Hall itself located outside Breckland District). During the 19th century the river was dammed to create large lakes which are a feature of the floodplain today. During the medieval period, cultivation would have continued in places on the valley sides with grazed pasture land on the valley floor. Medieval enclosure is still evident in the landscape, in the form of very small	Whilst areas of the landscape are interrupted due to the former mineral extraction, the remaining areas of valley floodplain are currently in good condition and there is little evidence of the condition declining. There is evidence that traditional management techniques are being used; the floodplain is characterised by active grazing and the traditional osier and alder carrs have been retained. There are various initiatives to maintain the character of the valley, including the Wensum Valley Project which is a partnership of Local Authorities aiming to conserve wildlife, landscape and heritage, improve countryside access and promote community action and involvement in the Wensum Valley. There are numerous relic and operational sand and gravel extraction pits along the valley. Operational pits include the pit adjacent to Billingford Common, but there are a greater number of pits which have been abandoned.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.



LCA A4: River Wensum and Blackwater				BASELINE			
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area				
			character area, e.g. at Sennowe Park and near Worthing Mill. Woodland species also include ash, oak, hazel and birch. The entire character area falls into the core areas category of the Ecological Network Mapping Project for Norfolk due to its variety of riparian habitats and biodiversity value. It is also highlighted as an area for reedbed creation and coastal and floodplain grazing marsh. Reedbeds are identified as priority habitats within the Norfolk BAP.	fields surrounding settlements (e.g. south of Gressenhall) on the valley sides. Drainage of land within the valley during the last two to three hundred years using an extensive network of drainage ditches has lowered the water table and made the pastureland more productive.			
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)		Functional
• An easterly draining catchment carved into Upper Chalk and overlying chalky boulder clay. Glacial sands and gravel form deposits within the river channel, as well as alluvial sediments which are overlain by the silty/sandy soils of the valley. • Glacial sands and gravels have been exploited through mineral workings, with a large number of active and disused pits. Redundant workings have created a chain of lakes with large parts of the valley floor being open water. • Topography ranges from 20-40m AOD, and forms a broad, shallow valley. • The presence of hedgerow trees and small blocks of woodland creates an enclosed character with framed views of the flat valley floor, and along the rural road network. • There are occasional views up the valley sides to the crests with landmark buildings such as Swanton Morley church and Bylaugh Hall being visually prominent. • Parts of the valley floor comprise small, grazed fields, divided by ditches and dykes creating a distinctive landscape pattern and habitat. Willows, alder and poplar punctuate the flat open landscape. Black poplars are a distinctive feature. • Remnant pockets of heath survive within the valley on areas of sand and gravel drift. • The higher ground of the valley sides is characterised by arable cultivation, with some areas of pasture. Fields are bounded by mature hedgerows and hedgerow trees. • The valley is ecologically rich, representing a variety of habitats. The entire river channel is designated as a SSSI and a SPA, with adjacent areas of wet unimproved meadow, fen scrub and alder carr (also a SAC). The valley also contains Bentley and Hoe Meadows SSSI, Dillington	A strong character is created by the meandering river course, associated wetland habitats, small scale grazed pastures and network of ditches and the traditional built structures such as the brick bridges and weatherboard mills. All of these features combine to create an intimate but varied landscape.	Recreational opportunities are provided by rights of way although there is limited pedestrian access to the river. The commons (open access land) however provide a notable recreational opportunity.	Views out of the character area to the crest of the valley are limited by the woodland blocks and wooded lanes, but there are occasional framed views up to landmark buildings on the crest of the valley as at Swanton Morley Church and Bylaugh Hall. The open views across the flat valley floor are sensitive to further built development or the creation of large areas of uncharacteristic woodland planting, which would jar with the existing small blocks of wet woodland and alder and willow carr. The framed views to an open/undeveloped valley crest are sensitive to encroachment by any form of development, particularly extension of residential development and tall structures which would be very dominant within the small-scale context of the valley.		Although the river and immediately surrounding grazed pasture creates relative tranquillity, the pattern of the character area is reduced by occasional visual instances of unsympathetic after use design of the sand and gravel pits, and by encroachment of settlement in localised areas.		Arable land interspersed with small-scale mixed woodland plantation.
Value		Susceptibility		Sensitivity			
Medium		High		High			
The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is important at a community level due to its natural features such as the river, its associated landform and woodland cover. Settlement encroachment and		The character area is defined by the river and its valley landform, the valley includes a high proportion of vegetation cover and small-scale field pattern. Local landmarks re		The high value attached to the landscape and the high susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a high sensitivity.			



LCA A4: River Wensum and Blackwater			BASELINE
Hierarchy	National Character Area	District Character Area	
Carr SSSI and Mill Common SSSI. • Within the valley floor there is one Scheduled Monument, a moated site south east of Spong Bridge. The mill at North Elmham indicates the history of human interventions on the Wensum and is indicative of a former network of mills along the river. • Brick hump back bridges form characteristic bridging points, whilst weirs and brick and weatherboard mills are distinctive features. Verges and hedgerows lining the narrow rural roads are an important landscape and wildlife feature. • Settlement is characteristically scattered farmsteads, hamlets and mills, plus occasional edges of villages (such as North Elmham and Beetley) which have spread into the valley from the adjacent Wensum and Tud Settled tributary farmland.	human activity such as sand and gravel pits reduce perceived wildness and tranquillity locally. The entirety of the River Wensum is designated as a SSSI and SAC.	occasionally visible from the valley sides as key views. These features make the character area susceptible to change.	

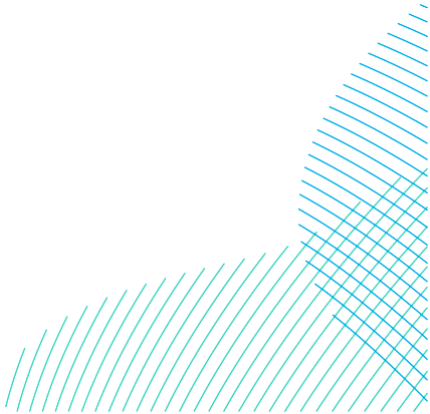


Table 8 LCA A4: River Wensum and Blackwater - Assessment of effects

LCA A4: River Wensum and Blackwater	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by construction of the Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 1.2km away at the closest point, and the enclosed nature of the river valley LCA.	No effect
Year 1 operation (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 1.2km away at the closest point, and the enclosed nature of the river valley LCA.	No effect
Year 15 operation (summer)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the Proposed Development. Furthermore, there are no important views between the landscape receptor and the Proposed Development that would impact the setting of the landscape receptor.	No effect

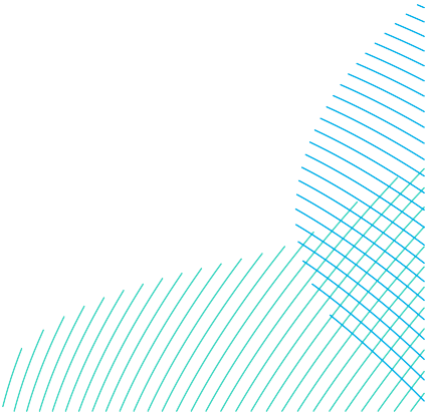
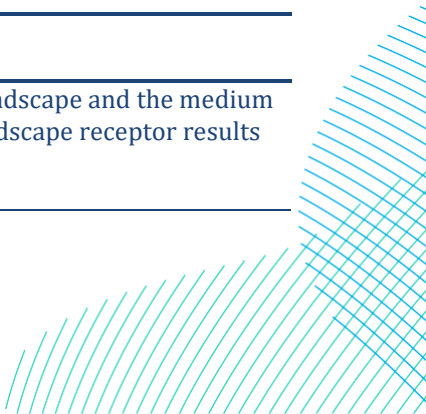


Table 9 LCA B4: River Blackwater Tributary Farmland - Baseline

LCA B4: River Blackwater Tributary Farmland				BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area			
District	Mid Norfolk		n/a			
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments			
Breckland District Landscape Character Assessment (2007)	Within the study area		n/a			
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape					
The character area is located on the eastern edge of Breckland, forming a narrow section of gently undulating land surrounding the upper course of the upper River Yare extending from Shipdham in the west to Hardingham in the east. To the north, south and west the character area is bounded by the more elevated arable plateau landscape type, defined approximately by the 50m contour and the transition to a flatter more open and exposed character. To the east, the boundary is formed by the administrative boundary - an area of similar character continuing into South Norfolk District.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LCA.	Scheduled Monuments Conservation Area County Wildlife Sites Country Park	There are small, isolated areas of mixed woodland, particularly to the south of the character area surrounding the settlement of Hardingham and an area of ancient woodland at Woodrising. Information from the veteran tree survey shows there to be veteran trees of various species throughout the character area. Mixed hedgerows, with mature hedgerow trees define field boundaries. Norfolk BAP priority habitats including broadleaf woodland and cereal field margins.	There are four Scheduled Monuments within the character area, representing human habitation at various points throughout history, including the remains of a Roman villa west of Woodrising and a deserted Medieval Village south east of Letton Hall. Faden’s 1979 Map shows two areas of parklands at Hardingham. The parkland setting of Hardingham Hall remains as a landscape feature today. The parklands of Letton Hall, a late 18th Century house by Sir John Soane, are an important landscape feature.	The landscape is a managed, functional and productive arable agricultural landscape, although it retains localised areas of its historic character, notably with surviving Enclosure field boundaries and the commons associated with the historic settlements. Apart from occasional areas of semi-natural woodland, there are few habitats of nature conservation value and ecological integrity is relatively weak.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)	Functional
• Deposits of chalky boulder clay glacial overlying the chalk creates a gently undulating landform topography ranging from 40-60m AOD. • Tributary valleys form small scale local undulations in the landscape, characterised by alluvial deposits along the bed of the tributary. • An enclosed landscape with views frequently contained by landform and field boundary vegetation. • Land cover is predominantly arable interspersed with isolated blocks of mixed woodland and wooded strips to field boundaries. • Woodland blocks are characteristically small. They include small areas of mixed plantation plus Ancient Woodland at Woodrising. • Variable field pattern, ranging from small geometric fields e.g. adjacent to Reymerston to very large irregular fields.	Whilst the landscape character is predominately productive arable, areas of preserved historic landscape create important landscape features, such as the parklands associated with historic estates.	The network of rights of way is limited but provides opportunities for connection with the River Yare in the adjacent character area.	This is a medium scale and semi enclosed landscape, with views contained by the undulating landform and field boundary vegetation. Letton Hall, just 100m from the character area boundary, has reaching views over the surrounding landscape.		The small-scale settlement pattern, low density of roads and arable land use together result in a peaceful, rural character.	Predominately arable land.
	Value		Susceptibility		Sensitivity	
	Medium		Medium		Medium	
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is important at a community level as a rural landscape but exhibits few other indicators of		The character area is predominantly formed by medium and large-scale fields which are less susceptible to change. Smaller scale field patterns are located close to small		The medium value attached to the landscape and the medium susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a medium sensitivity.	



LCA B4: River Blackwater Tributary Farmland			BASELINE
Hierarchy	National Character Area	District Character Area	
• Hedgerows are in variable condition. Veteran trees are a particular feature of the area, as are historic green lanes. • A number of historic sites including a Roman villa and deserted medieval village represent the long history of human habitation, plus areas of parkland. • A low density of settlement in both a linear (Reymerston) and nucleated (Hardingham) pattern. • A network of narrow rural lanes connects settlements and links to the adjacent River Yare/Blackwater valley. • A generally, peaceful rural character.	enhanced value aside from isolated historic or nature conservation assets.	settlements throughout the character area. Settlement is sparse across the character area.	

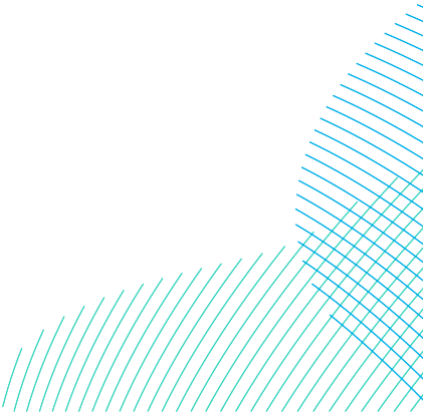


Table 10 LCA B4: River Blackwater Tributary Farmland - Baseline - Assessment of effects

LCA B4: River Blackwater Tributary Farmland	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by construction of the Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which area approximately 1.5km away at the closest point and separated from the LCA by the A1075 and the village of Shipdham.	No effect
Year 1 operation (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which area approximately 1.5km away at the closest point and separated from the LCA by the A1075 and the village of Shipdham.	No effect
Year 15 operation (summer)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the Proposed Development. Furthermore, there are no important views between the landscape receptor and the Proposed Development that would impact the setting of the landscape receptor.	No effect

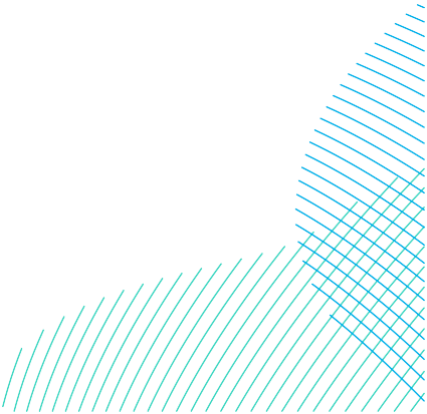
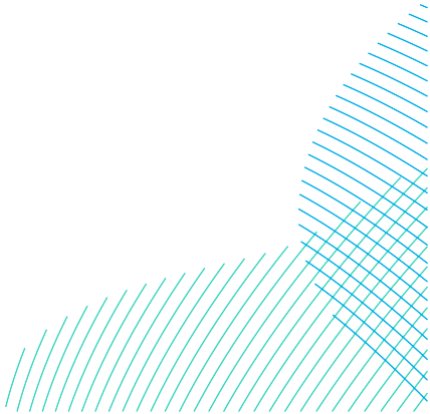


Table 11 LCA B5: River Wissey Tributary Farmland - Baseline

LCA B5: River Wissey Tributary Farmland				BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area			
District	Mid Norfolk / The Brecks		n/a			
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments			
Breckland District Landscape Character Assessment (2007)	Within the draft Order Limits		Norfolk Vanguard (EN010079) Norfolk Boreas (EN010087) Dudgeon Onshore Substation (3PL/2012/0703/F)			
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape					
LCA B5 is located centrally within Breckland District to the north and north west of Watton. It is a gently undulating landscape draining into the River Wissey and rising up to the elevated arable plateau character areas which form the boundary to the character area.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LCA.	Conservation Areas Registered Parks and Gardens Scheduled Monuments County Wildlife Sites National Cycle Network National Trails Country Parks	An extensive network of rural roads crosses the character area, and lined with species rich hedgerows and ditches, both of which are important ecological habitats. The majority of the character area lies within the Ecological Network Mapping Project’s Enhancement Area for woodland, heathland and grassland re-creation. The remainder, land to the south west of the character area falls within the Core Area due to the tributaries which flow into the Wissey through this part of the character area.	There are four Scheduled Monuments within the character area, representing human habitation at various points throughout history, including two moated sites north of Bradenham and a military site at Carbrooke representing the commandry site of St John of Jerusalem. The Peddars Way is an important historic landscape feature within the character area.	The landscape is a managed, functional and productive arable agricultural landscape. Although isolated areas of smaller scale, historic field boundaries exist, 20th century agricultural intensification has resulted in areas of boundary loss, weakening the historic integrity of the character area. Smaller scale features such as tributaries, ditches and Saham Mere create localised pockets of ecological diversity.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)	Functional



LCA B5: River Wissey Tributary Farmland			BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area		
• Lowestoft till glacial deposits give rise to a gently undulating landform interrupted by occasional shallow dry valleys and tributaries. Alluvial deposits are also a feature of the tributaries, overlain with clayey Argillic brown earth soils. • Topography varies between 35 m AOD at the base of the tributary valleys to 80m AOD to the adjacent plateau character areas. • Views within and across the character area are largely contained by mixed enclosure hedges with hedgerow oaks. Hedged and treed skylines are a feature of the landscape. • Arable agriculture is the predominant land cover. Fields are often medium to large in size and bounded by hedgerow and hedgerow trees, of variable condition. Localised areas of smaller fields are found on settlement edges and land adjacent to tributaries. • Fenland is a small-scale feature which provides localised texture and ecological value e.g. at Carbrooke. • The once extensive areas of heathland and common land have been replaced by farmland or woodland e.g. Common Plantation on Necton Common. • Saham Mere and Wide Mere form part of a wider network of groundwater-fed meres forming a hydrological feature specific to Breckland on heathy land to the north of Thetford. • Whilst population density remains low, the area is characterised by a number of villages (both nucleated e.g. Necton and linear e.g. Ovington) which show evidence of infilling and extension. Villages are connected by an extensive rural road network, and sunken lanes are often characteristic. • The Peddars Way is an historically important National Trail which crosses the western extent of the character area before heading southwards towards Great Cressingham.	Isolated pockets of fenland create areas of high ecological value. A network of meres create a unique hydrological landscape feature. The church tower at Necton is a distinctive landmark.	The Peddars Way is a historically important National Trail which crosses the western extent of the character area before heading southwards towards Great Cressingham. Richmond Park Golf Club provides additional recreation opportunity in the character area.	Views are to hedged and wooded skylines, adjacent character areas being generally concealed except for occasional views in to the Wissey Valley and to the surrounding Wayland Plateau and Central Breckland Plateau. The church tower at Necton is a distinctive element of views, as are the wind turbines at Swaffham.	It has relative tranquillity due to its rural character and the network of narrow rural roads which link the compact areas of settlement and small distribution of scattered farmsteads.	Predominantly arable land with intact field boundary framework to the south, near South Pickenham and North Pickenham. There are larger woodland blocks centrally within the LCA proving connecting green infrastructure corridors.
	Value		Susceptibility		Sensitivity
	Medium		Medium		Medium
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is important at a community level as a rural and tranquil landscape. The area includes the Peddars Way which is valued nationally, the route often runs through vegetated corridors or along rural lanes and does not have a strong overall connection to the wider landscape character area visually. The character area exhibits few other indicators of enhanced value aside from isolated historic or nature conservation assets.		The character area is predominantly formed by medium and large-scale arable fields which are less susceptible to change. The area includes intermittent woodland blocks. Smaller-scale and more complex field patterns, which have a higher susceptibility to change, are located close to villages throughout the character area. The character area includes 400kV pylons and the A47 which contribute to lower susceptibility to change locally.		The medium value attached to the landscape and the medium susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a medium sensitivity.

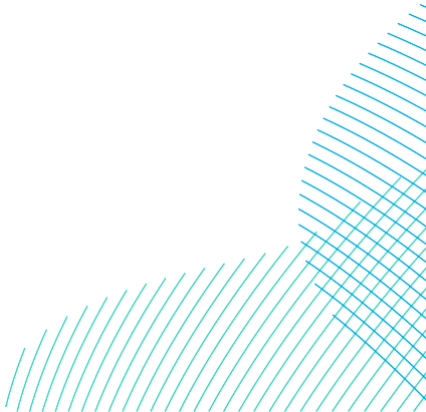


Table 12 LCA B5: River Wissey Tributary Farmland - Assessment of effects

LCA B5: River Wissey Tributary Farmland	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
Low	Minor adverse
Construction of parcels C-05, C-07, C-08, N-10, S-01, S-02, S-03, S-05, S-08, S-09, S-10, S-11, S-12, S-16, S-17 and S-18 would take place within the LCA. Construction activity would predominantly be limited to the fringes of the LCA , with construction at C-07 and C-08 extending furthest into the LCA. Construction compounds within the LCA would include those within C-07 in the northern part of the LCA and S-02 in the eastern part of the LCA. These would include the presence of vehicles and machinery and storage of materials, regular deliveries and access to the compounds via haul routes would increase construction activity across these areas. The northern part of the LCA would include cable laying corridors C-C1, C-C2 and C-N. Activity across the area would include localised vegetation clearance, topsoil stripping and stockpiling and excavation via trenching to lay cables. Further cable laying corridors at the fringes of the LCA around Ashill and Bradenham, include E-S, S-S2, S-S3, S-S4 and S-S5. Within parcels, activity would include; construction of access roads which would require topsoil stripping and excavations; piling for the frames of solar PV modules and presence and operation of associated machinery; installation of BESS and inverters; and the stockpiling and installation of solar PV module frames. 132kV substations are located within parcels C-07 and S-02 and would require tall lifting equipment and associated machinery. The construction phase would result in changes to land cover and temporary, localised changes to landform due to stockpiling of material for cable laying. Whilst the presence and operation of large machinery and excavation works would not be uncharacteristic of an agricultural landscape, the scale of works being undertaken would be incongruous with the LCA. Impacts would be localised to small parcels generally at the fringes of the large LCA. These impacts are therefore considered to be small -scale and would occurs across small geographical extent. Construction impacts would be short term and reversible.	The low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in minor adverse effects, which is not considered significant.
Year 1 operation (winter)	
Very Low	Negligible adverse
Parcels C-05, C-07, C-08, N-10, S-01, S-02, S-03, S-05, S-08, S-09, S-10, S-11, S-12, S-16, S-17 and S-18 would be located within the LCA. The Proposed Development would predominantly be limited to the fringes of the LCA, with C-07 and C-08 extending furthest into the LCA in the north western corner. The parcels would introduce massing across areas that are currently arable land and aesthetic and perceptual landscape character would be altered due to the regular pattern and form of solar arrays and colour tones of the solar frames and solar arrays which differs from the majority of surrounding agricultural fields. Vegetation pattern would be retained across parcels with appropriate offsets applied. 132kV substations would be located within parcels C-07 and S-02 and would introduce further differing infrastructure to that of the regular form and pattern of solar arrays, resulting in a slight increase in the perception of scale of development within the locality. Landform would be reinstated across cable laying corridors C-C1, C-C2, C-N, E-S, S-S2, S-S3, S-S4 and S-S5. In the first few months of operation reinstated areas along the cable laying corridors which were previously grassland would remain perceptible due to newly establishing grassland or replacement ground cover. Small areas of reinstatement planting would be perceptible due to the age of replacement planting and presence of stakes and tree guards. The static nature of the Proposed Development would retain a similar perception to the open and still character of agricultural land with the frequency of maintenance activities remaining similar to that of activity typical of agricultural fields. Proposed hedgerow enhancements, visual screening and buffer planting and green infrastructure connectivity planting across the Proposed Development would not have established. Permissive pathways located in parcels C-0,7 near Sporle, and S-09, S-10, S-11, S-13 and S-14, to the north east of Ashill, would increase recreational accessibility locally. Impacts would be localised to small parcels generally at the fringes of the large LCA. These impacts are therefore considered to be very small-scale and would occurs across small geographical extent. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in negligible adverse effects, which is not considered significant.
Year 15 operation (summer)	



LCA B5: River Wissey Tributary Farmland	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
Very Low	Negligible adverse
At operation year 15, established planting across all parcels within the LCA would help integrate the parcels into the landscape. Hedgerow enhancement planting across parcel C-07 and woodland buffer planting along its western boundary would strengthen field boundaries and the pattern of the landscape as well as strengthening the sense of enclosure across the parcel and limiting its zone of influence. Hedgerow planting along he northern boundary of parcel S-02 would also contribute to the strengthening of field pattern locally. Native grassland proposed below solar arrays would be established and would be beneficial for landcover and biodiversity value. Reinstatement planting across Cable Corridors C-C1, C-C2, C-N, E-S, S-S2, S-S3, S-S4 and S-S5 would be established resulting in cable routes being barely perceptible within the landscape. Beneficial changes such as green infrastructure improvements and strengthening of landscape pattern through improvements to boundary planting are balanced against the long term presence of solar arrays and associated infrastructure including substations and BESS. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in negligible adverse effects, which is not considered significant.

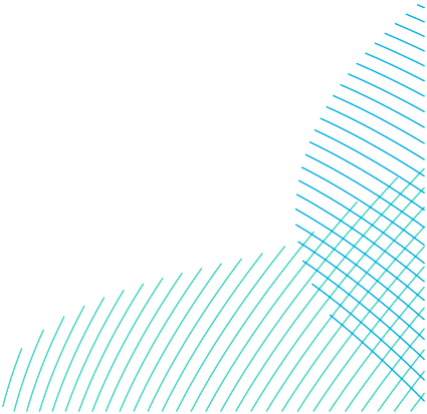
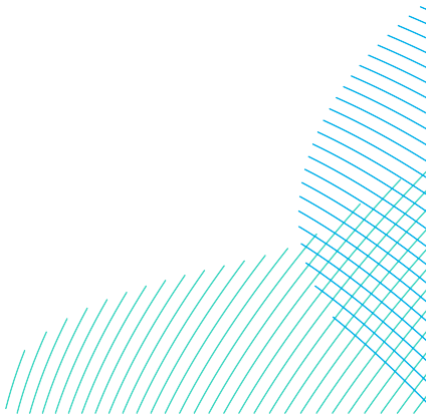


Table 13 LCA B6: River Wensum and Tud Tributary Farmland - Baseline

LCA B6: River Wensum and Tud Tributary Farmland				BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area			
District	Mid Norfolk		n/a			
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments			
Breckland District Landscape Character Assessment (2007)	Within the draft Order Limits		Norfolk Vanguard (EN010079) Norfolk Boreas (EN010087)			
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape					
The Wensum and Tud Settled Tributary Farmland is located in the north eastern part of Breckland District and represents a large area of boulder clay drift deposits which have resulted in a gently undulating arable farmland landscape interspersed with tributaries. The boundaries of the character area are determined by river valleys (River Tud and River Wensum) and surrounding arable plateau character areas, with the landscape type extending beyond the district boundary into North Norfolk District to the north and Broadland District to the east.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LCA.	Conservation Area Registered Parks and Gardens SSSI Scheduled Monuments County Wildlife Sites SAC National Cycle Network Country Parks	There are two large areas of ancient woodland designated as SSSIs (Hockering Wood and Foxley Wood). There are a number of Norfolk BAP priority habitats within the character area, including broadleaf woodland and cereal field margins. The veteran trees survey demonstrates that there is a concentration of veteran trees in the south east of the character area.	Three Scheduled Monuments exist within the character area, all located to the west of the River Wensum. The remains of an Anglo-Saxon church at North Elmham, and the remains of a Premonstratensian Abbey at Wendling dating from the 13th century demonstrate a long history of human activity.	This is a productive, managed agricultural landscape, although the number of national and county level nature designations demonstrate the character area’s ecological potential, and this is reinforced by the range of habitats present. Interruptions due to the A47 and occasional harsh settlement edges locally disrupt the landscape pattern.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)	Functional



LCA B6: River Wensum and Tud Tributary Farmland			BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area		
• Lowestoft till glacial deposits give rise to a gently undulating landform interrupted by occasional shallow dry valleys and tributaries. Topography ranges from 20-50 metres AOD. • Alluvial deposits are a feature of the tributaries and dry valleys. Argillic brown earths dominate the character area • Views within the area are often to tree lined or wooded skylines, with the wooded skyline of Bylaugh Park being particularly distinctive. • Arable agriculture represents the dominant land use, although pasture is also evident, particularly associated with the minor tributaries. • Tributaries of the River Tud and Wensum cross the arable landscape creating small scale, ecologically diverse features e.g. wet meadow, wet woodland, and marshland a number of which are designated as County Wildlife Sites. • Hedgerows and hedgerow trees bound fields of variable size. Occasional drainage systems on wetter land adjacent to tributaries create a smaller scale landscape pattern. • Fields are characteristically medium to large in size, although small-scale fields adjoin the drains and tributaries e.g. surrounding Yaxham at the head of the River Tud. • Occasional woodland takes the form of small blocks (including wet woodland alongside tributaries), or larger woodland blocks associated with historic features e.g. Hockering Wood SSSI (Ancient Woodland) and woodland associated with parkland e.g. Bylaugh. • Gressenhall Park, Sennowe Park (partly within the character area) and the wooded, parkland setting of Bylaugh Park are the few remaining reminders of the past wealth and former estate influence within of the character area. • Settlement pattern is characterised by frequent dispersed farmsteads and hamlets and larger villages clustered around the rural road network in both a linear (Clint Green) and nucleated (Gressenhall) settlement pattern. • Distinctive vernacular building materials include Norfolk red brick and clay lump at Yaxham. Churches at East Bilney and North Elmham are distinctive elements. • A network of hedgerow lined rural roads characteristically connect the settlements. The A47 crosses east to west across the character area and is a major route into Dereham. • This is a arable landscape that generally retains a tranquil rural character.	The two ancient woodland SSSIs are distinctive, particularly in April where bluebell carpets can be seen in Hockering Wood.	Recreational routes through Hockering Wood during open summer months with bluebell carpets in April. Penny Spot beck hiking area connects fluvial and woodland habitats which spread further across the character area.	The key visual sensitivities are the wooded skylines. The most significant woodland is associated with Bylaugh Park and the large blocks of ancient woodland, but the smaller scale woodland associated with tributaries also contributes to the generally wooded character.	The landscape has a distinct, small-scale pattern around its settlements. The A47 creates a localised interruption within the landscape, although it does not detract from the overall sense of tranquillity.	Arable land interspersed with residential settlements, farmhouses and woodland plantations.
	Value		Susceptibility		Sensitivity
	Medium		Low		Medium
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is important at a community level as a rural and relatively tranquil landscape. There are a number of nature conservation and heritage designations across the character area which are valued, but the area does not represent a comprehensive network of designated or nationally important sites. The character area has a concentration of PRow routes at Penny Spot Beck which is important at a community level and provides access to the rural landscape.		The character area is predominantly formed by medium and large-scale arable fields which are less susceptible to change. The character area includes parts that are influenced by the A47 as well as the urban edge of Dereham which are less susceptible. Areas of small-scale and more complex field pattern, which have a higher susceptibility to change, are typically located closes to smaller settlements and at the edges of the adjacent River Wensum and River Blackwater valleys.		The medium value attached to the landscape and the low susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a medium sensitivity.

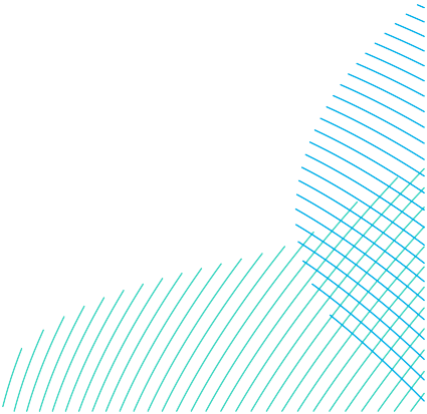
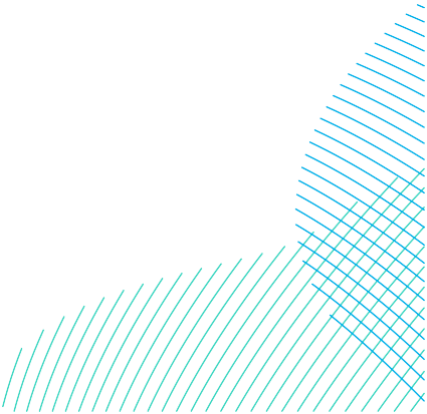


Table 14 LCA B6: River Wensum and Tud Tributary Farmland – Assessment of effects

LCA B6: River Wensum and Tud Tributary Farmland	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
Low	Minor adverse
Construction of parcels N-01, N-02, N-03, N-04, N-06, N-07, N-08, E-01, E-02, E-03, E-04, E-05, E-07, E-08, E-09 and E-10 would take place within the LCA. Construction activity would be limited to the western fringe of the LCA. Construction compounds within the LCA would include those within parcels N-01, N-02, N-03, E-01 and E-08. These would include the presence of vehicles and machinery and storage of materials, regular deliveries and access to the compounds via haul routes would increase construction activity across these areas. The western part of the LCA would include cable laying corridors N-N1, N-N2, N-E1, N-E2, E-E1, E-E2 and E-E3. Activity across the area would include localised vegetation clearance, topsoil stripping and stockpiling and excavation via trenching to lay cables. Within parcels, activity would include; construction of access roads which would require topsoil stripping and excavations; piling for the frames of solar PV modules and presence and operation of associated machinery; installation of BESS and inverters; and the stockpiling and installation of solar PV module frames. A 132kV substation is located within parcel E-08 and would require tall lifting equipment and associated machinery. The construction phase would result in changes to land cover and temporary, localised changes to landform due to stockpiling of material for cable laying. Whilst the presence and operation of large machinery and excavation works would not be uncharacteristic of an agricultural landscape, the scale of works being undertaken would be incongruous with the LCA. Impacts would be localised to small parcels at the western fringe of the much larger LCA. These impacts are therefore considered to be small -scale and would occur across small geographical extent. Construction impacts would be short term and reversible.	The low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in minor adverse effects, which is not considered significant.
Year 1 operation (winter)	
Very Low	Negligible adverse
Parcels N-01, N-02, N-03, N-04, N-06, N-07, N-08, E-01, E-02, E-03, E-04, E-05, E-07, E-08, E-09 and E-10 would be located within the LCA. The Proposed Development would be confined to the western fringe of the LCA. The parcels would introduce massing across areas that are currently arable land and aesthetic and perceptual landscape character would be altered due to the regular pattern and form of solar arrays and colour tones of the solar frames and solar arrays which differs from the majority of surrounding agricultural fields. Vegetation pattern would be retained across parcels with appropriate offsets applied. A 132kV substation would be located within parcel E-08 and would introduce further differing infrastructure to that of the regular form and pattern of solar arrays, resulting in a slight increase in the perception of scale of development within the locality. Landform would be reinstated across cable laying corridors N-N1, N-N2, N-E1, N-E2, E-E1, E-E2 and E-E3. In the first few months of operation reinstated areas along the cable laying corridors which were previously grassland would remain perceptible due to newly establishing grassland or replacement ground cover. Small areas of reinstatement planting would be perceptible due to the age of replacement planting and presence of stakes and tree guards. The static nature of the Proposed Development would retain a similar perception to the open and still character of agricultural land with the frequency of maintenance activities remaining similar to that of activity typical of agricultural fields. Proposed hedgerow enhancements, visual screening and buffer planting and green infrastructure connectivity planting across the Proposed Development would not have established. Permissive pathways located in parcel N-02, near Wendling, would increase recreational accessibility locally. Impacts would be localised to small parcels across the much wider LCA and would generally be confined to the western fringe of the LCA. These impacts are therefore considered to be very small-scale and would occur across a small geographical extent.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in negligible adverse effects, which is not considered significant.



Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	
Year 15 operation (summer)	
Very Low	Negligible adverse
At operation year 15, established planting across all parcels within the LCA would help integrate the parcels into the landscape. Hedgerow enhancement planting across parcels N-01 and N-02, near Wendling would strengthen field boundaries and help integrate the panel arrays by breaking up the uniform regularity of massing. Native grassland proposed below solar arrays would be established and would be beneficial for landcover and biodiversity value. Reinstatement planting across Cable Corridors N-N1, N-N2, N-E1, N-E2, E-E1, E-E2 and E-E3 would be established resulting in cable routes being barely perceptible within the landscape. Beneficial changes such as green infrastructure improvements and strengthening of landscape pattern through improvements to boundary planting are balanced against the long term presence of solar arrays and associated infrastructure including substations and BESS. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in negligible adverse effects, which is not considered significant.

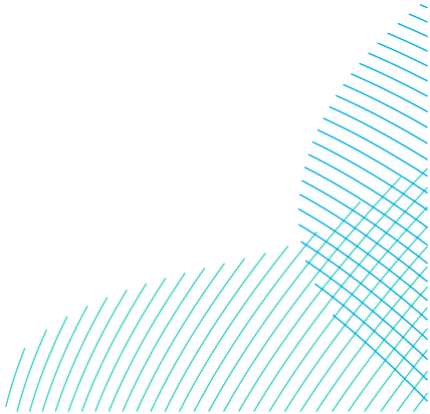
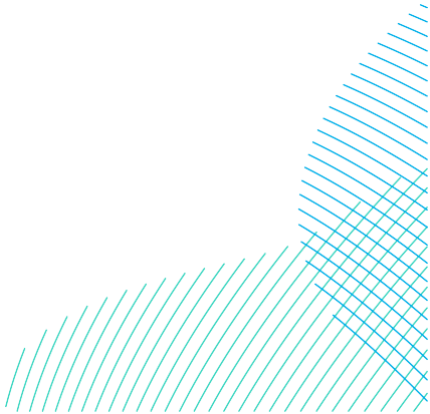


Table 15 LCA B7: River Nar Tributary Farmland - Baseline

LCA B7: River Nar Tributary Farmland				BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area			
District	Mid Norfolk, Mid Norfolk, North West Norfolk		n/a			
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments			
Breckland District Landscape Character Assessment (2007)	Within the study area		n/a			
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape					
The River Nar Settled Tributary Farmland is located in the north western part of Breckland District, adjacent to character area F1: River Nar. It is characterised by a gently sloping landform, formed by glacial drift deposits of sand, gravel, clay and silt. The character area is bounded to the north by Whissonsett Plateau and to the south by North Pickenham Plateau, with the landscape type extending into the neighbouring authority of Kings Lynn and West Norfolk to the west and into North Norfolk District to the north.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LCA.	Conservation Area Registered Parks and Gardens Scheduled Monuments Local Nature Reserves SAC SSSI National Cycle Network National Trails Country Parks	Landcover includes parkland trees and mixed estate woodlands associated with Lexham Hall, in addition to parkland grassland. The character area is identified within the Norfolk Ecological Network Mapping Project as falling within an Enhancement Area for Heathland, Grassland and Woodland Creation. Ecological potential is illustrated by a number of sites which are designated as County Wildlife Sites in view of their local biodiversity interest. These include the wooded common at Bilney Common and the woodland at Fox Covert.	Lexham Hall parkland and woodlands, once belonging to John Wodehouse, are extant. The continuity of settlement and human intervention is illustrated by a range of historic features, including tumuli at Great Wood, Litcham Priory, the ruined church at Kempstone and a number of moated sites, in addition to Saxon round towered churches, e.g. West Lexham.	This is a well managed and productive landscape, although historical and ecological integrity vary across the character area. The landscape associated with Lexham Hall is more historically intact and ecologically diverse than the areas under arable cultivation in the eastern part of the character area, meaning much of the historic common land has been lost.	Faden’s survey identifies Lexham Hall as belonging to Sir John Wodehouse (Liberal Politician, First Earl of Kimberley) and a minor estate to the north of Litcham.
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)	Functional



LCA B7: River Nar Tributary Farmland			BASELINE							
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area							
• Lowestoft till glacial deposits give rise to a subtly undulating landform interrupted by occasional shallow dry valleys and tributaries. • Alluvial deposits are a feature of the tributaries and dry valleys. Clayey Argillic brown earths dominate the character area and support a range of arable crops. • The topography is gently undulating and sloping in places, particularly where associated with the course of the Nar, and ranges from 45-75m AOD. • Due to landform and the varied range of landcover elements, views are essentially framed and intermittent, with wooded skylines often evident. • A diverse range of landcover elements includes historic parkland (Lexham Hall, a large part of which lies in the adjoining River Nar character area), mixed plantation and grazing pasture, together with arable agriculture in the eastern part of the character area. • Enclosure hedges with hedgerow trees define the medium-large scale arable field network, with some post and rail fenced boundaries associated with the Lexham Hall Estate. • A number of sites within the character area are designated as County Wildlife Sites in view of their local biodiversity interest. These include the wooded common at Bilney Common and woodland at Fox Covert. • The continuity of settlement and human intervention is illustrated by a range of historic features, including tumuli at Great Wood, Litcham Priory, the ruined church at Kempstone and a number of moated sites, in addition to Saxon round towered churches, e.g. West Lexham. • Distinctive elements include the parkland of Lexham Hall and associated stands of parkland tree planting, together with a number of field boundary tributaries and wooded skylines created by pine belts. • Settlement pattern is often nucleated and centred on an historic village core, as at Litcham and Tittleshall, and more occasionally linear, as at Stanfield. In addition there is a scattered distribution of small farmsteads associated with the narrow rural road network. • The range of landcover elements creates a distinctly textured, varied landscape, which is of a broadly unified and , estate and agricultural character.	This is a varied landscape which is unified by the undulating landform and the managed estate and farmland character. The well managed, designed landscape of Lexham Hall is an important and distinctive element of the local landscape, and its influence is extended through blocks of mixed estate plantation woodland.	Opportunities for recreation and access are provided by open access land at Litcham Common (Nature Reserve), in addition to a network of rights of way.	Views are contained by landform and by woodland vegetation, either as plantation woodland or wooded field boundary strips and field boundary hedgerows. A wooded skyline is evident at points, with scots pine belts limiting instances of intervisibility with adjacent landscapes. Key visual sensitivities include the prominent wooded skylines and the views across to Lexham Hall parkland and the course of the Nar within the adjacent character area.	The landscape is a combination of arable agriculture, historic parkland mixed with plantation and grazing pasture, creating a generally tranquil feel to the character area.	Arable land interspersed with mixed plantation and grazing pasture.					
						Value		Susceptibility		Sensitivity
						Medium		Low		Medium
The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is important at a community level for its textured land cover and varied character owing to its mixed mosaic of plantation woodlands, parkland, commons and Nature Reserves which provide an element of ecological value. The historic Lexham Hall and views across its parkland are a unique element of the character area, and the presence of National Trails and National Cycle Network Route 13 make this particularly impactful. Integrity of historic field boundaries, however, has been lost in places, as has much of the historic common land.		The character area is predominantly formed by medium and large-scale arable fields, is sparsely populated and has large areas with no PRoW access. There are some areas of higher susceptibility close to small rural settlements and along narrow tributary corridors due to smaller scale and more complex field patterns.		The medium value attached to the landscape and the low susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a medium sensitivity.						

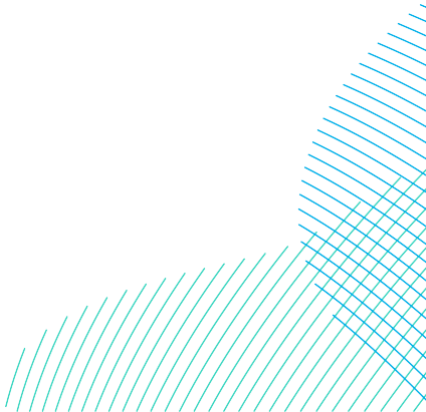


Table 16 LCA B7: River Nar Tributary Farmland - Assessment of effects

LCA B7: River Nar Tributary Farmland	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
Very Low	Negligible adverse
There would be no physical impacts to the LCA. Construction of the central parcels and Cable Corridor C-C1 would occur approximately 200m to the south of the LCA. Within parcels to the south, activity would include; construction of access roads which would require topsoil stripping and excavations; piling for the frames of solar PV modules and presence and operation of associated machinery; installation of BESS and inverters; and the stockpiling and installation of solar PV module frames. 132kV substations are located within the central parcels but it is not anticipated the increased activity at these locations would be perceptible to the setting of the LCA. The construction phase would result in barely perceptible changes to land cover and temporary, localised changes to landform due to stockpiling of material for cable laying outside of the LCA. Whilst the presence and operation of large machinery and excavation works would not be uncharacteristic of an agricultural landscape, the scale of works being undertaken would be incongruous with the LCA. Impacts to the setting of the LCA would be barely perceptible across a very small part of the large LCA. These impacts are therefore considered to be very small-scale and would occur across a very small geographical extent. Construction impacts would be short term and reversible.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in negligible adverse effects, which is not considered significant.
Year 1 operation (winter)	
Very Low	Negligible adverse
There would be no physical impacts to the LCA. Parcel C-03 would be located approximately 200m to the south of the LCA. The parcels would introduce massing across areas that contribute to the setting of the LCA. The areas are currently arable land and aesthetic and perceptual landscape character would be altered due to the regular pattern and form of solar arrays and colour tones of the solar frames and solar arrays which differs from the majority of surrounding agricultural fields. Vegetation pattern would be retained across parcels with appropriate offsets applied. Changes to the setting due to cable laying corridor C-C1 would be barely perceptible as landform would be reinstated. Proposed hedgerow enhancements, visual screening and buffer planting and green infrastructure connectivity planting across the Proposed Development would not have established. Impacts to the setting of the LCA would be barely perceptible across a very small part of the large LCA. These impacts are therefore considered to be very small -scale and would occur across a very small geographical extent. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in negligible adverse effects, which is not considered significant.
Year 15 operation (summer)	
Very Low	Negligible adverse
At operation year 15, established planting across all Parcels within the contextual landscape of the LCA would help integrate the Parcels into the landscape. Woodland buffer planting along the northern boundary of C-03 would reduce the perception of development within the contextual landscape as it would blend with surrounding field pattern and vegetation. Reinstatement planting along Cable Corridor C-C1 would be stablished resulting in no change to the setting of the LCA as a result of cable routing. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in negligible adverse effects, which is not considered significant.

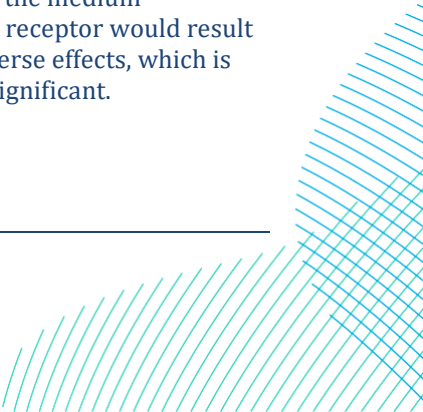
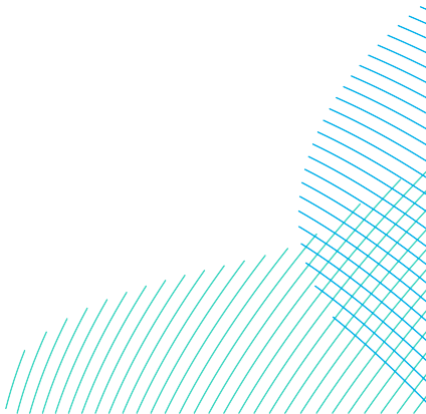


Table 17 LCA D1: Swaffham Heath - Baseline

LCA D1: Swaffham Heath				BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area			
District	The Brecks		Breckland District			
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments			
Breckland District Landscape Character Assessment (2007)	Within the draft Order Limits		Land to the South of Lynn Road (FUL/2023/0047)			
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape					
A large area of the Breckland Heathland with Plantation landscape type located to the north west, west and south west of Swaffham, with character defined primarily by the land use of arable farmland, historic parklands and plantation woodland and distinctive Scot’s pine belts. To the north the character area boundary is marked by the adjacent River Nar character area and to the west by the district boundary and a change in character to a more settled area of farmland and plantations. To the south and east the landform falls towards the River Wissey.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LCA.	Conservation Area Registered Parks and Gardens Scheduled Monuments County Wildlife Sites SPA SAC SSSI National Cycle Network National Trails Country Parks	Significant areas of the character area are covered by nature conservation designations, representing its ecological value. Large blocks of the character area are designated as part of Breckland Farmland SSSI (SPA), with the arable farmland notable for supporting almost half the stone curlews in Britain, nesting in the cultivated land favouring the areas of bare ground and very short vegetation. The majority of the Breckland Forest SSSI (SPA) lies outside of the character area, but plantation woodland at Cockleycley Heath and Swaffham Heath are parts of the SSSI. Gooderstone Warren is designated as a SPA. Field enclosure is provided by hedgerows of various condition and species composition. Historic, contorted scots pine wind breaks form a strong vertical feature in the flat landscape, as are localised areas of hedges of fast growing coniferous species. The grassy banks and field edges are very important to the conservation of the remnant Breckland grass-heath habitats. The entire character area	A number of parklands both extant and remnant signify the past wealth of this part of Breckland, notably the Historic Park and Garden at Pickenham Hall and the former estate of the now destroyed Didlington Hall. Various parkland elements are visible within the character area, such as the vista to Cockleycley Hall.	This is a functional managed landscape with an eroding character in places due to loss of characteristic elements, notably heathland, degraded field boundaries, and changes in farming. The arable farmland provides a valuable habitat for farmland birds.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.



LCA D1: Swaffham Heath				BASELINE	
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area		
			falls within the 'Core Area' as defined by the Ecological Mapping Project for Norfolk. Core areas represent significant concentrations of high quality extant habitat. The high quality habitat represented within character area D1 is Breckland Forest and area of remnant heath.		
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)	Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)	Functional
• Drift deposits of sand, clay and gravel create a gently undulating landscape, with topography ranging from 10-70m AOD across the character area. • Free draining sandy soils support the functional land cover of arable cultivation, pig farming and plantation woodland. • Ancient, contorted scots pine shelterbelts and screening belts of trees provide shelter to the easily eroded brown soils and are a prominent landscape feature. • At Cockleycley Heath and Swaffham Heath, the woodland plantation blocks create a visually prominent feature in the landscape. • The large scale arable fields are delineated by hedgerows in variable condition from occasional species rich intact hedgerows with hedgerow trees, thorn hedges and pine lines. • Breckland Farmland SSSI covers a large part of the character area – the cultivated land proving a habitat for stone curlew. A smaller area of Breckland Forest SSSI also covers part of the area. • A large scale landscape, with an open, windswept character, quiet and seemingly remote in places. • Historic parklands and parkland features such as lodge houses, rides/long vistas and parkland species are evident in the landscape. • Sparsely populated - the settlement pattern is characterised by scattered Halls, farm buildings and a small number of nucleated villages and hamlets. Churches are often isolated. • Distinctive building materials of knapped flint, clunch and brick • The areas of open access land associated with plantations at Swaffham Heath and Coldharbour Wood provide opportunities for recreation.	There is a relatively low density of woodland, although where they do exist, they are large in scale and create a notable feature within the landscape.	The woodlands at Swaffham Heath, Cockleycley Heath and Coldharbour Wood provide recreational value	A predominately open large-scale landscape with long, open views. Within the more enclosed wooded areas vistas which were designed into the landscape as parkland features, have in places been retained. These form surprise historical landmarks within the landscape.	The low population density and the large swathes of farmland and woodland create a peaceful, even remote landscape. Some noise disturbance from RAF Marham (within the adjoining Borough of Kings Lynn and West Norfolk) is apparent.	Arable farmland with areas of historic plantation.
	Value		Susceptibility		Sensitivity
	High		High		High
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is important at a community level for its high ecological value which can be seen through its extensive coverage of designated land across the area. Despite some degradation to the historical landscape condition, the character area serves as a locally valued remote landscape with impressive views comprised of wooded skylines and historical landmarks such as churches. Overall, this landscape is not considered to meet the threshold to be considered valued landscape in the context of National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) paragraph 187(a).		The character area includes significant areas of woodland which are also covered by nature conservation designations. There are also several designed landscapes within he area which contribute to a higher susceptibility to change. Areas of lower susceptibility include medium-scale arable fields which are interspersed between areas of woodland.		The high value attached to the landscape and the high susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a high sensitivity.

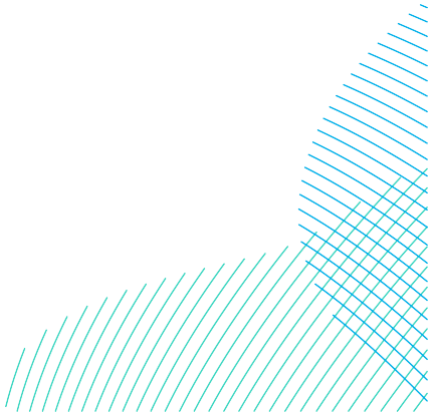


Table 18 LCA D1: Swaffham Heath - Assessment of effects

LCA D1: Swaffham Heath	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
Very Low	Minor adverse
Construction of parcels W-01, W-02, W-03 and C-03 would take place within the LCA. There would be a construction compound within the LCA in parcel W-01. This would include the presence of vehicles and machinery and storage of materials, regular deliveries and access to the compounds via haul routes would increase construction activity across these areas. Cable Corridor W-C would cross the LCA eastwards from parcel W-01, connecting into parcel C-02 to the north of Swaffham. Activity across the area would include localised vegetation clearance, topsoil stripping and stockpiling and excavation via trenching to lay cables. A further small part of Cable Corridor C-C1 would be located at the eastern fringe of the LCA. Within parcels, activity would include; construction of access roads which would require topsoil stripping and excavations; piling for the frames of solar PV modules and presence of associated machinery; installation of BESS and inverters; and the stockpiling and installation of solar PV module frames. A 132kV substation is located within parcel W-01 and would require tall lifting equipment and associated machinery. The construction phase would result in changes to land cover and temporary, localised changes to landform due to stockpiling of material for cable laying. Whilst the presence and operation of large machinery and excavation works would not be uncharacteristic of an agricultural landscape which includes forestry works, the scale of works being undertaken would be incongruous with the LCA. Construction activity would be confined to small parts of the large LCA. Impacts would occur across arable fields with minimal overall vegetation clearance required. These impacts are therefore considered to be small-scale and would occur across a small geographical extent. Construction impacts would be short term and reversible.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the high sensitivity of the receptor would result in minor adverse effects, which is not considered significant.
Year 1 operation (winter)	
Very Low	Minor adverse
Parcels W-01, W-02, W-03 and C-03 would be located within the LCA. The parcels would be confined to small parts of the large LCA, located in the central part of the LCA to the north west of Swaffham Heath woodland. The parcels would introduce massing across areas that are currently arable land and aesthetic and perceptual landscape character would be altered due to the regular pattern and form of solar arrays and colour tones of the solar frames and solar arrays which differs from the majority of surrounding agricultural fields. Vegetation pattern would be retained across parcels with appropriate offsets applied. A 132kV substation would be located within parcel W-01 and would introduce further differing infrastructure to that of the regular form and pattern of solar arrays, resulting in a slight increase in the perception of scale of development within the locality. Landform would be reinstated across cable laying Cable Corridor W-C which crosses the LCA eastwards from parcel W-01, connecting to parcel C-02 to the north of Swaffham. In the first few months of operation reinstated areas along the cable laying corridors which were previously grassland would remain perceptible due to newly establishing grassland or replacement ground cover. Small areas of reinstatement planting would be perceptible due to the age of replacement planting and presence of stakes and tree guards. The static nature of the Proposed Development would retain a similar perception to the open and still character of agricultural land with the frequency of maintenance activities remaining similar to that of activity typical of agricultural fields. Proposed hedgerow enhancements, visual screening and buffer planting and green infrastructure connectivity planting across the Proposed Development would not have established. Permissive pathways located in parcels W-01 and W-02 would increase recreational accessibility locally. Impacts would occur across arable fields with minimal vegetation clearance required. These impacts are therefore considered to be small -scale and would occurs across small geographical extent. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the high sensitivity of the receptor would result in minor adverse effects, which is not considered significant.
Year 15 operation (summer)	
Very Low	Minor adverse



At operation year 15, established planting across all parcels within the LCA would help integrate the parcels into the landscape.

Hedgerow enhancement planting alongside Swaffham Road would help to reinstate the rural character of the road and reflect the surrounding well wooded character of the LCA. Native grassland buffers along side the road would benefit landcover and biodiversity.

Native grassland proposed below solar arrays would be established and would be beneficial for landcover and biodiversity value.

Reinstatement planting across Cable Corridors W-C would be established resulting in the cable route being barely perceptible within the landscape.

Beneficial changes such as green infrastructure improvements and strengthening of landscape pattern through improvements to boundary planting are balanced against the long term presence of solar arrays and associated infrastructure including substations and BESS.

Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.

The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the high sensitivity of the receptor would result in minor adverse effects, which is not considered significant.

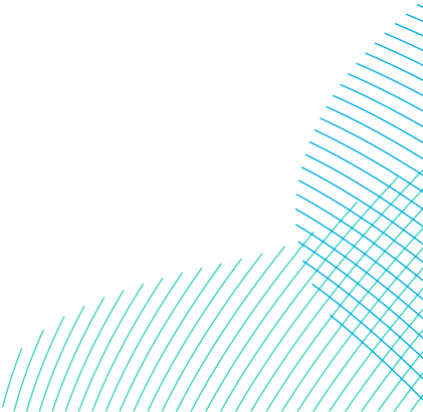
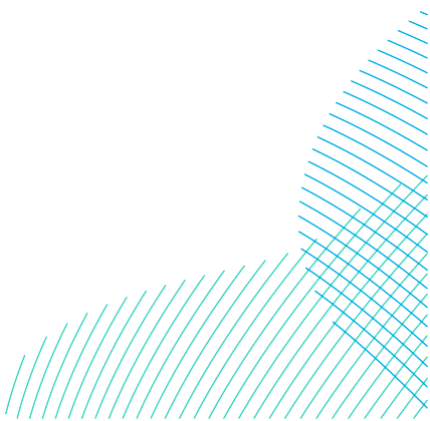
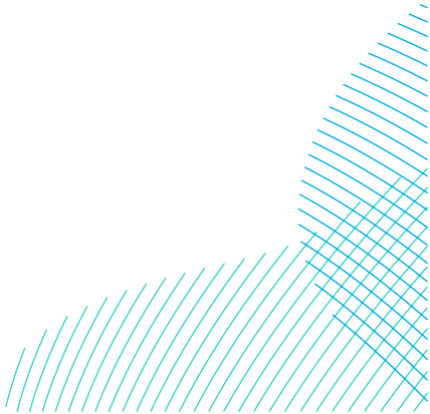


Table 19 LCA D2: Stanta Heath - Baseline

LCA D2: Stanta Heath				BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area			
District	The Brecks		Breckland District			
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments			
Breckland District Landscape Character Assessment (2007)	Within the study area		n/a			
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape					
This area of the Breckland with Heathland and Plantations landscape type covers a large area in the southern and central part of the district. The character area is defined primarily by the distinctive land cover of arable fields interspersed with blocks of mixed plantation woodland and areas of heathland and grassland. It is bounded by the more continuous forest cover of Thetford Forest to the south, by the Wissey Valley to the west and by the Thet Valley to the east, with the elevated plateau landscape marking the northern extent.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LCA.	Conservation Area Registered Parks and Gardens Scheduled Monuments County Wildlife Sites Local Nature Reserves SPA SAC SSSI National Cycle Network National Trails Country Parks	The area is of considerable biodiversity interest. Significant areas of the central heathland are designated as Breckland Farmland SSSI (SPA) Stanford Training Ground SSSI (SPA, and some parts SAC). This includes both historic and reverted heathland, associated primarily with acidic soils, in addition to localised areas of calcareous grassland and the fluctuating, groundwater dependant meres at Fowlmere and Devil’s Punch Bowl, which are identified as ‘internationally important’ within the SSSI citation. Brettenham Heath is designated as a National Nature Reserve. Much of Breckland Forest SSSI lies outside of the character area, but plantation woodland at Bridgham Heath within the character area forms part of the SSSI. The SSSI supports an important assemblage of nationally scarce plant species, of which a number are largely restricted to East Anglia and occupy habitats characteristic of Breckland. Field boundaries are defined by hedgerows of various states and species compositions, and the historic, contorted scots pine wind breaks are also an important and distinctive	Great Hockham is the largest settlement, centred around the historic Village Green, the 14th Century church and the small parkland of the early 18th Century Hockham Hall. The settlement edge has expanded from the original nucleated form, containing later 20th century development.	This is on the whole a functional and managed landscape. Within the MOD Estate extensive areas of heathland have survived and these, in addition to areas of calcareous grassland and the fluctuating meres, provide significant ecological interest. The arable land, under appropriate management is a valuable habitat for farmland birds, with the Scot’s pine hedgerows surrounding fields forming a distinctive landmark feature.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.



LCA D2: Stanta Heath					BASELINE				
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area						
			feature. Grassy banks and field edges are very important to the conservation of the remnant Breckland grass-heath habitats. The great majority of the character area falls within the ‘Core Area’ as defined by the Ecological Mapping Project for Norfolk. Core areas represent significant concentrations of high quality extant habitat. The high quality habitat represented within the D2 Stanta Heath character area is lowland heathland and grassland, with areas of calcareous grassland.						
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)	Functional			
• A gently undulating landscape with glacial drift deposits of sand, clay and gravel. Topography ranges from 20 – 55m AOD. • Free draining sandy soils support a functional landscape of arable cultivation and plantation woodland. • Large tracts of heathland and grassland survive within the extensive MOD land holdings at Stanford Training Ground (SSSI (SAC)), in the western half of the character area. • Groundwater dependent meres at East Wretham Heath and the Stanta Training Area are internationally significant – unique hydrogeological features fed by base rich groundwater with no inflowing or outflowing streams. Water filled pingos are a further distinctive feature. • Contorted Scot’s pine wind break hedgerows and screening belts of trees provide shelter to the easily eroded soils and are a prominent landscape feature, particularly on skylines. Plantation blocks are locally prominent features. • The arable fields are delineated by hedgerows in variable condition from occasional species rich intact hedgerows with hedgerow trees, thorn hedges and distinctive pine lines. • A large scale landscape, with an open windswept character, generally quiet apart form occasional aural interruptions arising from MOD training activities. Remote in some areas. • Plantation woodland occurs on the site of historic parklands and landed estates, and parkland features such as rides and parkland species are evident in the landscape. • The fenced and conifer hedged boundaries of Stanford	There is a relatively low density of woodland blocks, although where they do exist, they are large in scale and create a notable feature within the landscape.	Open access land at Langmere and Brettenham and East Wretham Heaths provides opportunities for recreation.	Key visual sensitivities within the character area are open and distant views to wooded skylines. The woodland blocks create an important focus to the landscape, particularly where views are across arable fields to woodland blocks on the skyline. Heathland character survives within the MOD land across much of the central part of the character area.	Population density is low, and the character area is sparsely settled with large swathes of farmland and woodland and heathland on non-accessible MOD land. However, the presence of main A roads and overhead noise associated with military activity create localise interruptions within this otherwise quiet, even remote landscape.	High value arable farmland and MOD estate.				
						Value	Susceptibility		Sensitivity
						High	High		High
						The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. Whilst largely unpopulated, it is important at a community level for its natural interest. For example, areas of the central heathland are designated as Breckland Farmland SSSI (Special Protection Area) Stanford Training Ground SSSI (Special Protection Area, and some parts Special Area of Conservation). Brettenham Heath is also designated as a National Nature Reserve. The arable land, too, is an important habitat for birds. Despite the localised disturbance caused by the presence of main A roads and	The character area includes large tracts of heathland and grassland, significant woodland cover and intermittent historic parkland features and historic hedgerows which create a distinctive landscape with a higher susceptibility to change.		The high value attached to the landscape and the high susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a high sensitivity.



LCA D2: Stanta Heath			BASELINE
Hierarchy	National Character Area	District Character Area	
Training Ground are prominent features in this open landscape. • A number of Scheduled Monuments and features reflecting the settled historic character are evident, such as tumuli, a Roman Settlement and a number of moated sites/ moated churches and deserted villages at West Tofts and Roudham. • Sparsely settled with scattered Halls, farm buildings and a small number of isolated, nucleated villages and hamlets. • The presence of ‘A’ roads and overhead aircraft noise interrupt the landscape.	overhead noise associated with military activity, the character area is on balance highly valued locally for its remote feel and the high value of its natural habitats. Overall, this landscape is not considered to meet the threshold to be considered valued landscape in the context of National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) paragraph 187(a).		

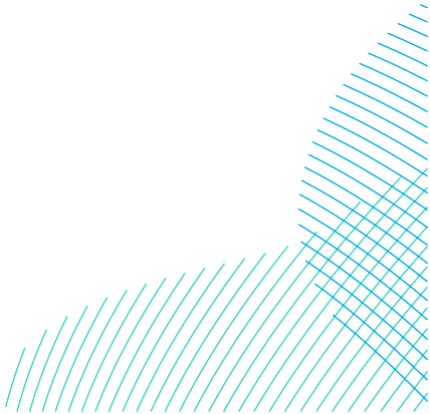


Table 20 LCA D2: Stanta Heath - Assessment of effects

LCA D2: Stanta Heath	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by construction of the Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 800m away at the closest point and separated from the LCA by the village of Saham Hills.	No effect
Year 1 operation (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 800m away at the closest point and separated from the LCA by the village of Saham Hills.	No effect
Year 15 operation (summer)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 800m away at the closest point and separated from the LCA by the village of Saham Hills.	No effect

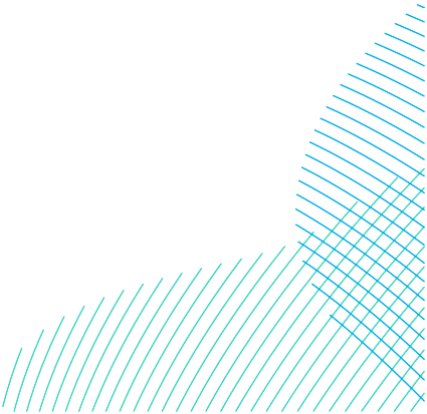


Table 21 LCA E4: Wayland Plateau - Baseline

LCA E4: Wayland Plateau				BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area			
District	Central North Norfolk / South Norfolk and High Suffolk Claylands		Breckland District			
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments			
Breckland District Landscape Character Assessment (2007)	Within the study area		n/a			
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape					
Wayland Plateau is located in the eastern part of the district, to the south and east of Watton, with the landscape type extending beyond the district boundary into the adjoining South Norfolk District. Whilst the character area has a relatively settled character it is distinguished from the adjoining Blackwater and Thet Settled tributary farmlands by the more elevated landform which ranges from approximately 40-60m AOD. Stanta Heath adjoins the character area to the west.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LCA.	Conservation Area County Wildlife Sites SSSI National Cycle Network Country Parks	Ancient woodland block Wayland Wood SSSI The traditionally managed coppice woodland is composed entirely of semi natural stands forming an important habitat for a range of species. Small scale water features are a characteristic feature of this landscape. Scoulton Mere SSSI is a notable example, including swamp, fen and bog communities that occur on islands in the mere and around the shore. These support a diverse flora including several rare plant species. In addition there are numerous marl pits, drains and tributaries which contribute to the ecological diversity of the character area. Much of the northern and eastern parts of the character area fall within the Ecological Network Mapping Project's Enhancement Area for woodland, grassland and heathland re-creation, whilst the southern part of the character area is identified as a Core Area. The arable land use and small areas of Ancient Woodland are both identified as priority habitats within the Norfolk BAP.	A number of Scheduled Monuments indicate the long continuity of settlement on the plateau, such as the moat at Woodrising Hall and the moated site and mound within Hazel Hurn Wood.	The landscape is generally in good condition with the majority of individual elements being in good condition. Although the intensive use of the land for arable cultivation has resulted in some boundary loss and deprivation, the character area largely retains an intact visual and functional character and a range of small scale ecologically important features such as tributaries, Scoulton Mere and small blocks of woodland.	Watton Airfield once occupied the character area but was closed in 1995. This was used by both the RAF and the US Army Air Forces during the second world war.
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)	Functional



• A chalk solid geology, overlain with localised glacial drift deposits of sand and gravel and chalky till and glaciofluvial drift soils. • An elevated plateau landform with contour intervals ranging from 40-60m AOD. • Opportunities for distant views are provided by the elevated aspect. • Land cover is predominantly arable farmland, sometimes interspersed with small blocks of woodland or farm coverts, in addition to occasional paddocks. • Fields are geometric in pattern, varying in scale from small to large and bounded with mixed Enclosure hedgerows, some of which have hedgerow oaks. • Historic sites include a moated site at Woodrising Hall and the mound and associated moats at Hazel Hurn ancient woodland. • Blocks of ancient woodland are a distinctive feature, e.g. Wayland Wood to the south of Watton. • Distinctive features include the former Watton Airfield, Wayland Prison and the dismantled railway line near Watton. • Low to medium settlement density, with a compact settlement pattern, which includes both linear settlements (e.g. Rocklands) and nucleated settlements (e.g. Great Ellingham/Little Ellingham), associated with the narrow rural road network. • A landscape of simple elements, but with a textured quality, and of unified character.	In terms of the variety of landscape elements the character area is relatively simple but has a textured quality due to the hedgerows, trees and farm woodlands and localised features of interest such as Scoulton Mere and Heath.	Opportunities for recreation are provided by the fisheries at Lays Farm and Scoulton Mere and Melsop Farm Park, in addition to the network of rights of way.	The key visual sensitivities within this character area are the views across the arable fields to large, open skylines. The expansive views, relatively low density of woodland cover and consistent landform with only gentle undulation, creates occasional visibility to settlement edges.	The landscape is peaceful in character, although it has a more animated feel around settlement areas. Pockets of high ecological value create localised spaces of tranquillity and retreat.		Productive and managed tame agricultural landscape with small pockets of high ecological value.
	Value		Susceptibility		Sensitivity	
	Medium		Medium		Medium	
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is predominately an arable landscape which is degraded in places, with small pockets of ecological value distributed throughout such as Scoulton Mere and blocks of woodland. The former Watton Airfield creates a distinctive feature in the landscape, as does the segment of dismantled railway line near Watton.		The character area is predominantly formed by medium and large-scale arable fields and has a simple plateau topography. These features have a lower susceptibility to change. Rectilinear woodland blocks often form field boundaries and the character area has elevated distant views due to its topography which are features associated with a higher susceptibility to change.		The medium value attached to the landscape and the medium susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a medium sensitivity.	

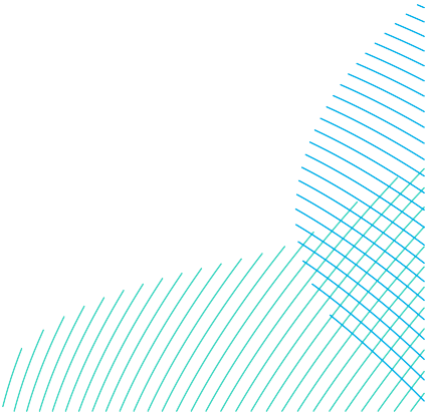


Table 22 LCA E4: Wayland Plateau - Assessment of effects

LCA E4: Wayland Plateau	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by construction of the Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 2.3km away at the closest point and separated from the LCA by the town of Watton.	No effect
Year 1 operation (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 2.3km away at the closest point and separated from the LCA by the town of Watton.	No effect
Year 15 operation (summer)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 2.3km away at the closest point and separated from the LCA by the town of Watton.	No effect

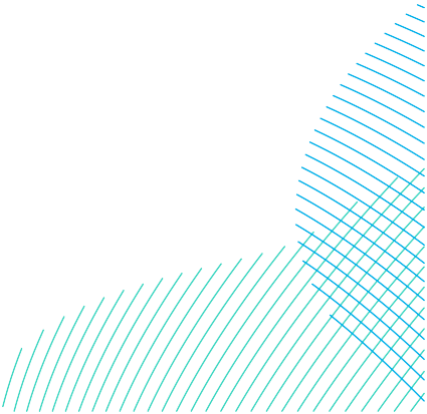
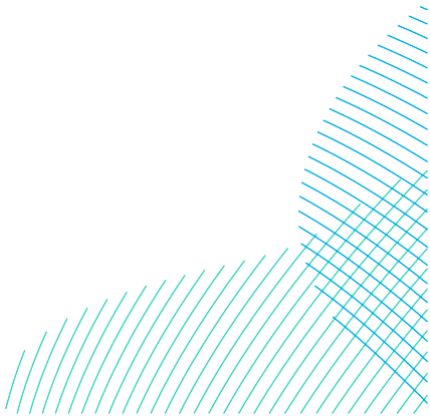


Table 23 LCA E5: Central Breckland Plateau - Baseline

LCA E5: Central Breckland Plateau				BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area			
District	Mid Norfolk		Breckland District			
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments			
Breckland District Landscape Character Assessment (2007)	Within the draft Order Limits		n/a			
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape					
This character area lies in the eastern part of Breckland District, occupying the ridge of elevated land between the Blackwater, Yare and Tud Valleys. Breckland’s district boundary defines the eastern boundary, although the landscape type extends into the neighbouring South Norfolk District. The character area is defined primarily by the 60-70m AOD contour, in addition to a more gently undulating landform than is apparent in the adjacent settled tributary farmland character areas.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LCA.	Conservation Area Scheduled Monuments County Wildlife Sites National Cycle Network National Trails Country Parks	The great majority of the character area lies within the Ecological Network Mapping Project’s Enhancement Area for heathland, grassland and woodland creation in light of the intensive arable cultivation. A number of small blocks of ancient woodland survive within the character area e.g. at Yaxham Wood, Woodrising Wood and Hazel Hurn, and some of these are designated as County Wildlife Sites (CWS) on account of their habitat value. Ancient woodland, with lowland mixed deciduous woodland, is also identified as a priority habitat within the Norfolk BAP, as are ancient and/or species rich hedgerows. Localised historic/veteran oak hedgerow trees provide a link to the early post Enclosure landscape prior to 20th Century agricultural intensification	The areas of ancient woodland and the late 18th Century Letton Hall (by Sir John Soane) and parklands are extant, although only the foundations of Letton Church remain. The presence of a number of Scheduled Monuments (SM’s) within the character area indicates the long history of settlement, and includes part of the Devil’s Ditch, a Roman Enclosure, a number of medieval village sites, notably at Letton and Panworth.	This landscape is a productive, intensively used but poorly managed agricultural landscape, and field boundaries are often in variable condition. In terms of its ecological and historical integrity this is generally weak, although locally strengthened by the presence of early Enclosure hedgerow oaks and discrete areas of ancient woodland.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)	Functional



• A gently undulating landscape overlying glacial Lowestoft Till drift deposits. • Topography ranges from 60-70m AOD, and the plateau landform displays localised/gentle undulation. • Opportunities are provided for distant views, in addition to intervisibility with other character areas, due to the elevated aspect and the exposed, open character, with relatively little boundary vegetation evident. Skylines are often open. • There is little vegetation of significance other than variable field boundary hedgerows (mixed and thorn dominated) occasional hedgerow / field oaks and small blocks of remnant ancient woodland. • Land cover is dominated by arable farming, with a generally large scale, geometric field pattern. • Historic sites across the plateau include the site of old Panworth Hall and the associated lost medieval village, a moated site and fishponds at Shipdham, a Roman enclosure to the north east of Panworth Hall and part of the Devil’s Dyke earthworks. • Settlement is predominantly linear and associated with the network of rural roads traversing the plateau, although some of the larger villages such as Ashill, Mattishall and Shipdham are continuing to grow and become more nucleated. • A distinctive feature of the plateau is the former RAF Shipdham Airfield, occupying the elevated land to the south east of Shipdham. • This is an open, sparse arable agricultural landscape, with a muted palette of colours and few structural landscape features. • Recreational opportunities are afforded by the network of public footpaths in addition to the partially restored Mid Norfolk Railway, a section of which lies within the western part of the character area.	The arable land use has resulted in an agricultural landscape of muted colour, punctuated with several large-scale villages. relic blocks of ancient woodland provide a visual link to the historic landcover pattern, while historic and vernacular settlement cores and use of local flint and brick for buildings reinforces the sense of place and historical integrity.	Opportunities for recreation are provided by the network of public footpaths which traverses the character area, in addition to the section of the Mid Norfolk Railway in the western part of the character area.	Key visual sensitivities include the predominantly open skylines and horizons and the high potential intervisibility with other character areas due to its openness and elevated aspect. Long views are available from the elevated road network, with the potential for light pollution of the night sky from settlements.	Due to the relatively low density of settlement the landscape is peaceful in character.	Predominately arable land interspersed with large settlements and recreational walking routes.
	Value		Susceptibility		Sensitivity
	Medium		Medium		Medium
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is a largely agricultural landscape which has lost much of its historic features to agricultural intensification. Scheduled Monuments reflect the long history of settlement. Isolated pockets of Ancient Woodland remain but ecological value is otherwise low. Views from the plateau across adjacent character areas are sensitive and locally valued.		The character area is predominantly formed by medium and large-scale arable fields which are less susceptible to change. Topography affords long-distance views with often open skylines. Localised areas of higher susceptibility to change include smaller scale and more complex field patterns, typically at the edge of small rural settlements which are scattered across the character area.		The medium value attached to the landscape and the medium susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a medium sensitivity.

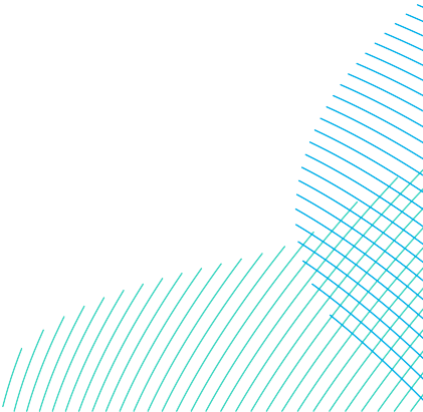
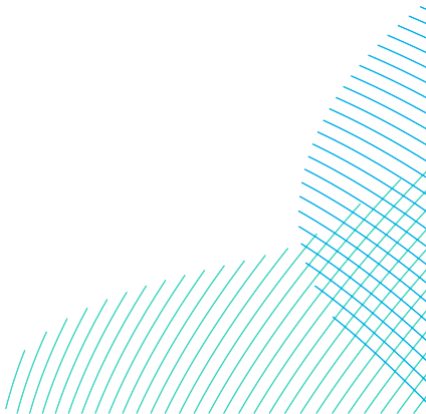


Table 24 LCA E5: Central Breckland Plateau - Assessment of effects

LCA E5: Central Breckland Plateau	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
Low	Minor adverse
Construction of parcels E-05, E-06, E-07, E-08, E-09, E-10, S-01, S-02, S-03, S-04, S-05, S-06, S-07, S-08, S-09, S-10, S-11, S-12, S-13, S-14, S-15, S-16 S-17 and S-18 would take place within the LCA. Construction activity would predominantly be limited to the fringes of the LCA , with construction at parcels S-07 to S-17 located centrally across a narrow section of the LCA to the north east of Ashill. Construction compounds within the LCA would include those within S-04, S-11, S-12, E-07 and E-10. These would include the presence of vehicles and machinery and storage of materials, regular deliveries and access to the compounds via haul routes would increase construction activity across these areas. Cable laying corridors S-S2, S-S3, S-S4, E-E1, E-E3 and E-S would be located at the fringes of the LCA. Activity across these areas would include localised vegetation clearance, topsoil stripping and stockpiling and excavation via trenching to lay cables. Within parcels, activity would include; construction of access roads which would require topsoil stripping and excavations; piling for the frames of solar PV modules and presence and operation of associated machinery; installation of BESS and inverters; and the stockpiling and installation of solar PV module frames. A 132kV substation is located within parcel S-09 and would require tall lifting equipment and associated machinery. The construction phase would result in changes to land cover and temporary, localised changes to landform due to stockpiling of material for cable laying. Whilst the presence of large machinery and excavation works would not be uncharacteristic of an agricultural landscape, the scale of works being undertaken would be incongruous with the LCA. Construction would take place across arable fields within the LCA and would be confined to small areas of the overall large LCA. These impacts are therefore considered to be small scale and would occur across a small geographical extent. Construction impacts would be short term and reversible.	The low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in minor adverse effects, which is not considered significant.
Year 1 operation (winter)	
Low	Minor adverse
Parcels E-05, E-06, E-07, E-08, E-09, E-10, S-01, S-02, S-03, S-04, S-05, S-06, S-07, S-08, S-09, S-10, S-11, S-12, S-13, S-14, S-15, S-16 S-17 and S-18 would be located within the LCA. The Proposed Development would predominantly be limited to the fringes of the LCA , with parcels S-07 to S-17 located centrally across a narrow section of the LCA to the north east of Ashill. The parcels would introduce massing across areas that are currently arable land and aesthetic and perceptual landscape character would be altered due to the regular pattern and form of solar arrays and colour tones of the solar frames and solar arrays which differs from the majority of surrounding agricultural fields. Vegetation pattern would be retained across parcels with appropriate offsets applied. A 132kV substation is located within parcel S-09 and would introduce further differing infrastructure to that of the regular form and pattern of solar arrays, resulting in a slight increase in the perception of scale of development within the locality. Landform would be reinstated across cable laying corridors S-S2, S-S3, S-S4, E-E1, E-E3 and E-S. In the first few months of operation reinstated areas along the cable laying corridors which were previously grassland would remain perceptible due to newly establishing grassland or replacement ground cover. Small areas of reinstatement planting would be perceptible due to the age of replacement planting and presence of stakes and tree guards. The static nature of the Proposed Development would retain a similar perception to the open and still character of agricultural land with the frequency of maintenance activities remaining similar to that of activity typical of agricultural fields. Proposed hedgerow enhancements, visual screening and buffer planting and green infrastructure connectivity planting across the Proposed Development would not have established. Permissive pathways located in parcels S-09, S-10, S-11 and S-14, to the north east of Ashill, would increase recreational accessibility locally. Impacts would take place across arable fields within the LCA and would be confined to small areas of the overall large LCA. These impacts are therefore considered to be small scale and would occur across a small geographical extent. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in minor adverse effects, which is not considered significant.



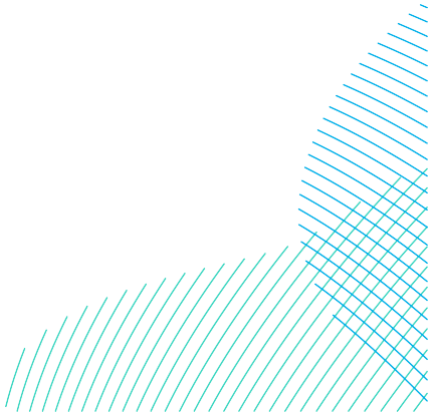
LCA E5: Central Breckland Plateau		ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact		Significance of effect
Construction (winter)		
Year 15 operation (summer)		
Very Low		Negligible adverse
At operation year 15, established planting across all parcels within the LCA would help integrate the parcels into the landscape.		The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in negligible adverse effects, which is not considered significant.
Hedgerow enhancement and new planting across parcels S-07 to S-17 would strengthen field boundaries and the pattern of the landscape and aid with the integration of solar arrays by breaking up massing. Woodland buffer planting at the boundaries of fields in E-05, E-06 E-07 and E-10 would also contribute to the breaking up of massing, integration of solar arrays and screening for receptors experiencing the LCA.		
Native grassland proposed below solar arrays would be established and would be beneficial for landcover and biodiversity value.		
Reinstatement planting across Cable Corridors S-S2, S-S3, S-S4, E-E1, E-E3 and E-S would be established resulting in cable routes being barely perceptible within the landscape.		
Beneficial changes such as green infrastructure improvements and strengthening of landscape pattern through improvements to boundary planting are balanced against the long term presence of solar arrays and associated infrastructure including substations and BESS.		
Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.		

Table 25 LCA E6: North Pickenham Plateau - Baseline

LCA E6: North Pickenham Plateau			BASELINE
Hierarchy	National Character Area	District Character Area	
District	Mid Norfolk / The Brecks	Breckland District	



LCA E6: North Pickenham Plateau					BASELINE	
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area			
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments			
Breckland District Landscape Character Assessment (2007)	Within the draft Order Limits		Norfolk Vanguard (EN010079) Norfolk Boreas (EN010087) Dudgeon Onshore Substation (3PL/2012/0703/F)			
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape					
North Pickenham Plateau encircles Swaffham from the northwest to the south, creating an elevated, arable plateau backdrop to the settlement. This largely flat, open landscape contrasts with the more undulating Wissey Settled tributary farmland and more wooded Swaffham Heath character areas that bound it.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LCA.	SSSI SPA Ancient Woodland	The northern part of the character area lies within the one of the Ecological Network Mapping Project’s Enhancement Area for heathland, grassland and woodland restoration, whilst the southern part of the character area, including and to the south of North Pickenham Airfield, falls within a Core Area. This is in view of the land designated as Breckland Farmland SSSI, in addition to an area of predominantly coniferous plantation woodland designated as part of Breckland Forest SSSI. Breckland Farmland SSSI, which is also a SPA, is designated as such in view of the fact that it provides a breeding ground for Stone Curlew. Breckland Forest SSSI (SPA) is designated due to the fact that it provides a breeding ground for woodlark and nightjar and supports an important assemblage of nationally rare vascular plant species and a rich invertebrate fauna.	Localised areas of historic character and landcover survive, as at Grange Farm, with blocks of farm woodland containing veteran trees, together with densely wooded enclosed lanes. There are however few areas of designated Ancient Woodland, with the exception of a small parcel in the north eastern part of the character area. The line of the former Dereham branch of the Mid Norfolk Railway, built in 1882, lies in cutting, following a north east to south west arc across the central part of the character area, and is perceived generally by the presence of scrub vegetation and the remaining road bridges across it.	The landscape of the character area is that of a working arable agricultural landscape, and as such its pattern has been affected by agricultural intensification in the early and mid 20th Century and the associated removal of field boundary hedgerows. In terms of ecology the character area is, as a whole, relatively weak, with the exception of localised woodland blocks and the ancient hedgerows to the lane network. The character area is in a generally good, managed condition.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)	Functional



LCA E6: North Pickenham Plateau			BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area		
• Thick Lowestoft Till glacial deposits underlie the character area creating its elevated position. • A largely flat landscape defined by 70-75m contours. • Due to the elevated position affords views across the adjacent Settled tributary farmland and Heathland with Plantation landscape types are possible. Church towers within adjacent character areas are distinctive and prominent in views across the character area. • The turbines on the ridge directly north of Swaffham are visually prominent vertical structures. • Predominantly arable agricultural land cover, with some areas of mature mixed plantation woodland in the southern part of the character area. • Geometric/rectilinear field pattern, of large scale, defined by low, flailed hedges, with more extensively treed hedges to the network of lanes traversing the character area. • Former marl pits are a feature of the plateau. • Occasional osier beds are interspersed with the field network. • Remote character with little evidence of settlement, other than isolated farms and network of semi enclosed and enclosed rural roads and lanes. • The character area is defined by muted colour and is strongly rural. The landscape of the character area is relatively remote and peaceful, with little movement. • Runways, disturbed ground and industrial premises associated with the former North Pickenham Airfield are apparent in the southern part of the character area. • The historic way marked route of the Peddars Way bisects the character area in the west, together with other waymarked routes such as Procession Lane. There is a network of footpaths and bridleways across the character area.	A widely agricultural landscape of muted colour.	Opportunities for recreational access are provided by a network of rights of way	Opportunities are created for extensive and panoramic views across the plateau due to the openness of the landscape, and intervisibility with other landscape character areas is high. There is high intervisibility between settlements and between this and other character areas, with church towers forming a prominent element in views. In terms of visual unity and perceptual/visual character, this is interrupted, with overhead power lines and pylons apparent, in addition to road noise and light glare from the A47. The wind turbines adjacent to Swaffham are prominent vertical structures in views across the south of this character area.	It is a rural landscape and is generally tranquil. It is remote in character due to its isolated settlement pattern.	A productive, working agricultural landscape.
	Value		Susceptibility		Sensitivity
	Medium		Medium		Medium
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. The character area is largely remote arable farmland, interrupted by occasional evidence of intervention such as the remains of the RAF Airfield, overhead power lines, the view of wind turbines in the distance and disused chalk pits which create a distinctive feature in the landscape. Nonetheless, local value is added by the presence of the Peddars Way and Norfolk Coast Path National Trail, a historically important feature; and views to church towers in adjacent settlements add scenic character.		The character area is predominantly formed by medium and large-scale arable fields which have a lower susceptibility to change. Long views over adjacent tributary farmland and heathland are possible due to the character area's elevated and flat topography. Susceptibility is higher in localised areas where historic character and land cover remain.		The medium value attached to the landscape and the medium susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a medium sensitivity.

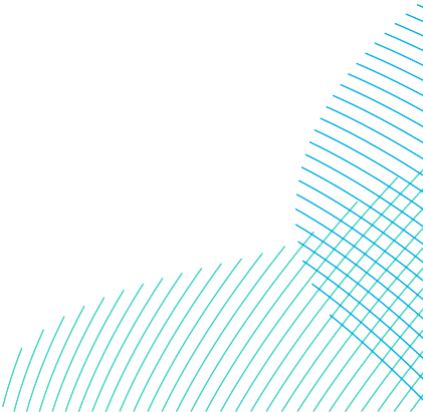
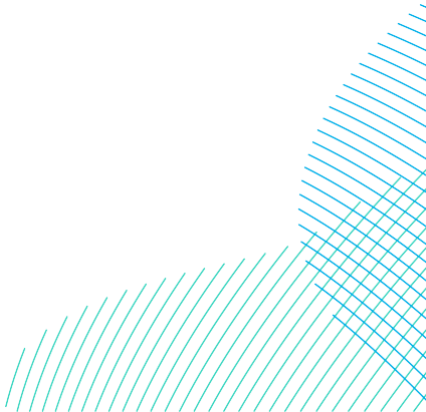


Table 26 LCA E6: North Pickenham Plateau - Assessment of effects

LCA E6: North Pickenham Plateau	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
Medium	Moderate adverse (significant)
Construction of parcels C-02, C-03, C-05 and C-07 would take place within the LCA.	The medium magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in moderate adverse effects which is considered significant.
The majority of construction would take place across arable fields in the northern part of the LCA.	
Construction compounds within the LCA would include those within C-02, C-03, C-05 and C-07. These would include the presence of vehicles and machinery and storage of materials, regular deliveries and access to the compounds via haul routes would increase construction activity across these areas.	
Cable laying corridors W-C, C-C1, C-C2, C-C, C-N would be located within the LCA. Activity across these areas would include localised vegetation clearance, topsoil stripping and stockpiling and excavation via trenching to lay cables.	
Within parcels, activity would include; construction of access roads which would require topsoil stripping and excavations; piling for the frames of solar PV modules and presence and operation of associated machinery; installation of BESS and inverters; and the stockpiling and installation of solar PV module frames. A 132kV substation is located within parcel C-03 and would require tall lifting equipment and associated machinery.	
The construction phase would result in changes to land cover and temporary, localised changes to landform due to stockpiling of material for cable laying. Whilst the presence of large machinery and excavation works would not be uncharacteristic of an agricultural landscape, the scale of works being undertaken would be incongruous with the LCA.	
The majority of impacts would be close to Swaffham where levels of tranquillity are lower. Due to the substantial part of the LCA which would have construction activity, these impacts are therefore considered to be medium scale and would occur across a small geographical extent.	
Construction impacts would be short term and reversible.	
Year 1 operation (winter)	
Low	Minor adverse



LCA E6: North Pickenham Plateau	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
Parcels C-02, C-03, C-05 and C-07 would be located within the LCA. The Proposed Development would predominantly be located across arable fields in the northern part of the LCA. The parcels would introduce massing across areas that are currently arable land and aesthetic and perceptual landscape character would be altered due to the regular pattern and form of solar arrays and colour tones of the solar frames and solar arrays which differs from the majority of surrounding agricultural fields. Vegetation pattern would be retained across parcels with appropriate offsets applied. A 132kV substation is located within parcel C-03 and would introduce further differing infrastructure to that of the regular form and pattern of solar arrays, resulting in a slight increase in the perception of scale of development within the locality. Landform would be reinstated across cable laying corridors W-C, C-C1, C-C2, C-C, C-N. In the first few months of operation reinstated areas along the cable laying corridors which were previously grassland would remain perceptible due to newly establishing grassland or replacement ground cover. Small areas of reinstatement planting would be perceptible due to the age of replacement planting and presence of stakes and tree guards. The static nature of the Proposed Development would retain a similar perception to the open and still character of agricultural land with the frequency of maintenance activities remaining similar to that of activity typical of agricultural fields. Proposed hedgerow enhancements, visual screening and buffer planting and green infrastructure connectivity planting across the Proposed Development would not have established. A permissive pathway located in parcel C-03 would increase recreational accessibility locally. Further permissive pathways in parcels C-07 and N-02 would also contribute to recreational accessibility, though only small parts of these parcels interface with the LCA. Impacts would be localised to small parcels across the much wider LCA and the majority of impacts would be close to Swaffham where levels of tranquillity are lower and there is an increase in the perception of built form and development within the LCA. These impacts are therefore considered to be small-scale and would occur across a small geographical extent. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in minor adverse effects, which is not considered significant.
Year 15 operation (summer)	
Very Low At operation year 15, established planting across all parcels within the LCA would help integrate the parcels into the landscape. Native grassland proposed below solar arrays would be established and would be beneficial for landcover and biodiversity value. Reinstatement planting across Cable Corridors W-C, C-C1, C-C2, C-C, C-N would be established resulting in cable routes being barely perceptible within the landscape. Beneficial changes such as green infrastructure improvements and strengthening of landscape pattern through improvements to boundary planting are balanced against the long term presence of solar arrays and associated infrastructure including substations and BESS. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	Negligible adverse The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in negligible adverse effects, which is not considered significant.

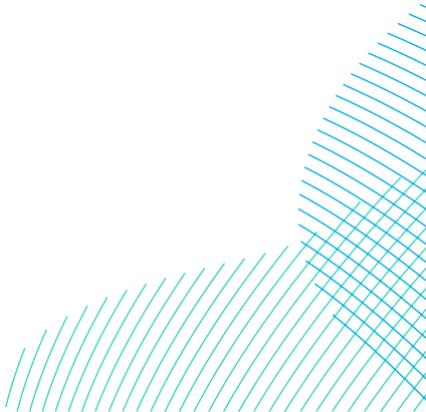
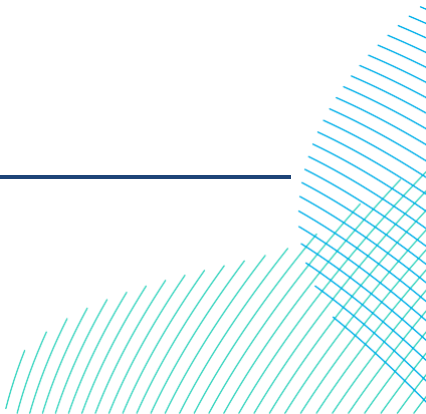


Table 27 LCA E7: Beeston Plateau - Baseline

LCA E7: Beeston Plateau				BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area			
District	Central North Norfolk		Breckland District			
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments			
Breckland District Landscape Character Assessment (2007)	Within the study area		Norfolk Vanguard (EN010079) Norfolk Boreas (EN010087) Dudgeon Onshore Substation (3PL/2012/0703/F)			
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape					
The character area is located in the north western part of the district, forming part of the elevated plateau that is distinguished from other arable plateau character areas by a network of small villages. Other less settled sections of plateau farmland which form part of the same ridge of glacial till informed plateau, and the lower lying and more undulating Wissey Settled tributary farmland character area form the character area boundaries, with the Nar Valley close to the western boundary.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LCA.	County Wildlife Sites	The local value of a number of the remaining areas of broadleaf ancient woodland is recognised through their designation as County Wildlife Site (CWS), as at Bakers Wood. Ancient Woodland is recognised, with Lowland Broadleaf Woodland, as a priority habitat within the Norfolk BAP. A number of the older Enclosure field boundary hedgerows and those associated with the network of rural lanes display a range of native species and are likely to be relatively species rich in terms of flora and fauna, in addition to imparting an element of historic character.	A number of elements of historic built character survive, notably the tight, nucleated historic settlement pattern which is related to the network of narrow rural roads and lanes. Settlements are generally centred on manor houses and prominent medieval parish churches which range from late Anglo Saxon to Decorated 14th Century. A number of manor houses and halls and associated parklands still impart fragments of a designed/planned character on localised parts of the landscape, and former parklands are apparent, particularly with the obelisk and woodland belts associated with the now demolished Curds Hall at Little Fransham. The continuity of settlement is reflected in a number of Scheduled Monuments within the character area, including the moated site of Longham Old Hall, Mileham Castle and the deserted medieval village and manorial site at Little Bittering. More recently the elevated aspect of the plateau has lent itself to the siting of an airfield (Wendling Airfield) to the south west of Longham Hall.	The landscape is a well-managed, functional arable agricultural landscape, with a reasonably intact Enclosure field boundary hedgerow system in addition to localised farm coverts and areas of ancient woodland. The landscape and historic integrity has been partially eroded by 20th Century agricultural intensification. Ecological integrity is generally relatively weak in view of the arable land use and the limited variety of habitats, although there are localised exceptions due to species rich hedgerows, blocks of ancient woodland and enclosed/green lanes.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.



Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)	Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)	Functional
• Thick deposits of glacial till underlie the character area, informing its elevated position overlooking the adjacent Wissey Settled tributary farmland character areas. • A gently undulating topography ranges from 60-95m AOD making this one of the most elevated character areas within Breckland. • There is the potential for distant views due to the elevated aspect although these are often framed due to relic historic vegetation, field boundary hedgerows, and hedgerow enclosed lanes. • Landcover pattern is predominantly arable, although there are frequent blocks of mixed oak and ash dominated woodland. • Mature woodland blocks, including areas of Ancient Woodland at Horse Wood (Mileham) and Honeypot Wood (Wendling) lend a sense of historical integrity to the character area. • Field pattern is regular and medium-large in scale, often defined by mixed hedgerows with hedgerow trees. Field boundary ditches are also apparent. • A number of historic sites, associated with the long history of settlement on the plateau, include the earthworks of Mileham Castle, the deserted medieval village at Little Bittering and the moated site of Longham Old Hall. • Ponds are a feature e.g. at Bittering, representing past sand and gravel extraction. • Areas of settlement are centred on cross roads (Beeston) or key road junctions, and are often linear but becoming increasingly nucleated as at Beeston. • The airfield to the south west of Longham Hall is a locally distinctive feature. • A network of rural roads lined by mature hedgerows and hedgerow trees connects the villages, creating an enclosed and rural character.	In an otherwise simple agricultural landscape, the pockets of woodland and extensive views draw the eye. Atypical land uses such as fisheries and an airfield also serve as locally distinctive elements.	Opportunities for recreation are afforded by the fisheries at the deserted railway line near to Little Fransham, in addition to a number of way marked routes across the character area, including the Nar Valley Way.	The elevated, domed plateau landform, and the availability of distant, framed views out of the character area from localised points contribute to the value attached to the landscape.	The character area is rural and generally sparsely settled. The airfield near Longham Hall creates localised disturbance.	A largely arable landscape with small recreational uses such as the fisheries near Little Fransham, and the airfield near Longham Hall.
	Value		Susceptibility		Sensitivity
	Medium		Medium		Medium
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. Whilst land cover is predominately arable, some pockets of woodland still remain creating localised areas of ecological value. The historic field boundary network is in relatively good condition, and a selection of Scheduled Monuments add a depth of historic character. Extensive views over adjacent areas are afforded in places by the elevated plateau landform. The fisheries add a distinctive feature to the character area.		The character area is predominantly formed by medium to large-scale arable fields and has a simple plateau topography. These features have a lower susceptibility to change. Frequent woodland blocks across the area and presence of historic landscape features contribute to localised higher susceptibility to change.		The medium value attached to the landscape and the medium susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a medium sensitivity.

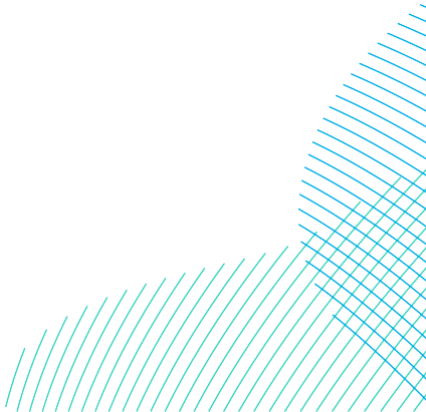


Table 28 LCA E7: Beeston Plateau - Assessment of effects

LCA E7: Beeston Plateau	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
Very Low	Minor adverse
Construction of parcels N-01, N-02, N-05, N-06, N-07, N-08, N-09 and N-10 would take place within the LCA. Construction would take place at the south western fringe of the LCA. There would be a construction compound within the LCA in parcel N-08. This would include the presence of vehicles and machinery and storage of materials, regular deliveries and access to the compounds via haul routes would increase construction activity across the areas. Cable laying corridors N-N1 and N-E2 would be located within the LCA. Activity across these areas would include localised vegetation clearance, topsoil stripping and stockpiling and excavation via trenching to lay cables. Within parcels, activity would include; construction of access roads which would require topsoil stripping and excavations; piling for the frames of solar PV modules and presence and operation of associated machinery; installation of BESS and inverters; and the stockpiling and installation of solar PV module frames. The construction phase would result in changes to land cover and temporary, localised changes to landform due to stockpiling of material for cable laying. Whilst the presence of large machinery and excavation works would not be uncharacteristic of an agricultural landscape, the scale of works being undertaken would be incongruous with the LCA. Construction would take place across arable fields within the LCA and would be confined to a very small area at the fringe of the large LCA. These impacts are therefore considered to be very small-scale and would occur across a small geographical extent.	The low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in minor adverse effects, which is not considered significant.
Year 1 operation (winter)	
Very Low	Negligible adverse
Parcels N-01, N-02, N-05, N-06, N-07, N-08, N-09 and N-10 would be located within the LCA. The Proposed Development would predominantly be limited to the south western fringe of the LCA, with parcels N-01 and N-02 located near High Green and Wendling and all other parcels located south of Little Fransham. The parcels would introduce massing across areas that are currently arable land and aesthetic and perceptual landscape character would be altered due to the regular pattern and form of solar arrays and colour tones of the solar frames and solar arrays which differs from the majority of surrounding agricultural fields. Vegetation pattern would be retained across parcels with appropriate offsets applied. Landform would be reinstated across cable laying corridors N-N1 and N-E2. In the first few months of operation reinstated areas along the cable laying corridors which were previously grassland would remain perceptible due to newly establishing grassland or replacement ground cover. Small areas of reinstatement planting would be perceptible due to the age of replacement planting and presence of stakes and tree guards. The static nature of the Proposed Development would retain a similar perception to the open and still character of agricultural land with the frequency of maintenance activities remaining similar to that of activity typical of agricultural fields. Proposed hedgerow enhancements, visual screening and buffer planting and green infrastructure connectivity planting across the Proposed Development would not have established. Permissive pathways located in parcel N-02 near Wendling, would increase recreational accessibility locally. Impacts would take place across arable fields within the LCA and would be confined to a very small area at the fringe of the large LCA. These impacts are therefore considered to be very small-scale and would occur across a small geographical extent. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in negligible adverse effects, which is not considered significant.
Year 15 operation (summer)	
Very Low	Negligible adverse



LCA E7: Beeston Plateau	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
At operation year 15, established planting across all parcels within the LCA would help integrate the parcels into the landscape. Hedgerow enhancement planting and new hedgerows across parcels N-01 and N-02 would strengthen field boundaries and the pattern of the landscape as well as strengthening the sense of enclosure across the parcels and limiting their zone of influence. New hedgerows based on historic field pattern within parcel N-02 would reinstate historic field pattern and aid in the integration of the solar arrays by breaking up massing. Native grassland proposed below solar arrays would be established and would be beneficial for landcover and biodiversity value. Reinstatement planting across Cable Corridors N-N1 and N-E2 would be established resulting in cable routes being barely perceptible within the landscape. Beneficial changes such as green infrastructure improvements and strengthening of landscape pattern through improvements to boundary planting are balanced against the long term presence of solar arrays and associated infrastructure including substations and BESS. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in negligible adverse effects, which is not considered significant.

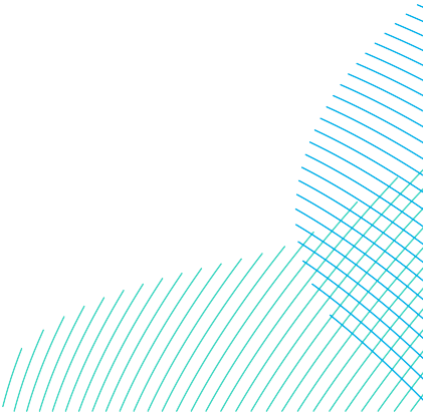
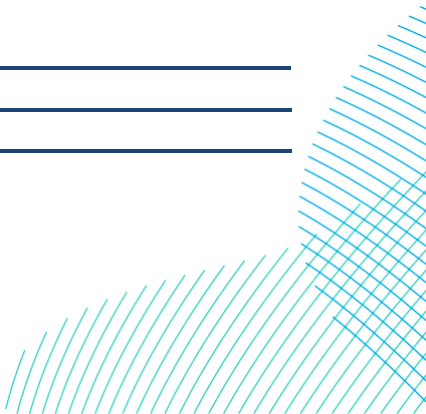


Table 29 LCA E8: Dereham Plateau - Baseline

LCA E8: Dereham Plateau				BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area			
District	Central North Norfolk		Breckland District			
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments			
Breckland District Landscape Character Assessment (2007)	Within the study area		Norfolk Vanguard (EN010079) Norfolk Boreas (EN010087)			
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape					
Dereham Plateau occupies the elevated land surrounding Dereham in the northern part of Breckland District, being bounded by the adjacent Wissey Settled tributary farmland and River Wissey character areas.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LCA.	Conservation Area County Wildlife Sites Country Parks	In view of the area’s intensive arable cultivation and the absence of sites designated for nature conservation interest, the character area falls within the Norfolk Ecological Network Mapping Project’s Enhancement Area for heathland, woodland and grassland restoration. The Veteran Trees survey demonstrates a high concentration of veteran trees, often associated with hedgerow boundaries, particularly within the south of the character area immediately adjacent to Dereham. Mature and veteran trees are often associated with hedgerow boundaries.	The elevated landform has historically been exploited for military uses (three picket-Hamilton Forts at Swanton Morley), and Swanton Morley Airfield remains a military base today.	This is a managed arable landscape, with the principal elements such as hedgerow lined arable fields, drainage ditches and sunken rural roads generally in good condition. Mature and veteran hedgerow trees have been retained and create a mature character. Expansion of Swanton Morley during the latter half of the 20th century has created an occasionally abrupt and un-sympathetic urban edge which detracts from the arable landscape.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)	Functional
• An elevated landscape of predominantly flat arable farmland with localised gentle undulations overlying glacial drift deposits of sand and gravel. • Topography ranges from 45-60m AOD. • Due to the elevated aspect and the landform, there are opportunities for distant views to the Wensum Valley. • Arable agriculture is the dominant land cover. This is interspersed by only occasional small scale farm coverts and blocks of mixed plantations to the edges of the character area e.g. Quebec Wood. • The plateau is characterised by medium-large scale, irregular arable fields, with boundaries defined both by mixed Enclosure hedgerows and hedgerow trees, some being veteran trees. • The elevated landform has historically been exploited	The mature hedgerow trees contribute to a sense of historical continuity and character, which is reinforced by views across the parkland of Hoe Hall.	Commons are now limited to a small area on the edge of Dereham at Neatherd Common. Opportunities for access are facilitated by a network of rights of way.	The gently undulating landscape affords long-range views across both the character area and into the adjacent River Wensum and Wensum Settled tributary farmland. The key visual sensitivities within this character area are the large, open skies which are only occasionally interrupted by isolated farmsteads, small woodland blocks or a view of an abrupt urban edge of Swanton Morley and Dereham.		Views show very little human activity, strengthening the sense of a tranquil, near vacant landscape.	The drift deposits of sand and gravel have resulted in localised exploitation for mineral extraction, notably in the north western part of the character area.
	Value		Susceptibility		Sensitivity	
	Medium		Medium		Medium	



for military uses (three picket-Hamilton Forts at Swanton Morley), and Swanton Morley Airfield remains in use as a military base today. • Commons were once widespread across the Dereham plateau but due to later Enclosure are now limited to a small area at Neatherd Common on the edge of Dereham. • Population density is low, settlement being limited to the linear village of Swanton Morley and very occasional farmsteads scattered along the rural roads which are occasionally sunken and bounded by hedgerow lined banks. • A simple, untextured character with little variation to the flat, arable landscape. • Access to the character area is via the rural road network, with the railway line now only used for recreational purposes.	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is important at a community level its for expansive views of near vacant landscapes. Whilst there is no great natural heritage value apparent through designations, hedgerows and veteran trees provide a distinctive natural feature. The abrupt urban edges at Swanton Morley and Dereham detract from the otherwise rural landscape.	The character area is predominantly formed by medium to large-scale arable fields and has a simple plateau topography. Long-distance views towards the Wensum Valley are afforded from some locations, and the area has a mature intact hedgerow network.	The medium value attached to the landscape and the medium susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a medium sensitivity.
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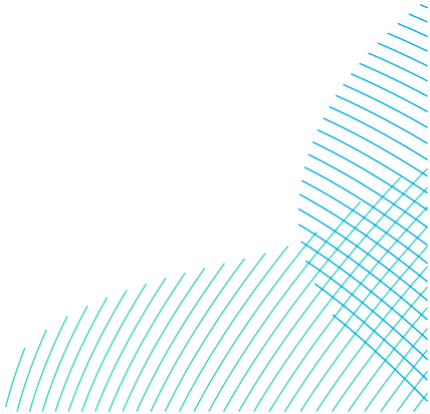


Table 30 LCA E8: Dereham Plateau - Assessment of effects

LCA E8: Dereham Plateau	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by construction of the Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 2.9km away at the closest point and separated from the LCA by the town of Dereham.	No effect
Year 1 operation (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 2.9km away at the closest point and separated from the LCA by the town of Dereham.	No effect
Year 15 operation (summer)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 2.9km away at the closest point and separated from the LCA by the town of Dereham.	No effect

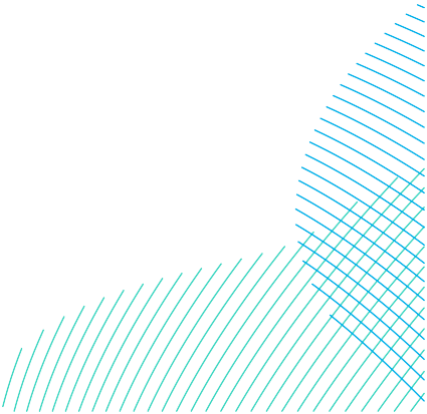
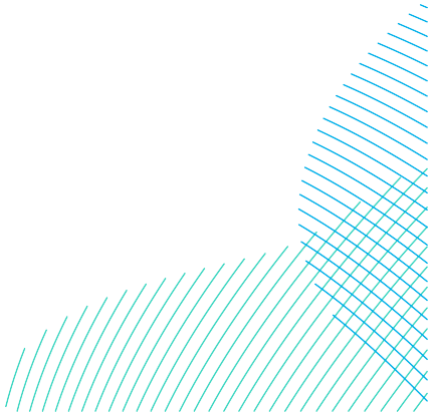


Table 31 LCA F1: River Nar Valley - Baseline

LCA F1: River Nar Valley				BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area			
District	North West Norfolk / The Brecks		Breckland District			
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments			
Breckland District Landscape Character Assessment (2007)	Within the study area		n/a			
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape					
The River Nar is located in the western part of Breckland District and is comprised of the floodplain and valley sides of the River Nar. The Nar is fed by springs rising from the chalk rather than the tributaries which feed the other Breckland rivers, and is therefore classified as a separate landscape type. The south westerly draining Nar rises from springs to the south west of Mileham and flows westwards into the Borough of King’s Lynn and West Norfolk.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LCA.	Conservation Area Registered Parks and Gardens Scheduled Monuments County Wildlife Sites Local Nature Reserves SSSI National Trails Country Parks	The River Nar rises as a spring in the Upper Chalk resulting in distinctive chalk river characteristics. The river course is narrow and displays a wide range of natural physical features including riffles, pools, gravel beds and meanders as it flows westwards across the landscape. The entire course of the River Nar is designated as a SSSI, in view of its quality as a chalk river habitat encompassing areas of wet woodland, pasture and meadows on the valley floor. The sandy soils have in the past supported extensive heathland, although this is now limited to small, isolated blocks as at Newton Heath and Litcham Common. The importance of heathland is recognised by the Norfolk EcoNet Mapping Project which classifies the valley sides as being a ‘heathland, grassland and woodland’ enhancement area. The valley floor is a chalk stream ‘core area’.	Two Scheduled Monuments are located within the character area; Camphill, a military site at Narborough and a disc barrow at Litcham. The weirs, bridging points and settlement along the course of the River Nar further signify the history of human activity within the character area. Faden’s Map demonstrates that in 1797 the valley was already settled and contained two Halls with extensive associated parkland. The estate character is still evident, parkland woodland, avenues of trees and driveways remain as features of the landscape. Both Halls appear in the Register of Historic Parks and Gardens.	This is traditional chalk valley landscape that is still managed by active grazing. It is visually unified and coherent landscape defined by the consistent land use and valley landform. The main landscape elements of pastoral fields and woodland are in good condition, although some areas of colonising scrub creates localised areas of more marginal character. The wet woodland, grazing pasture and wet meadows, heathland, and chalk river course form a range of diverse habitats. The SSSI designation demonstrates the ecological richness of the landscape.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)	Functional



LCA F1: River Nar Valley			BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area		
• The River Nar arises from chalk springs and follows a meandering course through the underlying chalk bedrock and later glacial drift, with alluvial deposits along the floodplain. • A narrow floodplain with valley sides rising to approximately 50m, with this contour approximately defining the crests of the valley sides. • Visual containment is provided by the valley landform and landcover such as hedgerows and woodland associated with parkland. • Grazing pasture line the valley floor interspersed with areas of parkland, wet meadow and wet woodland. • Small remnant blocks of heathland e.g. Newton Heath occupy areas of sandy soils on the valley sides. • Woodland associated with Lexham Hall, West Lexham Hall and Narborough Hall create a wooded character, views to the wooded skyline being distinctive. • The course of the River Nar and sections of the floodplain are designated as SSSI due to its value as a chalk river habitat. • Evidence of human interaction with the river is evident along the river course in the form of weirs e.g. Lexham Hall and mills e.g. at Narborough. • Historically common land was extensive, but due to enclosure and afforestation, Litcham Common is the only surviving example. • Settlement density is low being characterised by isolated Halls and farm houses, with small villages generally set above flood level at the valley crest as at East Lexham, West Lexham, South Acre and Castle Acre (the latter in King’s Lynn and West Norfolk). At Litcham settlement spreads onto the valley floor. • The Nar Valley Way is an important recreational feature providing access to the river and connectivity, via the rights of way network with surrounding landscapes.	The well managed and designed parkland landscapes of Lexham Hall and Narford Hall are an important and distinctive element of the valley; their influence is extended through blocks of mixed estate plantation woodland. The valley has a strong, rural character.	Opportunities for recreation and access are facilitated by the Nar Valley Way which intersects the centre of the character area, in addition to a network of rights of way.	The containment provided by the landform and land covers allow for only occasional longer views. The glimpsed views and setting of landmark features such as the church towers at Litcham and West Lexham are sensitive as are the views to an undeveloped wooded skyline. Views of the designed, historic landscapes of Lexham and Narford Hall are a further important feature.	Low settlement density and high level of protection over the local landscape create a generally highly tranquil feel to the landscape. The Nar Velley Way and other connecting PRow bring enhanced human activity to the character area.	Grazed pastoral fields can be found frequently, punctuated with managed woodlands and floodplain.
	Value		Susceptibility		Sensitivity
	High		High		High
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is important at a community level for its ecological richness, presenting a range of valued habitats from grazing pasture to parkland, wet woodland and heathland. The course of the River Nar is designated a SSSI for its value as a chalk river habitat. Historic integrity is added through the presence of parkland associated with two historic halls. Overall, this landscape is not considered to meet the threshold to be considered valued landscape in the context of National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) paragraph 187(a).		The character area is defined by the river and its valley landform, which includes designated habitats and areas of surrounding wetland. The character area includes significant woodland cover along the valley. Pasture fields surround the river valley and parkland features are still visible in the landscape remnant of historic land use.		The high value attached to the landscape and the high susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a high sensitivity.

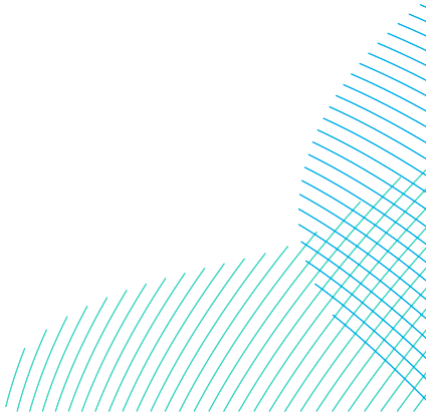


Table 32 LCA F1: River Nar Valley - Assessment of effects

LCA F1: River Nar Valley	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by construction of the Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 2.9km away at the closest point, and the enclosed nature of the river valley LCA.	No effect
Year 1 operation (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 2.9km away at the closest point, and the enclosed nature of the river valley LCA.	No effect
Year 15 operation (summer)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 2.9km away at the closest point, and the enclosed nature of the river valley LCA.	No effect

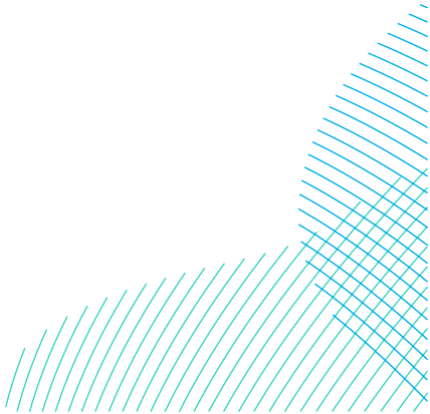
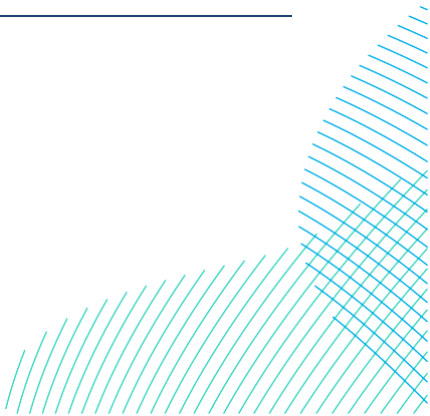


Table 33 LCA H2: Fincham - Baseline

LCA H2: Fincham				BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area			
District	The Brecks / North West Norfolk		King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council			
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments			
King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Landscape Character Assessment (2007)	Within the study area		n/a			
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape					
This landscape character area is bordered to the north by Fen Landscape, whilst more settled farmland with plantations flank the area to the south and west. The flat to gently rolling landform of Area H2 (Fincham) is dominated by the RAF settlement (conveying a strong sense of place) amidst a colourful patchwork of intensively managed farmland interspersed with several belts and copses of deciduous, coniferous and mixed woodland plantations.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LCA.	SPA SSSI County Wildlife Sites Country Park Conservation Area Scheduled Monuments	Intact mature landscape structure including intact hedgerows and woodland plantations. Due to the predominantly flat landform, vertical elements from a strong contrast to the horizontal plane. In particular, lines of poplar, Scots pine and beech – marking field boundaries – are eye-catching elements. Scattered mixed shelterbelts and clumps of mature trees. Several patches of wet woodland. Network of drainage ditches.	Landmark features include churches, located on higher ground, windmills, such as Stoke Ferry and the British Sugar factory occurring within the adjacent Fens landscape type. Slaughter houses and charcoal industry buildings also contribute to recognisable character. Evidence of past land use within the Settled Farmland is widespread, but generally not visible in the landscape today; from Palaeolithic occupation sites through to vast quantities of Iron Age artefacts, much has been recorded within the area but none of it immediately visible. The Roman occupation brought with it more visible archaeological remains, including buildings, salt production sites, and the road from the coast to the Roman town of Narford, however, two millennia of agricultural activity within the region have obliterated all but the fragments of this former use. Some settlements however, do have Roman or pre-Roman routes.	Communication masts at Feltwell, Marham and Bexwell are eye catching and influence the character of the skyline.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)	Functional



LCA H2: Fincham			BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area		
• The medium to large mainly regular fields (predominantly arable with occasional patches of pasture and rough grassland) are lined with a variety of field boundaries, from hedges (medium height, mainly hawthorn and generally well managed) to ditches (often lined with reeds and rushed) and in the case of pasture wooden fences. • Views across the area are generally open and dominated by wide, open skies. The plantation woodlands and tall vegetation lining the roads in places provide a sense of enclosure. From several locations in the north of the area the extensive Shouldham Warren coniferous woodland plantation in the adjacent Area H1 (Shouldham Thorpe) character area is visible on the skyline. • Landscape and settlement pattern is greatly influenced by the presence of the RAF village of Marham (with generally modern red-brick buildings) and associated structures, including the Marham Airfield in the northeast corner of the area. • The settlement pattern further includes the (respectively linear and nucleated) villages of Fincham and Barton Bendish. Large, isolated farmsteads and occasional houses occur dotted along the generally peaceful rural roads. • Communication pattern is fairly scarce and consists of a network of urban roads connecting the settlements. The straight (Roman Road) fast moving transport corridor of the A1122 cuts through the area, splitting it into two, whilst a system of droves, bridleways and footpaths further serves the area. • A strong sense of remoteness and tranquillity persists throughout the area, depending on the proximity to the A1122 with its association noise and visual intrusion.	Marham has a very distinctive character, with communication masts at RAF Marham airfield bringing a military influence to the landscape. The regularity of the land cover pattern is diluted by the presence of woodland (varying in shape and size), areas of scrubby ground and the inconsistent nature of the field boundaries. The areas of scrub have a strong influence – imparting an almost unmanaged character to parts of the landscape.	A system of droves, bridleways and footpaths serves the area.	With the exception of views across and into the Fens, wooded horizons define much of the skyline. Contrast between open and enclosed views across the area, including views on plantations in adjacent landscape character areas (e.g. Shouldham Warren coniferous plantation). Churches associated with the settlements, located on slightly elevated ground, also form points of focus with their towers and spires punctuating the wooded context.	• A strong sense of remoteness and tranquillity persists throughout the area, depending on the proximity to the A1122 with its association noise and visual intrusion.	Arable crop production is the predominant land use and is defined by a variety of field margins. There are some small areas of pasture but these are limited.
	Value		Susceptibility		Sensitivity
	Medium		Medium		Medium
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. RAF Marham site serves as a distinctive feature and covers a large area of the landscape. Arable crop production is also a dominant land use, with medium to large fields covering the landscape in a consistent manner. Where hedgerows are used as field boundaries, they are generally intact and in good condition. Whilst views to wooded horizons are afforded in some areas, communication masts at Feltwell, Marham and Bexwell are eye catching and influence the character of the skyline.		The character area is defined by medium to large-scale arable fields and largely flat topography. These features have a lower susceptibility to change. Lines of poplar, Scots Pine and beech create vertical features which give the character area a distinctive character. The character area includes RAF Marham which contributes to lower levels of tranquillity within the character area and lower susceptibility to change.		The medium value attached to the landscape and the medium susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a medium sensitivity.

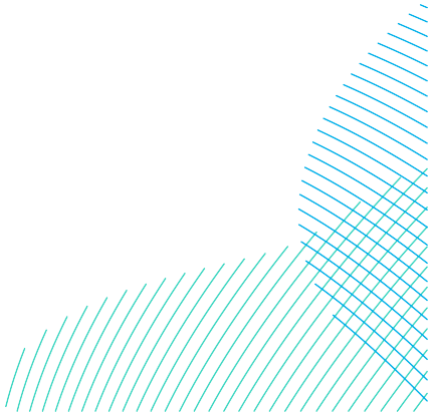


Table 34 LCA H2: Fincham - Assessment of effects

LCA H2: Fincham	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by construction of the Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 300m away at the closest point and the nature of the LCA at its closest point which is RAF Marham and is less susceptible to construction activity and development due to its urbanised character and low levels of tranquillity,	No effect
Year 1 operation (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 300m away at the closest point and the nature of the LCA at its closest point which is RAF Marham and is less susceptible to infrastructure development due to its urbanised character and low levels of tranquillity,	No effect
Year 15 operation (summer)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 300m away at the closest point and the nature of the LCA at its closest point which is RAF Marham and is less susceptible to infrastructure development due to its urbanised character and low levels of tranquillity,	No effect

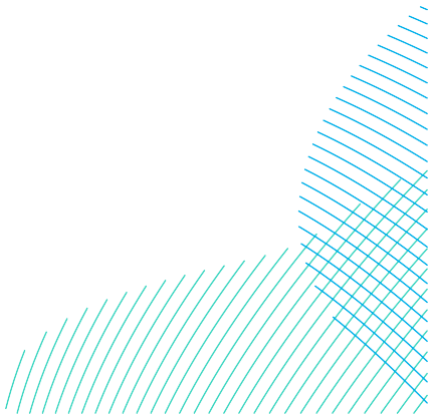
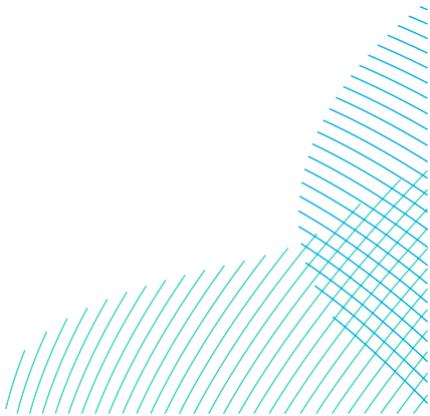


Table 35 LCA E2: Saddlebow and Wormegay - Baseline

LCA E2: Saddlebow and Wormegay				BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area			
District	South Norfolk and High Suffolk Claylands		King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council			
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments			
King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Landscape Character Assessment (2007)	Within the study area		n/a			
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape					
Saddlebow and Wormegay follows the course of the River Nar to the east and is restricted by the banks of the River Great Ouse to the west. The underlying geology of mudstone gives rise to extremely fertile soils in this landscape, which is characterised by intensively, managed arable fields, occasionally interspersed with pasture. In the eastern extent of the area views are generally broken by tall vegetation. The settlement pattern consists of several hamlets and dispersed farmsteads, connected by a system of narrow rural roads with grassy verges.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LCA.	County Wildlife Site Scheduled Monuments SSSI	Patchwork of woodland patches and wet grassland, especially in the east along the River Nar, key ecological habitats for a wide range of species. Marham Fen is a County Wildlife Site with a complex mire with evidence of glacial ponds. Several other small County Wildlife Sites can be found across the LCA including Decoy Wood, Old Decoy Plantation SSSI at Setchey, which forms part of a network of fenland sites. The River Nar is designated as a SSSI in its entirety. The river's progression from chalk river to fenland river give it particular conservation value.	Remains of Pentney Priory Scheduled Monument at Abbey Farm Moated site of Wormegay Priory and fishponds Scheduled Monument Monastic influence is apparent along the River Nar, in the form of places of worship.	A relatively strong sense of place and tranquillity persist throughout the area.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)	Functional



LCA E2: Saddlebow and Wormegay				BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area			
• River Nar corridor. • Strong sense of openness within views towards (adjacent) Open Inland Marshes. • Patchwork of woodland patches and wet grassland, especially in the east along the River Nar, key ecological habitats for a wide range of species. • Striking built character (combination of traditional flint, red brick, carstone and chalk clunch). • Distinctive combinations of traditional building materials within small village settlements. • Coherent and recognisable small-scale settlement density and pattern. • Strong recognisable sense of place. • Relatively strong sense of tranquillity throughout the area	• The LCA has a relatively strong character due to the use of traditional building materials such as red brick, flint, chalk clunch and carstone. • The banks of the both the River Nar and relief channels are distinct features of the landscape.	West Winch Common partially spans the edge of the character, bordering onto the adjacent LCA G4.	The banks of both the Relief channel and the River Nar, and the railway corridor cutting north south through the area, further offer topographical change and in places limit views across the area. In the eastern extent of the area views are generally broken by tall vegetation (orchards, rows of poplars and clumps of trees including ash, beech, horse-chestnut, hawthorn and poplars).	There is a strong sense of tranquillity throughout the character area, particularly where the riverbanks create a more enclosed landscape.	Predominately arable fields, interspersed with pasture.	
		The Fen Rivers Way runs through the LCA along the course of the River Ouse. This PRoW is over 50 miles long running between Kings Lynn and Cambridge and is rich in both wildlife and heritage. The LCA is also well served by PRoW running east to west passing both the sand and gravel pit pools and SSSI at Setchey.				
	Value		Susceptibility		Sensitivity	
	Medium		Medium		Medium	
The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. The character area has recreational value due to good PRoW connectivity and the its tranquil nature which is valued at a community level. The character area has natural heritage features, associated with the River Nar which runs through the LCA.		The character area comprises a distinctive patchwork of wet grassland and woodland with ecological value. Long-distance views are largely broken by topography and tall vegetation. The character area includes medium-scale arable fields of rectilinear and regular form which have a lower susceptibility to change.		The medium value attached to the landscape and the medium susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a medium sensitivity.		

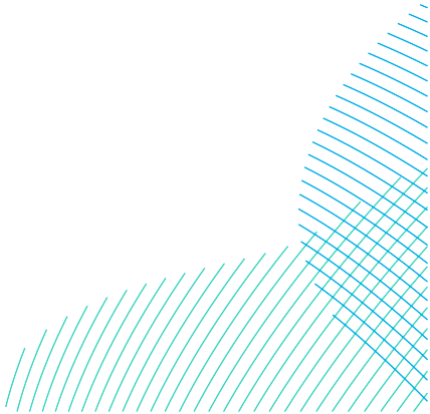


Table 36 LCA E2: Saddlebow and Wormegay - Assessment of effects

LCA E2: Saddlebow and Wormegay	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by construction of the Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 2km away at the closest point and separated by Chalk Lane and rectilinear woodland blocks.	No effect
Year 1 operation (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 2km away at the closest point and separated by Chalk Lane and rectilinear woodland blocks.	No effect
Year 15 operation (summer)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 2km away at the closest point and separated by Chalk Lane and rectilinear woodland blocks.	No effect

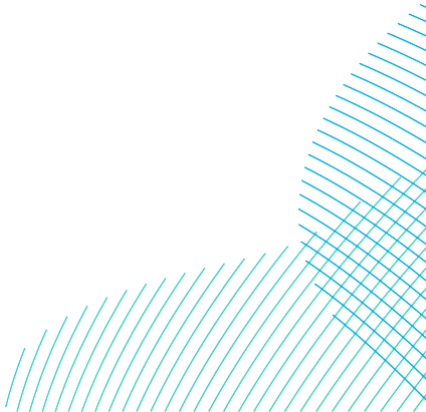
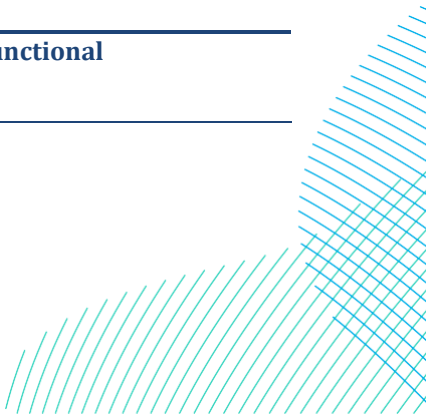


Table 37 LCA G3: Gayton and East Winch - Baseline

LCA G3: Gayton and East Winch				BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area			
District	North West Norfolk / The Brecks		King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council			
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments			
King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Landscape Character Assessment (2007)	Within the study area		n/a			
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape					
This character area encompasses a fairly inconsistent gently undulating landscape of farmland, (plantation) woodland and wetland. Situated at the eastern extent of Type G (Farmland with Woodland) and Wetland, the area looks out over rolling open farmland to the north and the flat plain open inland marshes to the south marking this as a somewhat transitional landscape.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LCA.	SSSI SAC County Wildlife Sites Scheduled Monuments Ancient Woodland	Walton Common, Walton Warren, Walton Wood and Lamb’s Common occupy low-lying land in and are criss-crossed by streams and drains. Other areas of significant woodland habitat areas include Bradmoor Plantation and West Bilney Wood. Pentney Lakes is designated a County Wildlife Site and is home to many types of wildlife including otters, bats, water voles and birds of prey. The network of commons across the character area provide ecological value through heathland and pond habitats. In particular, East Winch Common (SSSI) is a host of reptiles such as grass snakes, adders and slow worms as well as many interesting and endangered plants and invertebrates such as the great crested newt. Norfolk Valley Fens are also designated as a SAC. A small part of the River Nar SSSI runs through the south of the character area.	A cluster of Scheduled Monuments can be found along the easter edge of the character area including the roman villa at Gayton Thorpe, Medieval Settlement remains east of Walton Common and settlement remains at Summer End.	Generally undisturbed, undeveloped character area with the exception of sand and gravel quarries in the west of the character area which create some visual disturbance although impacts are well screened.	East Winch Common was gifted to the Norfolk Wildlife Trust in 1973 by the famous cartoon artist Osbert Lancaster.
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)	Functional



LCA G3: Gayton and East Winch			BASELINE			
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area			
• A small-scale landscape exhibiting a variety of different habitats, mainly agricultural fields (combination of arable and pasture) in a colourful mosaic of generally medium sized fields, delineated by a variety of field boundaries, including hedgerows and post and wire fencing. • Farmland is interspersed with fairly large (plantation) woodland (deciduous, coniferous and mixed) copses, which are concentrated mainly to the eastern and southern edges of the area. • Areas of open water are also an important feature, associated with the valley of the River Nar to the south e.g. (Pentney Lakes Leisure Park to the south). • Settlement is relatively scarce and consists of a number of small villages and hamlets, including East Winch, Gayton and Pentney, with village Halls often prominent features within the villages. Village churches form landmarks within views throughout the area. • Built character in the villages is a mixture of flint, mainly red brickwork, carstone, slate and pantiles. Several farmsteads are dotted along the mainly rural roads.	The character area's fairly inconsistent mosaic landscape of farmland, (plantation) woodland and wetland gives it an element of distinctiveness. The ecologically and recreationally valuable landscapes of Pentney lakes and common land are distinctive features on the landscape.	The character area is well served by PRoW, with approximately 20 connecting the site. Footpaths and bridleways through woodland are particularly common, as well as around the rural village of Pentney. Several commons can be found across the character area including Walton Common, Gayton Thorpe Common, Lamb's Common and East Winch Common. Pentney Lakes are a popular visitor spot offering accommodation and fishing opportunities as well as short walking routes.	The character of the views across the area varies greatly, from enclosed and channelled by paths in the woodland to open (although frequently limited by blocks) across farmland.	There is a strong sense of remoteness and tranquillity throughout the character area. However, the busy traffic corridor of the A47, cutting diagonally through the area, disturbs the generally tranquil character of the area in places.	Predominately agricultural interspersed with rural villages.	
	Value		Susceptibility		Sensitivity	
	Medium		Medium		Medium	
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. The character area has some distinctiveness due to the mosaic of woodland and farmland but is primarily an agricultural landscape with typical features.		The character area comprises a mosaic of agricultural fields of varying sizes interspersed with woodland blocks. The A47 intersects the character area and contributes to localised lower susceptibility to change.		The medium value attached to the landscape and the medium susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a medium sensitivity.	

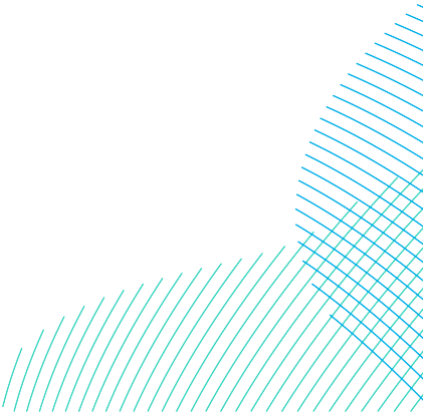


Table 38 LCA G3: Gayton and East Winch - Assessment of effects

LCA G3: Gayton and East Winch	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by construction of the Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 4.2km away at the closest point and separated by valley landform and woodland cover to the north west.	No effect
Year 1 operation (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 4.2km away at the closest point and separated by valley landform and woodland cover to the north west.	No effect
Year 15 operation (summer)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 4.2km away at the closest point and separated by valley landform and woodland cover to the north west.	No effect

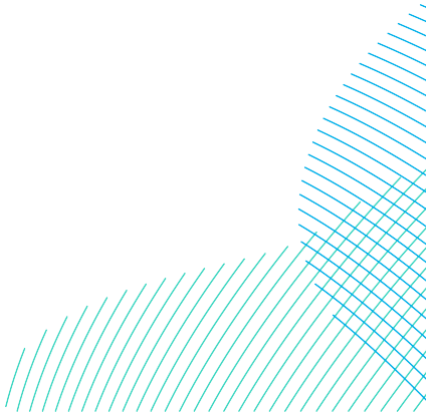


Table 39 LCA I9: Little Massingham and Castle Acre - Baseline

LCA I9: Little Massingham and Castle Acre				BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area			
District	North West Norfolk		King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council			
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments			
King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Landscape Character Assessment (2007)	Within the study area		n/a			
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape					
Situating to the east of the Borough, this area of open farmland is characterised by strongly rolling topography. The landscape consists of predominantly arable farmland with a large regular field pattern broken up by belts and copses of mixed and coniferous woodland and plantations.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LCA.	County Wildlife Sites National Trail	Soigné Wood County Wildlife Site and several small plantations such as Halfmoon Plantation and Ten Acre Plantation create woodland habitat. Several other small-scale County Wildlife Sites cover historic gravel pits and heathland such as Grimston Heath and Brink Hill Water meadows associated with river corridors offer a valued ecological habitat.	No significant cultural features.	Generally undisturbed and isolated character area with tranquillity throughout. West Norfolk Lime quarry to the north west creates minimal visual disturbance.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)	Functional
• Generally mature intact hedgerows with oak hedgerow trees demarcate field boundaries. • Narrow country lanes cross the rural landscape providing access to the villages and isolated dwellings. The roads are often lined with mature trees that form canopies across the roads creating a sense of enclosure. • Amongst the patchwork of fields lie scattered farmsteads and cottages. Settlement is concentrated in the southeastern corner of the area in Castle Acre with other villages in the area including the edge of Little Massington in the northeast and Gayton Thorpe in the southwest. • The buildings in the villages are often in local vernacular style with chalk and flint facing to the walls. • Key landscape features include the mature parkland south of Home Farm with mature decaying pastureland and scattered trees and the circular marl pits with beech trees. • Just to the south of the character area, the valley of the River Nar meanders across the landscape. Water meadows associated with the river corridors also contribute to distinctive character.	• Strong recognisable sense of place • Water meadows associated with the river corridors also contribute to distinctive character.	The character area is served by several PRoW although these are relatively sparse and fragmented. The Peddars Way National Trail runs through the east of the character area from north to south.	Strong sense of openness, with open views over the farmland.		The area has a very strong sense of tranquillity and sense of isolation with occasional noise disturbance from Great Massingham airfield to the east.	Predominately agricultural with scattered residential buildings and isolated parkland south of Home Farm.
	Value		Susceptibility			Sensitivity
	Medium		Medium			Medium
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. Some parts of the area have higher levels of tranquillity, away from settlement but is primarily an agricultural landscape with typical features.		The character area is predominantly formed by medium and large-scale arable fields which have a lower susceptibility to change. The character area is sparsely populated and tranquil, with larger settlements located in the southern parts of the area.			The medium value attached to the landscape and the medium susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a medium sensitivity.

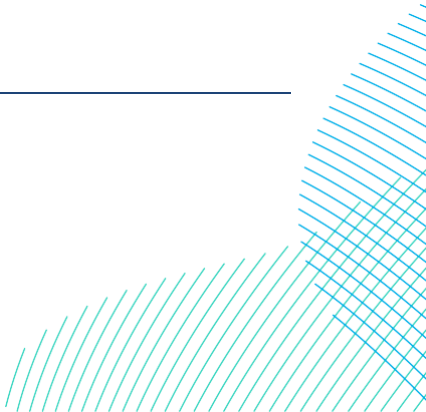


Table 40 LCA I9: Little Massingham and Castle Acre - Assessment of effects

LCA I9: Little Massingham and Castle Acre	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by construction of the Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 2.6km away at the closest point and separated by valley landform and rectilinear woodland blocks to the north.	No effect
Year 1 operation (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 2.6km away at the closest point and separated by valley landform and rectilinear woodland blocks to the north.	No effect
Year 15 operation (summer)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 2.6km away at the closest point and separated by valley landform and rectilinear woodland blocks to the north.	No effect

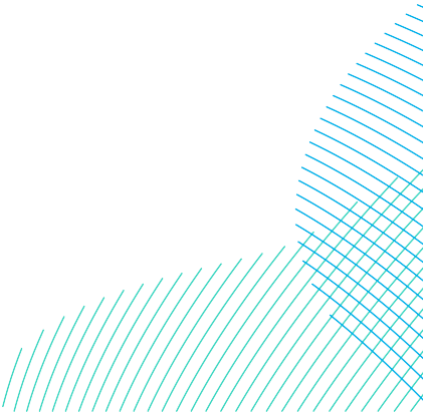


Table 41 LLCA 01: Beachamwell - Baseline

LLCA 01: Beachamwell				BASELINE			
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area				
Local	NCA 85: The Brecks		LCA D1: Swaffham Heath				
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments				
Identified through LVIA process based on desktop studies and fieldwork.	Within the study area. 2km south of the western parcel.		n/a				
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape						
LLCA 01: Beachamwell is located within Landscape Character Area D1 - Swaffham Heath. The character area includes the village of Beachamwell which is a conservation area and Country Park. The village is enclosed by the shallow valley landforms of tributaries of Lode Dike which is located to the south west. Fields are medium-scale and a mix of arable and pasture. The character area includes belts of woodland which follow the valley landforms and often form boundaries to agricultural fields.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations	
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LLCA.	Conservation Area Scheduled Monument County Wildlife Sites Country Park	The area includes Nut Wood ancient woodland and linear bets of woodland that are identified as county woodland sites. The landform is influenced by the tributaries of Lode Dike that run to the south west.	The area includes Beachamwell Conservation Area, which is also a Country Park. Scheduled Monument 'Site of St Mary's Church, Caldecote' is located in the south of the area.	The village of Beachamwell contains historic buildings and historic landscape features such as parkland which is well maintained. There is some degradation of field boundaries within wider arable land.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.	
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)		Functional
• Beachamwell village and conservation area. • Shallow valley landforms of Lode Dike tributaries. • Linear belts of woodland.	Linear blocks with form influenced by watercourses and topography are distinct from the surrounding rectilinear woodland in the surrounding landscape.	There are a number of PRow that extend out from Beachamwell into the surrounding rural landscape.	Views are generally limited by the landform and amount of woodland cover across the area. Typical views comprise arable land, rural lanes and a wooded horizon.		The area is peaceful, and tranquillity levels are typical of a rural village surrounded by agricultural land. Some noise disturbance from RAF Marham to the north west is apparent.		The area comprises a rural village and surrounding arable and pasture fields.
	Value		Susceptibility			Sensitivity	
	Medium		Medium			Medium	
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is valued at a community level for its Ancient Woodland at Nut Wood and linear woodland belts, and historic character of features located within the Conservation Area. The wider arable farmland shows evidence of some hedgerow degradation, and some noise disturbance from RAF Marham to the north west is apparent.		The character area includes the village of Beachamwell which contains historic features and parkland, which have a higher susceptibility to change. Areas outside the village core include a mix of woodland, which has a higher susceptibility to change and medium-scale arable fields which have a lower susceptibility to change.			The medium value attached to the landscape and the medium susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a medium sensitivity.	

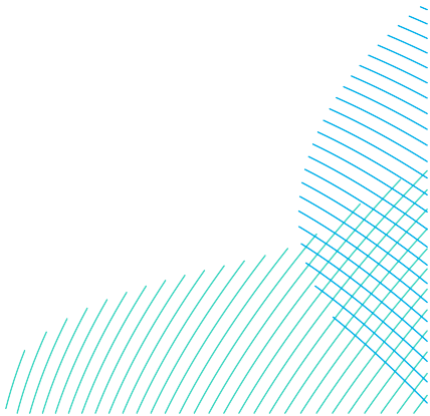


Table 42 LLCA 01: Beachamwell - Assessment of effects

LLCA 01: Beachamwell	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by construction of the Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LLCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 2km away at the closest point and separated by rectilinear woodland blocks in the surrounding landscape.	No effect
Year 1 operation (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LLCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 2km away at the closest point and separated by rectilinear woodland blocks in the surrounding landscape.	No effect
Year 15 operation (summer)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LLCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 2km away at the closest point and separated by rectilinear woodland blocks in the surrounding landscape.	No effect

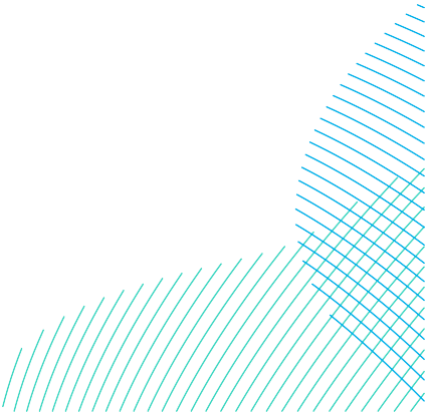


Table 43 LLCA 02: Castle Acre and River Nar Valley - Baseline

LLCA 02: Castle Acre and River Nar Valley				BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area			
Local	NCA 85: The Brecks		LCA F1: River Nar Valley			
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments			
Identified through LVIA process based on desktop studies and fieldwork.	Within the study area. 2km south of the western parcel.		n/a			
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape					
LLCA 02: Castle Acre and River Nar Valley is located within Landscape Character Area F1 - River Nar Valley. The character area includes the villages of Castle Acre, West Acre and Fiddler's Green. Its boundary intersects the villages of South Acre and Newton. The area is characterised by the River Nar that meanders through its centre. Areas of wetland and woodland form the direct river surrounding, with medium-scale arable fields occupying the wider character area. Landform is relatively flat with shallow valley sides.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LLCA.	Conservation Areas Scheduled Monuments County Wildlife Sites SSSIs National Trails Country Parks	The River Nar rises as a spring in the Upper Chalk resulting in distinctive chalk river characteristics. The river course is narrow and displays a wide range of natural physical features including riffles, pools, gravel beds and meanders as it flows westwards across the landscape. The entire course of the River Nar is designated as a SSSI, in view of its quality as a chalk river habitat encompassing areas of wet woodland, pasture and meadows on the valley floor.	Castle Acre Castle, Castle Acre Priory and the double moated site of Old Hall are all Scheduled Monuments and a combined County Wildlife site. A Conservation Area spans across all three of these sites. The moated sites north of All Saints Church are Scheduled Monuments. West Acre Priory is a Scheduled Monument.	The villages of Castle Acre, West Acre and Fiddler's Green consist of a combination of historic buildings and more recently built developments. Field boundaries are generally in excellent condition and care has been taken to preserve the habitats directly surrounding the river.	No association value of note
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)	Functional
• Villages of Castle Acre, West Acre and Fiddler's Green. • River Nar • Pockets of wetland and wet woodland associated with the river • Arable fields	The river and its surrounding high-value natural landscape create a distinctive physical feature which differentiates it from surrounding character areas.	There are several PROw that both traverse and run alongside the River Nar. The Peddars Way and Norfolk Coast Path National Trail which traverses the village of Castle Acre.	Views are generally limited by the landform and woodland cover across the area. Typical views comprise arable land, rural lanes and glimpses of the river.		The area is peaceful and the villages have a relatively remote feel. Travelling between, roads are limited and often take the character of rural lanes which have a relatively low disturbance on the tranquillity of the landscape.	The area comprises three rural villages and surrounding arable fields.
	Value		Susceptibility		Sensitivity	
	High		High		High	
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is valued at a community level for its distinctive chalk river characteristics, reflected in the river's designation as a SSSI. Field boundaries are generally in excellent condition, and the character area displays a number of historically important Scheduled Monuments such as West Acre Priory. Overall, this landscape is not considered to meet the threshold to be considered valued landscape in the context of National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) paragraph 187(a).		The character area is defined by the river valley landform which includes valuable habitat including wetland and wet woodland and has a higher susceptibility to change. The character area also contains notable heritage features which contribute to the character of the village of Castle Acre and the wider character area.		The high value attached to the landscape and the high susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a high sensitivity.	

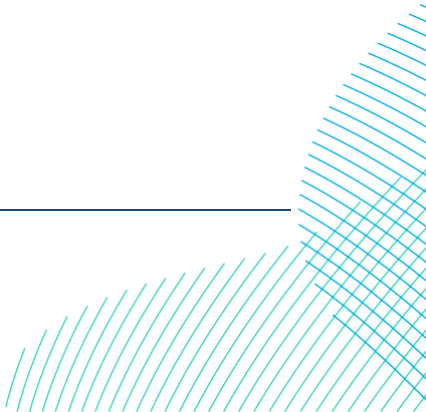


Table 44 LLCA 02: Castle Acre and River Nar Valley - Assessment of effects

LLCA 02: Castle Acre and River Nar Valley	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
Very Low	Minor adverse
There would be no physical impacts to the LCA. Construction of parcels C-02, C-03 and C-05 would take place approximately 2.3km to the south of the LCA. Intervisibility between Castle Acre and the construction of the Proposed Development has been identified through the visual assessment. Impacts to the setting of the LLCA would be barely perceptible across a very small part of the LLCA. The majority of the LLCA is enclosed due to the River Nar Valley landform and vegetation. These impacts are therefore considered to be very small scale and would occur across a very small geographical extent.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the high sensitivity of the receptor would result in minor adverse effects which is not considered significant.
Year 1 operation (winter)	
Very Low	Minor adverse
There would be no physical impacts to the LCA. Parcels C-02, C-03 and C-05 would be located approximately 2.3km to the south of the LCA. Intervisibility between Castle Acre and the construction of the Proposed Development has been identified through the visual assessment. Impacts to the setting of the LLCA would be barely perceptible across a very small part of the LLCA. The majority of the LLCA is enclosed due to the River Nar Valley landform and vegetation. These impacts are therefore considered to be very small scale and would occur across a very small geographical extent.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the high sensitivity of the receptor would result in minor adverse effects which is not considered significant.
Year 15 operation (summer)	
Very Low	Minor adverse
At operation year 15, established planting across all parcels would help integrate the parcels into the landscape. Woodland buffer planting along the northern boundary of parcel C-03 would aid with the integration of the parcel by blending with woodland cover in the wider landscape. The planting would appear as continuous woodland cover across the landscape forming the setting of the LLCA. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the high sensitivity of the receptor would result in minor adverse effects which is not considered significant.

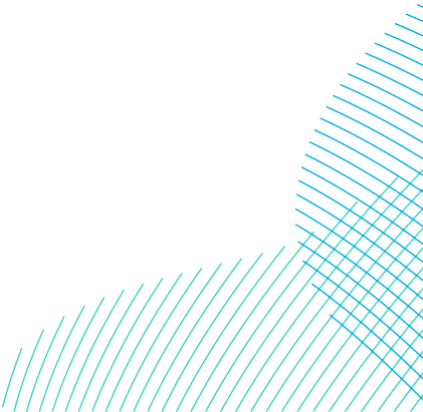
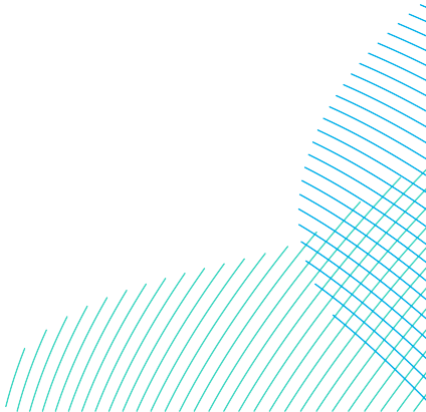


Table 45 LLCA 03: Central Breckland Plateau - Baseline

LLCA 03: Central Breckland Plateau				BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area			
Local	NCA 84: Mid Norfolk		LCA E5: Central Breckland Plateau			
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments			
Identified through LVIA process based on desktop studies and fieldwork.	Within the draft Order Limits covering the southern and eastern parcel.		n/a			
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape					
LLCA 03: Central Breckland Plateau is located within Landscape Character Area E5 of the same name. It covers the villages of Thorpe Row, Blackmoor Row, Bird's Corner, High Green and Ashill. This character area lies in the eastern part of Breckland District, occupying the ridge of elevated land between the Blackwater/Yare and Tud Valleys. The character area is defined primarily by the 60-70m AOD contour, in addition to a more gently undulating landform than is apparent in the adjacent settled tributary farmland character areas	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LLCA.	Scheduled Monuments County Wildlife Sites National Trails Ancient woodland	A number of small blocks of ancient woodland survive within the character area at High Grove and Kingrow Wood. High Grove and Ash Carr are designated as a County Wildlife Site (CWS) on account of their habitat value. Ancient woodland, with lowland mixed deciduous woodland, is identified as a priority habitat within the Norfolk BAP, as are ancient and/or species rich hedgerows. Localised historic/veteran oak hedgerow trees provide a link to the early post Enclosure landscape prior to 20th Century agricultural intensification	The presence of a number of Scheduled Monuments (SM's) within the character area indicates the long history of settlement. A medieval village site at Panworth, Devil's Ditch and a Roman Enclosure have SM status. The former RAF Airfield at Shipdham celebrates historic use of the site.	This landscape is essentially a productive, intensively used but poorly managed agricultural landscape, and field boundaries are in variable condition. In terms of its ecological and historical integrity this is generally weak, although locally strengthened by the presence of early Enclosure hedgerow oaks and discrete areas of ancient woodland.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)	Functional



LLCA 03: Central Breckland Plateau			BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area		
• Collection of small rural villages • A gently undulating landscape overlying glacial Lowestoft Till drift deposits • This is an open, sparse arable agricultural landscape	The arable land use has resulted in an essentially tamed agricultural landscape of muted colour, punctuated with several large-scale villages. Relict blocks of ancient woodland provide a visual link to the historic landcover pattern, while historic/vernacular settlement cores and use of local flint and brick for buildings reinforces the sense of place and historical integrity. A distinctive feature of the plateau is the former RAF Shipdham Airfield, occupying the elevated land to the south east of Shipdham.	Opportunities for recreation are provided by the network of several public footpaths and section of the Mid Norfolk Railway which traverse the character area and provide access to the Scheduled Monuments. The Peddars Way and Norfolk Coast Path National Trail traverses the western edge of the character area from north to south.	When visible over hedgerows, open agricultural fields and wooded skylines characterise typical views across the plateau. As such, key visual sensitivities include the predominantly open skylines and horizons and the high potential intervisibility with other character areas due to its openness and elevated aspect. Long views are available from the elevated road network, with the potential for light pollution of the night sky from settlements.	Outside of the relatively small, low-density settlement clusters, the character area is peaceful in character with minimal noise disturbance and a strong rural feel. The adjacent LLCA of Shipdham brings a more urban character to the edges of the plateau.	Predominately arable land interspersed with small settlements and a network of footpaths.
	Value		Susceptibility		Sensitivity
	Medium		Medium		Medium
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is valued at a community level for its small pockets of Ancient Woodland and veteran trees within historic hedgerows. The landscape is otherwise tamed with a muted palette with a generally weak ecological value and historic integrity. The elevated aspect of the character area, however, provides good intervisibility between character areas due to its extensive views.		The character area is predominantly formed by medium and large-scale arable fields which are less susceptible to change. Topography affords long-distance views with often open skylines. Localised areas of higher susceptibility to change include smaller scale and more complex field patterns, typically at the edge of small rural settlements which are scattered across the character area.	The medium value attached to the landscape and the medium susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a medium sensitivity.	

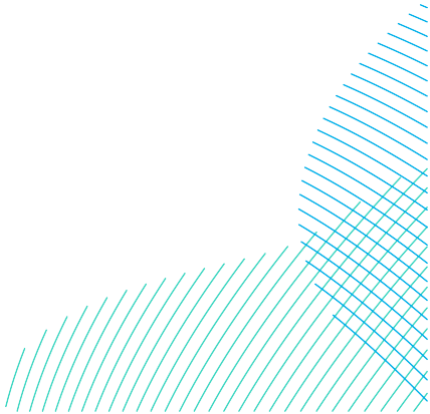
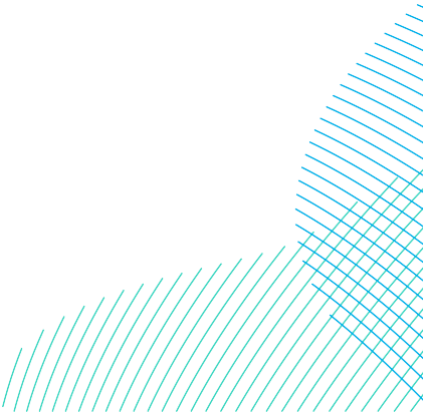


Table 46 LLCA 03: Central Breckland Plateau - Assessment of effects

LLCA 03: Central Breckland Plateau	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
Medium	Moderate adverse (significant)
Construction of parcels E-05, E-06, E-07, E-08, E-09, E-10, S-03, S-06, S-07, S-09, S-10, S-11, S-12, S-13, S-14, S-15, S-16, S-17 and S-18 would take place within the LLCA. Construction activity would predominantly be limited to the fringes of the LLCA , with construction at parcels S-07 to S-17 located centrally across a narrow section of the LLCA to the north east of Ashill. Construction compounds within the LLCA would include those within E-07,E-08, E-10, S-13 and S-18. These would include the presence of vehicles and machinery and storage of materials, regular deliveries and access to the compounds via haul routes would increase construction activity across these areas. Cable laying corridors S-S2, S-S3, S-S4, E-E1, E-E3 and E-S would be located at the fringes of the LLCA. Activity across these areas would include localised vegetation clearance, topsoil stripping and stockpiling and excavation via trenching to lay cables. Within parcels, activity would include; construction of access roads which would require topsoil stripping and excavations; piling for the frames of solar PV modules and presence and operation of associated machinery; installation of BESS and inverters; and the stockpiling and installation of solar PV module frames. A 132kV substation is located within parcel S-09 and would require tall lifting equipment and associated machinery. The construction phase would result in changes to land cover and temporary, localised changes to landform due to stockpiling of material for cable laying. Whilst the presence of large machinery and excavation works would not be uncharacteristic of an agricultural landscape, the scale of works being undertaken would be incongruous with the LLCA. Construction would introduce activity to rural areas with only small settlements in the vicinity and higher levels of tranquillity. There would be localised areas of concentrated impacts where the scale of construction would be bigger but in the overall context of the large LLCA, construction impacts would be medium scale and would occur across a small geographical extent. Construction impacts would be short term and reversible.	The medium magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in moderate adverse effects which is considered significant.
Year 1 operation (winter)	
Medium	Moderate adverse (significant)
Parcels E-05, E-06, E-07, E-08, E-09, E-10, S-03, S-06, S-07, S-09, S-10, S-11, S-12, S-13, S-14, S-15, S-16, S-17 and S-18 would be located within the LCA. The Proposed Development would predominantly be limited to the fringes of the LLCA , with parcels S-07 to S-17 located centrally across a narrow section of the LLCA to the north east of Ashill. The parcels would introduce massing across areas that are currently arable land and aesthetic and perceptual landscape character would be altered due to the regular pattern and form of solar arrays and colour tones of the solar frames and solar arrays which differs from the majority of surrounding agricultural fields. Vegetation pattern would be retained across parcels with appropriate offsets applied. A 132kV substation would be located within parcel S-09 and would introduce further differing infrastructure to that of the regular form and pattern of solar arrays, resulting in a slight increase in the perception of scale of development within the locality. Landform would be reinstated across cable laying corridors S-S2, S-S3, S-S4, E-E1, E-E3 and E-S. In the first few months of operation reinstated areas along the cable laying corridors which were previously grassland would remain perceptible due to newly establishing grassland or replacement ground cover. Small areas of reinstatement planting would be perceptible due to the age of replacement planting and presence of stakes and tree guards. The static nature of the Proposed Development would retain a similar perception to the open and still character of agricultural land with the frequency of maintenance activities remaining similar to that of activity typical of agricultural fields. Proposed hedgerow enhancements, visual screening and buffer planting and green infrastructure connectivity planting across the Proposed Development would not have established. Permissive pathways located in parcels S-09, S-10, S-11, S-13 and S-14, to the north east of Ashill, would increase recreational accessibility locally. The majority of parcels would be located across arable fields. There would be localised areas of concentrated impacts where the scale of the Proposed Development would be bigger but in the overall context of the large LLCA, impacts would be small scale and would occur across a small geographical extent. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The medium magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in moderate adverse effects which is considered significant.



LLCA 03: Central Breckland Plateau	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
Year 15 operation (summer)	
Medium	Moderate adverse (significant)
At operation year 15, established planting across all parcels within the LCA would help integrate the parcels into the landscape.	The medium magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in moderate adverse effects which is considered significant.
Native grassland proposed below solar arrays would be established and would be beneficial for landcover and biodiversity value.	
Reinstatement planting across Cable Corridors S-S2, S-S3, S-S4, E-E1, E-E3 and E-S would be established resulting in cable routes being barely perceptible within the landscape.	
Beneficial changes such as green infrastructure improvements and strengthening of landscape pattern through improvements to boundary planting are balanced against the long-term presence of solar arrays and associated infrastructure including substations and BESS.	
Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	

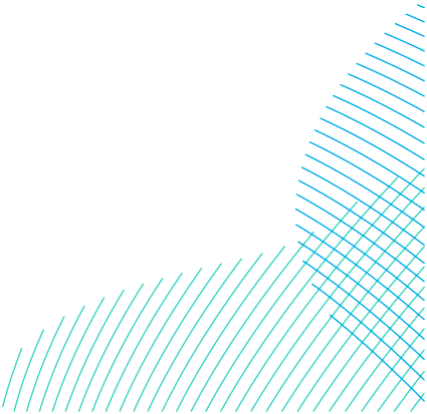


Table 47 LLCA 04: Dereham - Baseline

LLCA 04: Dereham				BASELINE			
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area				
Local	NCA 84: Mid Norfolk		Urban				
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments				
Identified through LVIA process based on desktop studies and fieldwork.	Within the study area. 1.1km to the east of the eastern parcel		n/a				
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape						
LLCA 04: Dereham is an urban area located between Landscape Character Area E8 - Dereham Plateau to the north and east, B6 - River Wensum and Tud Tributary Farmland to the south and west and A4 - River Wensum and Blackwater to the north west. It is a town and civil parish in the Breckland District situated on the A47. It is considered a market town owing to the focal Market Place which creates a key element of the LLCA. Historic buildings cluster in this area creating depth to the historic and heritage character. The Norman St Nicholas Church serves as another key landmark. The village is designated a Conservation Area. 19th century and post-war expansion have added modern character to the LLCA in areas.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations	
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LLCA.	Conservation Area National Cycle Network Country Parks	No significant natural heritage elements, although elements from adjacent LLCAs, such as Potter's Fen (SSSI, SAC, Registered Park and Garden) and Neatherd Moor, contribute to the character of the urban fabric.	The historic area of the town to the north west is designated as a Conservation Area. An extended area of this has also been designated a Country Park. Effort has been made in some places to replicate the historic architectural style, particularly along the High Street.	The town has undergone significant expansion and redevelopment from its historic core, with a strong presence of 20th century low-density residential development which compromised its historic integrity. Large-scale developments such as Tesco Extra and warehouse-style commercial units somewhat detract from the rural town feel of the character area.	Dereham was declared a Nordal Point during the Second World War and was partially fortified to slow down any German invasion of the country. One surviving structure, a pill box (blockhouse), is preserved as a memorial in the railway station yard.	
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)		Functional
• Market town • The oldest surviving domestic buildings date from the 16th Century • The town grew around St Nicholas Church, from the Norman era • Significant 19th century expansion and post-war expansion • Large and well-preserved collection of historic buildings and heritage assets • Market Place hosting twice-weekly market	The original historic area of Dereham now takes up a relatively small area, and new developments are typical of 20th century low-density architecture. The lack of strong historic integrity is apparent in the scant availability of distinctive features that characterise the town.	A number of PROW pass through the character area, particularly focussed around Dereham's Conservation Area. National Cycle Network Route 13 also enters the area from the west and passes through the Dereham's Conservation Area and Country Park.	Views throughout Dereham are largely enclosed by the buildings that surround, with exceptions where streets and footpaths border onto open spaces in adjacent character areas such as Potters Fen and Neatherd Moor and Moorgate Woods National Forest. In other areas, views over recreational fields are apparent, such as cricket, rugby, hockey and golf clubs.		The A47 creates a central divide through the landscape and creates some resulting noise pollution. Tranquillity is otherwise typical of a low-density rural village punctuated with small areas of managed green space.		Town and civil parish with a population of approximately 20,800. The northern, western and southern parts of the town are primarily residential land use. There is an area of industrial and commercial land use located in the south east close to the A47.
	Value		Susceptibility			Sensitivity	
	Medium		Low			Medium	
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is valued at a community level for its historic Conservation Area, which serves as a node for National Cycle Network Route 13 which passes through. More recent developments have in places degraded the historic integrity of the town, and the A47 creates a central divide through the landscape resulting in localised disturbance.		This is an urban character area with substantial road infrastructure and areas of industrial and commercial land use. These areas have lower susceptibility to change. Areas of higher susceptibility to change within the character area includes residential land use and areas at the urban fringe of the character area.			The medium value attached to the landscape and the low susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a medium sensitivity.	

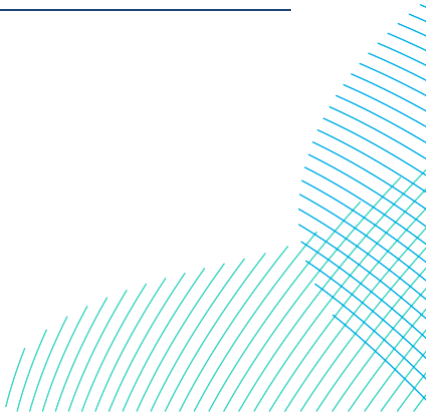


Table 48 LLCA 04: Dereham - Assessment of effects

LLCA 04: Dereham	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by construction of the Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LLCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 1.1km away at the closest point. The LLCA is urban and less susceptible to construction impacts, the LLCA is also separated from the Proposed Development by arable land with intact hedgerow boundaries which would retain the rural character at the fringe of the town.	No effect
Year 1 operation (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LLCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 1.1km away at the closest point. The LLCA is urban and less susceptible to construction impacts, the LLCA is also separated from the Proposed Development by arable land with intact hedgerow boundaries which would retain the rural character at the fringe of the town.	No effect
Year 15 operation (summer)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LLCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 1.1km away at the closest point. The LLCA is urban and less susceptible to construction impacts, the LLCA is also separated from the Proposed Development by arable land with intact hedgerow boundaries which would retain the rural character at the fringe of the town.	No effect

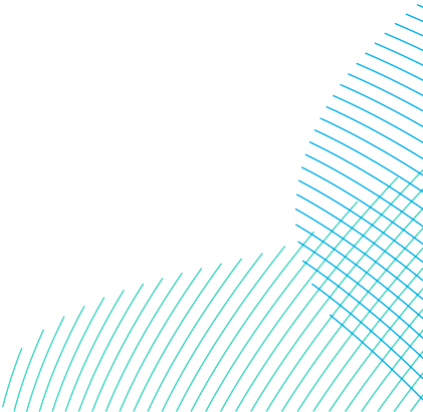


Table 49 LLCA 05: Former RAF North Pickenham - Baseline

LLCA 05: Former RAF North Pickenham				BASELINE			
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area				
Local	NCA 85: The Brecks / NCA 84: Mid Norfolk		LCA E6: North Pickenham Plateau				
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments				
Identified through LVIA process based on desktop studies and fieldwork.	Within the study area. 1800m south of the central parcel.		n/a				
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape						
LLCA 05: Former RAF North Pickenham is located within Landscape Character Area E6: North Pickenham Plateau. The character area consists of the former RAF airfield and its associated runways, buildings and open space. The former runways and brick built former industrial premises have undergone some development since the site's closure. The area surrounding this is covered with arable farmland which is interspersed with wind turbines. A small solar farm can also be seen to the east of the character area surrounded by an area of woodland.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations	
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LLCA.	National Trails	The character area falls within the Ecological Network Mapping Project's Core Area for heathland, grassland and woodland restoration.	The former airfield is a recognised element of Norfolk heritage. The airfield is protected under SHINE (the Selected Heritage Inventory for Natural England). This is a single, nationally consistent dataset of non-designated historic and archaeological features from across England that could benefit from management under Countryside Stewardship and may be unsuitable for certain actions under the Sustainable Farming Incentive.	Aside from the former airfield, the surrounding historic integrity of the character area has been largely lost due to the degradation of field boundaries associated with agricultural intensification and new vehicle routes associated with the wind farm. The airfield itself has undergone development and now has secondary recreational and industrial uses.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.	
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)		Functional
- Former RAF airfield and associated development - Arable farmland - Wind turbines - Solar farm	The former airfield, coupled with the wind turbines serve as distinctive visual landmarks that differentiate the area from surrounding local character areas.	The Peddars Way and Norfolk Coast Path National Trail runs through the eastern corner. There are no other PRoW present. Anglia Karting Centre provides recreational opportunity in the character area.	This rural landscape is largely inaccessible to the public due to the lack of road network penetrating the airfield and wind farm. The wind turbines, however, are prominent vertical structures in views across the character area.		From accessible areas, the wind turbines serve as a strong visual marker on the landscape which detracts somewhat from the general tranquillity of the otherwise rural landscape.		The function of this character area is somewhat mixed with elements of farmland, the former airfield, the Peddars Way National Trail and renewable energy uses.
	Value		Susceptibility			Sensitivity	
	Low		Low			Low	
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is largely inaccessible to the public except for some repurposed uses of the old airfield. The arable field boundaries in the space surrounding the disused airfield are in largely poor condition. Wind turbines are a strong visual marker on the landscape, detracting from the feeling of wilderness and tranquillity.		The character area is defined by the former airfield which breaks up the surrounding field pattern. The former airfield now includes solar and wind turbine development which contribute to a lower susceptibility to change.			The low value attached to the landscape and the low susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a low sensitivity.	

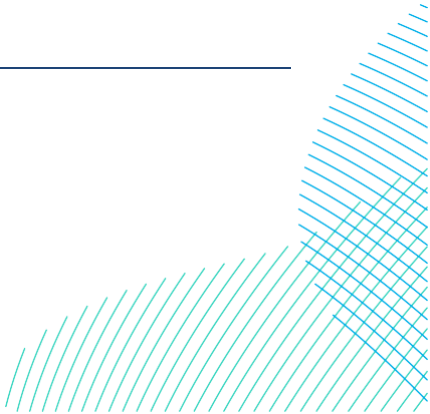


Table 50 LLCA 05: Former RAF North Pickenham - Assessment of effects

LLCA 05: Former RAF North Pickenham	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by construction of the Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LLCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 1.8km away at the closest point. The LLCA is separated from the Proposed Development by arable land with woodland blocks to the north and the villages of North Pickenham and Ashill to the east.	No effect
Year 1 operation (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LLCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 1.8km away at the closest point. The LLCA is separated from the Proposed Development by arable land with woodland blocks to the north and the villages of North Pickenham and Ashill to the east.	No effect
Year 15 operation (summer)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LLCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 1.8km away at the closest point. The LLCA is separated from the Proposed Development by arable land with woodland blocks to the north and the villages of North Pickenham and Ashill to the east.	No effect

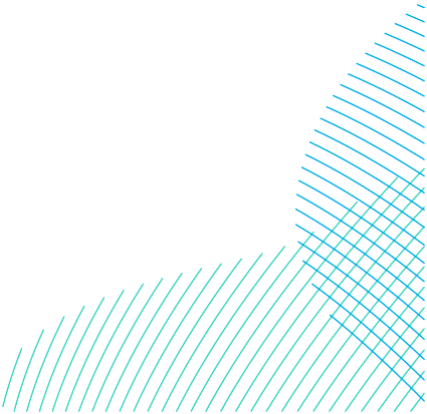
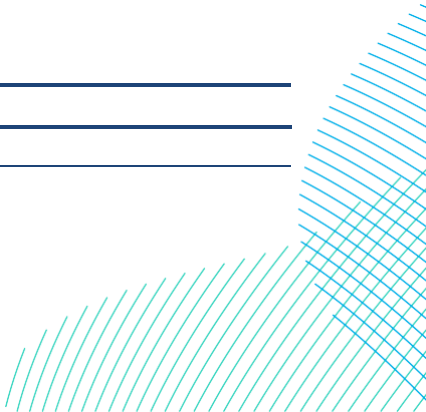


Table 51 LLCA 06: Little Dunham Parkland - Baseline

LLCA 06: Little Dunham Parkland				BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area			
Local	NCA 84: Mid Norfolk		LCA E6: North Pickenham Plateau			
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments			
Identified through LVIA process based on desktop studies and fieldwork.	Within the study area. 800m north of the central parcel.		n/a			
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape					
LLCA 06: Little Dunham Parkland is located within Landscape Character Area E6: North Pickenham Plateau. It consists of the small village of Little Dunham, Dunham Lodge and its associated parkland, and a patchwork of arable fields punctuated with small-scale plantation woodlands.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LLCA.	County Wildlife Site Conservation Area Country Park	The disused railway line which runs along the north boundary of the character area has been designated as a County Wildlife site. The historic landform is associated with the former Dereham branch of the Mid Norfolk Railway built in 1882. Today it remains as a ponded area with surrounding wetland and woodland along this stretch.	Much of the village is designated a both a Conservation Area and a Country Park, which consists predominately of detached residential properties at a low density. The Little Dunham Heritage Trail runs a circular route through the Conservation Area.	Much of the historic character of the small village remains, contributing to its pleasant and appealing nature. Low-density residential buildings are interspersed with ample hedgerows and mature trees creating a generally tranquil and rural feel to the village. The main ecological value throughout the character area comes from the localised woodland blocks and ancient hedgerows to the lane network.	John Venn was Rectory of the local Church, St Margaret's Church, from 1782 to 1793 who later became a prominent figure in the Clapham Sect who did much to push forward the Anti Slavery agenda of William Wilberforce. John Nelson, cousin to Admiral Lord Nelson, was Rector from 1820 to 1865 and he and his wife are buried in the church and there is a commemoration plate in the chancel to their son, Charles. Little Dunham Lodge was at one time in the ownership of the Nelson family. Another famous occupant of the Lodge was the poet William Cowper.
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)	
• Village of Little Dunham • Arable and pasture farmland • Parkland • Woodland plantation	Little Dunham's well preserved historic condition and character associations make it a memorable destination which attracts visitors for its strong heritage.	The village is served by several PRow which run through the parkland and centre on the Conservation Area of the village.	Whilst views within the village are largely enclosed by buildings and vegetation, the AOD height at which the character area stands lends itself to views across adjacent character areas and further afield as the settlement density falls to the west. Little Dunham Lodge stands on the far side of the village and is reputed to be the highest house in Norfolk at 345 feet. On a clear day it is said the spires of Norwich Cathedral, Ely Cathedral and the masts of ships in King’s Lynn harbour can be seen from the roof.		The small village sustains a quaint, rural feel owing to its low density and small population. It experiences minimal noise or visual disturbance from surrounding character areas. Overhead power lines cause minor impact on the visual coherence of the landscape.	
	Value		Susceptibility			Sensitivity
	High		High			High



LLCA 06: Little Dunham Parkland			BASELINE
Hierarchy	National Character Area	District Character Area	
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is valued at a community level for its historic character which has Conservation Area and Country Park status. Traditional architectural style and historic hedgerows have largely been retained well, and the village sustains a quaint, rural feel. It's historic associations add another dimension of cultural importance to the character area. Overall, this landscape is not considered to meet the threshold to be considered valued landscape in the context of National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) paragraph 187(a).	The character area comprises pasture, arable land, woodland and parkland surrounding the village of Little Dunham. The village preserves its historic condition and sustains a quaint, rural feel resulting in a higher susceptibility to change.	The high value attached to the landscape and the high susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a high sensitivity.

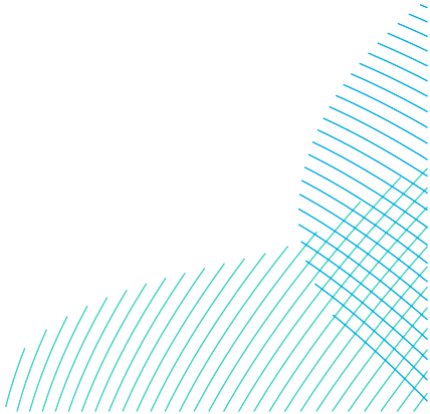


Table 52 LLCA 06: Little Dunham Parkland - Assessment of effects

LLCA 06: Little Dunham Parkland	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by construction of the Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LLCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 600m away at the closest point. The LLCA is separated from the Proposed Development by arable land with intact hedgerows to the south. The closest construction activity would be cable laying corridors close to the existing 400kV pylon line, the A47 and Necton substation.	No effect
Year 1 operation (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LLCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 600m away at the closest point. The LLCA is separated from the Proposed Development by arable land with intact hedgerows to the south. The closest parts of the Proposed Development would be cable laying corridors close to the existing 400kV pylon line, the A47 and Necton substation, there would be no discernible change to thee areas at operation due to reinstatement works.	No effect
Year 15 operation (summer)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LLCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 600m away at the closest point. The LLCA is separated from the Proposed Development by arable land with intact hedgerows to the south. The closest parts of the Proposed Development would be cable laying corridors close to the existing 400kV pylon line, the A47 and Necton substation, there would be no discernible change to thee areas at operation due to reinstatement works.	No effect

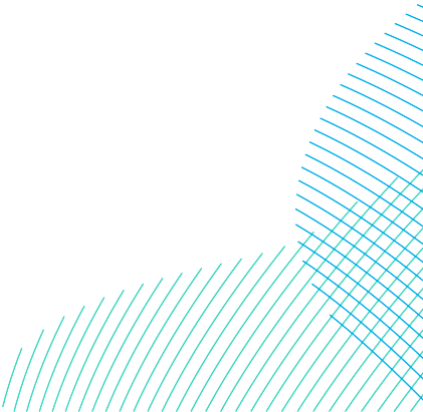


Table 53 LLCA 07: Narborough - Baseline

LLCA 07: Narborough				BASELINE			
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area				
Local	NCA 76: North West Norfolk / NCA 85: The Brecks		LCA D1: Swaffham Heath				
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments				
Identified through LVIA process based on desktop studies and fieldwork.	Within the study area. 2km north of the western parcel.		n/a				
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape						
LLCA 07: Narborough is located within Landscape Character Area D1 - Swaffham Heath. It consists of the village of Narborough, a historic village with a population of approximately 1000 which gave the adjacent River Nar its name. Narborough displays qualities of an agricultural village, meaning it is a small settlement which initially originated as a series of dispersed buildings which have since developed into villages. Narborough's traditional agricultural function is milling. Although the settlement was traditionally focussed around the river, modern growth has seen expansion away from the watercourse focus, likely due to the realised risk of flooding. Nonetheless, the historic Narborough Water mill still serves as the village 'nucleus', surrounded with historic buildings. Narborough is currently designated as a Conservation Area.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations	
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LLCA.	Country Park Conservation Area	No significant natural heritage features.	Some historic buildings of typical local style can be found in the north of the village. The area to the north of this including the fish farm and Narborough Hall has Conservation Area status, although this is largely attributed to an adjacent character area. The same area is designated a Country Park. The majority of buildings arose from much more recent developments and these form the bulk of the local village character.	The village is maintained reasonably well and presents primarily as a 20th-century development area.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.	
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)		Functional
• Single focus nucleated village • Focus around the historic Narborough Water mill • Historically significant buildings clustered around the mill • Agricultural village • River Nar • Building scale generally larger due to more industrial character of key historic buildings	The character area lacks comparatively in its historical integrity and displays largely more modern architectural styles. There is an absence of a central 'high street' to serve as a village core which would help to distinguish Narborough from surrounding villages.	No PRoW or significant recreational features	Where local topography and development allows, longer vistas to wooded skylines are possible even from central residential areas of the village.		The partially visible rural setting which surrounds Narborough creates a relatively tranquil feel within this small village.		The area comprises a rural village with a population of approximately 1,400. The village includes facilities to serve the local community.
	Value		Susceptibility			Sensitivity	
	Medium		High			Medium	
The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It has largely lost connection with its historical identity and lacks distinguishing features to differentiate it from other rural villages. However, it sustains a generally tranquil neighbourhood feel. There is a lack of PRoW serving the area.		A nucleated rural village associated with the River Nar. Longer distance views to the surrounding rural setting are possible from various points throughout this tranquil village, resulting in a higher susceptibility to change.			The medium value attached to the landscape and the high susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a medium sensitivity.		

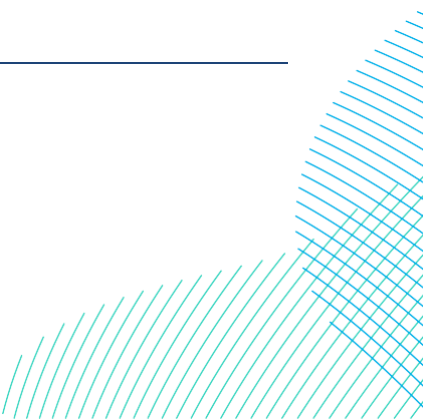


Table 54 LLCA 07: Narborough - Assessment of effects

LLCA 07: Narborough	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by construction of the Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LLCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 2km away at the closest point and separated by rectilinear woodland blocks in the surrounding landscape.	No effect
Year 1 operation (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LLCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 2km away at the closest point and separated by rectilinear woodland blocks in the surrounding landscape.	No effect
Year 15 operation (summer)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LLCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 2km away at the closest point and separated by rectilinear woodland blocks in the surrounding landscape.	No effect

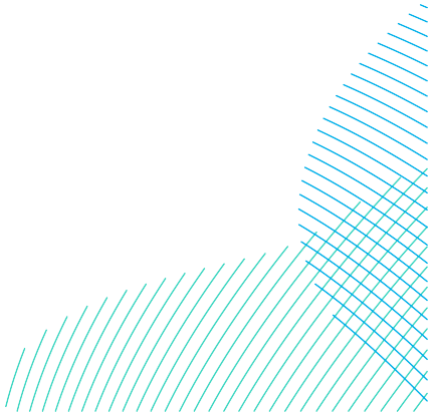


Table 55 LLCA 08: Necton - Baseline

LLCA 08: Necton					BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area				
Local	NCA 84: Mid Norfolk		LCA B5: River Wissey Tributary Farmland				
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments				
Identified through LVIA process based on desktop studies and fieldwork.	Within the study area. 1.5km to the south west of the central parcel and 2km west of the northern parcel. Directly to the south of the central-north Cable Corridor.		n/a				
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape						
LLCA 08: Necton is located within Landscape Character Area B5 - River Wissey Tributary Farmland. This relatively small character area consists of the nucleated village of Necton, part of which is a Conservation Area. The area consists of low-density housing interspersed with open recreational fields and pockets of woodland on the village periphery. The gently undulating landscape that drains towards the River Wissey is not easily legible at the village scale.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations	
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LLCA.	Conservation Area Country Park	No significant natural heritage features.	A Conservation Area and Country Park designation covers the most historic part of the village, including All Saints' Church and surrounding historic buildings.	The village consists of a combination of historic buildings, mainly found in the Conservation Area, and clusters of new developments of varying age which spread outwards from this. The character area appears to still be undergoing new housing development projects. Hedgerows can be found sporadically around the outskirts of the village are in varied condition.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.	
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)		Functional
• Necton village and Conservation Area. • Low-density housing • Recreational fields • Woodland pockets	The area presents as a typical rural village with buildings of varied condition and consistency with historic character.	There are very few PRoW in the character area.	Views are generally concealed within Necton by surrounding buildings and on the outer edges, hedgerows and woodland. The church tower at Necton is a distinctive element of views.		The tranquillity of Necton is to be expected from a rural village of its density. Roads through the village are largely narrow lanes, with the A47 providing some visual and noise disturbance to developments directly to the south.		The area comprises a rural village with a population of approximately 1,800. The village includes facilities to serve the local community.
	Value		Susceptibility			Sensitivity	
	Medium		Medium			Medium	
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is valued at a community level for its historic features within the Conservation Area such as All Saints Church, however continued expansion of the village somewhat erodes its historic integrity. The A47 provides localised visual and noise disturbance.		A typical rural village with a historic core, views are generally concealed by surrounding buildings. The village has a rural setting with larger modern arable fields to the north and smaller scale more complex field patterns to the south.			The medium value attached to the landscape and the medium susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a medium sensitivity.	

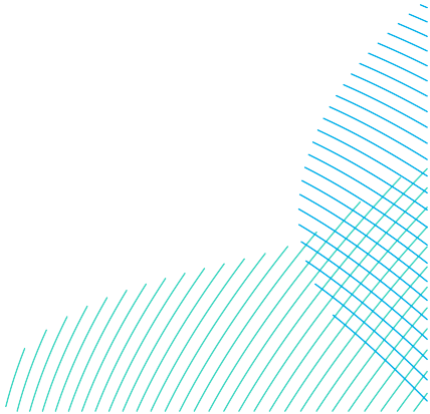


Table 56 LLCA 08: Necton - Assessment of effects

LLCA 08: Necton	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
Very Low	Minor adverse
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by construction of the Proposed Development. The LLCA is located adjacent to cable laying corridor C-N which is to the north. To the west of Dunham Road, the corridor is located north of the A47 which would form a buffer between the LLCA and construction activity. To the east of Dunham Road, the corridor runs through agricultural fields. Activity across these areas would include localised vegetation clearance, topsoil stripping and stockpiling and excavation via trenching to lay cables. The setting of the LLCA would not be impacted by any other parts of the Proposed Development. The presence of large machinery and excavation works would not be uncharacteristic of an agricultural landscape, however there would be a slightly increased perception of the scale of works being undertaken. Construction impacts would be very small-scale and would occur across a very small geographical extent. Construction impacts would be short term and reversible.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in minor adverse effects which is not considered significant.
Year 1 operation (winter)	
Very Low	Negligible adverse
There would be no physical impacts to the LLCA. Changes to the setting due to cable laying corridor C-N would be barely perceptible as landform would be reinstated. Impacts to the setting of the LLCA would be barely perceptible across a very small part of the large LCA. These impacts are therefore considered to be very small -scale and would occur across a very small geographical extent. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in negligible adverse effects which is not considered significant.
Year 15 operation (summer)	
Very Low	Negligible adverse
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. The closest parts of the Proposed Development would be cable laying corridors close to the existing 400kV pylon line, the A47 and Necton substation, due to the establishment of reinstatement planting and ground cover. The cable routes would be barely perceptible within the landscape that forms the setting of the LLCA. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in negligible adverse effects which is not considered significant.

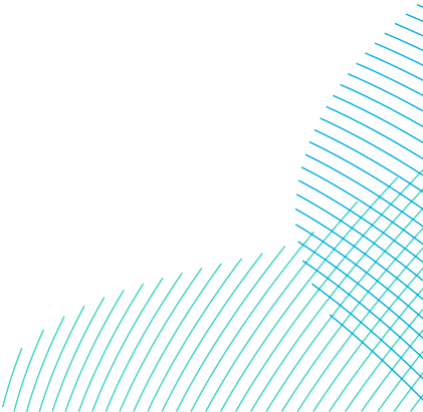
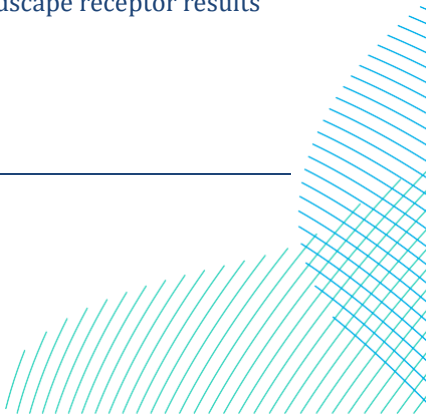


Table 57 LLCA 09: North Pickenham Plateau - Baseline

LLCA 09: North Pickenham Plateau				BASELINE			
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area				
Local	NCA 84: Mid Norfolk		LCA E6: North Pickenham Plateau				
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments				
Identified through LVIA process based on desktop studies and fieldwork.	Within the draft Order Limits covering the northern parcel.		Norfolk Vanguard (EN010079) Norfolk Boreas (EN010087) Dudgeon Onshore Substation (3PL/2012/0703/F)				
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape						
LLCA 09: North Pickenham Plateau is located in Landscape Character Area E6 of the same name. It consists of the villages of Great Dunham, Beeston and Little Fransham. It is an elevated, arable plateau with a largely flat, open landscape.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations	
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LLCA.	County Wildlife Sites Ancient Woodland SSSI Scheduled Monument	The disused railway line associated with the former Dereham branch of the Mid-Norfolk railway is designated as a County Wildlife Site and serves as a valuable ecological habitat. Small pockets of Ancient Woodland can be found across the character area, such as Honeypot Wood (SSSI) and Baker's Wood.	The disused railway line designated as a County Wildlife Site offers an indication of the part of historic use. The ditch associated with Hell Pit at the northern extent is designated as a Scheduled Monument.	The landscape of the character area is that of a working arable agricultural landscape, and as such its visual intactness has been affected by agricultural intensification in the early and mid 20th Century and the associated removal of field boundary hedgerows. In terms of ecology the character area is, as a whole, relatively weak, with the exception of localised woodland blocks and the ancient hedgerows to the lane network. The character area is in a generally good, managed condition.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.	
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)		Functional
- Thick Lowestoft Till glacial deposits underlie the character area creating its elevated position. - A largely flat landscape defined by 70-75m contours. - Former marl pits are a feature of the plateau. - Runways, disturbed ground and industrial premises associated with the former RAF Wendling are apparent in the central part of the character area.	Former marl pits form an distinctive feature of the plateau. The landscape is otherwise widely agricultural with muted colour, with the notable exception of RAF Wendling and small villages.	Several PRoW pass through the plateau, particularly in the south of the character area adjacent to Little Dunham parkland.	Opportunities are created for extensive and panoramic views across the plateau due to the openness of the landscape, and intervisibility with other landscape character areas is high. There is high intervisibility between settlements and between this and other character areas, with church towers forming a prominent element in views. In terms of visual unity and perceptual/visual character, this is interrupted, with overhead power lines and pylons apparent, in addition to road noise and light glare from the A47.		The character area is defined by muted colour and is strongly rural. The landscape of the character area is relatively remote and peaceful, with little movement.		Arable farmland interspersed with small villages
	Value		Susceptibility			Sensitivity	
	Medium		Medium			Medium	
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is valued at a community level for its pockets of ancient woodland and hedgerow which create localised ecological value, although ecological value as a whole is weak. The visual intactness of the agricultural landscape has been affected by agricultural intensification in the late 20th Century. The scenic quality, however, provides		The character area is predominantly formed by medium and large-scale arable fields which have a lower susceptibility to change. Long views over adjacent tributary farmland and heathland are possible due to the character area’s elevated and flat topography. Susceptibility to change is higher in localised areas where historic character and land cover remain.			The medium value attached to the landscape and the medium susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a medium sensitivity.	



LLCA 09: North Pickenham Plateau			BASELINE
Hierarchy	National Character Area	District Character Area	
	extended views over the character area, picking up church towers in adjacent settlements.		

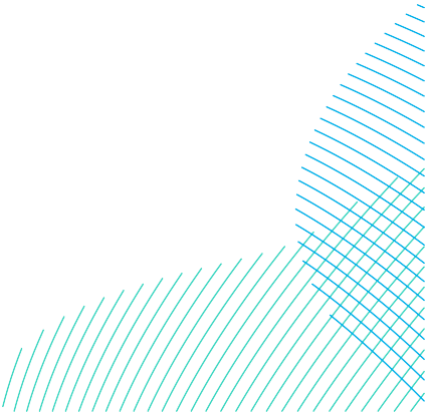
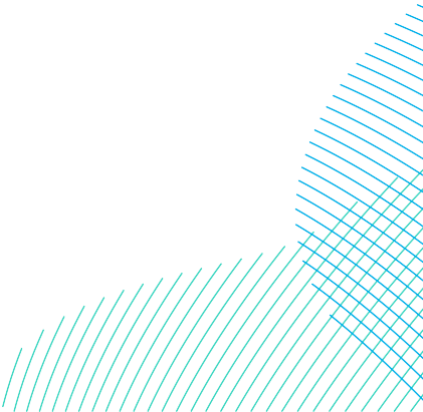


Table 58 LLCA 09: North Pickenham Plateau - Assessment of effects

LLCA 09: North Pickenham Plateau	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
Very Low	Minor adverse
Construction of parcels N-05, N-06, N-09 and N-10 would take place within the LLCA. Construction activity would take place across arable fields in the southern part of the LLCA. The southern part of the LCA would include cable laying corridors C-N and N-E2. Activity across the area would include localised vegetation clearance, topsoil stripping and stockpiling and excavation via trenching to lay cables. Within parcels, activity would include; construction of access roads which would require topsoil stripping and excavations; piling for the frames of solar PV modules and presence and operation of associated machinery; installation of BESS and inverters; and the stockpiling and installation of solar PV modules. The construction phase would result in changes to land cover and temporary, localised changes to landform due to stockpiling of material for cable laying. Whilst the presence and operation of large machinery and excavation works would not be uncharacteristic of an agricultural landscape, the scale of works being undertaken would be incongruous with the LLCA. Construction activity would be introduced to a small number of fields across the large LLCA. There are no construction compounds or 132kV substations located within the LLCA, which would contribute to increased construction activity or use of tall lifting equipment, these impacts are therefore considered to be very small scale and would occur across a very small geographical extent. Construction impacts would be short term and reversible.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in minor adverse effects which is not considered significant.
Year 1 operation (winter)	
Very Low	Negligible adverse
Parcels N-05, N-06, N-09 and N-10 would be located within the LLCA. The majority of parcels would be located across arable fields in the southern part of the LLCA.. The parcels would introduce massing across areas that are currently arable land and aesthetic and perceptual landscape character would be altered due to the regular pattern and form of solar arrays and colour tones of the solar frames and solar arrays which differs from the majority of surrounding agricultural fields. Vegetation pattern would be retained across parcels with appropriate offsets applied. Landform would be reinstated across cable laying corridors C-N and N-E2. In the first few months of operation reinstated areas along the cable laying corridors which were previously grassland would remain perceptible due to newly establishing grassland or replacement ground cover. Small areas of reinstatement planting would be perceptible due to the age of replacement planting and presence of stakes and tree guards. The static nature of the Proposed Development would retain a similar perception to the open and still character of agricultural land with the frequency of maintenance activities remaining similar to that of activity typical of agricultural fields. Proposed hedgerow enhancements, visual screening and buffer planting and green infrastructure connectivity planting across the Proposed Development would not have established. The Proposed Development would introduce infrastructure to a small number of fields across the large LLCA. These impacts are therefore considered to be very small scale and would occur across a very small geographical extent. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in negligible effects which is not considered significant.
Year 15 operation (summer)	
Very Low	Negligible adverse



LLCA 09: North Pickenham Plateau	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
At operation year 15, established planting across all parcels within the LCA would help integrate the parcels into the landscape. New hedgerow and woodland planting across parcels N-06 and N-10 would strengthen green infrastructure connectivity and form robust boundaries to parcels aiding with the integration of solar arrays. Native grassland proposed below solar arrays would be established and would be beneficial for landcover and biodiversity value. Reinstatement planting across Cable Corridors C-N and N-E2 would be established resulting in cable routes being barely perceptible within the landscape. Beneficial changes such as green infrastructure improvements and strengthening of landscape pattern through improvements to boundary planting are balanced against the long term presence of solar arrays and associated infrastructure including substations and BESS. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in negligible effects which is not considered significant.

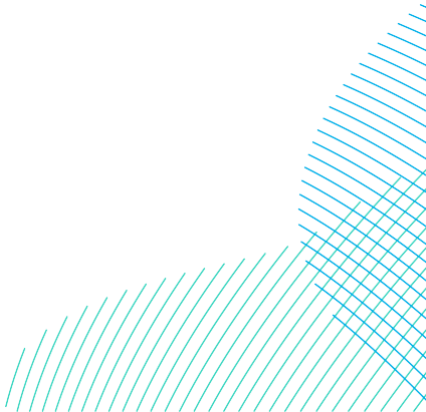


Table 59 LLCA 10: Northern River Wissey Tributary Farmland - Baseline

LLCA 10: Northern River Wissey Tributary Farmland				BASELINE			
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area				
Local	NCA 84: Mid Norfolk		LCA B5: River Wissey Tributary Farmland				
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments				
Identified through LVIA process based on desktop studies and fieldwork.	Within the draft Order Limits covering the central parcel and directly to the west of the norther parcel.		Norfolk Vanguard (EN010079) Norfolk Boreas (EN010087) Dudgeon Onshore Substation (3PL/2012/0703/F)				
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape						
LLCA 10: Northern River Wissey Tributary Farmland is located within Landscape Character Area B5 - River Wissey Tributary Farmland. It is a gently undulating landscape rising up to the elevated arable Pickenham Plateau, consisting of arable farmland which is interrupted occasionally by small farmsteads. The Peddars Way and Norfolk Coast Path National Trail runs through the west of the character area.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations	
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LLCA.	County Wildlife Sites National Trail Ancient Woodland	An extensive network of rural roads crosses the character area, and lined with species rich hedgerows and ditches, both of which are important ecological habitats. Hedgerows are sometimes punctuated with mature trees. A small area of Ancient & Semi-Natural Woodland (Necton Wood) which is designated a County Wildlife Site	The Peddars Way is an important historic landscape feature within the character area.	Hedgerow quality has been degraded in places, although efforts have been made to improve hedgerow quality. 20th century agricultural intensification has resulted in areas of boundary loss, weakening the historic integrity of the character area.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.	
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)		Functional
• Arable farmland • Peddars Way National Trail	The Peddars Way Roman Road is an important historic landscape feature within the character area, which otherwise consists largely of arable land punctuated with mature trees and hedgerows.	The Peddars Way is an historically important National Trail which crosses the western extent of the character area Another PRoW runs at a right-angle from the east towards Swaffham	Views are to hedged and wooded skylines, adjacent character areas being generally concealed. The church tower at Necton is a distinctive element of views where possible.		It has a tranquil quality due to its rural character and the network of narrow rural roads which link the compact areas of settlement and small distribution of scattered farmsteads.		The area consists largely of arable farmland, with the exception of the village of Sporle. The Peddars Way and Norfolk Coast Path National Trail also brings tourism to the area.
	Value		Susceptibility			Sensitivity	
	Medium		Medium			Medium	
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is valued at a community level for its hedgerows which provide an element of ecological value, and the Peddars Way National Trail which adds an element of historic importance. This otherwise arable landscape offers some views to hedged and wooded skyline, although generally lacks distinctiveness from other areas of arable farmland.		The character area is predominantly formed by medium and large-scale arable fields which are less susceptible to change. The area includes intermittent woodland blocks. Smaller-scale and more complex field patterns, which have a higher susceptibility to change, are located close to villages throughout the character area.			The medium value attached to the landscape and the medium susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a medium sensitivity.	

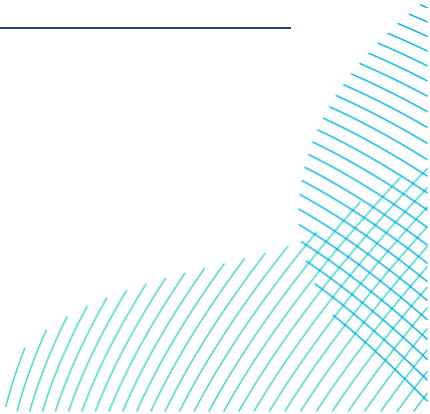
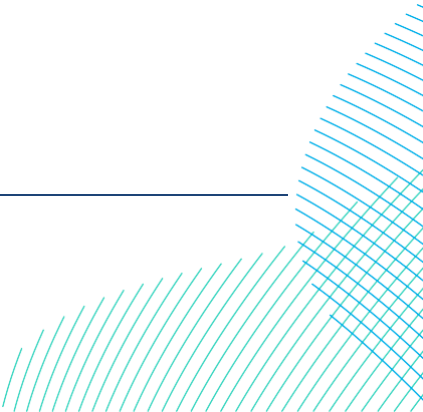


Table 60 LLCA 10: Northern River Wissey Tributary Farmland - Assessment of effects

LLCA 10: Northern River Wissey Tributary Farmland	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
Medium	Moderate adverse (significant)
Construction of parcels C-07 and C-08 would take place within the LLCA. The majority of construction would take place across arable fields in the central part of the LLCA.. A construction compound within the LLCA would be located in C-07 in the central part of the LLCA. This would include the presence of vehicles and machinery and storage of materials, regular deliveries and access to the compounds via haul routes would increase construction activity across the area. Cable laying corridor C-C2 would be located to the north of the A47, south of Sporle, and cable laying corridor C-N would be located to the north of the A47 between parcel C-07 and Little Fransham and to the east of the A47 near Necton substation. Activity across these areas would include localised vegetation clearance, topsoil stripping and stockpiling and excavation via trenching to lay cables. Within parcels, activity would include; construction of access roads which would require topsoil stripping and excavations; piling for the frames of solar PV modules and presence and operation of associated machinery; installation of BESS and inverters; and the stockpiling and installation of solar PV module frames. A 132kV substation is located within parcel C-07 and would require tall lifting equipment and associated machinery. The construction phase would result in changes to land cover and temporary, localised changes to landform due to stockpiling of material for cable laying. Whilst the presence and operation of large machinery and excavation works would not be uncharacteristic of an agricultural landscape, the scale of works being undertaken would be incongruous with the LLCA. Construction activity would be introduced to a substantial part of the LLCA. These impacts are therefore considered to be medium scale and would occur across a medium geographical extent. Construction impacts would be short term and reversible.	The medium magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in moderate adverse effects which is considered significant.
Year 1 operation (winter)	
Low	Minor adverse
Parcels C-07 and C-08 would be located within the LCA. The parcels would be located across arable fields in the central part of the LLCA.. The parcels would introduce massing across areas that are currently arable land and aesthetic and perceptual landscape character would be altered due to the regular pattern and form of solar arrays and colour tones of the solar frames and solar arrays which differs from the majority of surrounding agricultural fields. Vegetation pattern would be retained across parcels with appropriate offsets applied. A 132kV substation would be located within parcel C-07 and would introduce further differing infrastructure to that of the regular form and pattern of solar arrays, resulting in a slight increase in the perception of scale of development within the locality. Landform would be reinstated across cable laying corridors C-C2 and C-N. In the first few months of operation reinstated areas along the cable laying corridors which were previously grassland would remain perceptible due to newly establishing grassland or replacement ground cover. Small areas of reinstatement planting would be perceptible due to the age of replacement planting and presence of stakes and tree guards. The static nature of the Proposed Development would retain a similar perception to the open and still character of agricultural land with the frequency of maintenance activities remaining similar to that of activity typical of agricultural fields. Proposed hedgerow enhancements, visual screening and buffer planting and green infrastructure connectivity planting across the Proposed Development would not have established. Permissive pathways located in parcel C-0,7 near Sporle would increase recreational accessibility locally. Parcels would be introduced to a moderately sized part of the LLCA but the pattern of fields would be retained due to limited vegetation clearance. These impacts are therefore considered to be small scale and would occur across a small geographical extent. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in minor adverse effects which is not considered significant.
Year 15 operation (summer)	



LLCA 10: Northern River Wissey Tributary Farmland	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
Very Low	Negligible adverse
At operation year 15, established planting across all parcels within the LCA would help integrate the parcels into the landscape. Hedgerow enhancement planting across parcel C-07 would be established strengthening green infrastructure corridors and the framework of field pattern. Woodland buffer planting along the western boundary of the parcel would aid with the integration of the parcel into the wider landscape, reducing the perception of infrastructure development within the LLCA. Native grassland proposed below solar arrays would be established and would be beneficial for landcover and biodiversity value. Reinstatement planting across Cable Corridors C-C2 and C-N would be established resulting in cable routes being barely perceptible within the landscape. Beneficial changes such as green infrastructure improvements and strengthening of landscape pattern through improvements to boundary planting are balanced against the long term presence of solar arrays and associated infrastructure including substations and BESS. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in negligible effects which is not considered significant.

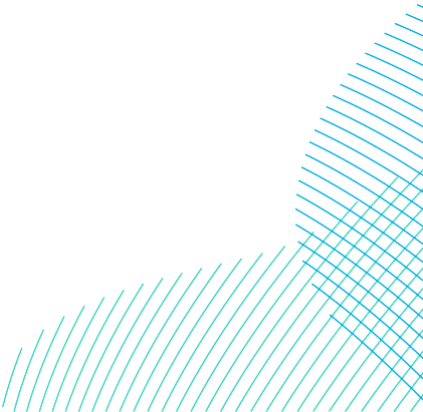


Table 61 LLCA 11: Pickenham Plateau - Baseline

LLCA 11: Pickenham Plateau			BASELINE			
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area			
Local	NCA 85: The Brecks / NCA 84: Mid Norfolk		LCA E6: North Pickenham Plateau			
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments			
Identified through LVIA process based on desktop studies and fieldwork.	Within the draft Order Limits covering the central parcel.		Norfolk Vanguard (EN010079) Norfolk Boreas (EN010087) Dudgeon Onshore Substation (3PL/2012/0703/F)			
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape					
LLCA 11: Pickenham Plateau is located within Landscape Character Area E6: North Pickenham Plateau. It partially covers the small village of Little Dunham, in what is otherwise a largely uninterrupted elevated, arable plateau. The landscape is largely flat and open.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LLCA.	County Wildlife Sites National Trails Ancient Woodland	Within the otherwise largely arable land, there are two small, designated County Wildlife Sites- an Osier Plantation and Sporle Wood Ancient Woodland.	The line of the former Dereham branch of the Mid Norfolk Railway built in 1882 lies in cutting through the centre of the character area, which is evident through the presence of scrub vegetation and the remaining road bridges across it.	The landscape of the character area is that of a working arable agricultural landscape, and as such its visual intactness has been affected by agricultural intensification in the early and mid-20th Century and the associated removal of field boundary hedgerows. In terms of ecology the character area is, as a whole, relatively weak, with the exception of localised woodland blocks and the ancient hedgerows to the lane network. Hedgerows are in variable condition. The character area is in a generally good, managed condition.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)	Functional
• Village of Little Dunham • Arable and pasture farmland • Plateau	A generally simple landscape with a muted palette. The most distinctive feature is perhaps the disused railway which runs through the character area and adds an element of historic interest.	The character area is served by a network of several public rights of way which traverse the arable landscape, as well as the Peddars Way and Norfolk Coast Path National Trail which runs briefly through the centre of the area.	Where views are not enclosed by trees and hedgerows, typical views comprise arable land, rural lanes and a wooded horizon. In places, where the landscape opens up, views further afield are possible. The visual character is interrupted, however, with overhead power lines and pylons. Views to the wind turbines in the adjacent character area are possible in the southern outcrop.		It is an essentially tamed rural landscape and is generally tranquil. It is remote in character due to its isolated settlement pattern.	Primarily a working agricultural landscape, with only the Peddars Way National Trail providing recreational activity within the character area.
	Value		Susceptibility		Sensitivity	
	Medium		Medium		Medium	
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is valued at a community level for its small pockets of woodland, which are designated as County Wildlife Sites. The most notable historic feature of the landscape is perhaps the disused railway line which adds an element of historic interest. Landscape condition has been impacted by agricultural intensification resulting in boundary loss, as well as the presence of overhead power lines and pylons.		The character area is predominantly formed by medium and large-scale arable fields which have a lower susceptibility to change. Long views over adjacent tributary farmland and heathland are possible due to the character area’s elevated and flat topography. Susceptibility is higher in localised areas where historic character and land cover remain.		The medium value attached to the landscape and the medium susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a medium sensitivity.	

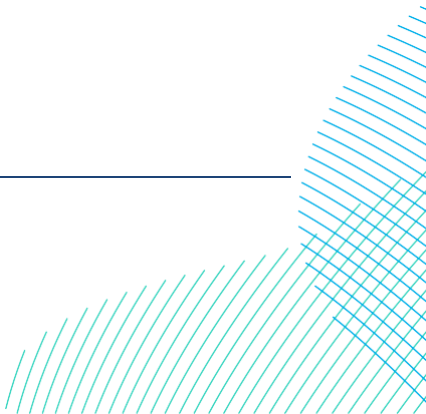
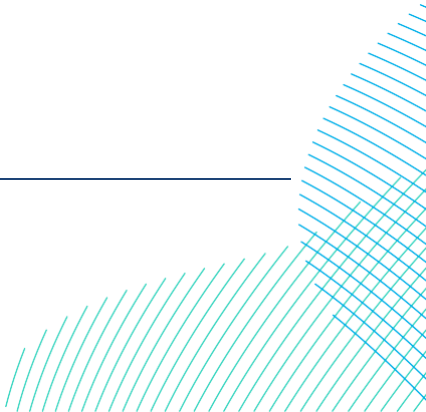


Table 62 LLCA 11: Pickenham Plateau - Assessment of effects

LLCA 11: Pickenham Plateau	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
Medium	Moderate adverse (significant)
Construction of parcels C-02, C-03, C-05 and C-07 would take place within the LLCA. The majority of construction would take place across arable fields in the central and western parts of the LLCA. Construction compounds within the LLCA would include those within C-02, C-03 and C-05. These would include the presence of vehicles and machinery and storage of materials, regular deliveries and access to the compounds via haul routes would increase construction activity across these areas. The western part of the LCA would include cable laying corridors W-C and C-C, the central part would include C-C1 and C-C2 and the eastern part would include C-N. Activity across these areas would include localised vegetation clearance, topsoil stripping and stockpiling and excavation via trenching to lay cables. Within parcels, activity would include; construction of access roads which would require topsoil stripping and excavations; piling for the frames of solar PV modules and presence and operation of associated machinery; installation of BESS and inverters; and the stockpiling and installation of solar PV module frames. A 132kV substation is located within parcel C-03 and would require tall lifting equipment and associated machinery. The construction phase would result in changes to land cover and temporary, localised changes to landform due to stockpiling of material for cable laying. Whilst the presence and operation of large machinery and excavation works would not be uncharacteristic of an agricultural landscape, the scale of works being undertaken would be incongruous with the LLCA. The majority of impacts would be close to Swaffham where levels of tranquillity are lower. These impacts are therefore considered to be medium scale and would occur across a medium geographical extent. Construction impacts would be short term and reversible.	The medium magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in moderate adverse effects which is considered significant.
Year 1 operation (winter)	
Medium	Moderate adverse (significant)
Parcels C-02, C-03, C-05 and C-07 would be located within the LCA. The parcels would be located across arable fields in the central and western parts of the LLCA. The parcels would introduce massing across areas that are currently arable land and aesthetic and perceptual landscape character would be altered due to the regular pattern and form of solar arrays and colour tones of the solar frames and solar arrays which differs from the majority of surrounding agricultural fields. Vegetation pattern would be retained across Parcels with appropriate offsets applied. A 132kV substation is located within parcel C-03 and would introduce further differing infrastructure to that of the regular form and pattern of solar arrays, resulting in a slight increase in the perception of scale of development within the locality. Landform would be reinstated across cable laying corridors W-C, C-C, C-C1, C-C2 and C-N. In the first few months of operation reinstated areas along the cable laying corridors which were previously grassland would remain perceptible due to newly establishing grassland or replacement ground cover. Small areas of reinstatement planting would be perceptible due to the age of replacement planting and presence of stakes and tree guards. The static nature of the Proposed Development would retain a similar perception to the open and still character of agricultural land with the frequency of maintenance activities remaining similar to that of activity typical of agricultural fields. Proposed hedgerow enhancements, visual screening and buffer planting and green infrastructure connectivity planting across the Proposed Development would not have established. Permissive pathways located in parcels C-03 and C-05 near Swaffham and C-07, near Sporle and would increase recreational accessibility locally. Parcels would be introduced to a moderately sized part of the LLCA but the pattern of fields would be retained due to limited vegetation clearance. These impacts are therefore considered to be medium scale and would occur across a medium geographical extent. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The medium magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in moderate adverse effects which is considered significant.
Year 15 operation (summer)	



LLCA 11: Pickenham Plateau	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
Medium	Moderate adverse (significant)
At operation year 15, established planting across all parcels within the LLCA would help integrate the parcels into the landscape. Hedgerow enhancement planting across parcels C-02, C-03, C05 and C-07 would strengthen field boundaries and the pattern of the landscape as well as strengthening the sense of enclosure across the parcels and limiting their zone of influence. Native grassland proposed below solar arrays would be established and would be beneficial for landcover and biodiversity value. Reinstatement planting across Cable Corridors W-C, C-C, C-C1, C-C2 and C-N would be established resulting in cable routes being barely perceptible within the landscape. Beneficial changes such as green infrastructure improvements and strengthening of landscape pattern through improvements to boundary planting are balanced against the long term presence of solar arrays and associated infrastructure including substations and BESS. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The medium magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in moderate adverse effects which is considered significant.

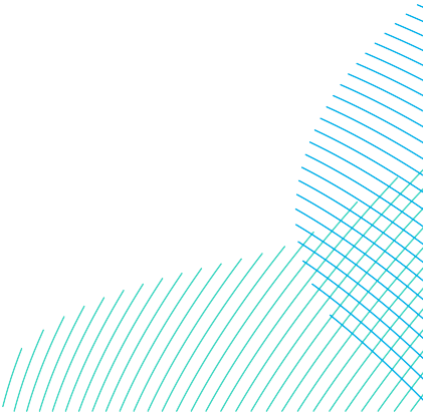


Table 63 LLCA 12: RAF Marham - Baseline

LLCA 12: RAF Marham				BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area			
Local	NCA 85: The Brecks NCA 76: North West Norfolk		LCA D1: Swaffham Heath LCA H2: Fincham			
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments			
Identified through LVIA process based on desktop studies and fieldwork.	Within the study area. Directly to the west of the western parcel.		n/a			
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape					
LLCA 12: RAF Marham is located across two Landscape Character Areas, D1 - Swaffham Heath and H2 - Fincham. It consists predominately of Marham Airfield, and part of Marham village to the north of the character area. There are also three small reservoirs to the north of the character area.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LLCA.	No other relevant designations.	No significant natural heritage features.	RAF Marham is one of the RAF's main operating bases. It opened in 1916 and remains active to the present day.	The landscape largely consists of airfield space with associated runways and buildings, and the RAF settlement of Marham, of which the character is largely modern, red-brick buildings which look well-maintained.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)	Functional
• RAF airfield • Village of Marham • Reservoirs	The RAF settlement creates a strong sense of place in the otherwise agricultural landscape.	There are no PRoW through the LLCA. RAF Marham Aviation Heritage Centre is located within the LLCA and is open to the public.	Access to the character area is largely restricted to the public, however when access is possible, views from the village are characterised by enclosed residential roads or in places extended vistas to wooded skylines in adjacent character areas.		The straight (Roman Road) fast moving transport corridor of the A1122 runs through the south of the character area. Despite this, the main disruption to the sense of wilderness and tranquillity is caused by the presence of an active and heavily managed airfield which covers much of the character area.	
	Value		Susceptibility			Sensitivity
	Medium		Low			Medium
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is largely closed to public access, and the airfield is a dominant feature of the character area. There is therefore little in terms of ecological or cultural heritage, and tranquillity is affected by the presence of the active airfield and its associated visual and noise impacts.		The character area is defined by the active airfield base and its associated RAF settlement. As a result, tranquillity is low. The character area has a modern and developed character and therefore lower susceptibility to change.			The medium value attached to the landscape and the low susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a medium sensitivity.

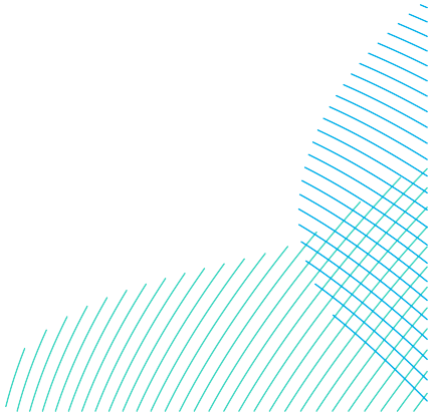


Table 64 LLCA 12: RAF Marham - Assessment of effects

LLCA 12: RAF Marham	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
Very Low	Negligible adverse
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by construction of the Proposed Development. The LLCA is located directly adjacent to the western parcels which are to the east. Within parcels, activity would include; construction of access roads which would require topsoil stripping and excavations; piling for the frames of solar PV modules and presence and operation of associated machinery; installation of BESS and inverters; and the stockpiling and installation of solar PV module frames. A 132kV substation is located within parcel W-01 and would require tall lifting equipment and associated machinery. Cable laying corridor W-C is also located close to the LLCA and activity across these areas would include localised vegetation clearance, topsoil stripping and stockpiling and excavation via trenching to lay cables. Construction activity would be perceptible across a small area to the east of the LLCA, whilst the presence of large machinery and excavation works would not be uncharacteristic of an agricultural landscape, the scale of works being undertaken would be incongruous with the LLCA. Construction impacts would be very small-scale and would occur across a small geographical extent. Construction impacts would be short term and reversible.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in negligible effects which is not considered significant.
Year 1 operation (winter)	
Very Low	Negligible adverse
There would be no physical impacts to the LLCA. The western parcels would be located to the east of the LLCA, across a small part of LLCA Swaffham Heath Plantation Farmlands which forms the contextual landscape of the LLCA. The static nature of the Proposed Development would retain a similar perception to the open and still character of agricultural land with the frequency of maintenance activities remaining similar to that of activity typical of agricultural fields. Changes to the setting due to cable laying corridor W-C would be barely perceptible as landform would be reinstated. Impacts to the setting of the LLCA would be barely perceptible across a very small part of the large LLCA. These impacts are therefore considered to be very small -scale and would occur across a very small geographical extent. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the low sensitivity of the receptor would result in negligible effects which is not considered significant.
Year 15 operation (summer)	
Very Low	Negligible adverse
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. The closest parts of the Proposed Development would be the western parcels. Established planting along Swaffham Road and along the western boundary of parcels W-01 and W-02 would be established and would aid with the integration of solar arrays into the contextual landscape of the LLCA. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the low sensitivity of the receptor would result in negligible effects which is not considered significant.

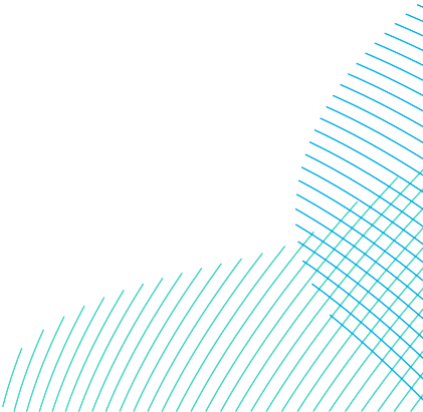


Table 65 LLCA 13: River Blackwater Tributary Farmland - Baseline

LLCA 13: River Blackwater Tributary Farmland				BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area			
Local	NCA 84: Mid Norfolk		LCA B4: River Blackwater Tributary Farmland			
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments			
Identified through LVIA process based on desktop studies and fieldwork.	Within the study area. 2km to the east of the southern parcel.		n/a			
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape					
LLCA 13: River Blackwater Tributary Farmland is located within Landscape Character Area B4 of the same name. Land cover is predominantly arable interspersed with isolated blocks of mixed woodland. The landscape is gently undulating, with a network of narrow rural lanes. The Blackwater River runs through the centre from north to south.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LLCA.	County Wildlife Site Scheduled Monument	Two sites, one a pocket of land near Mount Pleasant Farm and the other a pocket of woodland are designated as County Wildlife Sites. Information from the veteran tree survey shows there to be veteran trees of various species throughout the character area. Mixed hedgerows, with mature hedgerow trees define field boundaries.	A deserted medieval village in the east of the character area has been designated a Scheduled Monument. Letton Hall, a Grade II listed 18th century stately home and its associated parkland is an important landscape feature.	The landscape is essentially a managed, functional and productive arable agricultural landscape, although it retains localised areas of its historic character, notably with surviving Enclosure field boundaries and the commons associated with the historic settlements. Apart from occasional areas of semi-natural woodland, there are few habitats of nature conservation value and ecological integrity is relatively weak.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)	Functional
• Arable farmland • Blocks of mixed woodland • Blackwater River	Letton Hall and its surrounding parkland provides a notable feature to the otherwise largely muted, arable landscape.	One PRoW runs through the character area from west to east, passing through the Mount Pleasant Farm County Wildlife Site and crossing Blackwater River.	This is a medium scale and semi enclosed landscape, with views essentially contained by landform undulation and field boundary vegetation. Letton Hall has reaching views over surrounding parkland.		The small-scale settlement pattern, low density of roads and arable land use together result in a peaceful, rural character.	Predominately arable land. Letton Hall and parkland is a key visitor attraction.
	Value		Susceptibility		Sensitivity	
	Medium		Medium		Medium	
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is valued at a community level for its peaceful character comprising arable farmland punctuated with woodland and historic commons. Letton Hall and its associated parkland is an important landscape feature. Ecological value is otherwise relatively weak.		The character area is predominantly formed by medium and large-scale fields which are less susceptible to change. Smaller scale field patterns are located close to small settlements throughout the character area. Settlement is sparse across the character area.		The medium value attached to the landscape and the medium susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a medium sensitivity.	

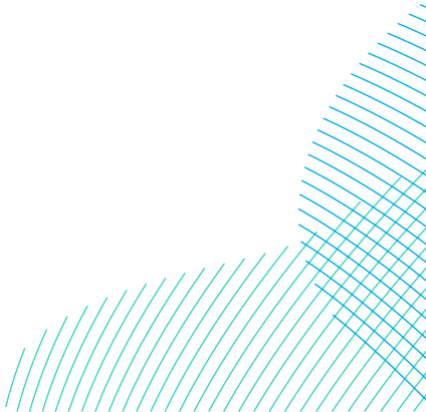


Table 66 LLCA 13: River Blackwater Tributary Farmland - Assessment of effects

LLCA 13: River Blackwater Tributary Farmland	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by construction of the Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LLCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 2km away at the closest point and separated by the village of Shipdham to the north west.	No effect
Year 1 operation (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LLCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 2km away at the closest point and separated by the village of Shipdham to the north west.	No effect
Year 15 operation (summer)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LLCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 2km away at the closest point and separated by the village of Shipdham to the north west.	No effect

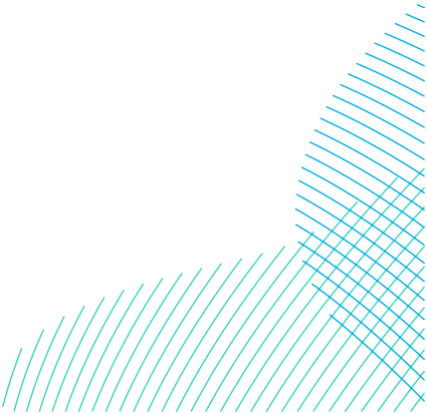


Table 67 LLCA 14: River Nar Tributary Farmland - Baseline

LLCA 14: River Nar Tributary Farmland					BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area				
Local	NCA: Mid Norfolk NCA 85: The Brecks		LCA B7: River Nar Tributary Farmland				
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments				
Identified through LVIA process based on desktop studies and fieldwork.	Within the study area. Directly to the north of the central parcel.		n/a				
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape						
LLCA 14: River Nar Tributary Farmland is located within Landscape Character Area B7 of the same name. Lowestoft till glacial deposits give rise to a subtly undulating landform. Landcover is largely arable and pasture farmland with minimal tree cover.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations	
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LLCA.	Country Park SSSI Scheduled Monuments Conservation Area Ancient Woodland National Trail	The character area has one small area of ancient woodland at Great Broomhill Wood. There is an area of SSSI associated with the River Nar to the west of the character area, where a small tributary runs through to the river just north of the character area boundary.	A deserted medieval village located to the south west of the character area at Great Palgrave is designated a Scheduled Monument.	This is essentially a well-managed and productive landscape, with hedgerows generally in good condition.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.	
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)		Functional
• Arable/pasture farmland	This is a varied landscape which is essentially unified by the undulating landform and the managed estate and farmland character. Change in field colours, sometimes red flowers, create seasonal interest and enhance the visual impact of the landscape.	Segments of six PRoW pass through the character area, in addition to the Peddars Way National Trail which runs along the western boundary.	Where the network of country lanes are not contained by trees and hedgerows, stretching skylines across arable fields to distant woodland are possible.		Castle Acre Chalk quarry creates localised visual and noise disturbance on an otherwise relatively rural and peaceful landscape.		Arable and pasture farmland and chalk quarry.
	Value		Susceptibility		Sensitivity		
	Medium		Medium		Medium		
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is valued at a community level as a productive managed landscape with hedgerows in generally good condition. The River Nar and its associated SSSI adds ecological value, whilst Castle Acre Chalk quarry creates localised visual and noise disturbance on an otherwise relatively rural and peaceful landscape.		The character area is predominantly formed by medium and large-scale arable fields, is sparsely populated and has large areas with no PRoW access.		The medium value attached to the landscape and the medium susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a medium sensitivity.		

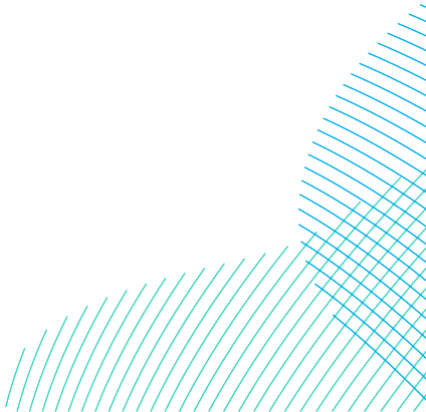


Table 68 LLCA 14: River Nar Tributary Farmland - Assessment of effects

LLCA 14: River Nar Tributary Farmland	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
Very Low	Negligible adverse
Construction of parcel C-03 would take place adjacent the LLCA to the south. Cable Corridor C-C1 would be located across a narrow band of the LLCA to the south of Great Palgrave, crossing a single field to connect to parcel C-03. Activity across the area would include localised vegetation clearance, topsoil stripping and stockpiling and excavation via trenching to lay cables. Impacts are therefore considered to be very small scale and would occur across a very small geographical extent. Construction impacts would be short term and reversible.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in negligible effects which is not considered significant.
Year 1 operation (winter)	
Very Low	Negligible adverse
Cable Corridor C-C1 is the only part of the Proposed Development that physically impacts the LLCA. At operation year 1, the cable route would be barely perceptible as landform would be reinstated. In the first few months of operation reinstated areas along the cable laying corridors which were previously grassland would remain perceptible due to newly establishing grassland or replacement ground cover. Small areas of reinstatement planting would be perceptible due to the age of replacement planting and presence of stakes and tree guards. The Cable Corridor crosses a very small part of the overall LLCA near Great Palgrave. Parcel C-03 would be located to the south west of the LLCA and would have a barely perceptible impact to the setting of the LLCA. Solar parcels which would introduce massing across areas that are currently arable land and aesthetic and perceptual landscape character would be altered due to the regular pattern and form of solar arrays and colour tones of the solar frames and solar arrays which differs from the majority of surrounding agricultural fields. Vegetation pattern would be retained across parcels with appropriate offsets applied. Impacts are therefore considered to be very small scale and would occur across a very small geographical extent. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the low sensitivity of the receptor would result in negligible effects which is not considered significant.
Year 15 operation (summer)	
Very Low	Negligible adverse
At operation year 15, established planting across all parcels within the LLCA would help integrate the parcels into the landscape. Established reinstatement planting and ground cover across Cable Corridor C-C1 would integrate the cable route within the LLCA. Woodland buffer planting along the northern boundary of parcel C-03 would aid with the integration of the Proposed Development into the contextual landscape that forms the setting of the LLCA. Established woodland would blend with surrounding vegetation cover. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape with limited lasting impact.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the low sensitivity of the receptor would result in negligible effects which is not considered significant.

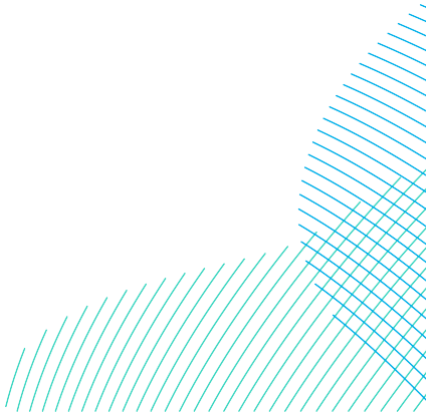


Table 69 LLCA 15: River Wensum and Blackwater - Baseline

LLCA 15: River Wensum and Blackwater					BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area				
Local	NCA 84: Mid Norfolk		LCA A4: River Wensum and Blackwater				
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments				
Identified through LVIA process based on desktop studies and fieldwork.	Within the study area. 1.5km to the north of the eastern parcel.		Norfolk Vanguard (EN010079) Norfolk Boreas (EN010087)				
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape						
LLCA 15: River Wensum and Blackwater is located within Landscape Character Area A4 of the same name. It is an easterly draining catchment in the north eastern part of Breckland District. Its land cover is characterised by arable cultivation, as well as rush meadow surrounding the River Wensum, and a pocket of ancient woodland.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations	
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LLCA.	SSSI Ancient Woodland County Wildlife Site Local Nature Reserve Country Park Conservation Area National Cycle Network	A SSSI status covers a large area of the River Wensum where it runs through the character area. There is also a reasonably large pocket of ancient woodland at Old Carr, which also has County Wildlife Site designation. Dillington Carr, which overlaps the northern border of the character area, also has SSSI status. NWT Rushmeadows, a local wetland Nature Reserve can be found adjacent to the River Wensum at the corner before it forks to the west.	The urban area of Dereham which overlaps the eastern edge of the character area has a designated Conservation Area status. This covers the riverside area of the town which is largely undeveloped and covered with woodland and parkland. It is also designated a Country Park and serves as a valuable ecological habitat.	Owing to the ecological sensitivity of the River Wensum and its surrounding habitat, care has been taken to preserve the natural value of the character area. There are various initiatives to maintain the character of the valley, including the Wensum Valley Project which is a partnership of Local Authorities aiming to conserve wildlife, landscape and heritage, improve countryside access and promote community action and involvement in the Wensum Valley. The sewage works interrupts an otherwise largely rural landscape but visual impact of this is managed.	No association value of note	
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)		Functional
• River Wensum • Rush Meadow SSSI • Ancient woodland • Arable fields	A strong character is created by the meandering river course, associated wetland habitats, small scale grazed pastures and network of ditches and the traditional built structures such as the brick bridges and weatherboard mills. All of these features combine to create an intimate but varied landscape.	The character area is served by segments of five PRoW, one of which runs along the edge of the river's edge. The others are located around the outer edges of the character area. National Cycle Network Route 13 runs through the south of the area away from Dereham.	Views are often characterised by rural lanes enclosed by trees and hedgerows. In places, views across arable land and hedgerow field boundaries are possible.		Owing to the very low settlement density and extensive environmental protection on parts of the character area, it has a tranquil, rural feel.		Arable land and parkland.
	Value		Susceptibility			Sensitivity	
	Medium		High			High	
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is valued at a community level for its high ecological value, which can be seen from the extensive SSSI designations covering the river and Dillington Carr. The experiential character is tranquil and rural, with several PRoW and National Cycle Network Rotes 1 and 13 serving the area.		The character area is defined by the river and its valley landform, the valley includes a high proportion of vegetation cover and small-scale field pattern. Local landmarks re occasionally visible from the valley sides as key views. These features make the character area susceptible to change.			The medium value attached to the landscape and the high susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a high sensitivity.	

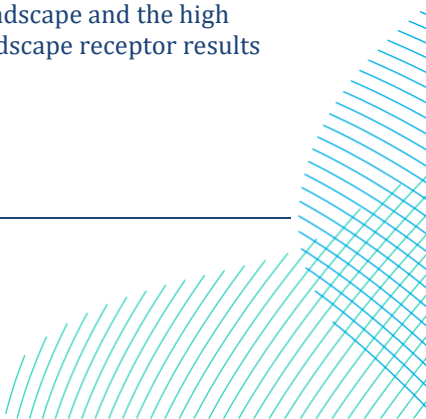


Table 70 LLCA 15: River Wensum and Blackwater - Assessment of effects

LLCA 15: River Wensum and Blackwater	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by construction of the Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LLCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 1.2km away at the closest point and separated by the A47 and village of Scarning.	No effect
Year 1 operation (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LLCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 1.2km away at the closest point and separated by the A47 and village of Scarning.	No effect
Year 15 operation (summer)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LLCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 1.2km away at the closest point and separated by the A47 and village of Scarning.	No effect

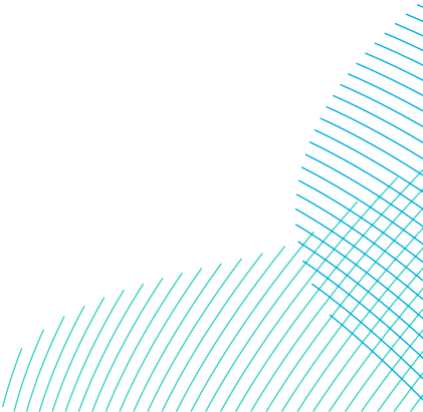


Table 71 LLCA 16: River Wensum and Tud Tributary Farmland - Baseline

LLCA 16: River Wensum and Tud Tributary Farmland				BASELINE			
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area				
Local	NCA 84: Mid Norfolk		LCA B6: River Wensum and Tud Tributary Farmland				
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments				
Identified through LVIA process based on desktop studies and fieldwork.	Within the draft Order Limits covering the northern and eastern parcels.		Norfolk Vanguard (EN010079) Norfolk Boreas (EN010087)				
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape						
LLCA 16: River Wensum and Tud Tributary Farmland is located within the Landscape Character Area B6 of the same name. It consists of low-density residential settlement interspersed with pockets of preserved natural landscape such as carrs, meadows and woodland. The River Tud runs through the south of the character area and the Wensum tributary further north. A network of hedgerow lined rural roads characteristically connect the settlements. The A47 crosses east to west across the character area and is a major route into Dereham.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations	
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LLCA.	SSSI Scheduled Monument SAC County Wildlife Sites Conservation Area National Cycle Network Country Park	Two SSSIs can be found across the Character Area, one at Holly Farm Meadow and the other at Norfolk Valley Fens. In addition there are several County Wildlife Sites which cover pasture, meadow, carr and woodland landscapes such as Ash Wood, Wendling Carr and Church Farm Meadow.	The character area encapsulates two different Conservation Areas. The first is associated with Dereham and covers the southern part of the Conservation Area. The second is associated with Yaxham, a small village to the east of the character area. Both are also designated as Country Parks. Wendling Abbey, a historic abbey site near the village of Wendling has been designated a Scheduled Monument.	This is a productive, managed agricultural landscape, although the number of National and County level nature designations demonstrate the character area’s ecological potential, and this is reinforced by the range of habitats present. Interruptions due to the A47 and occasional harsh settlement edges locally disrupt the visual intactness.	No association value of note	
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)		Functional
• River tributaries • Low density settlements • Pockets of meadow/carr/woodland landscape • Arable land	This predominately arable landscape has a mosaic of SSSIs and County Wildlife sites creating a varied mix of natural features.	The character area is served by approximately 15 PRoW although these cover only a small portion of the landscape. National Cycle Network 13 also runs from north to south through the character area and connects into National Cycle Network Route 1 near Gateley.	Views within the area are often to tree lined or wooded skylines, where not enclosed by trees or hedgerows.		This is a tamed arable landscape that generally retains a tranquil rural character. The A47 runs through the centre of the character area from west to east, creating a visual severance with localised noise disturbance.		Arable landscape interspersed with pockets of ecological diversity.
	Value		Susceptibility			Sensitivity	
	Medium		Medium			Medium	
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is valued at a community level for its ecological diversity, seen through its several County Wildlife Sites and two SSSIs. Its settlements also carry historic importance, with portions of Dereham and Yaxham designated as Conservation Area. The landscape is otherwise largely tamed arable land connected by a network of rural lanes bordered with hedgerows, except where harsh settlement edges interrupt the visual intactness.		The character area is predominantly formed by medium and large-scale arable fields which are less susceptible to change. The character area includes parts that are influenced by the A47 as well as the urban edge of Dereham which are less susceptible. Areas of small-scale and more complex field pattern, which have a higher susceptibility to change, are typically located closes to smaller settlements and at the edges of the adjacent River Wensum and River Blackwater valleys.			The medium value attached to the landscape and the medium susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a medium sensitivity.	

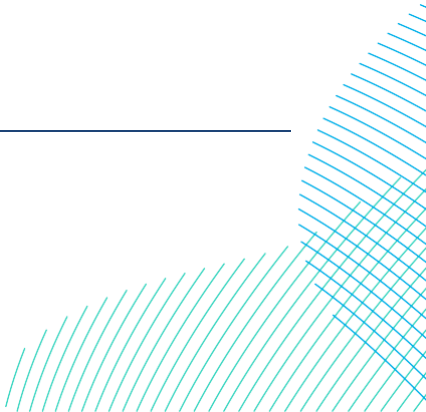


Table 72 LLCA 16: River Wensum and Tud Tributary Farmland - Assessment of effects

LLCA 16: River Wensum and Tud Tributary Farmland	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
Medium	Moderate adverse (significant)
Construction of parcels N-01 , N-02, N-03, N-04, N-07, N-08, E-01, E-02, E-03, E-04 E-08 and E-10 would take place within the LLCA.	The medium magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in moderate adverse effects which is considered significant.
Construction of the parcels would take place across the western part of the LLCA, introducing activity to a substantial part of the LLCA away from large settlements.	
Construction compounds within the LLCA would include those within N-01, N-04, N-08, and E-01. These would include the presence of vehicles and machinery and storage of materials, regular deliveries and access to the compounds via haul routes would increase construction activity across these areas.	
Cable Corridors N-N1, N-N2, N-E1, N-E2, E-E1, E-E2 and E-E3 would be located within the LLCA. Activity across these areas would include localised vegetation clearance, topsoil stripping and stockpiling and excavation via trenching to lay cables.	
Within parcels, activity would include; construction of access roads which would require topsoil stripping and excavations; piling for the frames of solar PV modules and presence and operation of associated machinery; installation of BESS and inverters; and the stockpiling and installation of solar PV module frames.	
The construction phase would result in changes to land cover and temporary, localised changes to landform due to stockpiling of material for cable laying. Whilst the presence and operation of large machinery and excavation works would not be uncharacteristic of an agricultural landscape, the scale of works being undertaken would be incongruous with the LLCA.	The medium magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in moderate adverse effects which is considered significant.
Construction would occur across a number of arable fields which would be connected via cable laying corridors. The majority of construction activity would be confined to the western part of the large LLCA. The impacts are therefore considered to be medium-scale and would occur across a medium geographical extent.	
Construction impacts would be short term and reversible.	
Year 1 operation (winter)	
Medium	Moderate adverse (significant)
Parcels N-01, N-02, N-03, N-04, N-07, N-08, E-01, E-02, E-03, E-04, E-08 and E-10 would be located within the LLCA.	The medium magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in moderate adverse effects which is considered significant.
The parcels would be located across the western part of the LLCA.	
The parcels would introduce massing across areas that are currently arable land and aesthetic and perceptual landscape character would be altered due to the regular pattern and form of solar arrays and colour tones of the solar frames and solar arrays which differs from the majority of surrounding agricultural fields. Vegetation pattern would be retained across parcels with appropriate offsets applied.	
Landform would be reinstated across cable laying corridors N-N1, N-N2, N-E1, N-E2, E-E1, E-E2 and E-E3. In the first few months of operation reinstated areas along the cable laying corridors which were previously grassland would remain perceptible due to newly establishing grassland or replacement ground cover. Small areas of reinstatement planting would be perceptible due to the age of replacement planting and presence of stakes and tree guards.	
The static nature of the Proposed Development would retain a similar perception to the open and still character of agricultural land with the frequency of maintenance activities remaining similar to that of activity typical of agricultural fields.	
Proposed hedgerow enhancements, visual screening and buffer planting and green infrastructure connectivity planting across the Proposed Development would not have established.	The medium magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in moderate adverse effects which is considered significant.
Permissive pathways located in parcel N-02, near Wendling, would increase recreational accessibility locally.	
The parcels would be located across the western part of the LLCA, introducing infrastructure to a substantial part of the LLCA away from large settlements. The impacts are therefore considered to be medium-scale and would occur across a medium geographical extent.	
Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape	
Year 15 operation (summer)	
Medium	Moderate adverse



LLCA 16: River Wensum and Tud Tributary Farmland	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
At operation year 15, established planting across all parcels within the LLCA would help integrate the parcels into the landscape. Hedgerow enhancement planting across parcels N-01 and N-02 strengthen field boundaries and the pattern of the landscape as well as breaking up the massing of solar arrays. New hedgerows are based on historic field patters providing restoration of historic field pattern and increased green infrastructure connectivity. Native grassland proposed below solar arrays would be established and would be beneficial for landcover and biodiversity value. Reinstatement planting across Cable Corridors N-N1, N-N2, N-E1, N-E2, E-E1, E-E2 and E-E3 would be established resulting in cable routes being barely perceptible within the landscape. Beneficial changes such as green infrastructure improvements and strengthening of landscape pattern through improvements to boundary planting are balanced against the long term presence of solar arrays and associated infrastructure including substations and BESS. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The medium magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in moderate adverse effects which is considered significant.

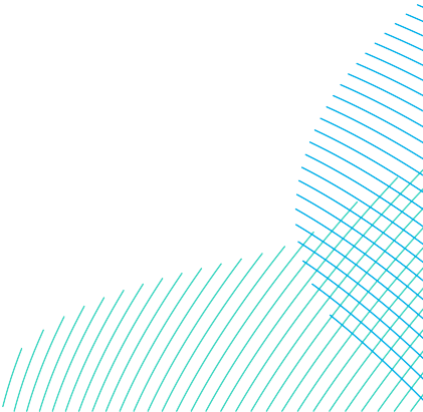


Table 73 LLCA 17: Shipdham - Baseline

LLCA 17: Shipdham				BASELINE			
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area				
Local	NCA 84: Mid Norfolk		LCA E5: Central Breckland Plateau				
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments				
Identified through LVIA process based on desktop studies and fieldwork.	Within the study area. 500m to the east of the southern parcel.		n/a				
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape						
LLCA 17: Shipdham is located within the Landscape Character Area E5: Central Breckland Plateau. It consists of the large village of Shipdham. Shipdham displays qualities of an agricultural village, meaning it is a small settlement which initially originated as a series of dispersed buildings which have since developed into a village. The village has a continuous rural row morphology meaning it is defined by a largely intact linear arrangement of dwellings along a road. All Saints Church creates a distinctive architectural feature. The Green, which adjoins the main route through Shipdham, is encircled and overlooked by houses. The Green forms a 'central hub' within the settlement.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations	
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LLCA.	Conservation Area Country Park	No significant natural heritage features.	The historic area of Shipdham has been designated a Conservation Area for its historic importance. This includes All Saints Church, a Norman church which creates a focal point to the village. The same area is also designated a Country Park.	Shipdham has experienced significant development extending from its historic Conservation Area. It is generally maintained although does little to build on historic character.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.	
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)		Functional
• Agricultural village • Single nucleated village • Continuous rural row village • Green Edge village • All Saints Church	Use of local flint and brick for buildings reinforces the sense of place and historical integrity of the village.	The village is served by a number of PRow which lead both through and outside of the character area	Whilst long-distance views to adjacent character areas are largely limited by development except for the edges of the village, Shipdham is largely picturesque, and its historic character makes it a visually appealing character area.		The Shipdham Airfield in close proximity to the east of the character area creates occasional noise disturbance in the village.		The area comprises a large village with a population of approximately 2,500. The village includes facilities to serve the local community.
	Value		Susceptibility			Sensitivity	
	Medium		Medium			Medium	
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is valued at a community level for its historic value, which is seen in architectural features such as All Saints Church. It offers little in the way of ecological value, and long-distance views within the village are largely limited by development.		The village of Shipdham is largely picturesque and contains historic features which are susceptibility to change. The setting of the village is rural, however only small pockets of historic field boundaries remain at the settlement edge. Large-scale modern agricultural fields form the rural setting of the village.			The medium value attached to the landscape and the medium susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a medium sensitivity.	

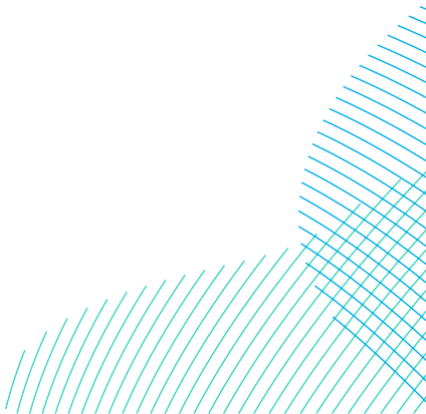


Table 74 LLCA 17: Shipdham - Assessment of effects

LLCA 17: Shipdham	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by construction of the Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LLCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 600m away at the closest point, and separated by agricultural fields which would maintain the rural character and setting of the village.	No effect
Year 1 operation (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LLCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 600m away at the closest point, and separated by agricultural fields which would maintain the rural character and setting of the village.	No effect
Year 15 operation (summer)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LLCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 600m away at the closest point, and separated by agricultural fields which would maintain the rural character and setting of the village.	No effect

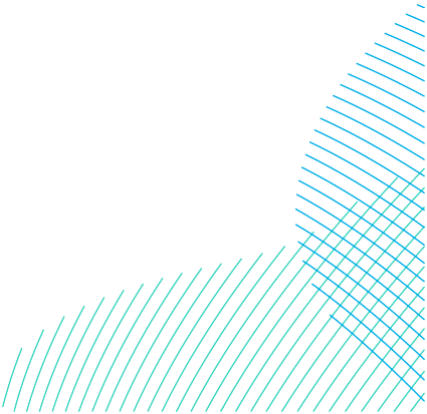
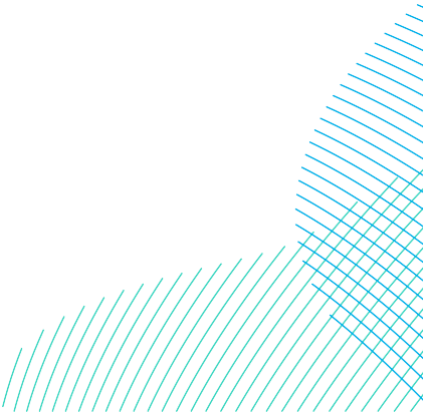


Table 75 LLCA 18: Southern River Wissey Settled Tributary Farmland - Baseline

LLCA 18: Southern River Wissey Settled Tributary Farmland					BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area				
Local	NCA 84: Mid Norfolk		LCA B5: River Wissey Tributary Farmland				
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments				
Identified through LVIA process based on desktop studies and fieldwork.	Within the study area. Directly to the south of the northern parcel.		n/a				
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape						
LLCA 18: Southern River Wissey Settled Tributary Farmland is located within the Landscape Character area B5 - River Wissey Tributary Farmland. It consists of two land pockets, separated by LLCA 19 - Southern River Wissey Tributary Farmland and LLCA 03 - Central Breckland Plateau. The northern pocket has several small settlements located within it, including West End, Bradenham, Holme Hale and North Pickenham. There are several County Wildlife Sites interspersed throughout in the form of commons and meadows. Pockets of plantation woodland are also a frequent landscape feature. The River Wissey runs through the centre of the character area land pocket. The southern pocket encapsulates the settlements of Ovington and Saham Toney, as well as the outskirts of the larger town of Watton. Similarly, amongst predominantly arable land use, pockets of higher ecological value habit are interspersed such as at Saham Mere.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations	
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LLCA.	County Wildlife Sites Ancient Woodland Scheduled Monuments National Cycle Network National Trails	The character area is interspersed with numerous areas of ecological value. County Wildlife Sites such as Cant's Corner Meadow, Necton Old Common and Saham Mere create pockets of ecological diversity. Two pockets of Ancient Woodland can also be found, namely Great Wood in the northern character area segment and Saham Wood in the southern segment. An extensive network of rural roads crosses the character area, and lined with species rich hedgerows and ditches, both of which are important ecological habitats.	There are two Scheduled Monuments within the character area, High Banks (possible Iron Age/ Roman Fort) in the southern segment and Mona Hill (bronze age round barrow) in the northern segment. Peddars Way National Trail is an important historic landscape feature.	This essentially managed, functional and productive arable agricultural landscape has experienced the effects of residential expansion which impacts the rural feel of the character area. Pockets of high ecological value, however, remain and provide an important element to the natural heritage and distinctiveness of the character area.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.	
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)		Functional



LLCA 18: Southern River Wissey Settled Tributary Farmland				BASELINE	
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area		
• Predominately arable land cover • River Wissey and its associated tributaries and landforms • Plantation woodlands • Small village settlements • Meadows and commons	Outside of the typically agricultural landscape of the surrounding area, the character area has a particularly high number of County Wildlife Sites interspersed with woodland and ancient woodland, which creates a more varied and ecologically valued landscape.	Necton Common, within which Mona Hill Scheduled Monument is located, serves as public recreational space. The Peddars Way and Norfolk Coast Path National Trail runs briefly through the south western aspect of the northern pocket through North Pickenham. PRow throughout the character area are otherwise relatively sparse, with three short segments in the northern pocket and four in the better-served southern pocket. National Cycle Network Route 13 runs along the easternmost border of the character area.	Views are to hedged and wooded skylines, adjacent character areas being generally concealed except for occasional views into the Wissey Valley and to the surrounding Wayland Plateau and Central Breckland Plateau. The church tower at Necton is a distinctive element of views, as are the wind turbines at Swaffham.	The character area as a whole has higher frequency of settlement compared with other local arable landscapes. It is still, however, a relatively tranquil and peaceful landscape.	Arable farmland interspersed with plantation woodland.
	Value		Susceptibility		Sensitivity
	Medium		Medium		Medium
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is valued at a community level for its localised pockets of ecological diversity including County Wildlife Sites and woodland. The two Scheduled Monuments referencing Iron Age and Bronze Age human activity, along with the Peddars Way National Trail, add historical depth. Necton Common and National Cycle Network Route 13 provide further recreational opportunity.		The character area is predominantly formed by medium-scale arable fields which are less susceptible to change. The area includes intermittent woodland blocks. Smaller-scale and more complex field patterns, which have a higher susceptibility to change, are located close to villages throughout the character area.		The medium value attached to the landscape and the medium susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a medium sensitivity.

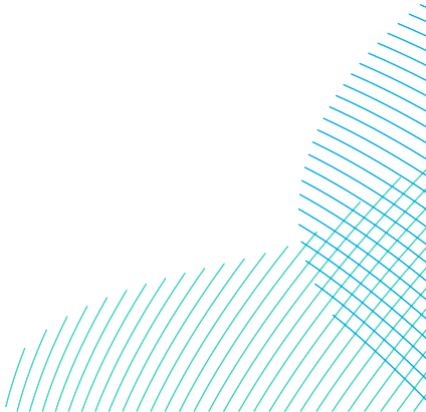
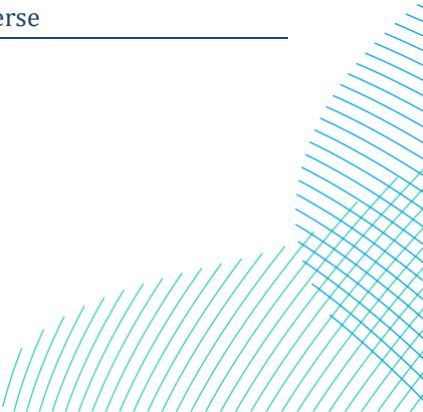


Table 76 LLCA 18: Southern River Wissey Settled Tributary Farmland - Assessment of effects

LLCA 18: Southern River Wissey Settled Tributary Farmland	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
Very Low	Negligible adverse
Construction of parcels S-17 and S-18 would take place within the LLCA. There would be a construction compound within the LLCA in parcel S-18 at the fringe of the LLCA to the north of Saham Toney. This would include the presence of vehicles and machinery and storage of materials, regular deliveries and access to the compounds via haul routes would increase construction activity across the area. Cable Corridor S-S4 would cross a small part of the LLCA in the north west. Activity across this area would include localised vegetation clearance, topsoil stripping and stockpiling and excavation via trenching to lay cables. Within the small parcels that cross the LLCA, activity would include; construction of access roads which would require topsoil stripping and excavations; piling for the frames of solar PV modules and presence and operation of associated machinery; installation of BESS and inverters; and the stockpiling and installation of solar PV module frames. The construction phase would result in changes to land cover and temporary, localised changes to landform due to stockpiling of material for cable laying. Whilst the presence and operation of large machinery and excavation works would not be uncharacteristic of an agricultural landscape, the scale of works being undertaken would be incongruous with the LLCA. Construction would take place across a very small part of the LLCA in the north and north western parts. These impacts are therefore considered to be very small-scale and would occur across a very-small geographical extent. Construction impacts would be short term and reversible.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in negligible effects which is not considered significant.
Year 1 operation (winter)	
Very Low	Negligible adverse
Parcels S-17 and S-18 would be located within the LLCA. The parcels would be located across a very small part of the LLCA in the north western part. The parcels would introduce massing across areas that are currently arable land and aesthetic and perceptual landscape character would be altered due to the regular pattern and form of solar arrays and colour tones of the solar frames and solar arrays which differs from the majority of surrounding agricultural fields. Vegetation pattern would be retained across parcels with appropriate offsets applied. Landform would be reinstated across cable laying corridor S-S4 which would cross a small part of the LLCA in the north west. In the first few months of operation reinstated areas along the cable laying corridors which were previously grassland would remain perceptible due to newly establishing grassland or replacement ground cover. Small areas of reinstatement planting would be perceptible due to the age of replacement planting and presence of stakes and tree guards. The static nature of the Proposed Development would retain a similar perception to the open and still character of agricultural land with the frequency of maintenance activities remaining similar to that of activity typical of agricultural fields. Proposed hedgerow enhancements, visual screening and buffer planting and green infrastructure connectivity planting across the Proposed Development would not have established. The parcels would be located across a very small part of the LLCA in the north western part. These impacts are therefore considered to be very small-scale and would occur across a very-small geographical extent. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in negligible effects which is not considered significant.
Year 15 operation (summer)	
Very Low	Negligible adverse



LLCA 18: Southern River Wissey Settled Tributary Farmland	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
At operation year 15, established planting across all parcels within the LLCA would help integrate the parcels into the landscape.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in negligible effects which is not considered significant.
Native grassland proposed below solar arrays would be established and would be beneficial for landcover and biodiversity value.	
Reinstatement planting across Cable Corridor S-S4 would be established resulting in cable routes being barely perceptible within the landscape.	
Beneficial changes such as green infrastructure improvements and strengthening of landscape pattern through improvements to boundary planting are balanced against the long term presence of solar arrays and associated infrastructure including substations and BESS.	
Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	

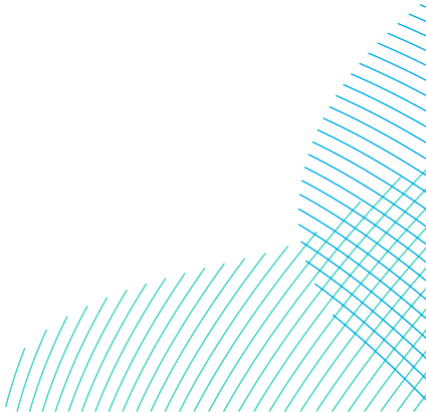
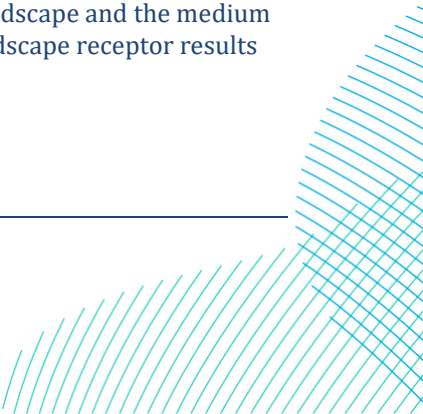


Table 77 LLCA 19: Southern River Wissey Tributary Farmland - Baseline

LLCA 19: Southern River Wissey Tributary Farmland				BASELINE			
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area				
Local	NCA: Mid Norfolk NCA 85: The Brecks		LCA B5: River Wissey Tributary Farmland				
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments				
Identified through LVIA process based on desktop studies and fieldwork.	Within the draft Order Limits covering the southern parcel.		n/a				
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape						
LLCA 19: Southern River Wissey Tributary Farmland is located within the Landscape Character Area B5 - River Wissey Tributary Farmland. Arable agriculture is the predominant land cover with medium to large field size. The disused railway line cuts through the centre of the character area and is designated in part as a County Wildlife Site, creating a distinctive feature. The River Wissey runs through the west of the character area, and through the Houghton Springs County Wildlife Site.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations	
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LLCA.	County Wildlife Sites National Cycle Network National Trails	The wetland habitat at Houghton Springs is designated as a County Wildlife Site. The disused railway line that runs through the centre of the character area is also designated in part as a County Wildlife Site and has a scrubland character. An extensive network of rural roads crosses the character area, and lined with species rich hedgerows and ditches, both of which are important ecological habitats.	The Peddars Way is an important historic landscape feature.	Although isolated areas of smaller scale, historic field boundaries exist, 20th century agricultural intensification has resulted in areas of boundary loss, weakening the historic integrity of the character area. Features such as Houghton Springs and Houghton Carr create localised pockets of ecological diversity.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.	
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)		Functional
• Arable farmland • Disused railway line County Wildlife Site • Peddars Way National Trail crosses the western extent of the character area	The disused railway designated as a County Wildlife Site serves as a distinctive feature of the character area.	The Peddars Way and Norfolk Coast Path National Trail serves as a key historic route through the west of the character area from north to south, crossing the River Wissey. Three other PRoW also cross the character area from west to east. National Cycle Network Route 13 crosses the character area in the eastern portion.	Views within and across the character area are largely contained by mixed enclosure hedges with hedgerow oaks. Hedged and treed skylines are a feature of the landscape. The wind turbines at Swaffham are visible from western parts of the character area.		The network of rural roads and the largely farmland land cover of the character area creates a tranquil, rural feel.		Arable farmland with a National Trail passing through.
	Value		Susceptibility			Sensitivity	
	Medium		Medium			Medium	
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is valued at a community level for its pockets of ecological value in the form of County Wildlife Sites, and the disused railway line creates a distinctive local historical and ecological element. Skylines exhibiting the extensive hedgerow network and distant areas of woodland create scenic quality, although the visibility of wind turbines		The character area is predominantly formed by medium and large-scale arable fields which are less susceptible to change. The area includes intermittent woodland blocks. Smaller-scale and more complex field patterns, which have a higher susceptibility to change, are located close to villages throughout the character area.			The medium value attached to the landscape and the medium susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a medium sensitivity.	



LLCA 19: Southern River Wissey Tributary Farmland			BASELINE
Hierarchy	National Character Area	District Character Area	
	from the west of the character area detracts from the sense of wilderness.		

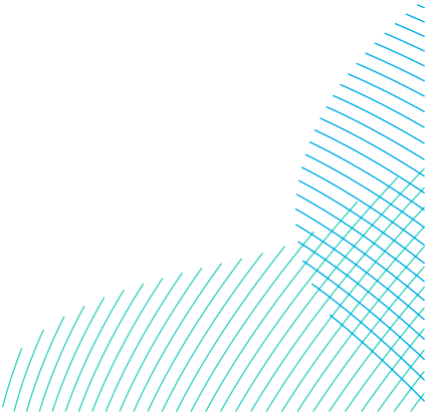
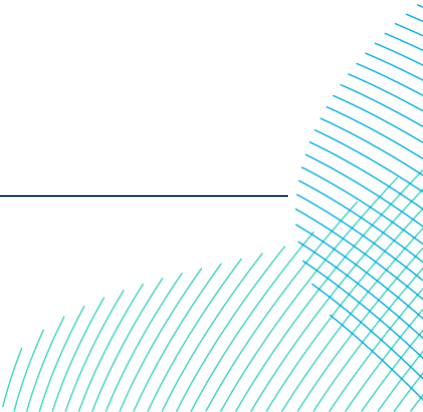


Table 78 LLCA 19: Southern River Wissey Tributary Farmland - Assessment of effects

LLCA 19: Southern River Wissey Tributary Farmland	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
Low	Minor adverse
Construction of parcels S-01, S-02, S-04, S-05, S-08, S-09 and S-10 would take place within the LLCA. Construction activity would take place across a small part of the large LLCA. Construction compounds within the LLCA would include those within S-02 and S-04. These would include the presence of vehicles and machinery and storage of materials, regular deliveries and access to the compounds via haul routes would increase construction activity across these areas. Cable Corridor E-S, S-S2 and S-S5 would be located within the LLCA. Activity across these areas would include localised vegetation clearance, topsoil stripping and stockpiling and excavation via trenching to lay cables. Within parcels, activity would include; construction of access roads which would require topsoil stripping and excavations; piling for the frames of solar PV modules and presence and operation of associated machinery; installation of BESS and inverters; and the stockpiling and installation of solar PV module frames. A 132kV substation would be located within parcel S-02 and would require tall lifting equipment and associated machinery. The construction phase would result in changes to land cover and temporary, localised changes to landform due to stockpiling of material for cable laying. Whilst the presence and operation of large machinery and excavation works would not be uncharacteristic of an agricultural landscape, the scale of works being undertaken would be incongruous with the LCA. The majority of construction works would take place in the eastern part of the LLCA, with works in the central part confined to the fringes of the LLCA. A large proportion of the LLCA would not be impacted to the west. These impacts are therefore considered to be small-scale and would occur across a small geographical extent. Construction impacts would be short term and reversible.	The low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in minor adverse effects which is not considered significant.
Year 1 operation (winter)	
Very Low	Negligible adverse
Parcels S-01, S-02, S-04, S-05, S-08, S-09 and S-10 would be located within the LLCA. Parcels would be located across a small part in the eastern half of the large LLCA. The parcels would introduce massing across areas that are currently arable land and aesthetic and perceptual landscape character would be altered due to the regular pattern and form of solar arrays and colour tones of the solar frames and solar arrays which differs from the majority of surrounding agricultural fields. Vegetation pattern would be retained across parcels with appropriate offsets applied. A 132kV substation would be located within parcel S-02 and would introduce further differing infrastructure to that of the regular form and pattern of solar arrays, resulting in a slight increase in the perception of scale of development within the locality. Landform would be reinstated across cable laying corridors E-S, S-S2 and S-S5. In the first few months of operation reinstated areas along the cable laying corridors which were previously grassland would remain perceptible due to newly establishing grassland or replacement ground cover. Small areas of reinstatement planting would be perceptible due to the age of replacement planting and presence of stakes and tree guards. The static nature of the Proposed Development would retain a similar perception to the open and still character of agricultural land with the frequency of maintenance activities remaining similar to that of activity typical of agricultural fields. Proposed hedgerow enhancements, visual screening and buffer planting and green infrastructure connectivity planting across the Proposed Development would not have established. Permissive pathways located in parcels S-09 and S-10 to the north east of Ashill, would increase recreational accessibility locally. Impacts would take place across arable fields within the LLCA and would be confined to small areas of the overall large LCA. These impacts are therefore considered to be very small-scale and would occur across a small geographical extent. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in negligible effects which is not considered significant.



LLCA 19: Southern River Wissey Tributary Farmland	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
Year 15 operation (summer)	
Very Low	Negligible adverse
At operation year 15, established planting across all parcels within the LLCA would help integrate the parcels into the landscape. Hedgerow enhancement and new planting across parcels S-02 and S-04 would strengthen field boundaries and the pattern of the landscape and aid with the integration of solar arrays by breaking up massing. Native grassland proposed below solar arrays would be established and would be beneficial for landcover and biodiversity value. Reinstatement planting across Cable Corridors E-S, S-S2 and S-S5 would be established resulting in cable routes being barely perceptible within the landscape. Beneficial changes such as green infrastructure improvements and strengthening of landscape pattern through improvements to boundary planting are balanced against the long term presence of solar arrays and associated infrastructure including substations and BESS. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in negligible effects which is not considered significant.

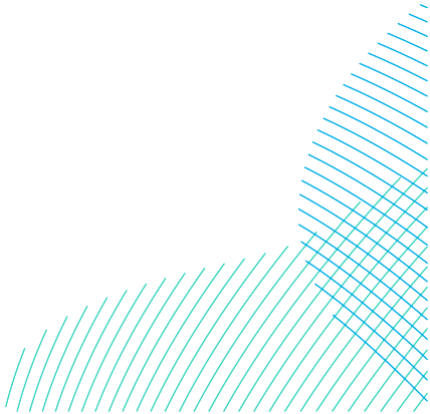


Table 79 LLCA 20: Sporle - Baseline

LLCA 20: Sporle				BASELINE			
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area				
Local	NCA 84: Mid Norfolk		LCA B5: River Wissey Tributary Farmland				
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments				
Identified through LVIA process based on desktop studies and fieldwork.	Within the draft Order Limits covering the central parcel.		n/a				
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape						
LLCA 20: Sporle is located within the Landscape Character Area B5 - River Wissey Tributary Farmland. It consists of the small village of Sporle. Sporle displays qualities of an agricultural village, meaning it is a small settlement which initially originated as a series of dispersed buildings which have since developed into a village. The village has a continuous rural row morphology meaning it is defined by a largely intact linear arrangement of dwellings along a road. The linear settlement pattern provides linkages with the countryside and open rural views with opportunities for green corridors. A network of wet ditches / watercourse along the primary road creates a green setting to the street. St Mary's Church, in the historic village centre, is a key character element.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations	
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LLCA.	No other relevant designations.	No significant natural heritage features.	Historic buildings including St Mary's Church can be found in the north of the village, which, although not a designated Conservation Area, add historic character to the village.	The village has experienced expansion with more modern developments present towards the south.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.	
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)		Functional
• Agricultural village • Continuous rural row village • Network of wet ditches/ watercourse • St Mary's Church	The character area has no specific natural or historic designations, although some architectural features such as St Mary's Church add a historic feel to the small village.	There are no PROW within the LLCA.	Views to adjacent character areas are possible from some viewpoints around the edges of the village. These largely consist of arable fields.		Sporle is a small village surrounded by arable farmland, and as such has a relatively tranquil character.		The area comprises a village with a population of approximately 800. The village includes facilities to serve the local community.
	Value		Susceptibility			Sensitivity	
	Medium		Medium			Medium	
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is valued at a community level for its historic architectural features such as St Mary's Church. More recent development in the village is more modern in character. Views to adjacent arable fields are possible from some viewpoints throughout the village. Surrounded by arable farmland, this creates a generally tranquil feel.		The character area is defined by the village of Sporle and surrounding arable land. The linear village is spread out along The Street and frequent short-distance views to adjacent rural fields are a key characteristic. The village includes a mix of historic properties which have a higher susceptibility to change and areas of modern development which have a lower susceptibility to change. The village is located close to the A47 to the south.			The medium value attached to the landscape and the medium susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a medium sensitivity.	

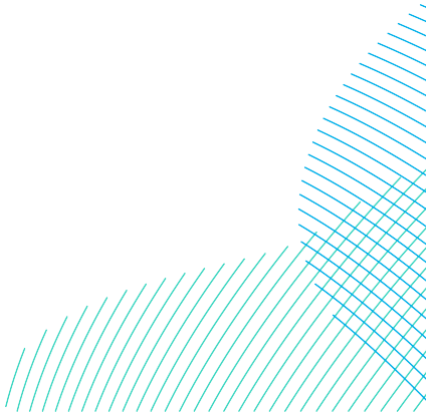


Table 80 LLCA 20: Sporle - Assessment of effects

LLCA 20: Sporle	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
Very Low	Negligible adverse
There would be no physical impacts to the LLCA. Construction of parcel C-07 would take place approximately 250m to the east. Within the parcel, activity would include; construction of access roads which would require topsoil stripping and excavations; piling for the frames of solar PV modules and presence and operation of associated machinery; installation of BESS and inverters; and the stockpiling and installation of solar PV module frames. Cable Corridor C-C1 would be located immediately north of the LLCA. Activity across the area would include localised vegetation clearance, topsoil stripping and stockpiling and excavation via trenching to lay cables. There would be limited impacts to the LLCA due to offsets from the LLCA maintaining g the rural setting of the LLCA which comprises agricultural fields at the edge of the village. These impacts are therefore considered to be very small scale and would occur across a very small geographical extent. Construction impacts would be short term and reversible.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in negligible effects which is not considered significant.
Year 1 operation (winter)	
Very Low	Negligible adverse
There would be no physical impacts to the LLCA. Parcel C-07 would be located approximately 250m to the east. The static nature of the Proposed Development would retain a similar perception to the open and still character of agricultural land with the frequency of maintenance activities remaining similar to that of activity typical of agricultural fields. Changes to the setting due to cable laying corridor C-C1 would be barely perceptible as landform would be reinstated. These impacts are therefore considered to be very small scale and would occur across a very small geographical extent. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape with limited lasting impact.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in negligible effects which is not considered significant.
Year 15 operation (summer)	
Very Low	Negligible adverse
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Reinstatement planting across cable route C-C1 would be established making the cable route barely perceptible within he contextual landscape. The closest parts of the Proposed Development would be parcels C-07 and C-08 to the east. Established planting along the western boundary of parcel C-07 would be established and would aid with the integration of solar arrays into the contextual landscape of the LLCA. Impacts are considered to be long term as the solar farm has an expected operational lifespan of 40 years. Impacts are considered largely reversible as panels and associated infrastructure can be removed from the landscape.	The very low magnitude of impact assessed against the medium sensitivity of the receptor would result in negligible effects which is not considered significant.

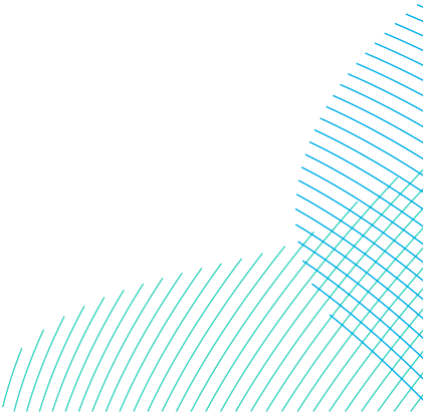
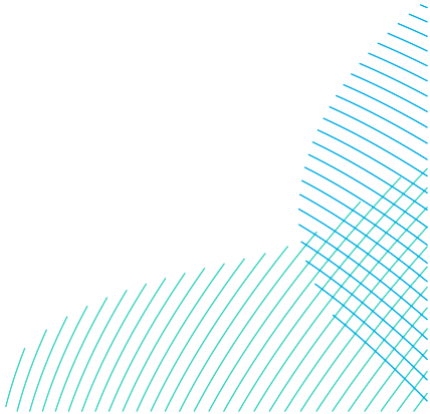


Table 81 LLCA 21: Stanta Heath - Baseline

LLCA 21: Stanta Heath				BASELINE		
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area			
Local	NCA 85: The Brecks / NCA 84: Mid Norfolk		LCA D2: Stanta Heath			
Source	Part of Proposed Development		Relevant future baseline developments			
Identified through LVIA process based on desktop studies and fieldwork.	Within the study area. 800m to the south west of the southern parcel.		n/a			
Summary	Determining the value attached to the landscape					
LLCA 21: Stanta Heath is located within the Landscape Character Area D2: Stanta Heath. It consists of the village of Little Cressingham and surrounding Heathland and Plantations landscape type. Arable fields are interspersed with small areas of mixed plantation woodland throughout the character area.	Landscape designations	Other relevant designations	Natural heritage	Cultural heritage	Landscape condition	Associations
	There are no statutory or local landscape designations within the LLCA.	Scheduled Monument SSSI SPA County Wildlife Sites National Trail	The Breckland Farmland SSSI and SPA partially borders the southern aspect of the character area, and an outcrop of the SSSI enters the character area in the southern area near Thexton Hill. This SSSI includes both historic and reverted heathland, associated primarily with acidic soils in addition to localised areas of calcareous grassland. Field boundaries are defined by hedgerows of various states and species compositions, and the historic, contorted scots pine wind breaks are also an important and distinctive feature. Grassy banks and field edges are very important to the conservation of the remnant Breckland grass-heath habitats. Several pockets of land within the heath are designated as County Wildlife Sites, such as at Hopton Carr and Merton Common.	A historic Roman settlement at Woodcock Hall is marked as a Scheduled Monument within the character area, however, this is not clearly visually apparent in the landscape.	The arable land, under appropriate management is a valuable habitat for farmland birds, with the Scot’s pine hedgerows surrounding fields forming a distinctive landmark feature. Hedgerows are in varying condition.	No strong cultural associations have been identified.
Key Characteristics	Distinctiveness	Recreational	Perceptual (scenic)		Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)	Functional



LLCA 21: Stanta Heath				BASELINE	
Hierarchy	National Character Area		District Character Area		
• Village of Little Cressingham • Arable fields • Mixed plantation woodland	There is a relatively low density of woodland blocks, although where they do exist, they are large in scale and create a notable feature within the landscape. The historically important Peddars Way and Norfolk Coast Path National Trail is a prominent recreational feature in the landscape.	The Peddars Way and Norfolk Coast Path National Trail runs through the centre of the character area.	The woodland blocks create an important focus to the landscape, particularly where views are across arable fields to wooded skylines. Due to the flatness of the landscape, open views are common making them a key visual sensitivity. On more enclosed rural lanes, hedgerows and woodland edge features are characteristic.	Due to the sparsely settled nature of the character area, it has a relatively tranquil, remote feel. This creates a peaceful setting for visitors using the National Trail.	Arable farmland with pockets of mixed plantation woodland.
	Value		Susceptibility		Sensitivity
	Medium		Medium		Medium
	The landscape is not covered by any statutory or local landscape designations. It is valued at a community level for its distinctive plantation woodland blocks and other ecologically diverse habitats such as Hopton Carr and Merton Common. It is a peaceful character area with frequently occurring open views, which are benefitted by the users of the National Trail.		The character area includes areas of heathland, grassland, and woodland cover and intermittent historic parkland features and historic hedgerows which create a distinctive landscape and contribute to localised areas of higher susceptibility to change. The character area also contains a large proportion of medium and large-scale arable fields which have a lower susceptibility to change.		The medium value attached to the landscape and the medium susceptibility associated with the landscape receptor results in a medium sensitivity.

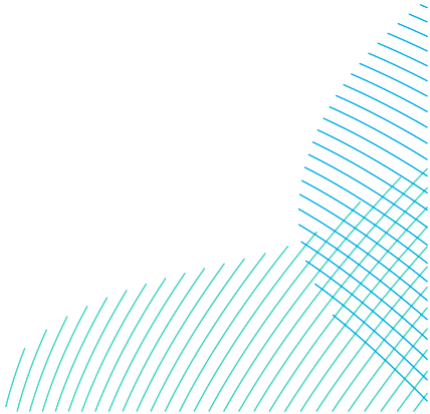
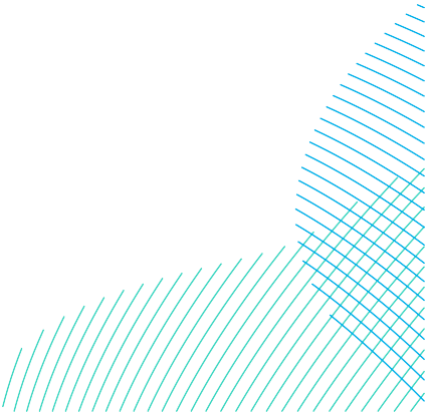


Table 82 LLCA 21: Stanta Heath - Assessment of effects

LLCA 21: Stanta Heath	ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS
Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Construction (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by construction of the Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LLCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 900m away at the closest point and separated by agricultural fields with intact hedgerows and the village of Saham Toney.	No effect
Year 1 operation (winter)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LLCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 900m away at the closest point and separated by agricultural fields with intact hedgerows and the village of Saham Toney.	No effect
Year 15 operation (summer)	
No Change	No effect
The landscape receptor is located within the study area but would not be physically impacted by the operational Proposed Development. Furthermore, there would be no impacts to the setting of the LLCA due to the distance from the draft Order Limits which are approximately 900m away at the closest point and separated by agricultural fields with intact hedgerows and the village of Saham Toney.	No effect



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