

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL, NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY, PORTSMOUTH CITY COUNCIL, SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY & SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL

Hampshire Minerals & Waste Plan: Partial Update

Strategic Landscape & Visual Assessment

August 2022



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Executive Summary

This report has been produced to give an overview of the site assessment process that was used to carry out the Strategic Landscape and Visual Assessment (SLVA). The findings of the assessment will be used to inform potential site allocations in the *Hampshire Minerals & Waste Plan (HMWP) Partial Update*.

This SLVA has been prepared to support the Draft Plan, which is subject to consultation.

This section provides an overview of the likely impact on visual and landscape character of each of the proposed site allocations to support the preparation of the HMWP Partial Update. Mitigation measures are also outlined which could be put in place to offset those effects which have been identified.

For ease of reference, the sites have been listed: first by Local Planning Authority (LPA) area; second by the site code; and third by proposed type of site (either Waste Management or Mineral Extraction).

New Forest District Council (NFDC) and Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC) are the LPAs with the highest number of sites assessed.

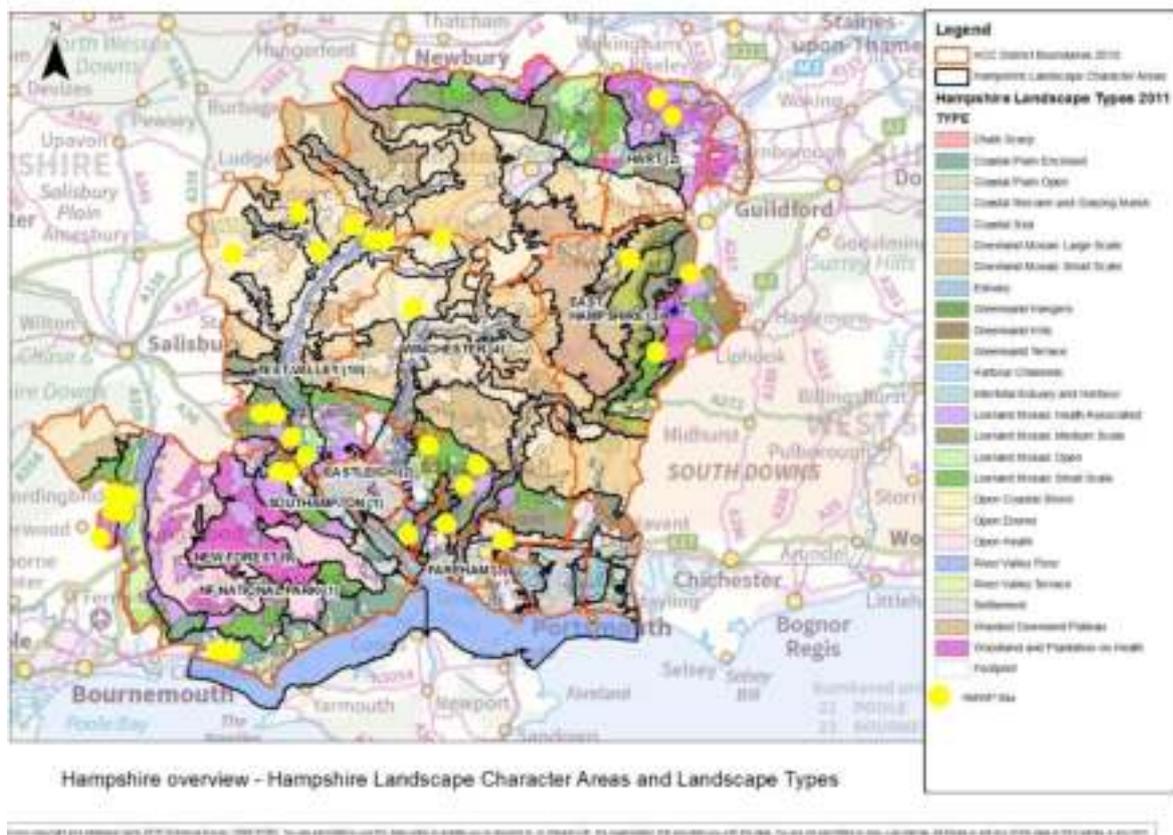
- NFDC has seven proposed minerals sites: two on the coastal plain, two in a plantation/heath landscape and two in the Avon River Valley character areas and one minerals rail depot at Totton Railway sidings.
- TVBC has four proposed waste and six proposed minerals sites: three in the Valley of the river Test four in the open downs and three in a wooded farmland landscape. There is also one proposed minerals rail depot at Andover railway sidings.
- Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council (B&DBC) has one proposed waste site in the centre of Basingstoke located in an urban area on the railway sidings.
- Eastleigh Borough Council (EBC) has one proposed waste site in the Forest of Bere and one mineral site proposed on the coastal plain landscape character areas.
- East Hampshire District Council (EHDC) has one proposed waste / industrial site in the Wey Valley and two Mineral sites proposed in the Wealden Greensand landscape character areas.
- Fareham Borough Council (FBC) has three proposed waste sites two on the open downs and one in the Forest of Bere landscape character areas.
- Hart District Council (HDC) has two minerals and one waste site proposed in the Thames Basin heath/plantation landscape character areas.
- New Forest National Park (NFNP) has one existing mineral site proposed in a wooded farmland landscape character area.
- Southampton City Council (SCC) has one proposed waste site on the Itchen shore.
- Winchester City Council (WCC) has four proposed waste sites two in the Forest of Bere and two in open downland landscape character areas.
- There are no proposed allocations in Gosport Borough Council, Portsmouth City Council or Rushmoor Borough Council areas.

Note on Landscape Character

The National Landscape Character Assessment published by Natural England (2005) divides the country into broad categories. The Hampshire Integrated Character Assessment (HICA) 2012 subdivides the County into thirteen Landscape Character Areas. In addition, HICA defines a finer grain of the landscape by dividing the county into Landscape Types identified by similar geology, topography, drainage patterns, vegetation and historical land use and settlement pattern.

The location of the proposed sites in relation to Hampshire's varied Landscape types is shown below. From heathland/plantation in the north-east and south-west, to the valleys of the Avon, Test and Hamble and from the open chalk downs in mid-Hants to the more enclosed landscape of the former Forest of Bere, each site is assessed in relation to the character of its landscape context.

Figure 1: Location of proposed sites within Hampshire Landscape Types



Note on Landscape Designations

Two sites sit within a National Park (Goleigh Farm and Tower View) although several are within close proximity of both the South Downs National Park and New Forest National Park. The South-West Hampshire Green Belt is also impacted by proposals for two sites (Ashley Manor & Yeatton Farm).

Key for both Landscape Character and Visual Impact

Slight Positive	Slight Positive
Neutral	Neutral
Slight Adverse	Slight adverse
Moderate Adverse	Moderate Adverse
Large Adverse	Large Adverse

Summary of Site Assessments				
Site Code	Site name	Likely Landscape Effects	Likely Visual Effects	Key Issues and Mitigation measures
BASINGSTOKE & DEANE BOROUGH COUNCIL LPA				
Mineral				
BSK01	Basingstoke Railway sidings	Moderate Adverse	Slight adverse	<p>The land is currently railway sidings located on the southern edge of a large industrial area. There are no views into the site except from some surrounding blocks of flats located to the south-east of the site, adjacent to Basingstoke station. Other views are screened by industrial buildings and local vegetation. The site is allocated in the adopted Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring the development does not visually intrude into the surrounding area. Therefore, any development should be restricted in overall height.
EASTLEIGH BOROUGH COUNCIL LPA				
Waste / Minerals				
N/A				
Mineral				

Summary of Site Assessments				
Site Code	Site name	Likely Landscape Effects	Likely Visual Effects	Key Issues and Mitigation measures
EAL02	Hamble Airfield			<p>The land is heavily used for informal recreation and there is housing around large parts of the site boundary. The site is allocated in the adopted Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retention of all vegetation around the boundaries and provision of a significant buffer between the proposed extraction areas and houses. The site access should not result in the loss of mature trees around the site in particular oak trees. Restoration should be to open space at existing levels, incorporating a variety of habitats.
Waste				
EAL01	Deer Park Farm			<p>The land comprises regenerating woodland and is used for informal recreation. There is housing to the north and west and two publicly accessible Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) to the east and south-west.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Careful positioning of the proposed extension site. Retention of the existing site boundary vegetation. Planting around the new proposals to tie it into existing habitats.
EAST HAMPSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL LPA				
Mineral				
ESH01	Goleigh Farm			<p>Flat, arable land in the South Downs National Park, with the Rother Valley adjacent and partly within the buffer zone of Wealden Heaths Phase II Special Protection Area (SPA). It is bisected by the A3 and adjacent to a Conservation Area.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Screening for residential properties to the east and north. Protection for hedgerows and statuesque hedgerow oaks. Replanting of any internal hedgerows (with trees) following completion. Restoration to neutral grassland (possibly with shallow wetland features in the margins). Deep water bodies would be uncharacteristic of this area.
ESH02	Frith End Extension			<p>A disturbed site adjacent to a working quarry, contained within an undulating, enclosed landscape, in the buffer zone for Wealden Heaths Phase II SPA.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protection of existing mature oaks on the boundary. Additional hedgerow planting to screen Footpath (FP) 26 and views from the south-west.

Summary of Site Assessments				
Site Code	Site name	Likely Landscape Effects	Likely Visual Effects	Key Issues and Mitigation measures
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restoration to a mosaic of heath, grass, and woodland.
Waste				
ESH03	Holybourne Rail Terminal			<p>The site is currently largely undeveloped and in a rural location, therefore any development should be sensitive to the landscape setting.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retention of existing vegetation around and within the site. Maintain a 20m buffer of planting within the site along the boundary with the A31. Provide additional screening around the southern boundary of the site, plant native species. Restrict the height of any new buildings / structures to 10m or below.
FAREHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL LPA				
Mineral				
N/A				
Waste				
FAR01	Down Barn Farm and Spurlings Industrial Estate			<p>Development of this site would result in development breaking the skyline on the downs and is also likely to require major cut and fill to develop this hillside site. Development of this site should be resisted.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only developing the lower part of this site so that it does not break the skyline, this would result in a very small development area. Planting a significant woodland belt along the western and northern boundary of the site.
FAR02	Land off Boarhunt Road			<p>This site is quite well screened by the local topography compared to Down Barns Farm, but if it became a permanent site, it would require additional screening.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New hedgerow planting with trees should be carried out along the access track and new woodland planting along the northern and eastern boundaries.
FAR03	Rookery Farm			<p>This site is closed for waste recycling, a short section of the approved mounding along the edge of the M27 is still outstanding.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replant an orchard on part of site. Retain existing areas of restored open areas of grassland adjacent to the M27.

Summary of Site Assessments				
Site Code	Site name	Likely Landscape Effects	Likely Visual Effects	Key Issues and Mitigation measures
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retain mature vegetation around and within the site area. Complete land filling adjacent to the M27.
HART DISTRICT COUNCIL LPA				
Mineral				
N/A				
Waste				
HAR01	Warren Heath (East & West)			<p>On the northern perimeter of the Forest of Bere in a landscape with high perceived tranquillity and naturalness, providing the setting for a Conservation Area (East site) and adjacent SPA/Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), a Registered Park and 2 Public Rights of Way (PRoWs) (West side) both sites have high sensitivities.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retention of generous buffer strips of existing vegetation between (East site) the Conservation Area and the A-road and (West site) the PRoWs, the Registered Park, the residential properties. Retention of the SINC (on the Western part of the site). Restoration to a mosaic of heathland, acid/wet grassland and native species woodland.
HAR02	Bramshill Quarry (Part)			<p>An existing quarry site, the proposal to restore to a biodiverse mix of habitats instead of commercial forestry will be beneficial to the landscape.</p> <p>Restoration should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A mix of heathland and woodland habitats in character with this landscape area.
HAR03	Bramshill Quarry Extension			<p>Adjacent to the existing quarry, the proposal covers 52 ha of existing heath, scrub, plantation and woodland. Within the Thames Basin SPA and the Yateley & Hawkley SSSI, the ecological sensitivities of this site are compounded by the presence of Hartfordbridge Flats Open Access Land (part of Yateley Registered Common). With residential properties in close proximity of the eastern boundary and commercial property to the south, the site needs to be visually contained by a generous buffer zone if its impact on the surroundings is to be limited.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exclude the open access land from the extraction area. Provide a generous buffer zone of woodland between it and the extraction area. Exclude extraction from and retain woodland screening belt in areas adjacent to neighbouring properties.

Summary of Site Assessments				
Site Code	Site name	Likely Landscape Effects	Likely Visual Effects	Key Issues and Mitigation measures
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure restoration to a mosaic of heath, scrub and woodland in keeping with the landscape character of this area.
NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL LPA				
Mineral				
NFD01	Ashley Manor Farm			<p>This site is located in the South Hampshire Green Belt and has been refused permission in the past on grounds of the effects on the Green Belt and adjacent residential areas. The site now has young tree and shrub planting around all the roadside boundaries, which is establishing and will screen the site within the next 3-5 years.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restoration to agriculture at existing ground levels. Restoration of Crooked Lane, including replacing the double hedgerow feature along the whole route. Replacement of hedgerows and a new hedgerow along the eastern boundary of the site which is an arbitrary line through the middle of the field. Managing the new planting around the site to ensure it reaches maturity.
NFD02	Yeatton Farm			<p>This site is an intimate small-scale landscape, situated within the South Hampshire Green Belt, which comprises relatively small fields with hedgerows and trees. There are a number of residential properties along Hordle Lane which overlook the site and mineral extraction would have a significant visual impact.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restoration to existing levels and agricultural land. All hedgerows replanted including trees. Properties around the site screened from visual intrusion, noise and dust.
NFD03	Purple Haze			<p>This site is within the adopted HMWP and a planning application has been submitted. Restoration of the site provides the opportunity to diversify the landscape and improve biodiversity, whilst maintaining an area that is popular for recreation.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restoration to include large areas of heathland. New deciduous woodland should be planted and located around the edges of the site. Restore recreational access across the site. Restore the ground levels to shallow side slopes and an undulating landform. Any water features /ponds should be shallow scrapes not deep-water bodies.

Summary of Site Assessments				
Site Code	Site name	Likely Landscape Effects	Likely Visual Effects	Key Issues and Mitigation measures
NFD04	Midgham Farm			<p>Midgham Farm is a large flat and open site, particularly the area to the east of Lomer Lane which is less sensitive in landscape terms than the land to the west of this lane. If only part of the site is approved for extraction, then it should be the eastern area.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site area should be reduced so that the north-west corner does not extend up to the edge of Alderholt Village. • Restoration to existing ground levels and to agricultural land use. • Replacement of hedgerows with trees and additional native tree planting along Hillbury Road • No open water bodies or minimal in size.
NFD05	Hyde Farm			<p>Hyde Farm is located in the Avon Valley bottom. It is an attractive pastoral landscape, with relatively small fields divided by hedgerows with trees. Large parts of the lower Avon Valley have been extracted and restored to large water bodies and lakes, resulting in the denigration of the original character of this landscape. Further extraction in this area should be resisted.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restore to existing ground levels and back to agriculture. • Replant all hedgerows (with trees). • Reduce the area of the proposed site in the southern section to keep works away from properties in North Gorley. • No ponds or lakes to form part of the restoration.
NFD06	Cobley Wood			<p>This site comprises one large arable field with no landscape features within the site area. There are a number of properties overlooking the site along the northern boundary and at Cobley Farm. Long distant views may be possible across the Avon Valley from the western edge of the New Forest National Park.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screening will be required for properties to the north of the site. • Access should be off Harbridge Drove and not the access road to Cobley Wood Farm. • Additional screen planting should be carried out along Harbridge Drove within the site. • Screening for long distant views across the valley needs to be considered along with the careful siting of any plant. The mature woodland that forms part of the eastern boundary should be used as a screen.
NFD07	Hamer Warren Quarry			<p>This is an existing site currently being extracted, the proposal is to amend the type of fill, and will not change the restoration proposals.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p>

Summary of Site Assessments				
Site Code	Site name	Likely Landscape Effects	Likely Visual Effects	Key Issues and Mitigation measures
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The final levels and ground restoration should be as approved for the existing planning permission for this site.
NFD08	Totton Railway Sidings			<p>This is a former coal depot, which is industrial in nature, with railway sidings and a depot site for Network Rail. The main constraints for intensifying use of the site comprise the visibility and noise impacts on two new residential estates adjacent to the southern boundary of the site and increased heavy vehicle movements on the narrow roads and urban fabric of Rumbridge.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retention of the existing vegetation along the edge of the sidings to retain a screen for the adjacent houses and flats. Street scene improvements to offset the negative impacts of HGV's.
NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK LPA				
Mineral				
N/A				
Waste				
NNP01	Tower View			<p>This is an existing waste site which is situated on flat land on the edge of the village of Tiptoe. It is currently quite unsightly, with vehicles damaging the roadside verges and very little planting to screen the site. It is located within the New Forest National Park where there is a requirement for all development to conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the landscape. Any redevelopment on this site should be seen as an opportunity to improve the landscape and visual quality of the site.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvements need to be made to the boundary treatment around this site. New planting and hedgerow thickening are required due to heavy vehicle movements along the access lane destroying the rural character of the area Any new structures or buildings need to reflect the rural location and should be of restricted height, less than 8m high.
SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL LPA				
Mineral				
N/A				

Summary of Site Assessments				
Site Code	Site name	Likely Landscape Effects	Likely Visual Effects	Key Issues and Mitigation measures
Waste				
SOU01	Leamouth Wharf			<p>This is an existing industrial wharf along the quayside of the River Itchen within Southampton. Industrial land uses are not an unexpected view in a port. Therefore, the impacts are less than if this were located in a more rural location. Opportunities to improve the environment should be taken with any redevelopment.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek to encourage good design in replacement buildings fronting Marine Parade/Belvidere Road which have a more dynamic and active relationship with the roadside. • Seek to maximise views/glimpses across the water wherever possible. • Improve site fencing and consider roadside trees
TEST VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL LPA				
Mineral				
TSV01	Whitehouse Field			<p>Whitehouse Field is visually prominent for long distance views across the iconic chalk river valley adjacent. The current stockpiles detract from the landscape quality. Restoration to chalk downland or pasture is recommended in keeping with the character of the area.</p>
TSV06	Land at Stanbridge Ranvilles Farm			<p>This site is a current planning application. The site is a gently undulating rural landscape with hedgerows and limited trees. It is surrounded on two sides by woodland, with properties close to the other two boundaries. There is an existing access to the site and plan to wash and grade the mineral.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site should be restored to existing levels, the hedgerows replaced and include trees. • Management of the adjacent woodland to increase biodiversity.
TSV07	Land at the Triangle			<p>This is a flat, triangular shaped site with roads on all three boundaries. The site is well screened from the A27 by a combination of a hedgerow within the site and semi-mature tree planting along the edge of the road. The other two boundaries are more open as the hedgerows are intermittent due to the presence of a large number of mature trees along the hedgerows. The internal site is divided into a series of fields which are small at the southern end and get larger towards the north. These hedgerows, one of which is more of a tree belt, are all characterised by containing large numbers of mature oak trees of great landscape and bio-diversity value.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The tree belts and hedgerows with trees crossing the site should all be retained. Their loss would be unacceptable.

Summary of Site Assessments				
Site Code	Site name	Likely Landscape Effects	Likely Visual Effects	Key Issues and Mitigation measures
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The southern end of the site is divided into smaller fields. The southernmost field is a small triangular field, currently used for growing asparagus. It should also be removed from the site area to retain the treed hedgerow. Restoration to existing ground levels and agriculture
TSV08	Cutty Brow			<p>Situated within a visually undisturbed rural landscape the proposal site is likely to be highly visually prominent. With designated Ancient Woodlands & SINCs adjacent, the proposal will likely have a large adverse effect. The site is allocated in the adopted Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan.</p> <p>Adequate mitigation will be difficult to achieve due to the position on elevated land, with an open lane running through the centre, nearby PRow and the Ancient Woodland adjacent.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generous buffer zones should be provided between the extraction area and boundary woods (15m minimum Ancient woodland buffer), hedgerows and trees. New hedgerow planting with trees, alongside the lane prior to commencement of works.
TSV09	Andover Railway Sidings			<p>This is a former railway siding, which is currently used as an industrial site with a large building, lorry movements and rail tracks. The main constraints for intensifying use of the site comprise two relatively new residential estates adjacent to the northern boundary of the site and increased heavy vehicle movements on Mylen Road and urban fabric of the area.</p> <p>The site is an area of railway sidings located to the north of Andover Railway Station. The site was used as sidings to the railway, but it is presently used as an industrial site accessed along a tree lined private road to the northwest from Mylen Road. Trees and shrubs line most of the northern and eastern boundary of the site providing a partial screen from the adjacent properties. Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retention of the existing vegetation along the northern and eastern edge of the sidings to retain a screen. Street scene improvements to offset the negative impacts of HGV's.
TSV10	Dunwood Fruit Farm, Sherfield English			<p>The site is currently mainly used for grazing horses which has degraded the immediate landscape. However, it is surrounded by woodland and comprises an undulating landscape with a sloping hillside to the west in the north-western part of the site.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Omitting any extraction of the hillside/ sloping land in the north western part of the site.

Summary of Site Assessments				
Site Code	Site name	Likely Landscape Effects	Likely Visual Effects	Key Issues and Mitigation measures
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree survey to ensure all the surrounding woodland is protected and effects on the water table in relation to the trees understood. • Screen the footpath and the A27 from views into the site. • Screen properties on Newtown Lane from views and noise of the works. • Restore the site to existing ground levels.
Waste				
TSV02	Grateley Bio Depot			<p>This is an existing site on the edge of Grateley in an area of open downland. Whilst the site is flat it is open to distant views and there is currently very limited planting around the site. Any redevelopment should be seen as an opportunity to improve the site.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the screen planting around the site, this may require additional land. • Plant native trees and shrubs along the access the road.
TSV03	Lee Lane, Nursling			<p>This site is a restored gravel pit which was restored to agriculture but has not been managed. Therefore, scrub and rough grassland has invaded the site. The verges along the rural lane used to access this site have been heavily damaged by the existing uses on part of this site. Additional development will only exacerbate this damage further.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the screen planting around the site. • Plant along Lee Lane boundary • Look to improve the environment on Lee Lane
TSV04	A303 Enviropark Shooting School			<p>The Shooting School site is contained within an existing bunded area, in a relatively secluded location adjacent the busy A303.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional planting at the site entrance. • Continuing management and replanting if required, of planting on the screening bunds.
TSV05	Land west of A303 Enviropark			<p>The extension of stockpiling into the western site impinges on views from the road. Further proposals to remove part of the existing maturing woodland to the north, will have an adverse effect on the landscape setting.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retention of all existing surrounding trees/shrubs. • Higher screening bund to the west boundary • Additional screen planting to the west of the proposal site, beside the lane.

Summary of Site Assessments				
Site Code	Site name	Likely Landscape Effects	Likely Visual Effects	Key Issues and Mitigation measures
WINCHESTER DISTRICT COUNCIL LPA				
Mineral				
N/A				
Waste				
WIN01	Church Farm			<p>Set on level ground between Waltham Chase and Bishops Waltham, the site is contained by historic hedge banks and mature oak trees. The Park Lug feature divides a small (northern) section from the larger (southern) section. The northern small field is close to and highly visible from the adjacent B-road and residential (and Listed) properties.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No proposals for the small north field. • Creation of a new hedgebank parallel with the PRoW, including new hedgerow trees. • Protection of existing boundary hedgerows using generous buffer /construction exclusion zones.
WIN02	Silverlake Automotive Recycling			<p>On agricultural land between Shedfield and Curdrige, the area is currently perceived as highly natural and undeveloped with a SINC/Ancient Woodland to the north of the site and residential and commercial properties to its south. There is the potential for views of the site from the higher ridges to the west and north.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generous buffer zones beside residential/commercial properties (similar to that on the existing site) and the SINC to create screening and additional woodland habitat. • New planting belts within the site to reduce the expanse of open area storing highly reflective automobiles - visible from a distance.
WIN03	Micheldever Sidings			<p>The site is located within the railway cutting at Micheldever Station. It comprises railway sidings and a raised area that has redundant oil tanks under a grassed surface. The raised part of the site is a SSSI and is therefore protected. Access to the site from the adjacent road will require felling part of a woodland belt and reprofiling the cutting slope to gain access to the railway. The site is allocated in the adopted Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road access into the site needs to be carefully designed to minimise tree loss. • The biodiversity and ecological value of parts of the site needs to be protected. • Building heights should be restricted to be no more that 10m high.

Summary of Site Assessments				
Site Code	Site name	Likely Landscape Effects	Likely Visual Effects	Key Issues and Mitigation measures
WIN04	Three Maids Hill			<p>Visually integrated as part of the open downs to the north of Winchester, and contiguous with the remnant chalk downland of Worthy Down it is aurally disturbed by its surrounding busy roads. Partially screened by vegetation, some views into the site are possible for the many road users adjacent.</p> <p>Mitigation should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional screen planting and bunding beside the Three Maids Hill junction and the A272 boundary. • Careful placement of structures to minimise visual intrusion i.e. place in the bowl of the land. • Enhancement of habitat to restore chalk downland.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report provides an overview of the site assessment process used to undertake the Strategic Landscape and Visual Assessment (SLVA) of the HMWP Partial Update Draft Plan. The findings of this assessment will help to inform potential site allocations and, as such, act as supporting documentation for the preparation of the HMWP Partial Update. The HMWP Partial Update will be subject to Public Consultation and Examination¹.
- 1.2 The objective of the study was to assess the likely landscape capacity of each of the proposed sites to accommodate mineral and waste development, without significant detriment to its character or that of its larger character area, taking into account current practices of mitigation and restoration.
- 1.2 Landscape and visual effects will be one of the assessment criteria that form part of the suite of evidence studies for the HMWP Partial Update, to examine the suitability of sites and areas nominated for minerals and waste development. The analysis aims to identify landscape constraints and sensitivities in a broad sense, which would lead to identifying which sites may or may not be deemed suitable locations for development.
- 1.3 The study sets out to assess in detail the residual landscape effects of the proposed developments on their locations.

Study Aims

- 1.4 The aims of the study are to:
 - Assess the landscape character and visual impact capacity of each of the proposed minerals and waste development sites.
 - Consider the extent to which the proposals could be implemented without detrimental effects on the area's character or setting, taking into account current design practices and mitigation measures.
 - Inform, test, and review the development criteria produced for the proposed minerals and waste sites in the Draft Plan.

Potential Allocations

- 1.6 Potential allocations were identified through a 'call for sites' to industry, agents and landowners. The assessment of these sites is set out in this SLVA.
- 1.7 The HMWP Partial Update Draft Plan sets out the main approach towards the provision of additional waste sites (Policy 29). It proposes that, where possible, these sites should be located within the confines of existing industrial estates, due to the scale and nature of their requirements.

¹ Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan (HMWP) Partial Update:
<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/strategic-planning/hampshire-minerals-waste-plan/minerals-waste-plan-partial-update-consultation>

Policy Context

National Policy

- 1.8 The National Planning Policy Framework 2021² contains the following policies themes of particular relevance to Landscape:
- Chapter 13: Protecting Green Belt land
 - Chapter 15: Conserving and enhancing the natural environment.

Local Policy and Landscape Character Assessment

- 1.9 The proposed HMWP, covers nine Local Planning Authority Areas:
- Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council
 - Eastleigh Borough Council
 - East Hampshire District Council
 - Fareham Borough Council
 - Hart District Council
 - New Forest District Council
 - New Forest National Park Authority
 - Southampton City Council
 - Test Valley Borough Council
 - Winchester City Council
- 1.10 The relevant Planning Policies and Landscape Character Assessment information are described at the beginning of each Chapter for each Authority Area.
- 1.11 Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments (LVIA) for the application sites submitted for Planning Approval will need be produced in accordance with the methodology described in Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Third Edition (GLVIA3)³ (produced by Landscape Institute and Institute for Environmental Management & Assessment, published 2013). The methodology for undertaking the assessment is set out in Appendix 1.

Relevant HMWP Partial Update Development Management Policies.

- 1.12 The following HMWP Partial Update Policies are particularly relevant to this assessment and are set out in Appendix 2.
- Policy 3: Protection of habitats and species
 - Policy 4: Protection of the designated landscape
 - Policy 5: Protection of the countryside

² National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF):

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

³ Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (3rd Edition):

<https://www.landscapeinstitute.org/technical/glvia3-panel/>

2. Basingstoke & Deane Borough Local Planning Authority Area

Local Planning Policy

2.1 The Basingstoke and Deane Borough Local plan 2011 - 2029 was approved in June 2016⁴. Policies that relate to landscape and townscape are set out in Appendix 3 and include:

- Policy EM1, Landscape
- Policy EM10, Delivering High Quality development

Landscape Character Assessment

2.2 The England-wide landscape character mapping undertaken by Natural England (2005) defines the Borough of Basingstoke and Deane within two broad National Character Area⁵ categories:

- Character Area 129 Thames Basin Heaths; and
- Character Area 130 Hampshire Downs.

2.3 The Hampshire Integrated Character Assessment (2012) further subdivides Eastleigh Borough into five areas:

- 6a East Hampshire Wooded Plateau
- 7b Hannington and Dummer Downs.
- 8b Basingstoke Open Downs East and Hampshire Wooded Plateau
- 8c North East Hampshire Open Downs.
- 8f Candover Valley Open Downs

⁴ Basingstoke & Dean Borough Adopted Local Plan 2011-2029:

<https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/planningpolicy>

⁵ National Character Area profiles:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-character-area-profiles-data-for-local-decision-making/national-character-area-profiles>

BSK01 – Basingstoke Sidings, Basingstoke (Mineral)

Location / Description

The sidings are located just to the west of Basingstoke railway station on the north side of the tracks. They are on the edge of a large industrial area within Basingstoke town centre. A Sainsburys distribution depot is located adjacent to much of the northern boundary. There is a line of scrub vegetation with a few trees between the sidings and the adjacent sites. To the south of the railway the land mainly comprises allotments, with some blocks of flats to the southeast.

Proposal: Primarily suitable for use as an aggregate rail depot. May have some potential for waste uses.

Restoration: Permanent facility.

Basingstoke Townscape Character

This site sits within the Hampshire Integrated Character Assessment, Townscape Character area BAS06 Industrial Estates and Business Parks. The specific sub-character area is BAS06b

Key Characteristics applicable to this location

Sub-areas of BAS06 are described together:

- Three, large, sprawling industrial estates/business parks.
- Undulating topography.
- Irregular grid of plots of varying sizes.
- Varied building lines throughout with some warehouses and units at angles to the access roads, others parallel.
- Profile metal cladding/corrugated asbestos sheeting and grey and brown tiles to steel frames or brick buildings. Some brick offices and business premises.
- Industrial shed-like structures, retail outlets, car sales outlets and office blocks, many of three, four, five storeys or more. Some older buildings include series of sheds with northlight roofs. The buildings in sub-area BAS06b are generally larger.
- Office use, industrial storage and distribution warehouses, car sales, hospitals and associated ancillary uses.

Impact on Key Characteristics

- Very limited impact as the proposal retains its railway use, alterations may include additional machinery and/or buildings to allow the site to be used as an aggregate depot.

Constraints and Designations

There are no landscape constraints to the development of this existing industrial site.

Historic Landscape Character

The site is situated in the urban core of Basingstoke and little of historic landscape character remains. The site is surrounded by new industrial development or redevelopment of sites for housing, in particular blocks of high-density flats.

The nearest Listed building, Lodge, at the entrance gateway to Chapel Hill Cemetery, is over 200m away to the north-east. The town centre around Glebe Gardens and St Michaels Church is the closest Conservation Area over 560m away to the south east.

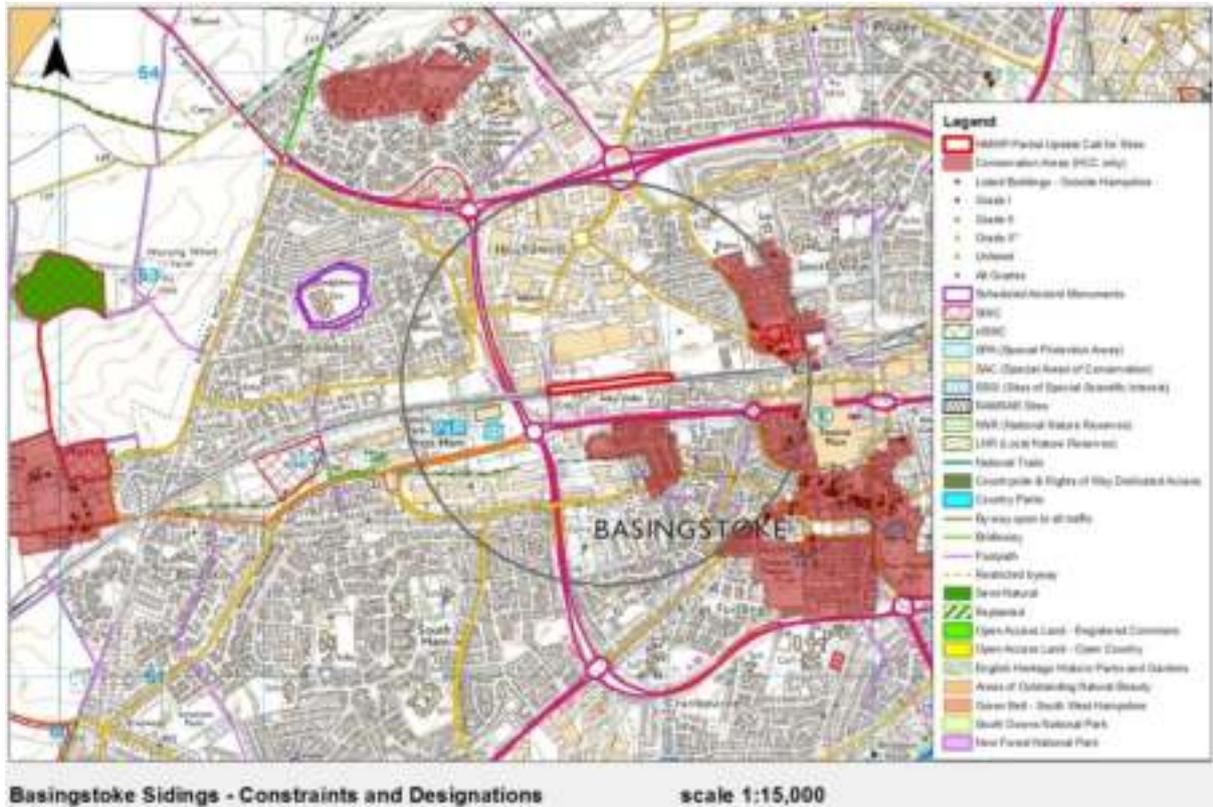
Ecological designations - International, National & Local

The locally designated, Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) at South View Cemetery is over 500m to the north east.

Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas

The site is not publicly accessible as it is on Railway property. There is one footpath that follows the access road to the site down Houndsmill Road and passes under a railway bridge immediately to the west of the site.

Figure 2: BSK01 – Basingstoke Railway Sidings, Basingstoke – Constraints and Designations



Landscape Condition

The landscape of this site comprises railway sidings with scrub growing along the northern boundary of the site; its condition is **Poor**.

Landscape Sensitivity

The site is industrial in nature and adjacent to an existing Industrial Estate and has a **Low** sensitivity. The likely landscape effect of the proposals should only be **slight adverse**.

Visual Sensitivity

The site is not visible except from the railway line and from the windows of flats that have been built to the south east of the site adjacent to the south side of the railway. The visual sensitivity is **low** and the likely visual effect is **negligible** providing the development is appropriately designed.

Receptor	Location	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads	Houndsmill Road	120m	Screened by vegetation and intervening buildings	NEGLIGIBLE
Settlement/Housing	Sinclair Drive	65m to south and south west	Blocks of flats with existing views	LOW

			across the railway and industrial development	
Definitive PRow long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	Basingstoke Footpath 013/24/1	Adjacent to road access into the site	Vegetation along the edge of the site.	LOW
Country Parks/Other open space	Allotments	Adjacent to the southern edge of the railway lines	Part screened by vegetation	LOW
Railway	Users of the trains	Within the site	Open to view	LOW

Mitigation Measures and Restoration

The scale and height of development should be in keeping with the surrounding area and should not dominate the view.

Figure 3: BSK01 – Basingstoke Railway Sidings, Basingstoke - Site Plan



EAL01 – Deer Park Farm, Knowle Lane, Horton Heath, Eastleigh SO50 7DZ (Waste)

Location / Description

On the urban edge of Fair Oak, this site has residential areas to the north and west, a wooded SINC with public access to the east, and a pre-existing Industrial Park to the south. Deer Park provides a green connection between Knowles Park to the south-west and Knowles Lane SINC to the east, via a permissive path currently shown running along the southern boundary although in fact many informal paths criss-cross the site.

The land slopes down from around 60m AOD close to the existing Industrial Estate to around 43m AOD adjacent the residential areas, with a more level plateau area close to the existing Estate: the proposed development site. Historically subject to landfill, it now comprises regenerating woodland with patches of more open grassland scrub.

Proposal: Recycling concrete/hardcore, inert soil and green waste for reuse in the construction industry on the higher plateau area currently mainly open scrubland.

Restoration: permanent facility.

Landscape Character

2e: Forest of Bere West

Landscape Type

Lowland mosaic small scale

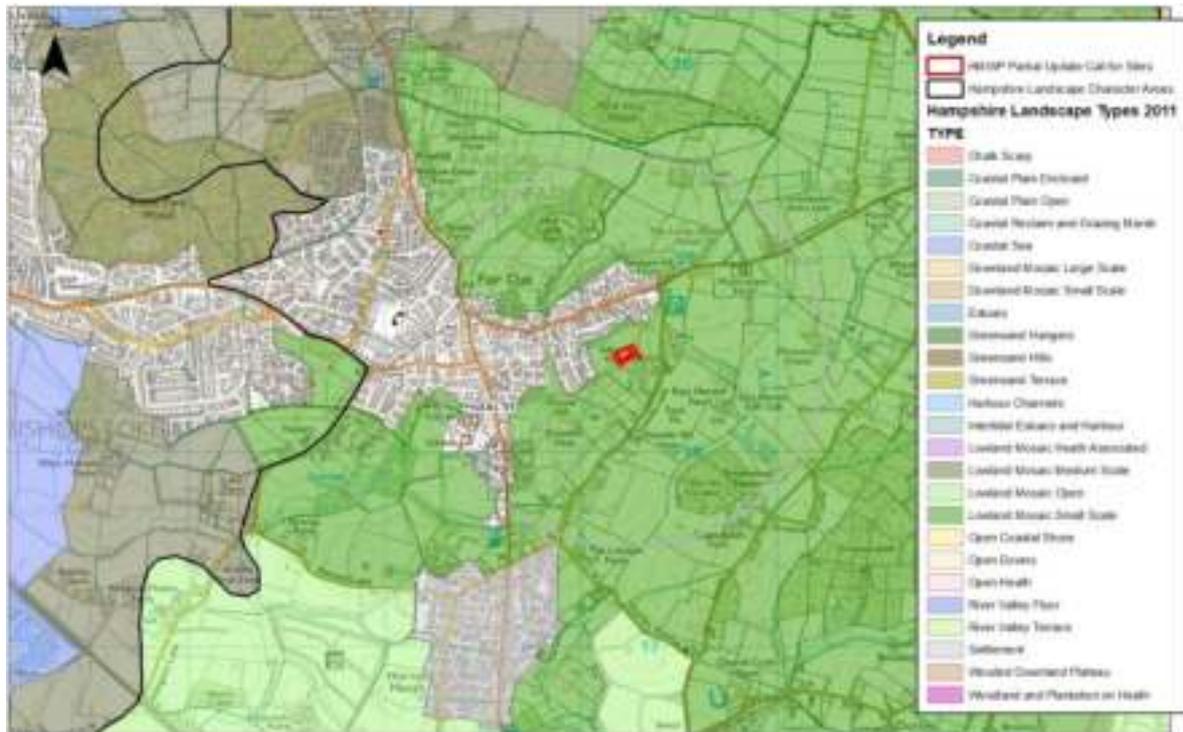
Key Characteristics applicable to this location:

- A low-lying landscape with shallow undulations.
- Varied geology with permanently saturated heavy clays and locally higher sandy outcrops which are more undulating.
- Locally popular accessible woodland areas.
- This area is strongly associated with the Royal Forest of Bere, a hunting reserve that retains wooded and to a lesser extent, open commons, assart field and woodland patterns.
- Extensive C.20th development, including urban expansion and infilling of common-edge settlements.
- Rich biodiversity, including woodland, heathland, grassland and wetland sites.

Impact on Key characteristics include:

Loss of locally valued, accessible scrub/ woodland vegetation which has the potential to re-establish part of the historic Forest of Bere's landscape character.

Figure 5: EAL01 Deer Park Farm - Landscape Character Context



EAL01 Deer Park Farm - Landscape Character Context scale 1:15,000

Constraints and Designations

Within 2km of the South Downs National Park (to the north-east), with Knowle Lane SINC adjacent to the east boundary and Knowle Park SINC adjacent to the south-west boundary, the site forms part of an informal network of publicly accessible open space.

Historic Landscape Character

A Lowland Mosaic Landscape extensively cleared and informally enclosed for pasture in a pattern of irregular shaped small fields, which had a mix of open land and assart woodland by the time the Forest of Bere was formally disafforested by Parliament in 1810. This area has become increasingly developed with the expansion of settlements leading to field boundary alterations and loss.

The nearest Listed building is over 500m away to the south-east. Bishopstoke is the closest Conservation Area over 3.7 km away to the west.

Ecological designations - International, National & Local

The locally designated, Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation at Knowle Lane and Knowle Park are separated by this open space site.

Knowle Park is also designated Ancient Woodland. The proposed site provides continuity and linkage of habitat.

Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas

No public rights of way exist over the proposed site but there is a permissive path routed currently, alongside the southern boundary, adjacent to Deer Park Industrial Estate. Many informal paths exist within the site.

EAL02 Hamble Airfield, Hamble Lane, Hamble Le Rice, SO31 4HU. (Sand and gravel extraction)

Location / Description

The site is a former airfield located to the north of Hamble village and comprising of 5.6 hectares of land bounded by the railway to the north, Hamble Lane to the west and Satchell Lane to the east. The site is presently covered with rough grass and emerging scrub. Informal public access from the adjacent housing areas is found across the site. Domestic housing backs onto the south-western, southern and eastern edge of the site. A young tree belt has been planted along the western boundary of the site adjacent to the Hamble Rail Trail long distance path. The site is allocated in the adopted minerals and waste plan.

Proposal: Sand and Gravel Extraction.

Restoration: restoration to agriculture / open space.

Landscape Character

9d Netley, Bursledon & Hamble Coastal Plain

Landscape Type

Coastal Plain Open

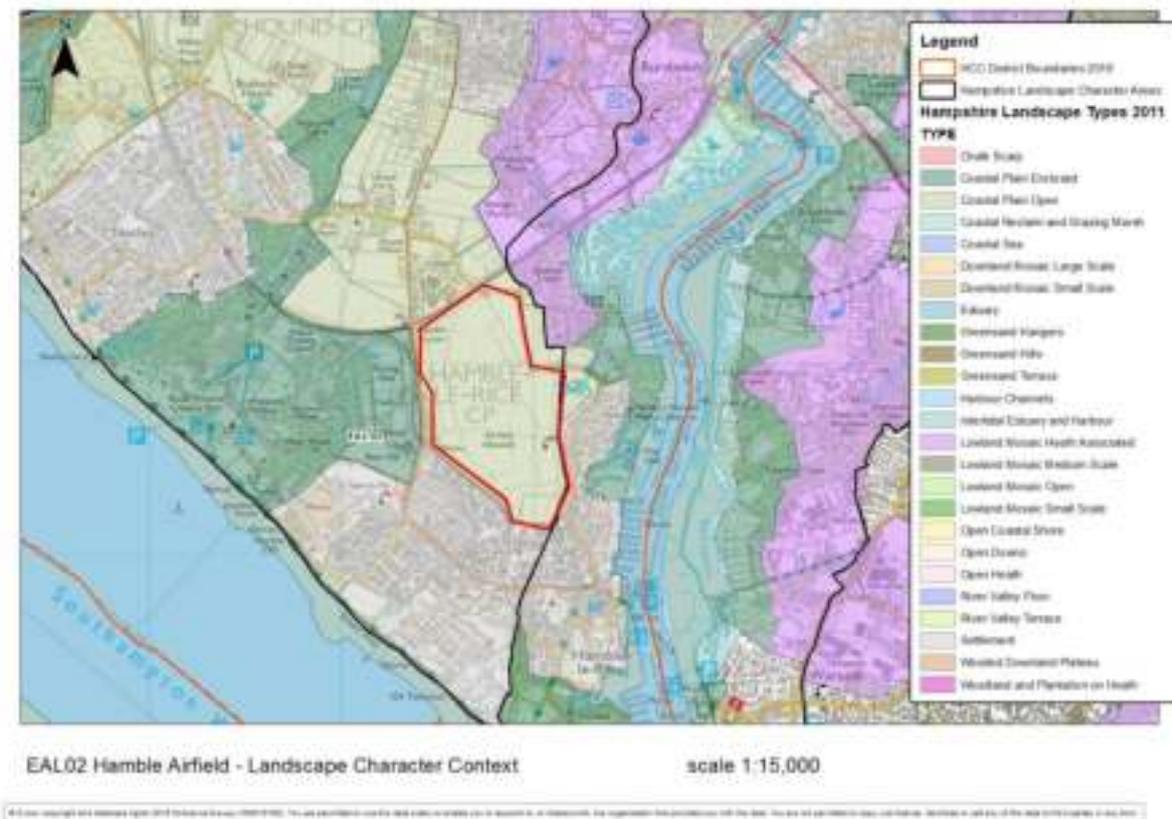
Key Characteristics applicable to this location

- Gently undulating and flat landform with a gentle slope to the coastline ending in a low sea wall above the shingle beach.
- A wooded coastal margin, small, wooded stream valleys, a central area of farmland with open character and a suburban feel to much of the area.
- Patchwork of ecological habitats and woodland. Extremely fertile agricultural soils on the open coastal plain.
- Areas of former sand and gravel and landfill restoration.
- Market gardening, nurseries and horticulture are frequent land uses.
- A landscape which had a well-developed medieval field pattern around the small hamlets and huge area of common in the north at the end of the 19th century, now largely overwritten by modern fields and development.
- Frequent views over Southampton Water.
- Busy road and minor lane network of slow-moving traffic.
- Adjacent coastal biodiversity sites designated for their bird habitats.
- Important historic buildings set within designed grounds.

Impact on Key Characteristics

The soils in this character area are extremely fertile and have traditionally supported a thriving market gardening economy. Mineral extraction can permanently affect the quality of soils on restoration.

Figure 8: EAL02 Hamble Airfield - Landscape Character Context



Constraints and Designations

Historic Landscape Character

This landscape was dominated by open common and heath in the west and north up until the 19th century. The closest site registered on the Hampshire Inventory of Historic Parks, Gardens & Public Green Spaces is Hamble Cliff which is located over 550m to the southwest and the former grounds are now covered in industrial buildings. There are a number of listed buildings in the centre of Hamble village, but their setting would not be affected by development on this site. The eastern edge of Victoria Country Park is found immediately to the west of the site with only the B3397 Hamble Lane dividing the two.

Ecological Designations - International, National & Local

The Mercury Marshes local nature reserve (LNR) is found on the edge of the River Hamble approximately 500m to the east of the site. It is also a Ramsar site and a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas

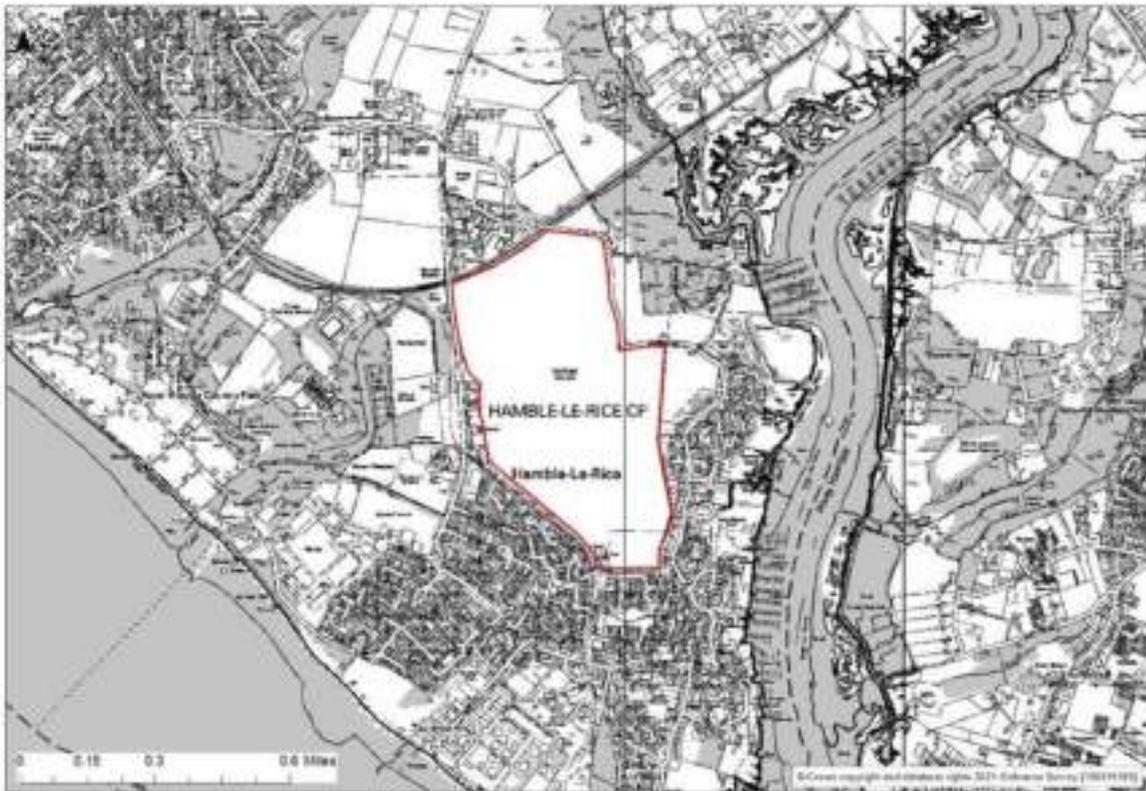
The old airfield is currently well used for informal recreation with paths criss-crossing the site. There is a formal footpath that follows much of the eastern boundary of the site (Hamble Le Rice 103/1/1). A former railway line follows the southwestern boundary of the site and it has been converted to a footpath / cycleway connecting Victoria Country Park to the centre of Hamble Le Rice village, called the Hamble Rail trail.

	The Close	Adjacent	Garden boundaries	HIGH
Definitive PRow long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	Hamble 103/1/1	Within site	Open to site	HIGH
	Hamble Rail Trail	Adjacent	Open to site	HIGH
Rail/ Country Parks/Other Parks	Victoria Country Park	Opposite side of B3397 to the site	Woodland, trees and hedgerows	MEDIUM

Mitigation Measures and Restoration

- Retain all vegetation around the boundaries and leave significant buffers between the proposed extraction areas and houses.
- The access should not result in the loss of mature trees in particular oak trees.
- Restoration should include returning the site to existing levels and public open space, with a variety of habitats designed into the scheme.

Figure 10: EAL02 Hamble Airfield - Site Plan



4. East Hampshire District Local Planning Authority Area

Local Planning Policy

- 4.1. East Hampshire District Council Core Strategy Adopted June 2014⁷. Policies that relate to landscape and countryside are set out in Appendix 5 and include:
- CP19 Development in the Countryside.
 - CP20 Landscape.
 - CP28 Green Infrastructure.
- 4.2. The emerging Local Plan 2017 - 2036⁸ includes the following policies, yet to be adopted:
- Policy S17 Development in the Countryside.
 - Policy S18: Landscape.
 - Policy DM26: Trees, hedgerows and woodland.
 - Policy S20: Wealden Heaths Phase II Special Protection Area. *(parts of Goleigh are within the 400m buffer zone)*

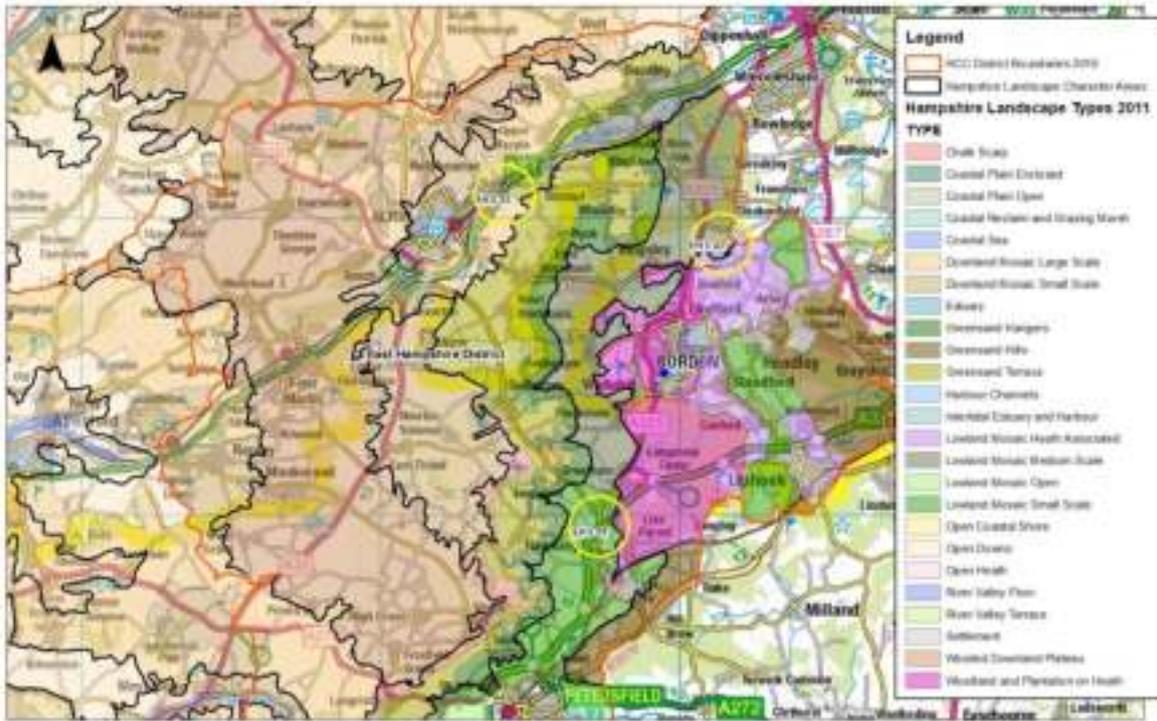
Landscape Character Assessment

- 4.3. The England-wide landscape character mapping undertaken by Natural England (2005) defines East Hampshire District within three broad National Character Area categories:
- Character Area 120 (Wealden Greensand);
 - Character Area 125 (South Downs); and
 - Character Area 130 (Hampshire Downs).
- 4.4. The Hampshire Integrated Character Assessment (2012) further subdivides East Hampshire District – in the north of the district these include the following Landscape Character Areas:
- East Hants Wooded Downland Plateau;
 - Wey Valley;
 - East Hants Hangars and Greensand Terrace;
 - East Hants Lowland Mosaic; and
 - Western Wealden Forest and Farmland Heath.

⁷ East Hampshire District Local Plan: Joint Core Strategy:
<https://cdn.easthants.gov.uk/public/documents/DP01%20East%20Hampshire%20District%20Local%20Plan%20Joint%20Core%20Strategy%20COMPLETE.pdf>

⁸ East Hampshire District Emerging Local Plan: <https://www.easthants.gov.uk/emerging-local-plan>

Figure 11: HICA mapping for the East Hampshire District Council area



East Hampshire District Council - Hampshire Landscape Character Areas and Landscape Types

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EHS01 Goleigh Farm, off the B3006 (Sand and gravel extraction)

Location / Description

Set within the low-lying valley of the River Rother, the Goleigh Farm site comprises two areas north and south of the A3 trunk road. Both contain relatively flat arable land with an approximately level difference of only 5m across the two sites. Contrasted with this, approximately 1km to the west, the Greensand ridge rises to around 160m AOD.

Surrounded by arable and pasture, with Greatham village to the north, historic properties to the north-west and ecologically important woodland/heathland sites to the east, the site is not only bisected by the A3 but bounded by the B3006 to its west which create an aurally disturbed setting.

Mature hedgerows with numerous distinctive and statuesque trees enclose the existing fields and contribute to the area's characteristic landscape of wooded farmland.

Proposals: extraction of sand for 20 years.

Restoration: to wetland for conservation purposes.

Landscape Character

2m East Hampshire Lowland Mosaic

Landscape Type

Lowland mosaic small scale – mixed farmland and woodland

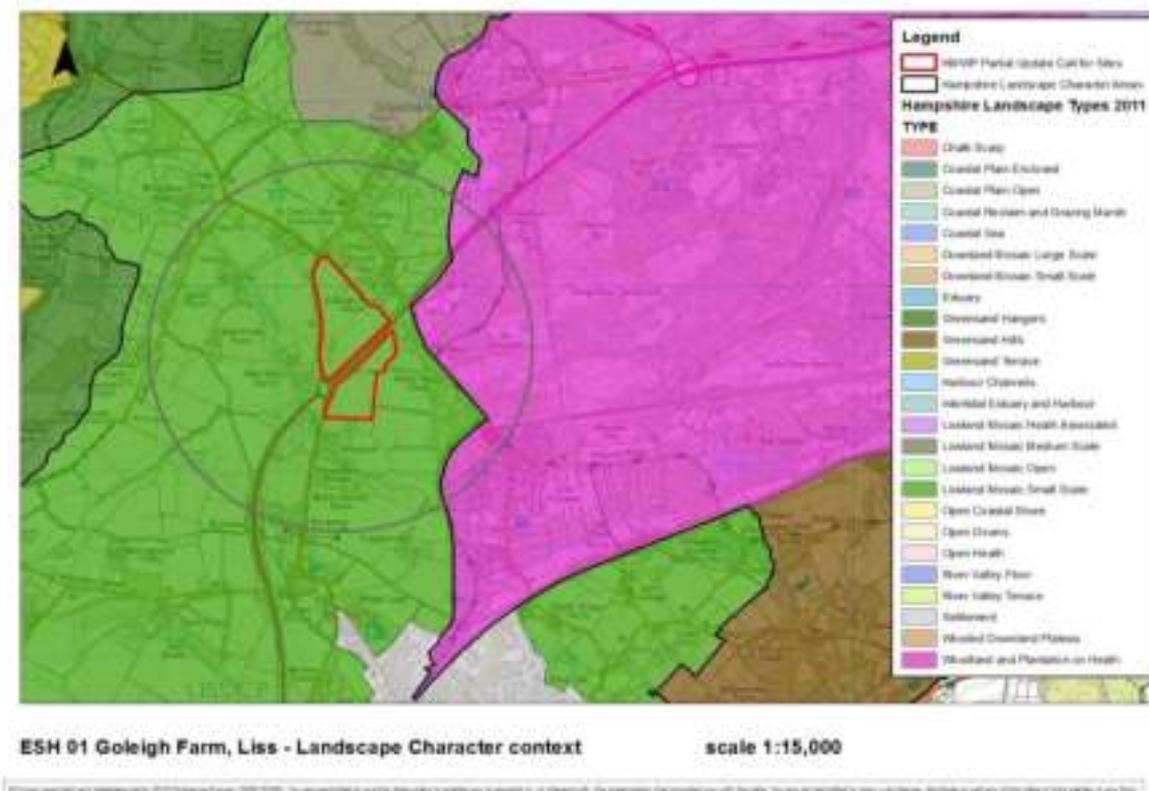
Key Characteristics applicable to this location

- A low-lying clay vale.
- Slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged clay soils, supports mixed farmland, well wooded.
- Drained by numerous small watercourses, many of which are tributary streams of the River Rother.
- An accessible landscape with a good public rights of way network.
- The A3 is a major landscape influence, in terms of noise and visual impact detracting from the tranquil character of the landscape and reducing perceived naturalness of the landscape.
- The visual horizons are short and wooded but intervisibility from higher adjoining character areas can be extensive.
- Thick hedgerows and spreading hedgerow oaks create a lush, wooded character, with a sense of enclosure.

Impact on Key Characteristics

Loss of farmland and potential loss of mature hedgerows and hedgerow trees which contribute to the enclosed, wooded character of the area.

Figure 12: EHS01 Goleigh Farm - Landscape Character Context



Constraints and Designations

The site is wholly within the South Downs National Park and comprises Grade 3 agricultural land. The southern part of the site is within the 400m buffer zone of The Wealden Heaths SPA. The River Rother flood zone is immediately adjacent the west boundary separated only by the B3006.

Historic Landscape Character

The area is characterised by its largely medieval landscape of isolated farmsteads set within irregular fields, some of which retain the original lobate form of medieval assarts, surrounded by woodland. Later blocks of 18-19th century enclosure represent later piecemeal enclosure of marshland and parkland. These historic fieldscapes are interspersed with larger fields from modern amalgamation.

Greatham Conservation area abuts the north boundary of the site while West Liss Conservation Area is approximately 550m to the south. Goleigh Farm Grade II listed farmhouse and Granary together with the Grade II listed St John’s Old Church, abut or are within 200m of the north-east boundary.

Ecological designations - International, National & Local

Wealden Heaths Phase II SPA and Longmoor Inclosure SSSI are situated approximately 250m to the east of the site.

Flashmere and Woolmer Forest SINC are approximately 200m to the east with the Local Nature Reserve associated with Liss Riverside Walk circa 400m south-east.

The nearest Ancient Woodland is approximately 1km to the west at Lower Barn Copse.

Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas

The Long-Distance Path, Shipwrights Way is found approx. 300m to the east within woodland.

	B3006	Adjacent west boundary	Mature hedgerows	MEDIUM
	Forest Road	Bridge with potential view of site	Boundary hedgerows/vegetation	LOW
Settlement/Housing	Scattered housing to north, west and east	Adjacent	intermittent boundary vegetation	HIGH
Definitive PRow long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	Shipwrights Way	300m	Mature hedgerows	LOW
	Footpath 12	150M	Mature hedgerows	LOW

Mitigation Measures and Restoration

Mitigation

- Protect boundary hedgerows with their distinctive statuesque hedgerow trees allowing generous exclusion zones enforced prior to commencement.
- Buffer zones adjacent the residential properties on the north-east boundary should include noise attenuation and planting.

Restoration

- Consider further noise attenuation and planting to reduce the aural and visual impact of the A3 on the surrounding landscape.
- Replant internal field hedgerows that may have to be removed.
- Consider restoration to neutral grassland.

Figure 14: Goleigh Farm - Site Plan



EHS02 Frith End Extension Grooms Farm, Frith End, Bordon GU35 0QR (Sand and gravel extraction)

Location / Description

This proposed extension site lies adjacent the River Slea separating it from the current Frith End Quarry to the north and east. Comprising an area of elevated ground, Ranks Hill rises approximately 15m above the river below. With areas of exposed sand, heathland scrub and scattered trees the Hill forms part of the overall undulating, landscape characterised by tracts of woodland and small to medium sized fields.

Proposal: extraction of building sand (1.7ha) for 2 years.

Restoration: to woodland and grassland (6 months).

Landscape Character

2m East Hampshire Lowland Mosaic

Landscape Type

Lowland mosaic medium scale

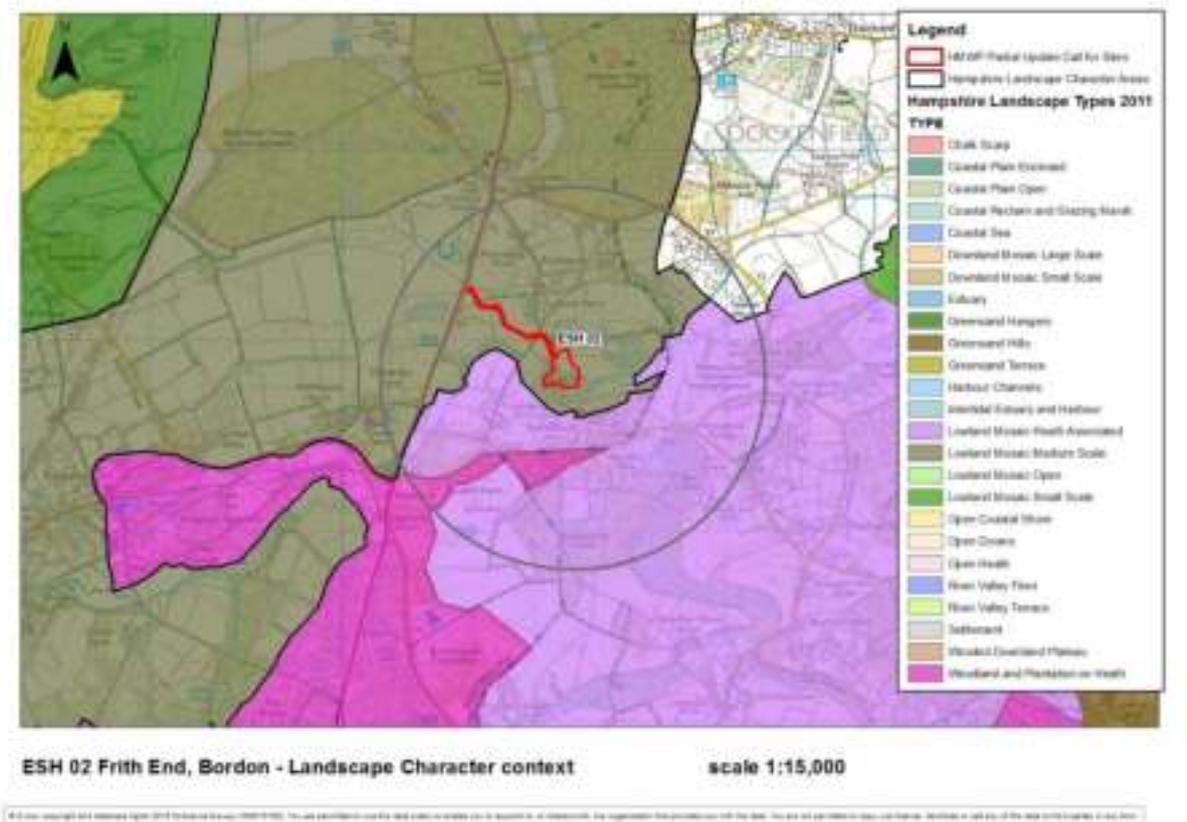
Key Characteristics applicable to this location

- A low-lying clay vale.
- Slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged clay soils, supports mixed farmland, well wooded.
- Drained by numerous small watercourses, many of which are tributary streams of the River Wey.
- Relatively lightly wooded landscape, composed of small blocks of ancient woodland.
- A landscape with many characteristics of medieval to 17th century origin, such as isolated farmsteads set in irregular and wavy boundary fields, assarts and deer parks.
- An accessible landscape with a good public rights of way network, coupled with accessible woodland in the north, but a comparatively low destination/draw for tourists.
- A tranquil character away from built up areas and busy roads.
- The visual horizons are short and wooded.
- A mixture of woodland habitats (including wood pasture) contributes to the area's biodiversity.

Impact on Key Characteristics

Extraction requires the complete removal of the Hill and its associated vegetation. The visual horizon for users of adjacent PRow and nearby scattered properties will be extended.

Figure 15: EHS02 Frith End Extension - Landscape Character Context



Constraints and Designations

The South Downs National Park wraps around this area with its boundary less than 1km to the north while the Surrey Hills AONB is approximately 3km to the east. The site is within the 400m buffer zone for Broxhead & Kingsley Commons SSSI to the south. There is open access land at Alice Holt Forest, around 700m to the north.

Historic Landscape Character:

This area is characterised by the relatively high survival of informal enclosures. These evolved in a piecemeal fashion from the Forest of Alice Holt. The “lowland mosaic medium scale” Character Area has a prevailing pattern of larger scale enclosures and woodland assarts. The Forest was disafforested in the mid-19th century.

The field system is strongly influenced by assarts and former deer parks such as Alice Holt, suggesting a less intensively exploited landscape and one used for hunting. By the time of disafforestation most of the landscape had been enclosed in a piecemeal fashion, often retaining assart field characteristics.

Grooms Farm 300m to the north is Grade II listed; Trottsford Farmhouse and barn also Grade II listed is approx. 300m to the south-west.

Ecological Designations - International, National & Local

The adjacent, existing quarry is a locally designated SINC, Grooms Farm Sand Pit. Bordon Sandpit 450m to the south-west, while the similarly designated River Wey and Mellow Meadow are approximately 600m to the east.

Nationally and internationally important Broxhead and Kingsley Commons is found 350m to the south – designated an SSSI and part of the Wealden Heaths Phase II SPA.

Abbots Wood and Kites Copse ancient woodlands are located approximately 830m and 500m to the north of the site, respectively.

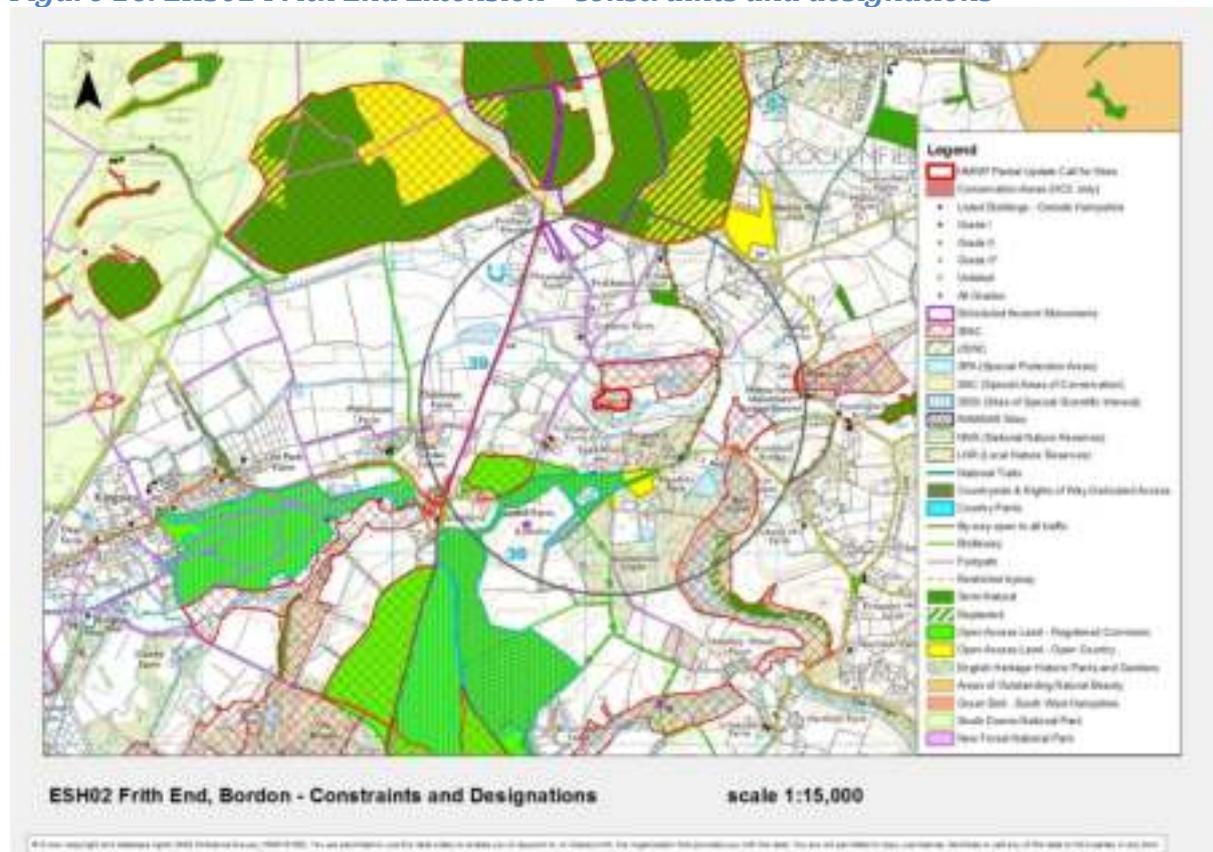
Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas

Public Right of Way Footpath 48 runs north/south approximately 200m to the west of Ranks Hill traversing the Slea Valley and rising to 85m AOD above Trottsford Farm.

Footpath 26 runs west/east cutting through the existing Quarry site itself, immediately to the north of the proposed extension area.

BOAT 36, Cradle Lane is aligned north/south approximately 400m to the east. Contained mainly within hedge-banks and woodland.

Figure 16: EHS02 Frith End Extension - Constraints and designations



Landscape Condition

The proposal site is in a **moderately good** condition. The disturbance already experienced to its north and east faces, reduces its quality.

Landscape Sensitivity

The landscape setting is secluded, well wooded and generally has a high perception of “naturalness”. The proposal site is relatively self-contained within the undulating landform of the Slea Valley. The landscape sensitivity is **moderate** and the likely landscape effect is **moderately adverse**.

Visual Sensitivity

Due to the limited amount of intervisibility from a limited number of receptors, the site has a relatively low visual sensitivity and the proposals are likely to have a **slight adverse** visual effect.

Receptor	Notes	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads	n/a			
Settlement/Housing	Trottsford Farm	<300m		MEDIUM
	Grooms Farm	Approx. 300m	Hedgerows	LOW
Definitive PRow long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	FP 26	Adjacent	Intermittent hedging	HIGH
	FP 48	200m +	Intermittent hedging	MEDIUM
	BOAT 36	400m	Hedgebanks and woodland	LOW
Rail/ Country Parks/Other Parks	N/a			
	N/a			

Mitigation Measures and Restoration

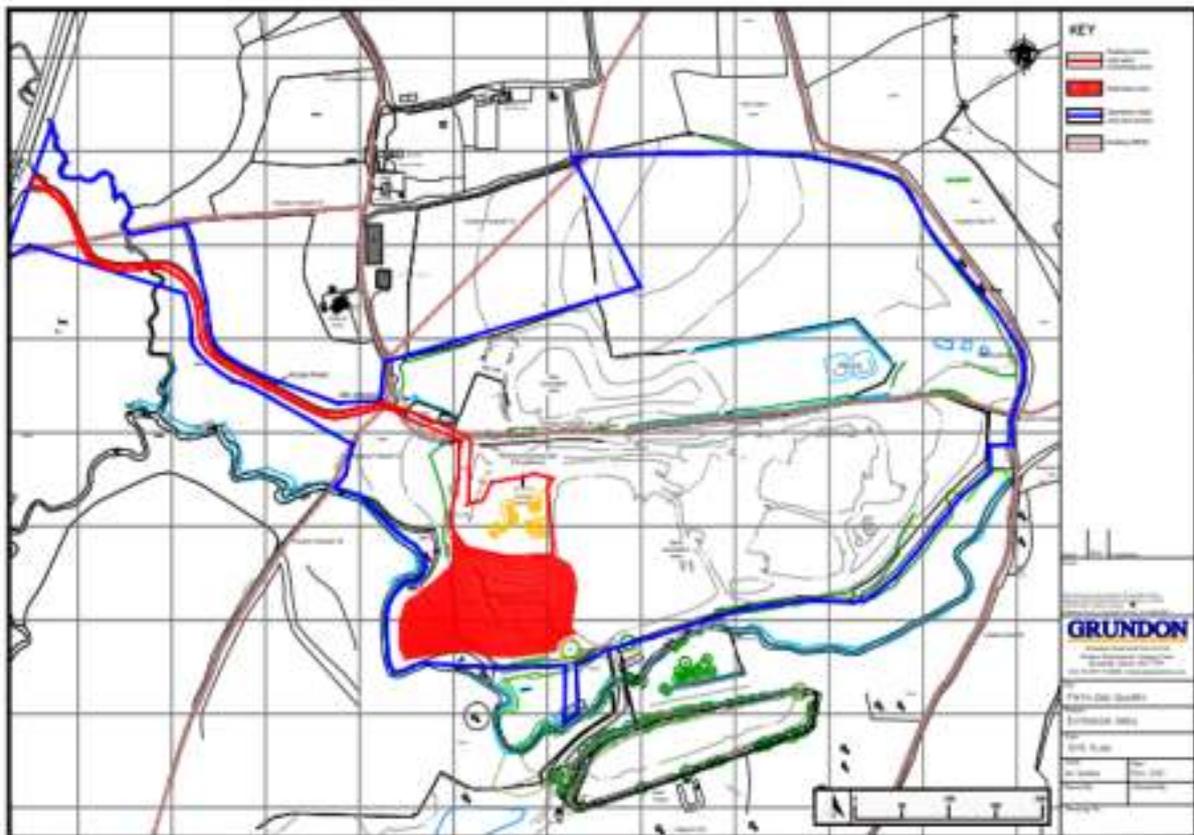
Mitigation

- Existing boundary mature trees and hedgerows must be protected by substantial construction exclusion zones.
- Additional native hedge planting adjacent to Footpath 26 should be delivered at an early date

Restoration

- Inclusion of locally native species woodland and grassland seed mixes compatible with the surrounding habitats, should be included in the restoration plan. The aim of restoration should be to maintain and connect the existing rich biodiversity of woodland, heath and grassland habitats.
- Native planting alongside the River Slea boundary would aid melding of the new landform into the valley landscape.

Figure 17: Frith End Quarry Extension Site Plan



EHS03 Holybourne Rail Terminal, A31 Farnham Road, Alton GU34 4JD (Waste)

Location / Description

The site is on flat land located immediately to the south of the A31 to the west of Alton. The main line railway and sidings forms the southern boundary to the site. The site is currently used as an oil transfer site taking oil which is either transferred to the site by pipeline or tanker and sent onwards by rail. The northern boundary of the site is screened from the road by a relatively thick belt of semi-mature trees and shrubs. Much of the unused part of the site is currently covered with woodland, scrub and young trees which help to screen the site from the A31.

Landscape Character

3f Wey Valley

Landscape Type

Green sand terrace

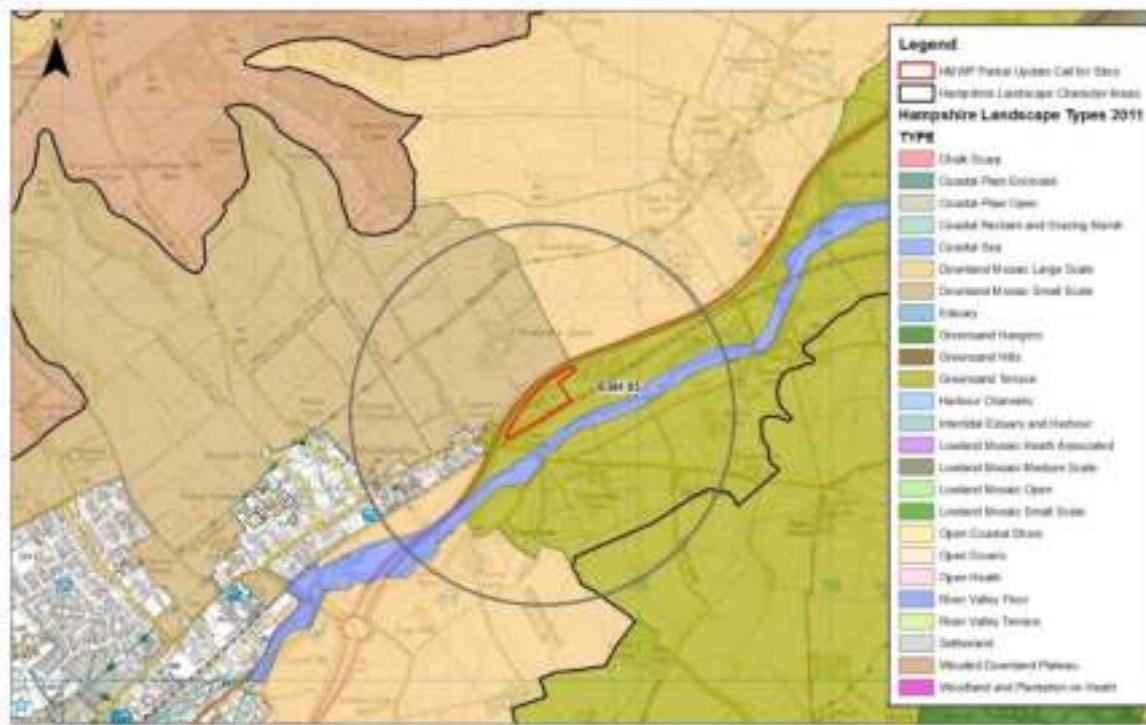
Key Characteristics applicable to this location

- Broad valley with smooth undulating valley sides through which the River Wey flows.
- Distinct flat valley floor with permanent pasture, wet woodland, water meadows and open water.
- Valley is and has historically been an important routeway and transport corridor containing the A31 and main rail line.
- St Swithun's Way long distance route, part of the Pilgrim's way which connected Winchester with the North Downs.
- Many historic features associated with the River Wey e.g. mills, weirs, watercress beds.
- Nucleated settlement pattern of a string of villages on the gravel terrace on the north side of the valley floor less development on the slightly steeper southern valley side.

Impact on Key Characteristics

- Potential loss of vegetation opening up views of the site from A31
- Increased size of railway sidings
- Increased industrialisation of an essentially rural setting.

Figure 18: EHS03 Holybourne Rail Terminal - Landscape Character Context



ESH 03 Holybourne Rail Terminal, Alton - Landscape Character Context

scale 1:15,000

Constraints and Designations

The South Downs National Park boundary is 1.55km to the south.

Historic Landscape Character:

This site is in the valley floor with the River Wey to the south of the railway line, historically water meadows were created throughout this area by manipulating the water course. In the Wey valley there is a meeting of Roman roads with Cuckoo’s Corner Roman site located just over 300m to the west. There is an absence of Historic Parks and Gardens because agricultural land uses have predominated.

Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas:

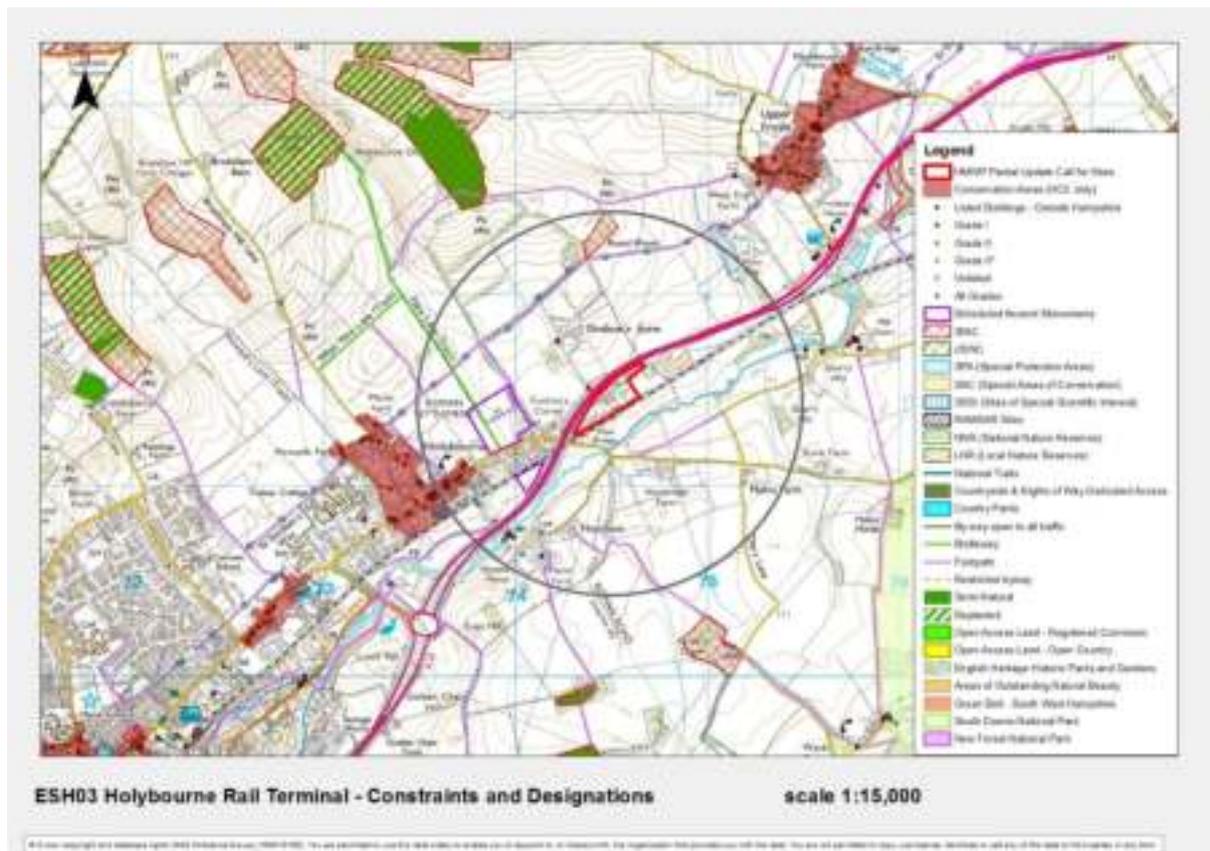
Writer’s Way (Wet weather route) runs to the south west of the site crossing the A31 and the railway. Binstead footpath 020/57/1, south of the site, following the valley floor to the south of the River Wey and the railway line. To the north west of the site the long distance St Swithun’s Way, Alton footpath 002/3/2 follows a route along the base of the downs.

Ecological designations - International, National & Local

The wooded part of the site is registered on the DEFRA MAGIC mapping website⁹ as a priority habitat, described as deciduous woodland.

⁹ MAGIC Mapping resource - <https://magic.defra.gov.uk/>

Figure 19: EHS03 Holybourne Rail Terminal - Constraints and designations



Landscape Condition

The site is currently partially used for industrial purposes with large oil container tanks which are not attractive and this part of the site is in **poor / moderate** condition. The wooded part of the site is in **good** condition and it provides an important visual buffer to the less attractive elements on the site.

Landscape Sensitivity

Increased development on this site could have a negative impact on the surrounding rural landscape. Tree loss should be limited to retain the sites visual containment. The sensitivity of this site is **moderate**, and additional development would require careful mitigation.

Visual Sensitivity

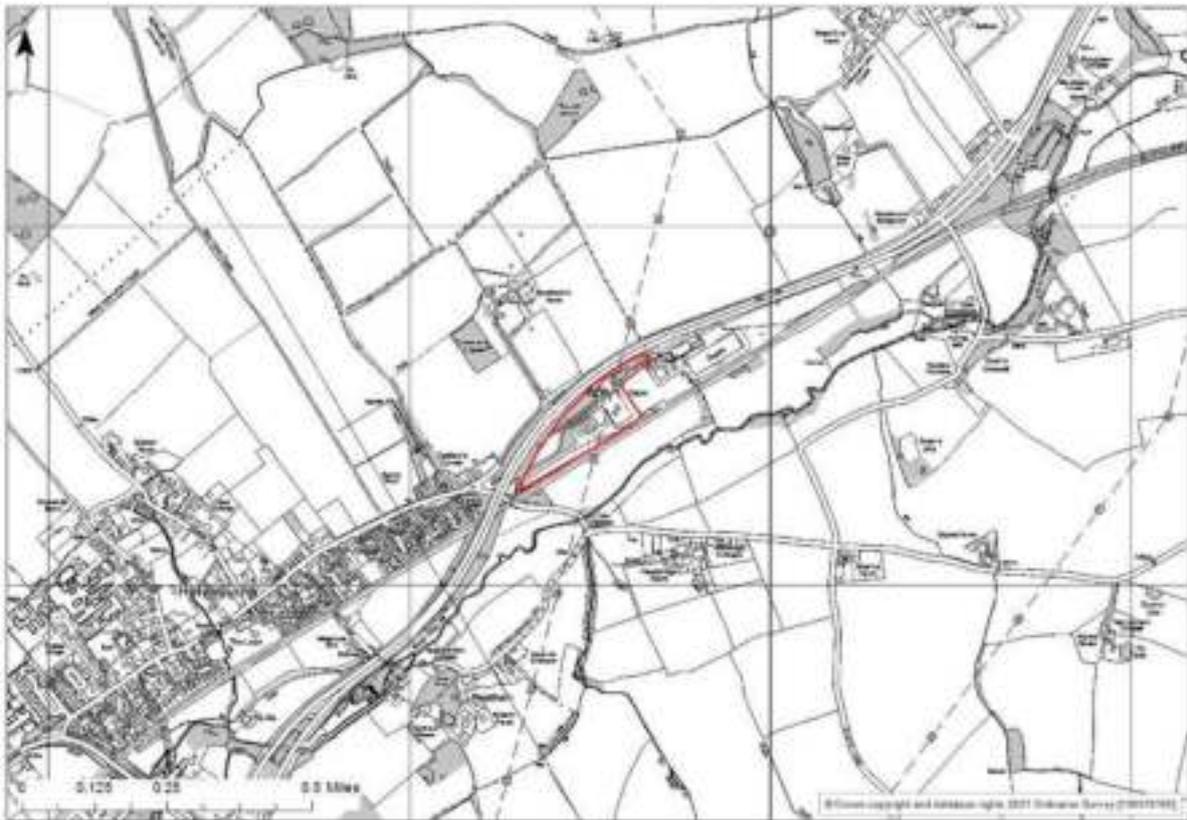
Receptor	Notes	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads	A31	Adjacent	Good tree screen along the road and within the site	MEDIUM
Settlement/Housing	Hawbridge Farm	Approx. 380m south east	Very limited, the house is elevated above the valley	MEDIUM due to distance
	Hawbridge Farm Cottages	Approx. 380m south east	Very limited, the house is elevated above the valley	MEDIUM due to distance
	Bonhams Farm	Approx. 300m to the north	Vegetation and topography	LOW / NEGLIGIBLE

Definitive PRow long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	Binstead footpath 020/57/1	260m south	Vegetation screens some views in the summer	HIGH
	St Swithun's Way, Alton footpath 002/3/2	600m to the north	Topography and vegetation screens views	LOW / NEGLIGIBLE
Rail/ Country Parks/Other Parks	Alton Line railway	Part of site	Open views in immediate proximity	LOW / MODERATE

Mitigation Measures and Restoration

- Retain existing vegetation around and within the site.
- Keep a 20m buffer of planting within the site along the boundary with the A31.
- Provide additional screening around the southern boundary of the site, planting native species.
- Restrict the height of any new buildings / structures to 10m or below.

Figure 20: EHS03 Holybourne Rail Terminal - Site Plan



5. Fareham Borough Local Planning Authority Area

Local Planning Policy

5.1. The Revised Fareham Borough Local Plan 2037¹⁰ is still subject to approval by the Planning Inspectorate. The draft policies that relate to landscape and countryside are set out in Appendix 6 and include:

- Strategic Policy DS1: Development in the Countryside
- Strategic Policy DS3: Landscape
- Strategic Policy NE1: Protection of Nature Conservation
- Policy NE6: Trees, Woodland and Hedgerows
- Policy NE9: Green Infrastructure

Landscape Character Assessment

5.2. The England-wide landscape character mapping undertaken by Natural England (2005) defines Fareham District within three broad National Character Area categories:

- Character Area 126 (South Coast Plain); and
- Character Area 128 (South Coast Lowlands).

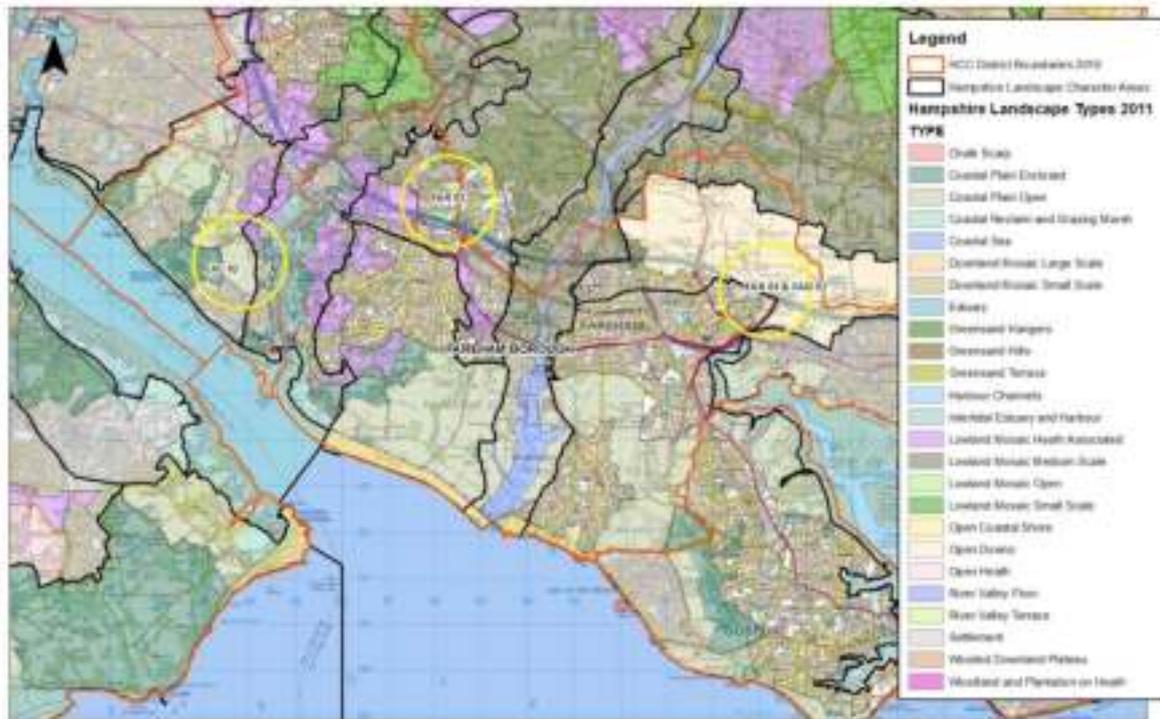
5.3. The Hampshire Integrated Character Assessment (2012) further subdivides Fareham District into seven Landscape Character Areas:

- Fareham Coastal Plain;
- Chilling, Brownwich & Locks Heath Coastal Plain;
- Meon Valley;
- Hamble Valley;
- Portsdown Hill Open Downs;
- Forest of Bere West and; and
- Forest of Bere East.

¹⁰ Revised Fareham Local Plan 2037:

http://planningpdf.fareham.gov.uk/PDF/planning/local_plan/RevisedPublicationLocalPlan.pdf

Figure 21: HICA mapping for Fareham Borough Council area



Fareham Borough Council - Hampshire Landscape Character Areas and Landscape Types

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Landscape Condition

The site is currently open arable downland, which lacks tree or scrub cover other than a hedgerow along the road boundary. The condition is **good**; however it is slightly downgraded by the adjacent commercial land uses.

Landscape Sensitivity

The proposal would have a permanent urbanising **large adverse** effect on landscape and introduce development onto the Skyline. The open nature of this landscape is being compromised by so much development in the immediate environs.

Visual Sensitivity

The visual effects would result in development reaching over the ridgeline opening it up to more distant views to the north west and it would urbanise an essentially rural landscape and have a **large adverse effect**.

Receptor	Notes	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads	Boarhunt Road	Adjacent	Open & Hedgerow	HIGH/ MEDIUM
	Spurling Road	140m	Hedgerow, an Industrial Park, & local topography. Winter views possible	MEDIUM
	M27	Nearby	Motorway vegetation and the Industrial Park	LOW
	Spur road between Junction 11 & Boarhunt Rd	Opposite site	None	HIGH
Settlement/Housing	Spurlings Farm	700m to the north west	Topography, farm buildings and vegetation	NIL
	North Fareham Farm	750m north west	Open views across the valley	MODERATE
Definitive PRow long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	084/106/2 Bridleway	175m west	Screened by topography	LOW
	084/130/1 footpath	260m north west	Hedgerow but views accessible	MODERATE / HIGH
	084/107/1 footpath	800m north	Topography	LOW
	084/505/1 footpath	600m south east	Motorway junction, topography and vegetation	NIL
Rail/ Country Parks/Other Parks	Roche Court	Over 1km to north west	Topography and vegetation	NIL

Mitigation Measures and Restoration

- No development should break the ridgeline in this rural location, to achieve this objective very little of the site could be developed.

- If developed a significant tree belt should be planted all around the north western and eastern boundaries of the site.

Figure 24: FAR01 Downs Barn Farm Site Plan



FAR02 Land off Boarhunt Road, Fareham, PO17 6AJ (Waste)

Location / Description

The site is an extension to an existing site on open downland to the north of the M27 close to Junction 11. Down Barn Farm is currently being used for recycling waste materials.

Landscape Character

8i Portsdown Hill Open Downs

Landscape Type

Open Downs

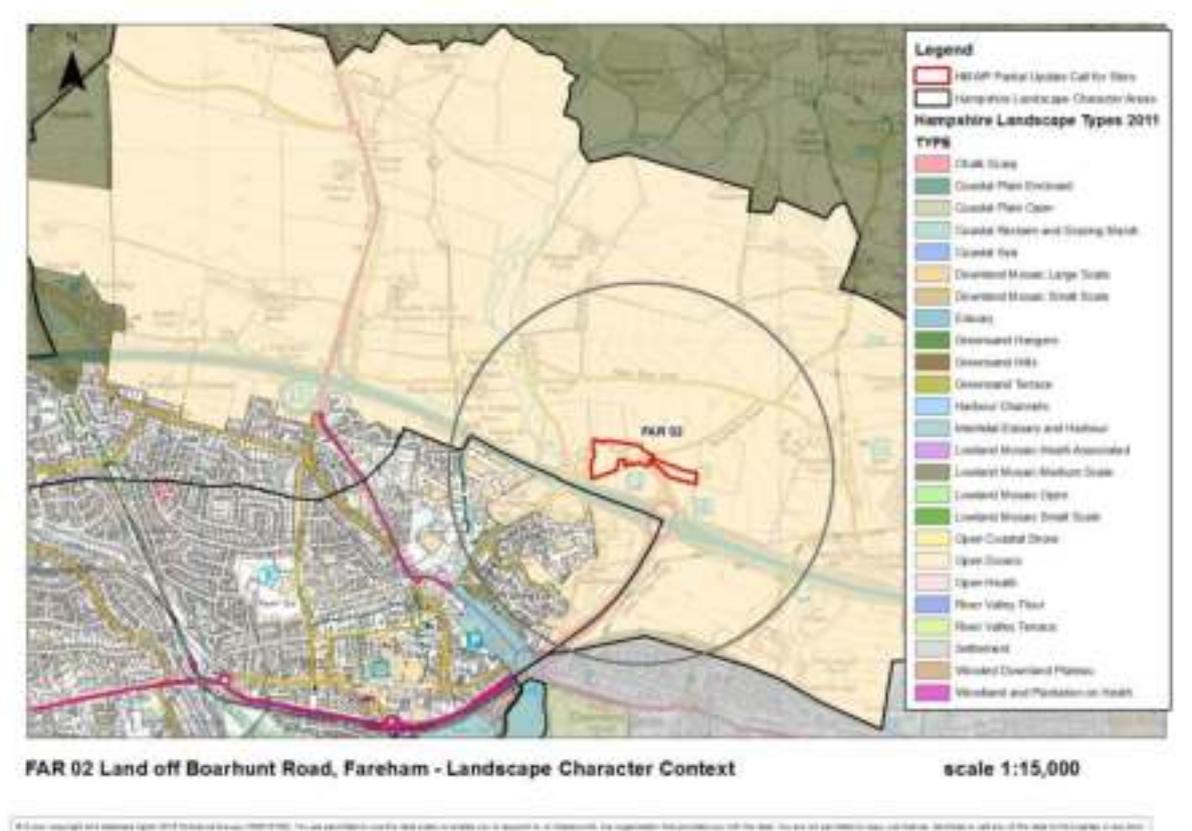
Key Characteristics applicable to this location

- An outlying chalk escarpment set in a predominantly low-lying clay and coastal landscape giving the landscape added prominence.
- Large predominantly arable fields with straight boundaries set between drove lanes, with more irregular fields around the Wallington stream and some fringe areas.
- Generally low hedges or no hedges, and occasional banks to field boundaries associated with drove routes.

Impact on Key Characteristics

- Loss of open arable field in an essentially rural landscape

Figure 25: FAR02 Land off Boarhunt Road, - Landscape Character Context



Constraints and Designations

There are no landscape designations on this landscape

Historic Landscape Character

Roche Court, approximately 1km to the north west, now known as Boundary Oak School is the only significant park in the area and is registered on the Hampshire Inventory of Historic Parks, Gardens & Public Green Spaces.

Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas

084/106/2 Bridleway (500m) to the west of the site. It follows the Wallington River from North Wallington south of the motorway, under the M27 joining Spurling Lane and then connects into footpath 084/130/1 (925m approx.) giving access from the urban areas onto the open downland. This path connects into footpath 084/187/1. (750m approx.) north of the site.

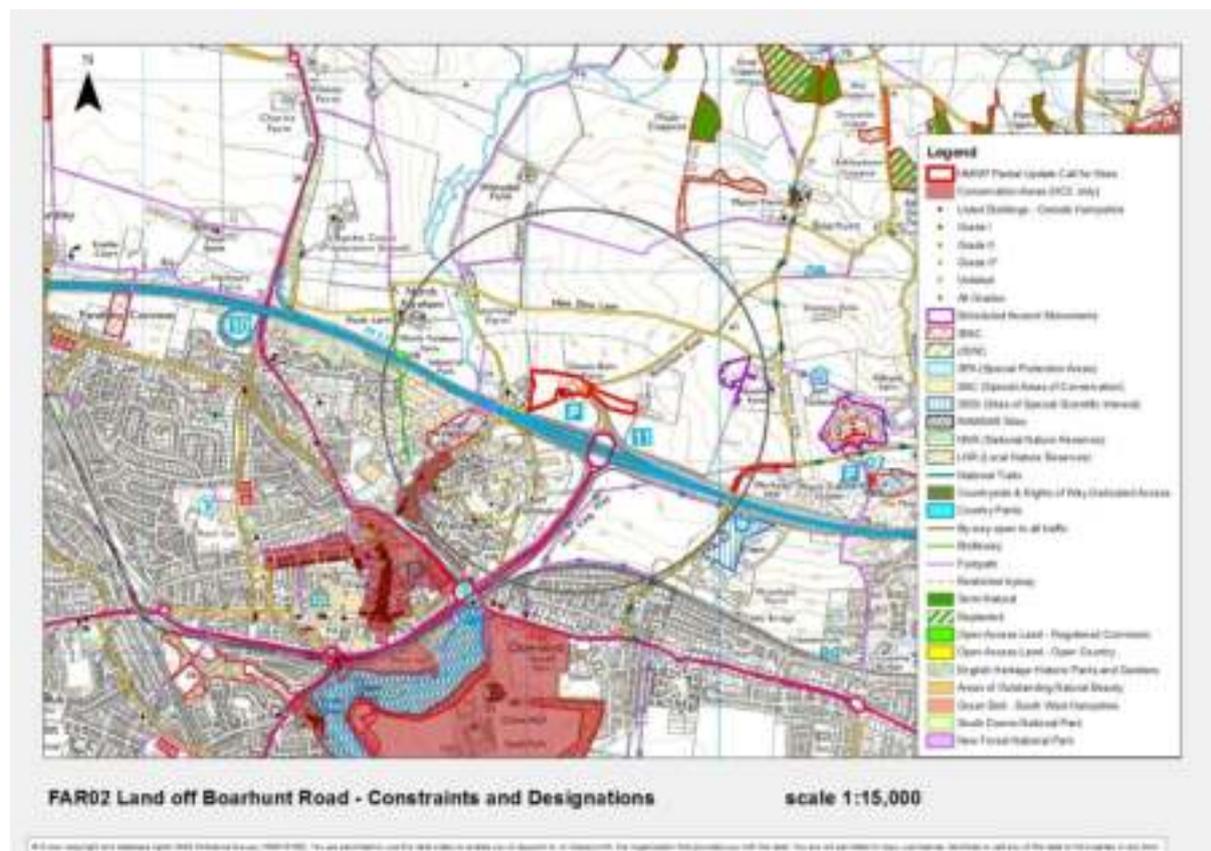
Footpath 084/505/1 is found to the south east of the junction 11 M27 just over 425m away.

Ecological designations - International, National & Local

The closest SSSI, Downend Chalk Pit SSSI, is found just over 1km away to the south east, on the south side of the M27.

Wallington Meadow SINC is approximately 260m to the south west on the south side of the M27.

Figure 26: FAR02 Land off Boarhunt Road, - Constraints and designations



Landscape Condition

The landscape has already been developed as a waste recycling facility therefore the condition of the land has been compromised and is now **poor**, but the wider agricultural land is intact and **good** condition

Landscape Sensitivity

This open downland is a **highly** sensitive landscape. The open nature of the landscape is being compromised by the development of so many industrial uses in this area. Permanent development would have a **moderate adverse** effect.

Visual Sensitivity

Whilst the site is located near the top of the open downs the immediate topography helps to screen the site from the surrounding area.

Receptor	Notes	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads	Boarhunt Road	Adjacent	Open & Hedgerow	HIGH/ MEDIUM
	Spurling Road	500m	Hedgerow, an Industrial Park, & local topography	NIL
	M27	Nearby	Motorway vegetation and the Industrial Park	LOW
	Spur road between Junction 11 & Boarhunt Rd	Adjacent	None	HIGH
Settlement/Housing	Spurlings Farm	925m to the north west	Topography, farm buildings and vegetation	NIL
	North Fareham Farm	500north west	Topography and vegetation	LOW
Definitive PRow long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	084/106/2 Bridleway	175m west	Topography	LOW
	084/130/1 footpath	925m north west	Topography	LOW
	084/107/1 footpath	750m north	Topography	LOW
	084/505/1 footpath	425m south east	Motorway junction, topography and vegetation	NIL
Rail/ Country Parks/Other Parks	Roche Court	Over 1km to north west	Topography and vegetation	NIL

Mitigation Measures and Restoration

This site is quite well screened by the local topography, but if it became a permanent site, it would need additional screening. New hedgerow planting should be carried out along the access track and new woodland planting along the northern and eastern boundaries.

Figure 27: FAR02 Land off Boarhunt Road - Site Plan



FAR03 Rookery Farm, Botley Road, Swanwick, SO31 1BW (Waste)

Location / Description

The site is located just to the north of the M27. Semi-mature and mature trees and scrub surround much of the site. The topography is all recently man made as the site has been filled and has been used for recycling soils. The site was closed in 2020 and has partially been reclaimed by nature, with areas of grassland, and emerging scrub on the rough slopes that remain within the site.

Landscape Character

2e Forest of Bere West

Landscape Type

Settled Lowland Mosaic Ancient Forest

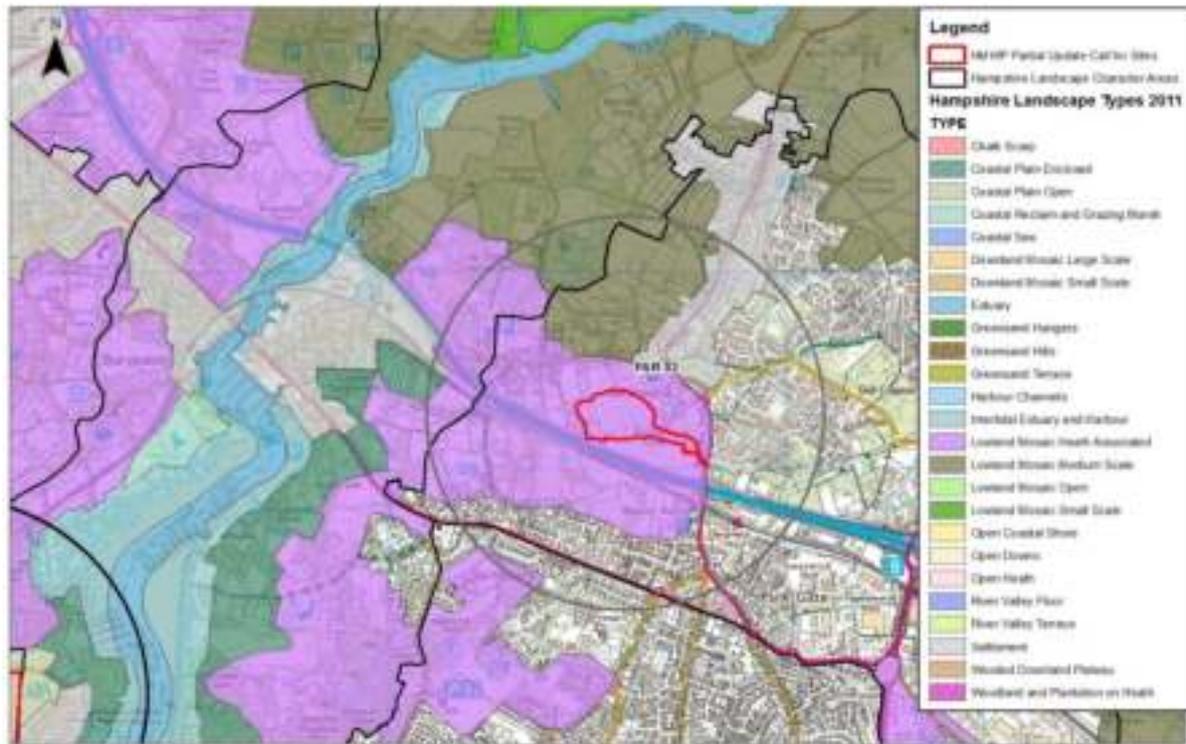
Key Characteristics applicable to this location

- A low-lying landscape with shallow undulations, predominantly south sloping
- Varied geology with permanently saturated heavy clays in the central and southern parts and locally higher sandy outcrops which are more undulating resulting in agriculturally poor soils – conversely rich alluvial especially around tributaries of the Hamble are very high grade.
- Locally popular accessible woodland areas.
- Permanent pasture, plantations woodland and small holdings with secluded, heavily wooded, often ancient origin but replanted, away from the major towns
- This area is strongly associated with the Royal Forest of Bere, a hunting reserve that retains wooded and to a lesser extent, open commons, assart field and woodland patterns.
- Hedgerows often low but with individual spreading mature oaks, sometimes of ancient origin or lines of oak with no ‘understory’ hedge and occasionally isolated field specimens.

Impact on Key Characteristics

- Loss vegetation within the existing site and regrading of site levels.

Figure 28: FAR03 Rookery Farm - Landscape Character Context



FAR 03 Rookery Farm, Swanwick - Landscape Character Context scale 1:15,000

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Constraints and Designations

The are no landscape designations on this site or its immediate environs.

Historic Landscape Character:

There are no sites registered on the Hampshire Inventory of Historic Parks, Gardens & Public Green Spaces in this area. The character area represents the approximate extent of the Forest of Bere – Portchester, West of the Meon which was given Royal Hunting status by the Norman administration at the end of the 11th century.

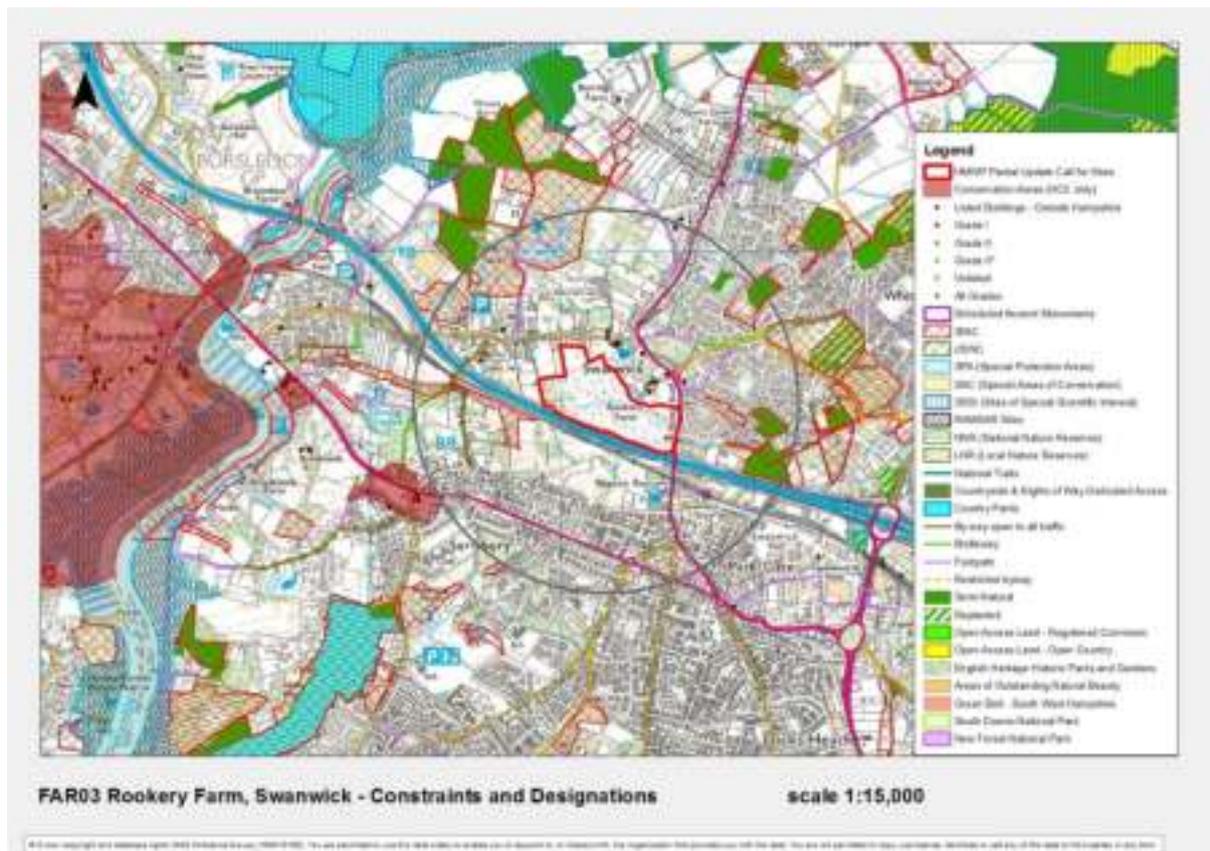
Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas

There is one Byway approximately 465m to the west of the site 084/125/1. This route now has restricted vehicular access.

Ecological designations - International, National & Local

There are several protected sites within the vicinity, but they do not appear to have direct connections to the site. They are found within housing areas, or across roads, including the motorway. Swanwick Lakes SINC is located 675m to the north west of the site. Lower Swanwick woodlands SINC 230m south west of the site, to the south of the M27. Whitely Row SINC is approximately 240m to the east with an area of Ancient Semi Natural Woodland just beyond. To the north of the site there is a traditional Orchard, much of Rookery Farm site was an orchard prior to it becoming a waste site.

Figure 29: FAR03 Rookery Farm - Constraints and designations



Landscape Condition

As a former recycling centre the site is largely despoiled and cover in hard surfacing, with scrub emerging on the rough topography and piles of soil, these areas are in **poor** condition. There are also parts of the site that have been restored to grassland and these areas are in moderate / good condition as they appear to be occasionally mown to stop scrub encroaching. The area of the proposed expansion is currently hard surfacing, with mounds of retained soil often covered in scrub and grassland.

Landscape Sensitivity

Most of the landscape elements have been removed from this site and it is a man-made landscape. The original undulating landform has been flattened as a result of infilling the land and hard surfaces spread across the area. Therefore, the sensitivity is **low** and development would have a **low to negligible adverse effect**.

Visual Sensitivity

Receptor	Notes	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads	A3051 Botley Road	Adjacent	Scrub vegetation, except adjacent to the access gates	LOW
	Swanwick Lane	200m north	Properties and vegetation	LOW
Settlement/Housing	Houses along Swanwick Lane	200m north	Screen bund with self-sown scrub, areas of woodland	MEDIUM / LOW

			garden boundaries fences	
	House along Botley Road	Nearby	Scrub vegetation around the site	MEDIUM
Definitive PRow long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	Byway 084/125/1	465m west	Woodland and buildings	LOW
Rail/ Country Parks/Other Parks	N/A			

Mitigation Measures and Restoration

- Replant an orchard on part of site.
- Retain existing areas of restored open areas of grassland adjacent to the M27.
- Retain mature vegetation around and within the site area.
- Complete land filling adjacent to the M27.

Figure 30: FAR03 Rookery Farm - Site Plan



6. Hart District Council Local Planning Authority Area

Local Planning Policy

6.1. The Hart District Council Local Plan¹¹ to 2032 was adopted April 2020. Policies that relate to landscape and countryside are set out in Appendix 7 and include:

- Policy NBE 1 Development in the Countryside
- Policy NBE 2 Landscape
- Policy NBE 4 Biodiversity
- Policy INF2 Green Infrastructure

Landscape Character Assessment

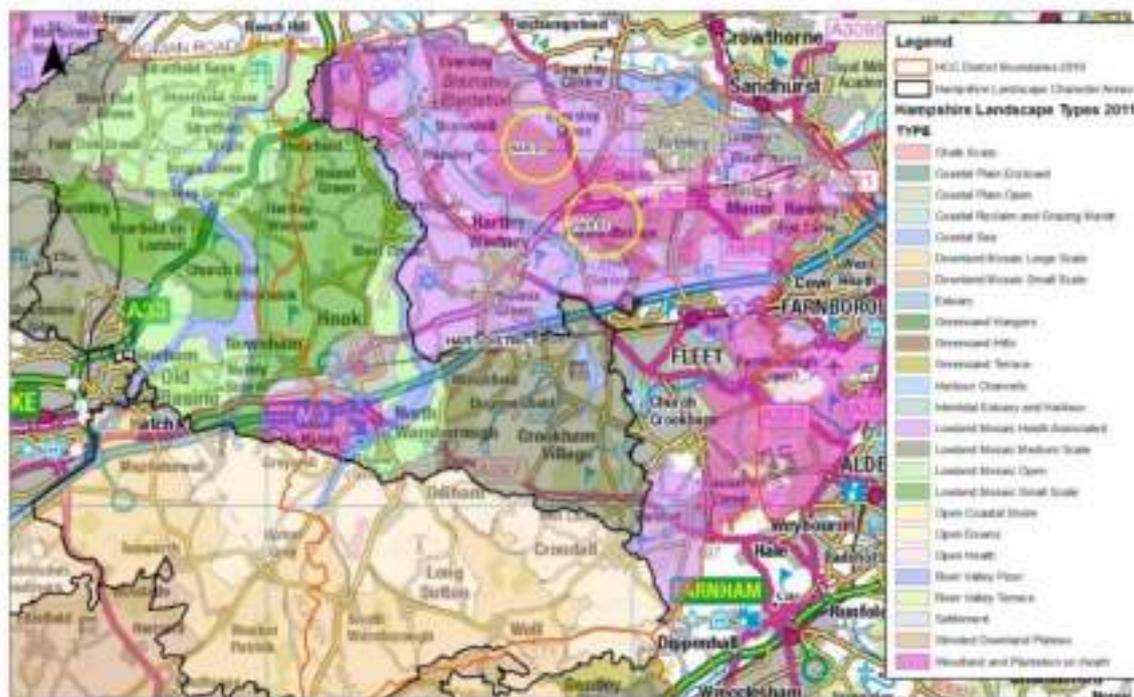
6.2. The England-wide landscape character mapping undertaken by Natural England (2005) defines Hart District within the broad National Character Area category:

- Character Area 129 (Thames Basin Heath).

6.3. The Hampshire Integrated Character Assessment (2012) further subdivides Hart District into three Landscape Character Areas:

- North-East Hampshire Plantations and Heaths;
- Loddon Valley and Forest of Eversley West; and
- North-East Hampshire Open Downs.

Figure 31: HICA mapping for Hart District Council area



Hart District Council - Hampshire Landscape Character Areas and Landscape Types

¹¹Hart Local Plan (Strategy and Sites) 2032 -

[https://www.hart.gov.uk/sites/default/files/4 The Council/Policies and published documents/Planning policy/Hart%20LPS%26S.pdf](https://www.hart.gov.uk/sites/default/files/4%20The%20Council/Policies%20and%20published%20documents/Planning%20policy/Hart%20LPS%26S.pdf)

HAR01 Warren Heath (East & West), Eversley, Hampshire. (Sand and gravel extraction)

Location / Description

Situated within the north-east Hampshire plantation/heathlands landscape, these two sites are set approximately 400m apart. The western site (Gunman's) comprises, and is surrounded by, conifer plantation and regenerating woodland/heathland; the eastern site (Leisure Matters) contains both conifer plantation and mixed woodland.

Gunman's (West) is bounded by and highly visible from public rights of way. Long distance views are limited due to surrounding tree cover. Leisure Matters (East) is bounded by and visible from, the A327 with land which falls away from the road into the woodland.

To the north of both sites, the topography falls towards the valley of the River Blackwater, into more open farmland with a small historic settlement around Eversley church.

Proposal: extract sand and gravel (12-15yrs west; 4-5yrs east); import inert waste and soil materials to backfill

Restoration: native deciduous woodland perimeter with heathland central area and some wet heath (west); native deciduous woodland (east).

Landscape Character Area

1c North-East Hampshire Plantations and Heaths

Landscape Type

Settled lowland mosaic heathland plantation.

Key Characteristics applicable to this location

- The plantation heathlands.
- Internationally important habitats.
- Public access network.
- Parkland landscapes.
- Dispersed settlement and smallholdings.
- Enclosed, intimate character with limited outward views.

This character area forms a distinctive swathe of forest and heath where suburbanising influences, such as the busy A327, contrast with the comparative quiet and seclusion of the less accessible parts of the forest. The area contains some internationally important habitats, ancient woods and, in the valley, "medium scaled" fields.

Set on the northern slope of a plateau between the River Blackwater to the north and the River Hart to the south the sites are 'contained' within their woodland setting with limited outward views and an 'intimate character'. Away from the main A-road, the extensive common/heathland and conifer plantations have a sense of remoteness albeit intermittently disrupted by current users of Gunman's and Leisure Matters. This landscape is valued for recreational use.

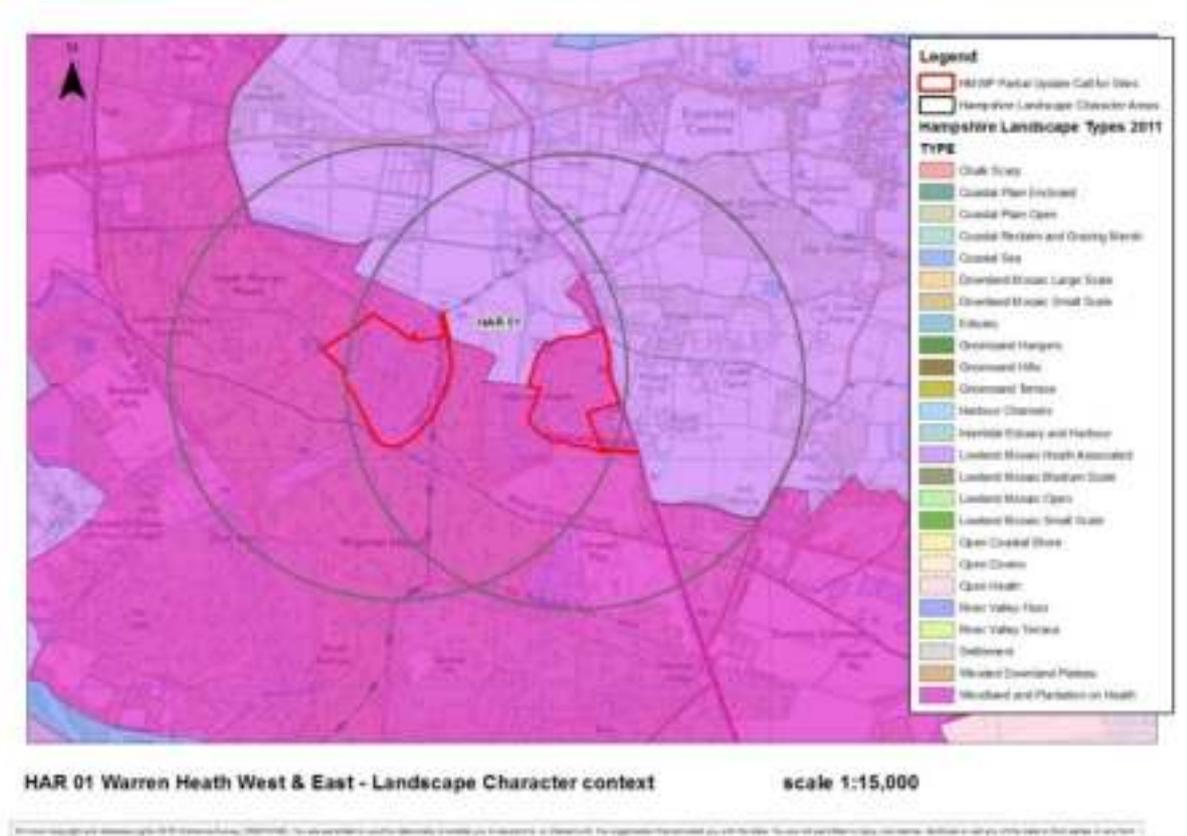
Impact on Key Characteristics

Proposed sand and gravel extraction will:

- remove areas of plantation, regenerating heathland and woodland;

- disturb the adjacent internationally important Thames Basin SPA, the locally designated Coombes Wood SINC & Ancient Woodland, and remove the entirety of the Warren Heath SINC;
- introduce visual and aural intrusion for users of the adjacent public rights of way;
- remove part of an historic 'ride', designated under the Grade 1 Bramshill Park listing;
- potentially affect the setting of the Eversley Church Farm Conservation area and adjacent listed buildings; and
- further suburbanise the character of the A327, alongside the Eastern site.

Figure 32: HAR 01 Warren Heath - Landscape Character Context



Constraints and Designations

The Thames Basin Heath SPA surrounds most of the western site, while the eastern site is within the 400m buffer zone. Both are set within the historic Forest of Eversley, a landscape highly valued for recreation.

Historic Landscape Character:

The open heath and common of the elevated areas of the Forest of Eversley survived as one of the largest areas of lowland heath in England until well into the 18th century. But over the last 150 years has been greatly reduced due to a reduction in grazing and the introduction of commercial forestry, residential, commercial and military development.

The area was valued for its scenic qualities and park estates were established on the fringes of the open heathland. Bramshill Park is one of the most significant parks in the County. One of its features is the use of extensive avenue planting radiating out from the House.

Eastern (Leisure Matters) site: *Eversley Church Farm Conservation Area*, comprising an area of woodland known as The Mount, farmland, the Grade 1 listed St Mary's Church and a cluster of 5 other listed buildings, is contiguous with the northern boundary of the Eastern site. The woodland of the Eastern site forms the backdrop for key views from the Conservation area. The Grade II listed *Brick House* is less than 250m to the north-east of the site.

Western (Gunman's) site: Grade 1 listed Bramshill Park and associated deer park are located to the south-west of the site. The official Heritage England site listing (no. 1000165) includes the historic 19th century 'rides' through the conifer plantations. The proposed Western extraction site appears to remove one of these rides.

Ecological Designations - International, National & Local

The Thames Basin SPA (synonymous with the Bramshill SSSI) is immediately adjacent the west, south and east boundaries of the proposed Western (Gunman's) site and borders the south boundary of the Eastern (Leisure Matters) site.

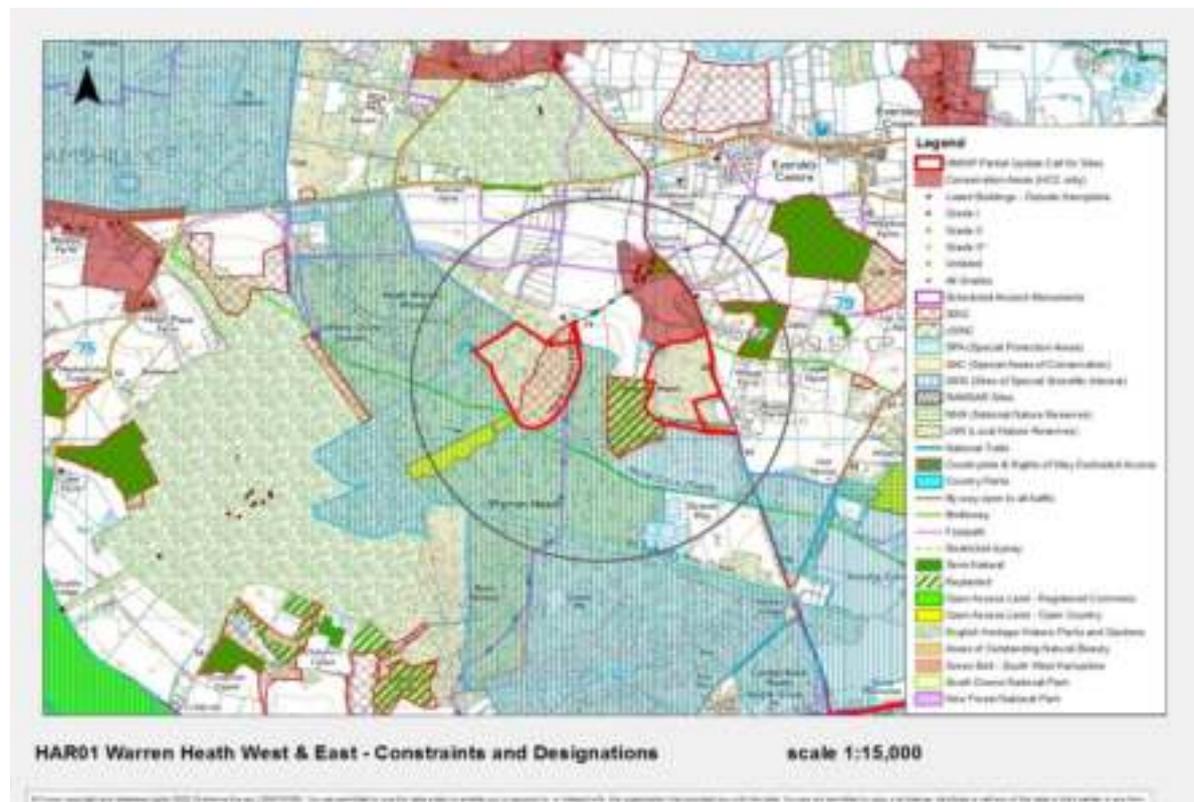
Coombes Wood SINC borders (the south-western boundary of the Eastern (Leisure Matters) site while Warren Heath SINC is almost wholly contained within the Western (Gunman's) site. Coombes Wood SINC is also a designated semi-natural Ancient Woodland.

Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas

The heathland/common landscapes of this Landscape Character Area are popular for recreation. There is permissive access over much of the military owned land.

The Three Castles Path, long distance route runs alongside the east boundary of the Western (Gunman's) site while Welsh Drive (bridleway 11 Eversley) runs east-west, immediately to the south of the Western site.

Figure 33: HAR01 Warren Heath - Constraints and designations



Landscape Condition

The Sites comprise a mix of conifer plantation, deciduous woodland and regenerating heathland. Used by commercial leisure enterprises, parts of both the West and East Sites have experienced a degree of wear and tear with facilities installed to support this use. This notwithstanding, the overall landscape condition of both Sites is **Good**.

Landscape Sensitivity

Western Site: Although self-contained within the plantation landscape, the proposal would see the removal of a SINC and part of a designated Grade 1 listed park. It would also affect the setting, the tranquillity and sense of remoteness, of two well used PRow and three residential properties 100m to the north. Landscape sensitivity is **medium-high**. The proposals are likely to have a **large adverse** landscape effect.

Eastern site: Also contained by surrounding woodland, this site is exposed to the A327 on the eastern boundary, and the open farmland to the north where it is bounded by and provides the setting for a Conservation Area. Landscape sensitivity is **medium-high**. The proposals are likely to have a **large adverse** landscape effect.

Visual Sensitivity

Western Site: Long distance views to/ from the area are constrained by surrounding woodland/plantations. But the northern boundary is sensitive due to the 3 properties that are in close proximity. Almost half the site's boundary is highly visually sensitive due to the well-used PRow's that run immediately alongside. Visual sensitivity is **high**. The proposals are likely to have a **high adverse effect**.

Eastern Site: The northern boundary is highly sensitive due to the open character of the high-quality Church Farm Conservation Area adjacent. The eastern boundary is sensitive due to being immediately adjacent the public highway and the presence of a number of nearby properties. Visual sensitivity is **high**. The proposals are likely to have a **high adverse effect**.

Receptor	Notes	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads	A327	Alongside the east boundary of the Eastern Site	Conifer plantation	HIGH
Settlement/ Housing	Arletts Cottage & Bungalow	Less than 100m to the north of the Western site	Deciduous woodland	HIGH
	Church Farm Conservation Area	Contiguous with the north boundary of Eastern site	Open farmland	HIGH
	Brick House Farm (Grade II listed), Busta Farm, Wood Farm, Hill Cottage	Alongside the A327 adjacent the east boundary of the Eastern site	Hedgerows / roadside vegetation	MEDIUM/HIGH
Definitive PRow long distance routes/cycle routes and	Three Castles Path	Alongside the east boundary of the Western site	Regenerating vegetation	HIGH
	Welsh Drive	Alongside the south boundary	Conifer plantation	HIGH

permissive paths		of the Western site		
	BW 14 Eversley	Approaches the east boundary of the Eastern Site	Mixed woodland	MEDIUM
Country Parks/Other Parks	Accessible heath/plantation	Near south boundary of the Western site	Conifer plantation	MEDIUM

Mitigation Measures and Restoration

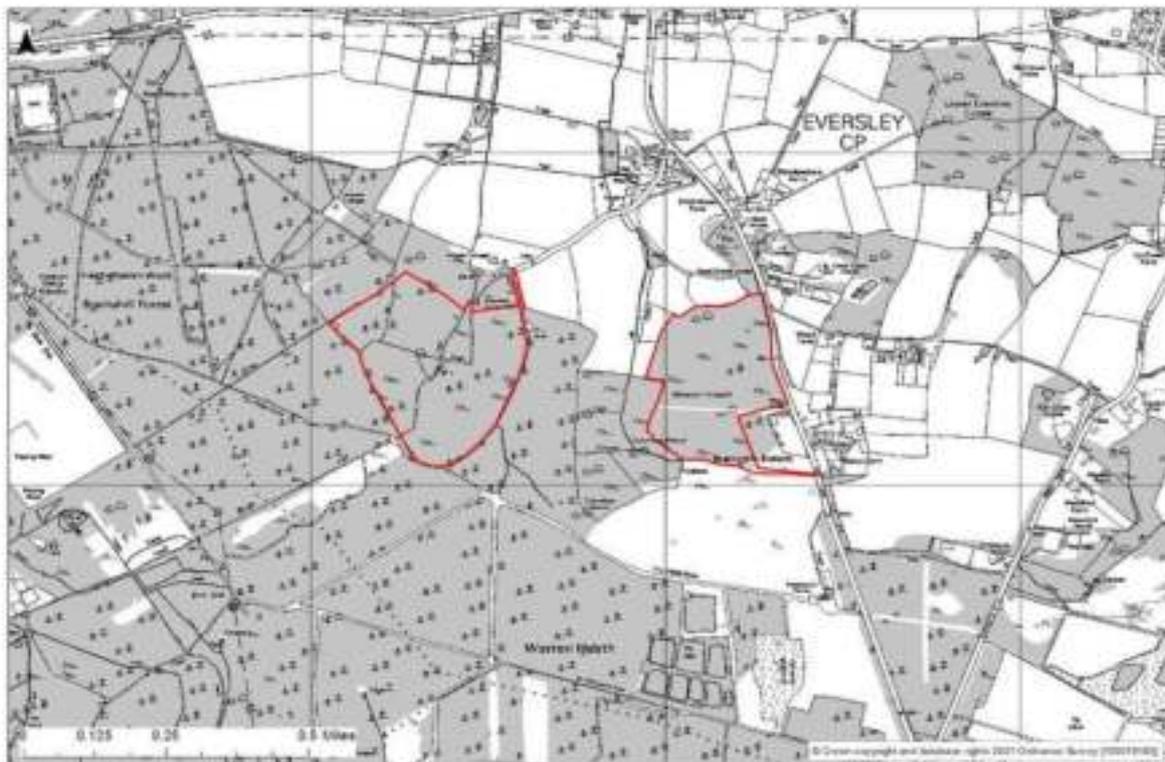
Western Site

- Retain at least 100m woodland buffer zone along the northern boundary between the proposed quarry and Arletts Bungalow.
- Retain Warren Heath SINC.
- Retain at least a 10m strip of regenerative vegetation alongside Three Castles Path
- Retain the historic Bramshill Park 'ride'.
- Any bunding around the proposed site should be set back from the adjacent PRoW with a vegetated buffer strip between.

Eastern Site

- Retain a woodland buffer zone on the north facing slope along the northern boundary between proposed quarry and CA.
- Set back any bunding around the proposed site, from the adjacent A-road with a vegetated buffer strip between.

Figure 34: HAR01 Warren Heath Quarry – site plan



HAR02 Bramshill Quarry, Eversley, Hook, Hampshire (Waste)

Location / Description

Situated within the north-east Hampshire plantation/heathlands landscape, the site is bisected by Blackbushes Road. The larger working quarry east of the road sits within the Thames Basin SPA. The western area contains coniferous plantation in addition to smaller quarry workings.

Bramshill quarry is located on relatively high ground, part of the Forest of Eversley, surrounded by plantations with limited intervisibility.

Proposal: to vary the restoration proposals for 81ha of the existing approved mineral extraction, to improve the profile and biodiversity of the site, by importing inert construction waste fill over a period of 5-10yrs post completion of mineral extraction in each approved phase.

Restoration: to vary the restoration from commercial forestry to create a more biodiverse habitat.

Landscape Character Area

1c North-East Hampshire Plantations and Heaths

Landscape Type

Settled lowland mosaic heathland plantation

Key Characteristics applicable to this location

- Gently undulating landscape of plateau areas dissected by river valleys.
- Predominantly well-drained sandy soils over clays and sands giving rise to acidic conditions and some areas of local waterlogging.
- Distinctive heathy character throughout reflected in acidic loving vegetation and giving rise to a colourful landscape through the seasons.
- Contains internationally important habitats including dry and wet heaths, bogs, scrub and woodland.
- Land use comprises a mosaic of woodland, including conifer plantations, blocks of remnant open heathland and medium scaled pasture fields.
- Varied public access network of commons and open land on the heath and public rights of way in the river valleys.
- Strong connections to military training from the 18th century and aviation.
- Concentration of large parkland landscapes and extensive areas of mineral extraction.
- Broad shallow valley of the Blackwater and narrower valleys of the River Hart and Whitewater with flat and low-lying riverside meadows.
- Large urban areas of Aldershot, Farnborough and Fleet and numerous transport corridors (M3, A30, and Basingstoke Canal) and high density of dispersed settlement of common edge origin and smallholdings.
- Enclosed often intimate character with limited outward views and a sense of remoteness and seclusion despite proximity to populated areas.

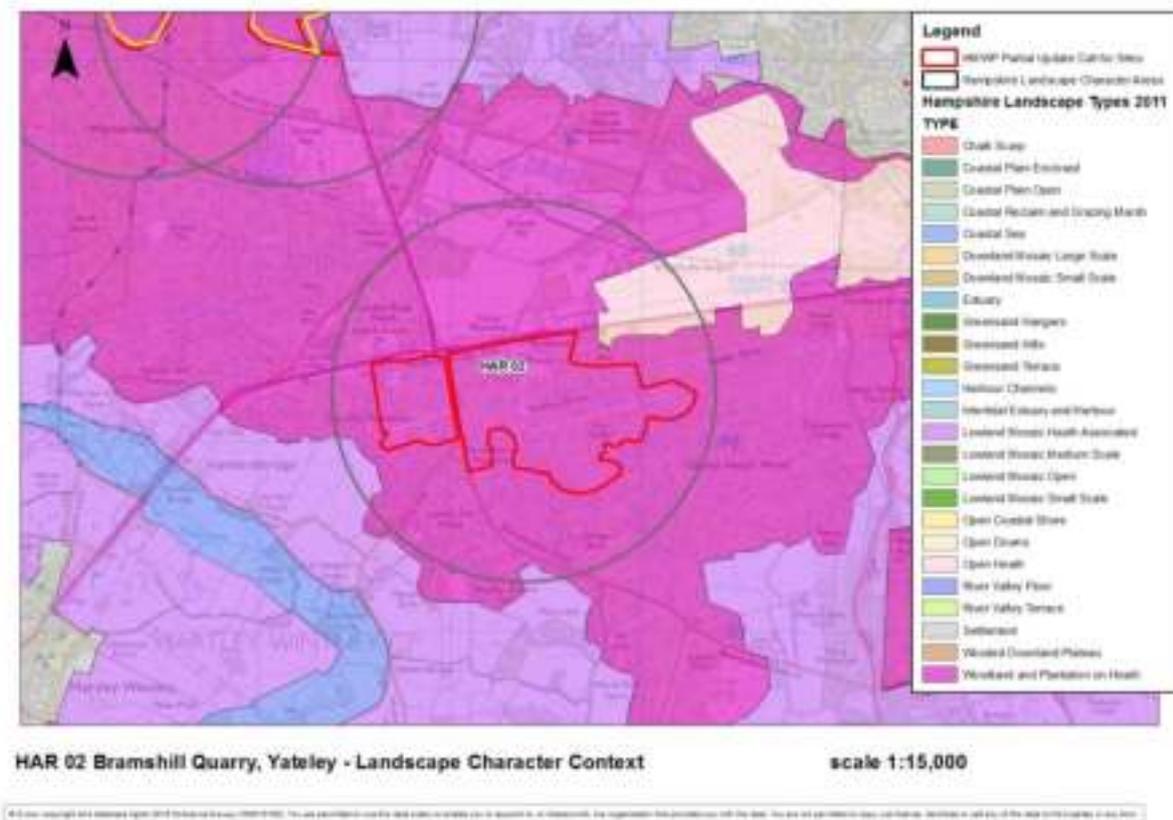
This character area forms a distinctive swathe of forest and heath where suburbanising influences, such as the busy A30, contrast with the comparative quiet and seclusion of the less accessible parts of the forest. The area contains some internationally important habitats, ancient woods and, in the valley, 'medium scale' fields.

Set on the plateau between the River Blackwater to the north and the River Hart to the south the sites are 'contained' within their woodland setting with limited outward views and an 'intimate character'.

Impact on Key Characteristics

The proposal to vary the restoration from commercial forestry to a more biodiverse habitat has potential to improve the outcome for this site in the long term, returning it to a mosaic of heath and woodland in keeping with the character of the area.

Figure 35: HAR02 Bramshill Quarry - Landscape Character Context



Constraints and Designations

The eastern site is covered by the Thames Basin Heaths SPA while the western site is within the 400m buffer zone. Both are set within the historic Forest of Eversley.

Historic Landscape Character:

The open heath and common of the elevated areas of the Forest of Eversley survived as one of the largest areas of lowland heath in England until well into the 18th century. But over the last 150 years has been greatly reduced due to a reduction in grazing and the introduction of commercial forestry, residential, commercial and military development.

The area was valued for its scenic qualities and park estates were established on the fringes of the open heathland.

The closest Conservation Area is around 550m to the south-west at Elvetham Farm, separated from the application site by swathes of woodland and the rising topography.

Ecological Designations - International, National & Local

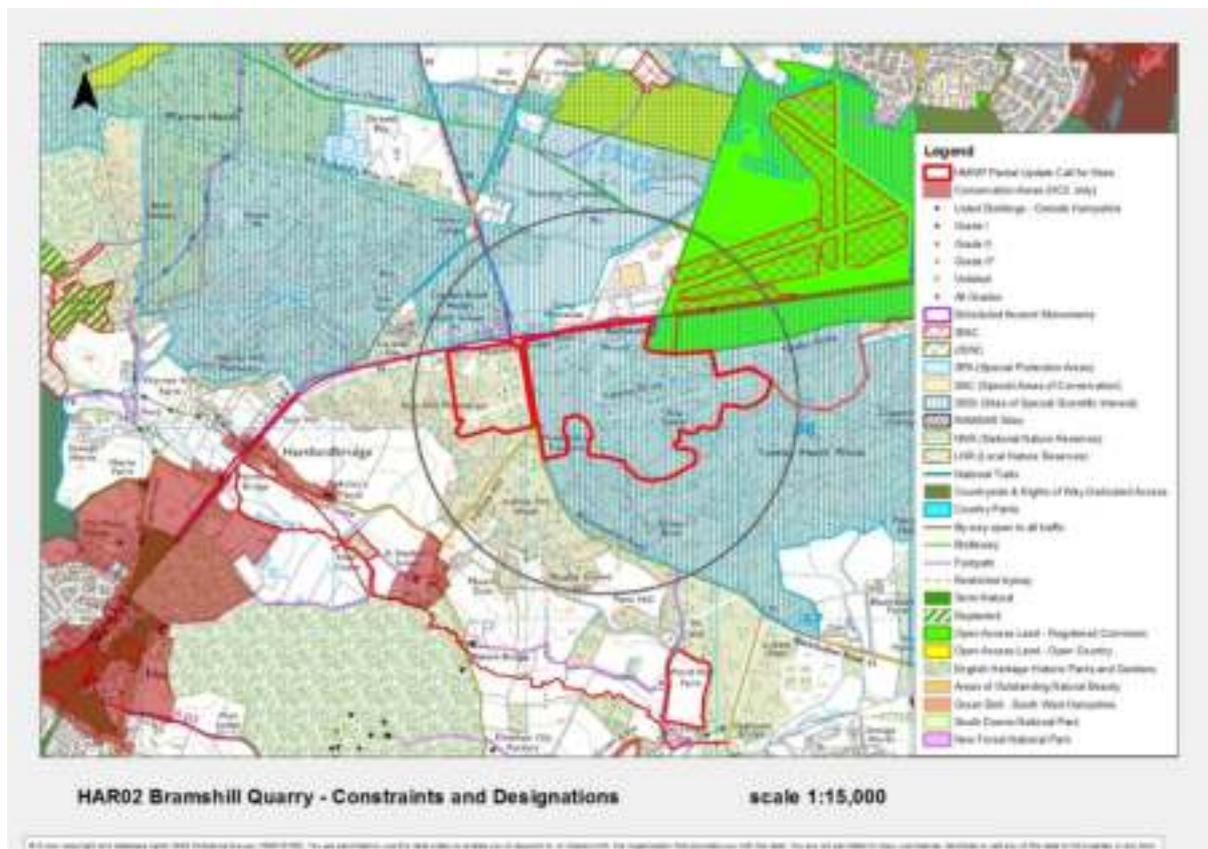
The Thames Basin Heath SPA covers the eastern quarry site while the western site sits within the 400m buffer zone.

The eastern site is also covered by the Yateley and Hawley SSSI designation, the impact zone for which extends over the western site.

Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas

No public rights of way appear to be affected by this proposal although the western corner of Yateley Common (registered common and open access land) overlaps with the eastern point of the site.

Figure 36: HAR02 Bramshill Quarry - Constraints and designations



Landscape Condition

The Sites comprise- a working quarry. The condition is **poor**.

Landscape Sensitivity

The sites are found on the NE Hampshire plantation/heathland plateau. A disturbed landscape contained by its surrounding plantations and woodland, the area has ecological sensitivities but has been severely affected by mineral workings, commercial forestry, military and commercial development. The landscape sensitivity is **high**. The proposed restoration has the potential for a **beneficial** effect in the long term.

Visual Sensitivity

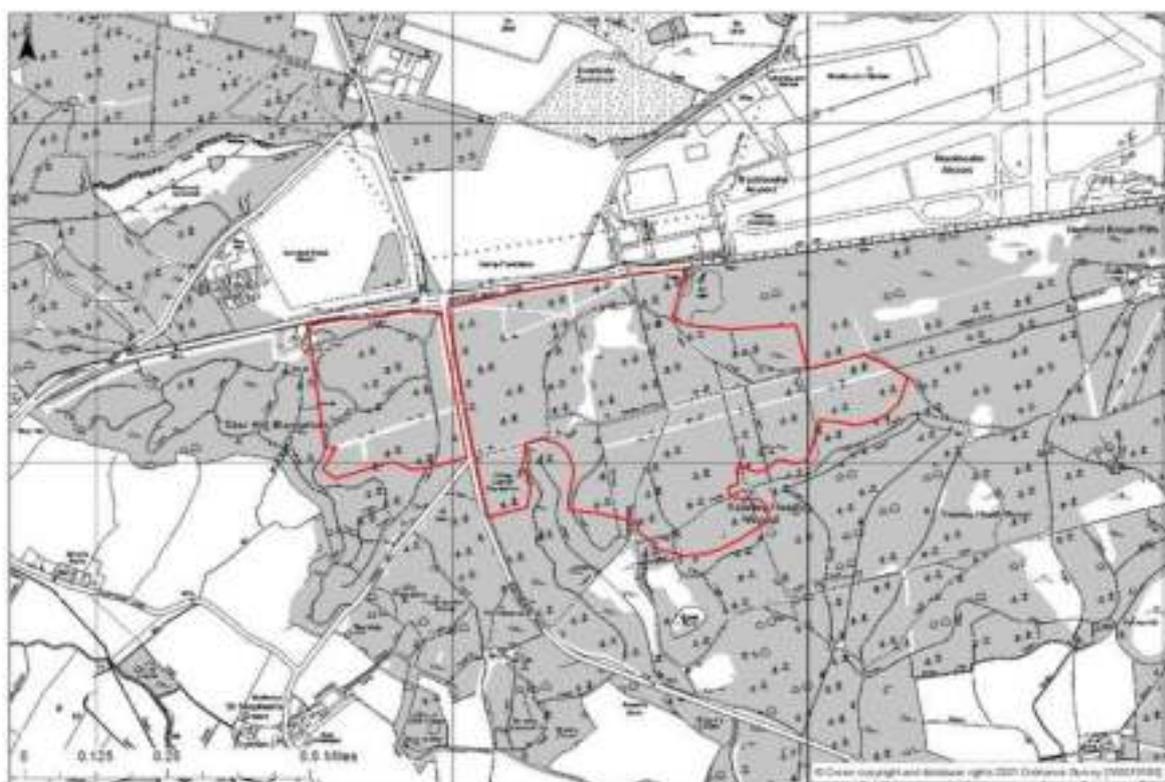
Well screened to the south, and along Blackbushes Road, the site is intermittently visible from the busy A30. Access Land to the east provides clearer views into the proposal area. The visual sensitivity is **moderate**. The likely effect of the proposal in the long term is **beneficial**.

Receptor	Notes	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads/Rail	Blackbushes Road	Adjacent	High hedgerows	LOW
	A30	Adjacent	Tree/shrub belt	MEDIUM
Settlement/Housing				
PRoW, LDP, cycle paths				
Country Parks/Other Parks	Yateley Common open access land	Adjacent	Open views	HIGH

Mitigation Measures and Restoration

- The restoration of the site to a mosaic of heath and woodland is in keeping with the Landscape Character Type.
- Long term management will be required by the applicant, if heath is to be re-established here.

Figure 37: HAR02 Bramshill Quarry – Site Plan



HAR03 Bramshill Quarry Extension, Eversley, Hook, Hampshire. (Minerals)

Location / Description

Situated within the north-east Hampshire plantation/heathlands landscape, the site comprises woodland, plantation, scrub and heath. Hartfordbridge Flats open access land is contained within the proposal area while Yateley Country Park and open access land is immediately to the north. Blackbushe Airport is also to the north.

Located on relatively high ground, part of the Forest of Eversley and surrounded by plantations there is limited intervisibility although users of the A30 along the north boundary, have glimpsed views. The Penny Hill Caravan site is situated to the east, at Minley Drive.

Proposal: to extend the existing Bramshill Quarry, extracting 1 million tonnes of sand and gravel.

Restoration: to commercial forestry and heathland habitat.

Landscape Character Area

1c North-East Hampshire Plantations and Heaths

Landscape Type

Settled lowland mosaic heathland plantation

Key Characteristics applicable to this location

- Gently undulating landscape of plateau areas dissected by river valleys.
- Predominantly well drained sandy soils over clays and sands giving rise to acidic conditions and some areas of local waterlogging.
- Distinctive heathy character throughout reflected in acidic loving vegetation and giving rise to a colourful landscape through the seasons.
- Contains internationally important habitats including dry and wet heaths, bogs, scrub and woodland.
- Land use comprises a mosaic of woodland, including conifer plantations, blocks of remnant open heathland and medium scaled pasture fields.
- Varied public access network of commons and open land on the heath and public rights of way in the river valleys.
- Strong connections to military training from the 18th century and aviation.
- Concentration of large parkland landscapes and extensive areas of mineral extraction.
- Broad shallow valley of the Blackwater and narrower valleys of the River Hart and Whitewater with flat and low-lying riverside meadows.
- Large urban areas of Aldershot, Farnborough and Fleet and numerous transport corridors (M3, A30, and Basingstoke Canal) and high density of dispersed settlement of common edge origin and smallholdings.
- Enclosed often intimate character with limited outward views and a sense of remoteness and seclusion despite proximity to populated areas.

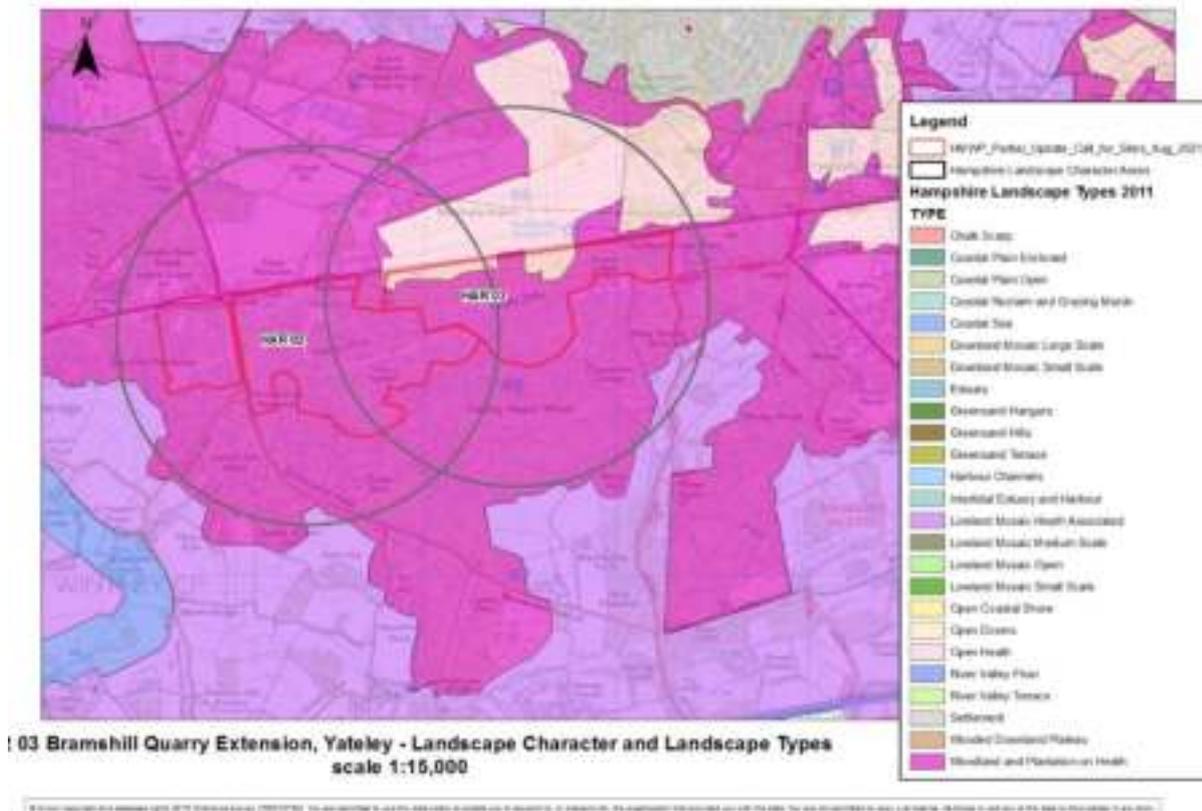
This character area forms a distinctive swathe of forest and heath where suburbanising influences, such as the busy A30 through route, contrast with the comparative quiet and seclusion of the less accessible parts of the forest. The area contains some internationally important habitats, ancient woods and, in the valley, “medium scale’ fields.

Set on the plateau between the River Blackwater to the north and the River Hart to the south the site is relatively 'contained' within its setting with outward views limited to receptors in close proximity.

Impact on Key Characteristics

The proposal will have a negative effect on the landscape character in the short term but over the long term may make a positive contribution to the landscape if restoration proposals include a biodiverse mix of habitats.

Figure 38: HAR03 Bramshill Quarry Extension - Landscape Character Context



Constraints and Designations

The site is covered by the Thames Basin Heaths SPA and set within the historic Forest of Eversley.

Historic Landscape Character:

The open heath and common of the elevated areas of the Forest of Eversley survived as one of the largest areas of lowland heath in England until well into the 18th century. But over the last 150 years has been greatly reduced due to a reduction in grazing and the introduction of commercial forestry, residential, commercial and military development.

The area was valued for its scenic qualities and park estates were established on the fringes of the open heathland.

The closest Conservation Area is around 950m to the north-east at Cricket Hill, Yateley. There is a Scheduled Monument approximately 125m to the west. Listed buildings include West Minley Farm, less than 400m to the south and a listed Milestone on the north boundary.

The Registered Park and Garden of Minley Manor (Grade II) is found at the south-east corner of the proposed site.

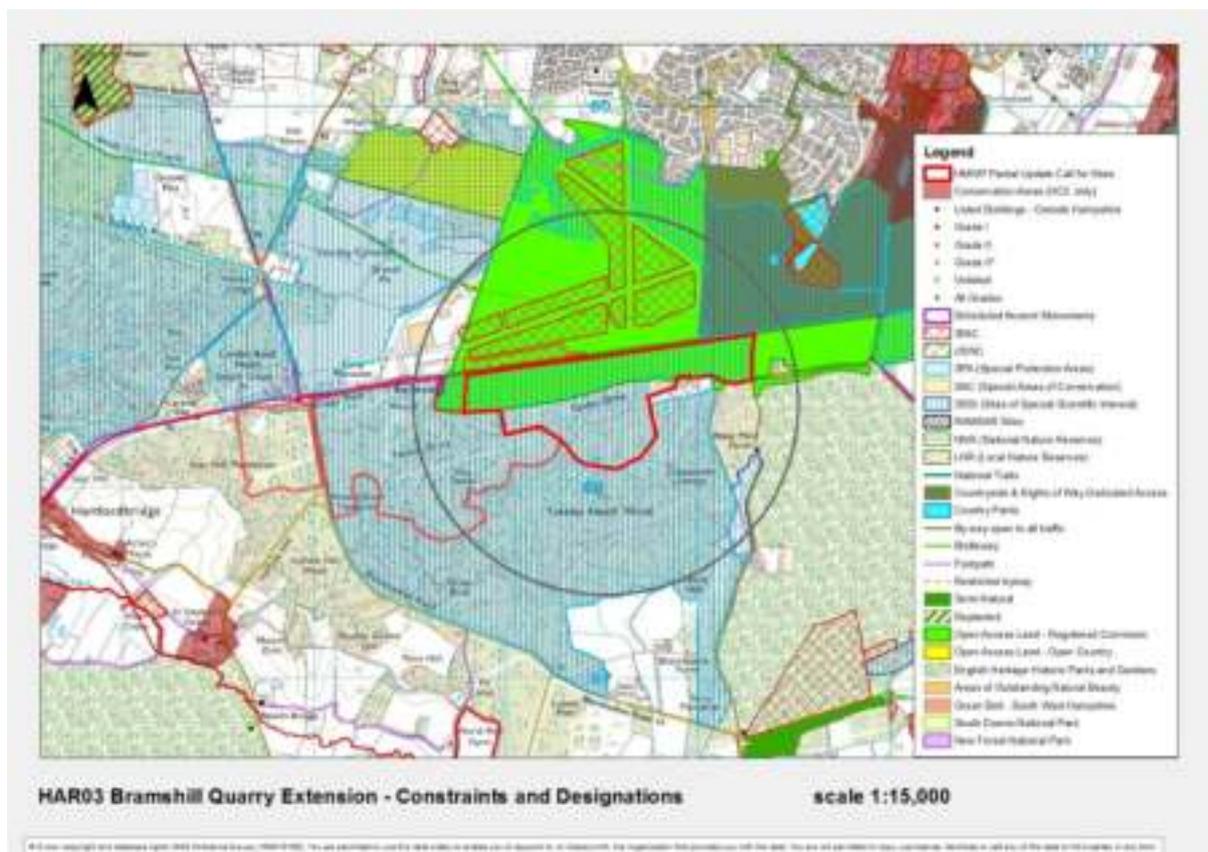
Ecological Designations - International, National & Local

The site is contained within both the Thames Basin Heath SPA and the Yateley and Hawley SSSI, important for their ground nesting birds.

Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas

Hartfordbridge Flats open access land (part of Yateley's Registered Common) is contained within this proposed site.

Figure 39: HAR03 Bramshill Quarry Extension- Constraints and designations



Landscape Condition

The Sites comprises scrub, heath, plantation and woodland. The condition is **moderately good**.

Landscape Sensitivity

The site is found on the NE Hampshire plantation/heathland plateau. A landscape contained by its surrounding plantations and woodland, the area has ecological sensitivities but has been significantly affected by mineral workings, commercial forestry, military and commercial development. The landscape sensitivity is **high**. The proposed restoration has the potential for a **beneficial** effect in the long term.

Visual Sensitivity

Well screened to the south, and partially screened along Blackbushes Road, the site is intermittently visible from the busy A30. Residential caravans immediately to the east may be screened by the existing woodland.

Hartbridgeford Flats Access Land is set within the site and would be adversely affected by this proposal. The visual sensitivity is **high**. The likely effect of the proposal in the long term is **beneficial**.

Receptor	Notes	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads/Rail	Minley Road	Adjacent SE corner	Dense vegetation	LOW
	A30	Adjacent	Intermittent Tree/shrub belt	MEDIUM
Settlement/Housing	Penny Hill Caravan site	Less than 100m to east	Woodland	HIGH
	West Minley Farm	400m to south	Woodland	Medium
PRoW, LDP, cycle paths				
Country Parks/Other Parks	Hartfordbridge Flats open access land	Within the site	Scrub vegetation & woodland	HIGH

Mitigation Measures and Restoration

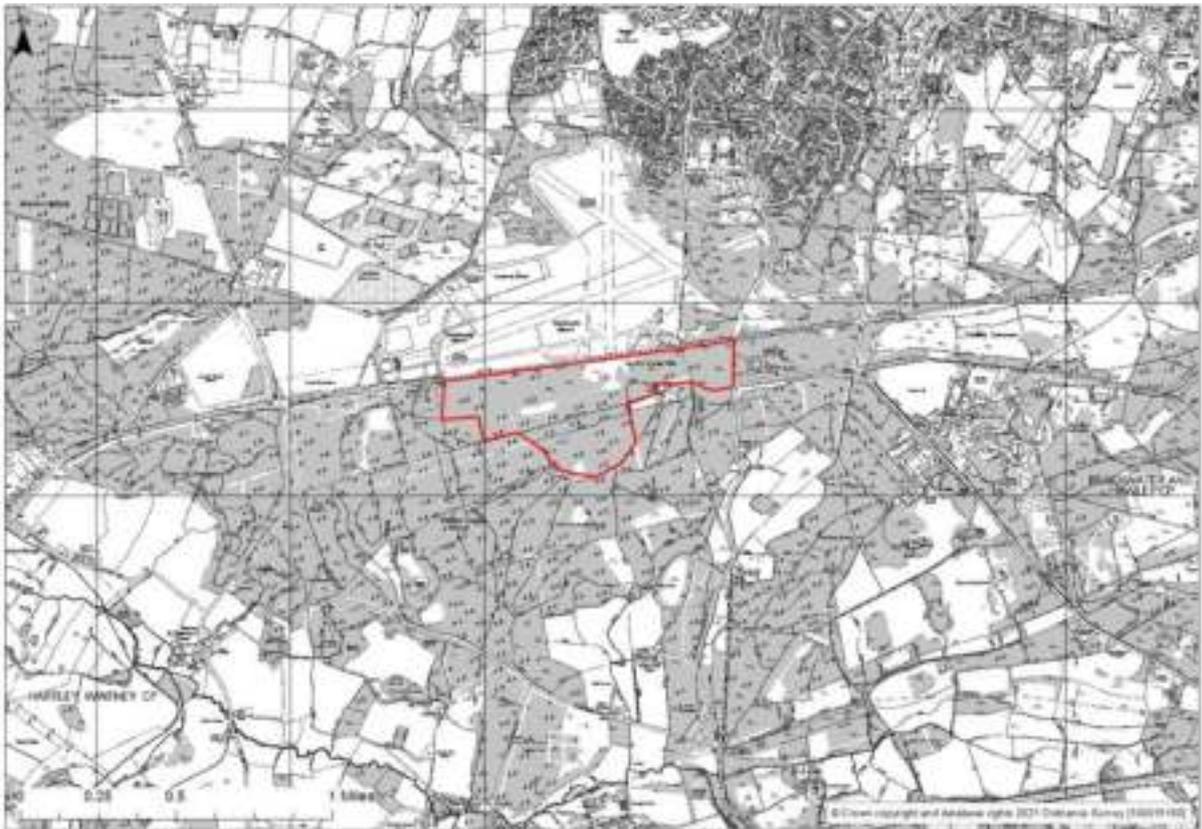
Mitigation:

- Exclude the Hartfordbridge Flats Open Access land from the proposed extraction area.
- Include a buffer zone between the Open Access land and the proposed extraction area.
- Include a buffer zone between the proposed extraction area and the adjacent properties including the Penny Hill Caravan site.

Restoration:

- Promote the restoration of the site to a mosaic of heath and woodland in keeping with the Landscape Character Type.
- Long term management will be required by the applicant, if heath is to be re-established here.

Figure 40: HAR03 Bramshill Quarry extension- Site Plan



7. New Forest District Council Local Planning Authority Area

Local Planning Policy

7.1. The New Forest District Local Plan 2016 – 2036 adopted 6th July 2020¹², has the following landscape policies to protect and enhance the special character and environment of the New Forest District outside the National Park (set out in more detail in Appendix 8):

- ENV1: Mitigating the impacts of development on International Nature Conservation sites
- ENV 2 The South West Hampshire Green Belt
- ENV4: Landscape character and quality

Landscape Character Assessment

7.2. The England-wide landscape character mapping undertaken by Natural England (2005) defines the New Forest District within two broad National Character Area categories:

- Character Area 131 (New Forest); and
- Character Area 135 (Dorset Heath).

7.3. The Hampshire Integrated Character Assessment (2012) further subdivides New Forest District into sixteen Landscape Character Areas including:

- Open Down;
- Wooded farmland;
- Woodlands and Plantations;
- Heath associated wooded farmland;
- Open Heaths;
- Plantations and Heath;
- Valleys (Test and Avon);
- Waterside; and
- Coastal Plains.

Figure 41: HICA mapping for New Forest District Council area



¹² New Forest District Local Plan 2016 – 2036: https://www.newforest.gov.uk/media/705/Local-Plan-Document-2016-2036/pdf/Local_Plan_2016-2036_Part_One_FINAL.pdf?m=637329191351130000

NFD01 Ashley Manor Farm, Lymington Road, New Milton Hampshire. (Sand and gravel extraction/Waste)

Location / Description

The site is located in the South Hampshire Green Belt between New Milton and Milford on Sea. It is found immediately to the south of the A337 Lymington Road and east of edge of New Milton. Angel Lane follows much of the southern boundary. The area is flat open Coastal Plain, currently used for growing arable crops. A footpath crosses through the centre of the site along a route called Crooked Lane. Open views across the landscape are fairly typical of the area, although this site has existing boundaries comprising woodland and tall hedgerows. New planting has been carried within the site around the hedgerow boundaries, this will enclose the site, reducing the open character, but it will also provide a screen around the site boundary.

Landscape Character

9a South West New Forest Coastal Plain

Landscape Type

Coastal Plain Open

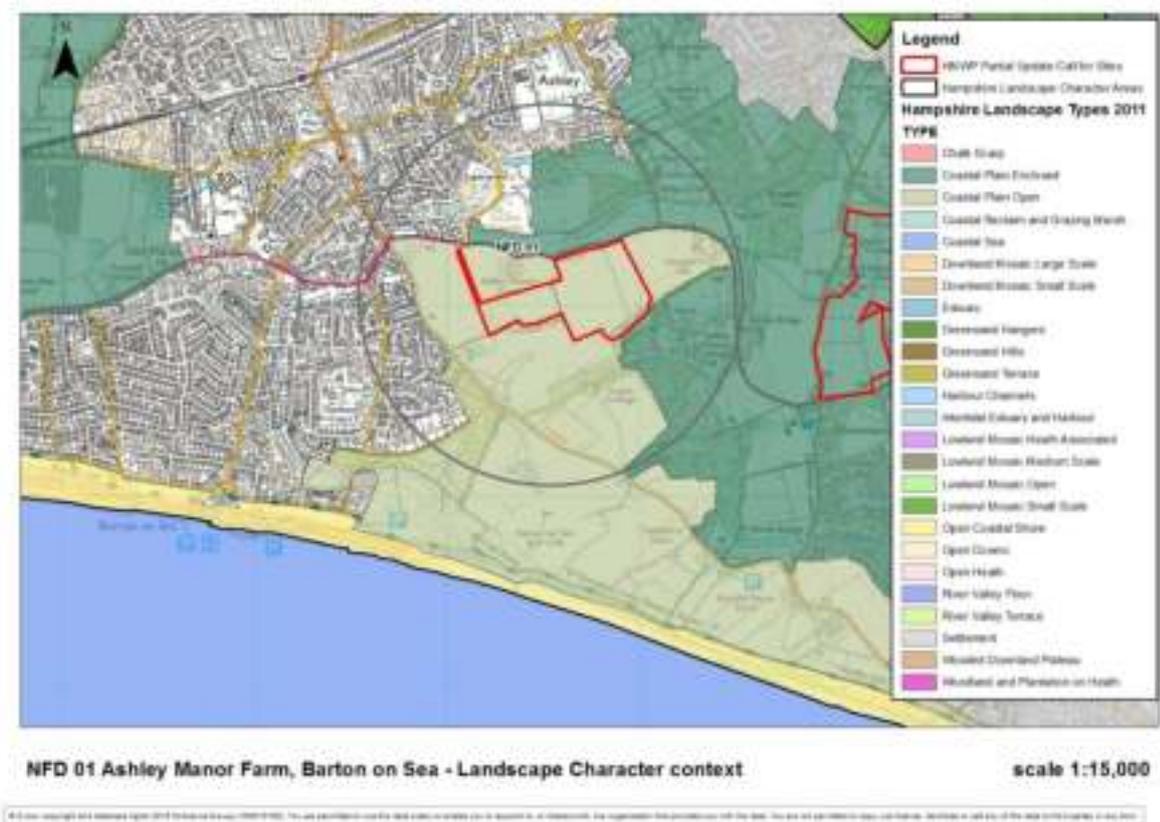
Key Characteristics applicable to this location

- A landscape of mixed topography which is generally flatter closer to the coast and more undulating inland, overlooking Christchurch Bay and the western Solent.
- Predominantly arable landscape of medium to large scale regular pattern agricultural fields with ditches and banks.
- Much of the area had been enclosed by 1790 with areas subject to later reorganisation in the 19th century.
- Small, scattered 19th century plantations and linear deciduous woodlands along very small river valleys.

Impact on Key Characteristics

- Mineral extraction in the west of the character area would risk further loss of the historic field pattern.
- Loss of open character of the green belt, affecting views across the open landscape.
- Loss of the character of the public rights of way.

Figure 42: NFD01 Ashley Manor Farm - Landscape Character Context



Constraints and Designations

South West Hampshire Green Belt. This site is described in the 2016 New Forest District Green Belt Study as having a strong contribution in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment.

Historic Landscape Character

There are several Listed buildings around the site including, Ashley Manor Farm Grade II listed, located on Lymington Road to the north of the proposed site, Sampson Cottage Grade II listed, just to the south of the site and Hooper’s Hill house Grade II listed is approx. 370m to the east.

The grounds of Ashley Clinton Manor are registered on the Hampshire Inventory of Historic Parks, Gardens & Public Green Spaces and the house is found approximately 350 to the south east.

The expansion of Milford, Barton and New Milton has erased much of the open field and medieval enclosures which surrounded these settlements.

Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas

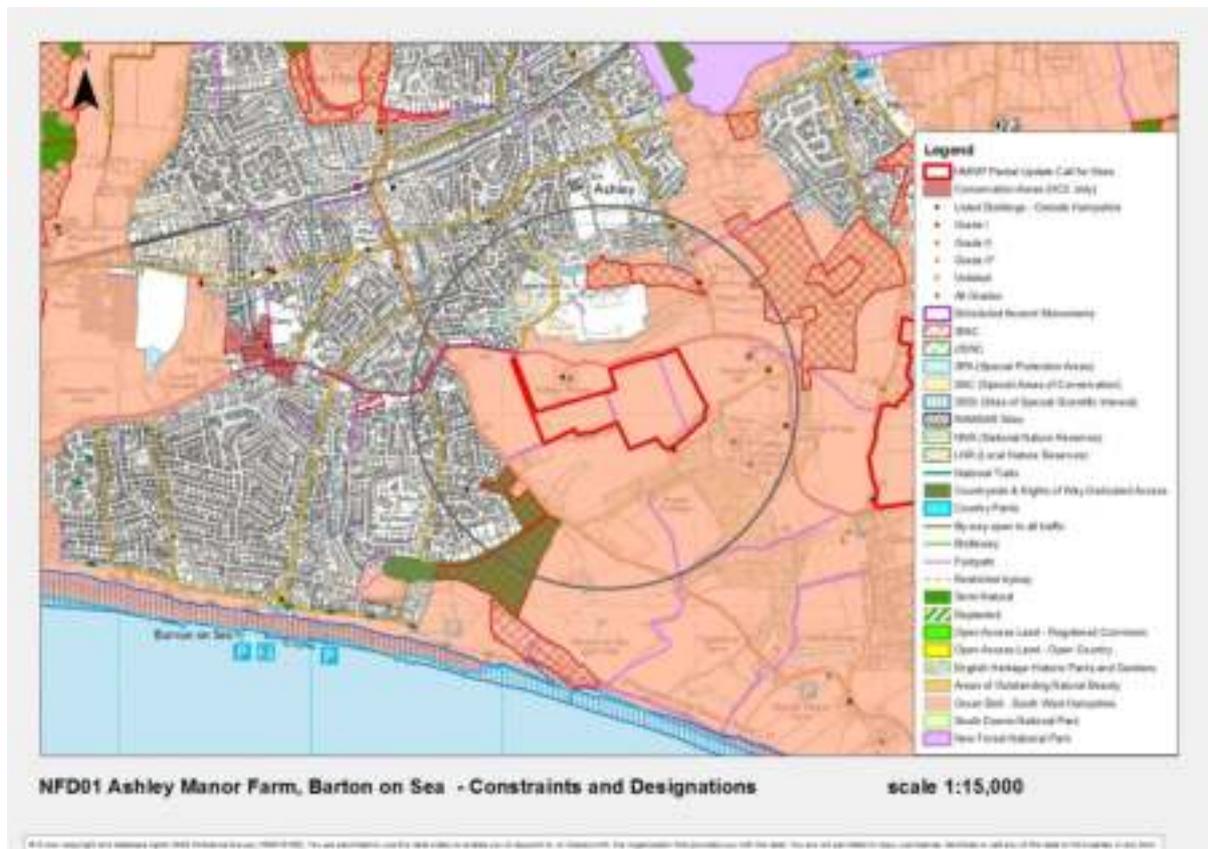
Footpath New Milton 168/721/1 (Crooked Lane) directly links residential areas on the eastern edge of New Milton to the countryside and passes through the site. Footpath 168/720/1 also crosses the site linking Lymington Road in the north to Angel Lane in the south.

Ecological designation - International, National & Local

Carrick Way Woodland SINC is approximately 500m to the north and Barton Common SINC is approximately 500m to the south west. The Highcliffe to Milford Cliffs are a Special Site of

Interest for Nature Conservation (SSSI) and are found all along the coast to the south approximately 1.2km away.

Figure 43: NFD01 Ashley Manor Farm - Constraints and designations



Landscape Condition

The condition of this landscape is **good**, and typical of the character area with a flat open landscape and linear woodlands encroaching on the boundaries. This open area of landscape forms an important part of the green belt keeping the rural landscape intact between the heavily populated communities along Hampshire’s south coast. Crooked Lane running through the site forms an important landscape feature with double hedgerows along part of the route.

Landscape Sensitivity

- The proposal would have a **moderate /high adverse** effect on the green belt.
- The scale of this development within the valley floor is considered to be out of scale with the limited area of open green belt land between New Milton and the surrounding villages. The impact on the visual envelope has been reduced by the forward planting within the site reducing views. However this is a large scale development in the green belt and it will have a negative effect on this part of the character area. The effect on the sensitivity of the landscape is considered to be **moderate adverse**.

Visual Sensitivity

The site has been subject to a planning inquiry in the past and the appeal was dismissed on 23rd December 1998, (Application Q1770/A/98/290586). In clause 41 page 13 of the inspectors report, (R J Tamplin BA(Hons) MRTPI Dip Cons Studies), described the visual impact as follows:

'It seems to me that the development would be seen to encroach significantly on the countryside immediately adjacent to the built up area throughout the entire period of working by changing its character from open countryside to a working mineral and waste site of quasi-industrial aspect'

Recent screen planting has been carried out around the site, which will, given time, surround the site, but this is a relatively open landscape and this planting does not reflect the landscape character.

Receptor	Notes	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads	A331 Lymington Road	Adjacent	Hedgerow and young plantation to the rear	MODERATE/LOW
	Angel Lane	Adjacent	Woodland in part. Hedgerow with young plantation to the rear	LOW HIGH where open
	B308 Milford Road	20m to the west	Trees and Hedgerow	MEDIUM
Settlement/Housing	Engleburn Residential Home for the Elderly	Adjacent	Garden boundary, trees and shrubs	MEDIUM
	Ashley Manor House	Nearby / Adjacent	Farm buildings and open	HIGH
	Bunny Lane Caravan Site	Nearby	Trees and hedgerow	LOW/ NEGLIGIBLE
	Properties on Angel Lane	Nearby	Hedgerow	MEDIUM
	Hoopers Hill Farm	Nearby	Open	MEDIUM / HIGH
	Properties on Lymington Lane on eastern edge of New Milton	North of Lymington Lane	Garden Boundaries, trees and hedgerows	LOW / NEGLIGIBLE
	Milford Road	West of Milford Road	Trees and hedgerow along Milford Road	MEDIUM / LOW
Definitive PRow long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	168/721/1 (Crooked Lane)	Through the site	Part Trees and Hedgerow	HIGH
	168/721/1 (Crooked Lane)	Through the site	Open	HIGH
Rail/ Country Parks/Other Parks	Bunny Lane Common	Approximately 400m South west		LOW/ NEGLIGIBLE

Mitigation Measures and Restoration

- Restoration to agriculture at existing ground levels
- Restoration of Crooked Lane including replacing the double hedgerow feature along the whole route.
- Replacement of hedgerows, particularly along the eastern boundary of the site which is an arbitrary line and very open.
- Managing the new planting around the site to allow the planting to reach maturity.

Figure 44: NFD01 Ashley Manor Farm -Site Plan



NFD02 Yeatton Farm, Hordle Lane, Hordle, Lymington SO41 0HW (Sand and gravel extraction/Waste)

Location / Description

The site is bounded by Hordle Lane to the east, the A337 Christchurch Road to the south, Sky End Lane to the north and an old by-way to the east. The site is a series of small and medium sized agricultural fields, laid to pasture and arable crops. The fields are divided by a series of strong hedgerows with mature trees. The site is relatively flat and is 32.6 ha.

Landscape Character

9a South West New Forest Coastal Plain

Landscape Type

Coastal Plain Enclosed

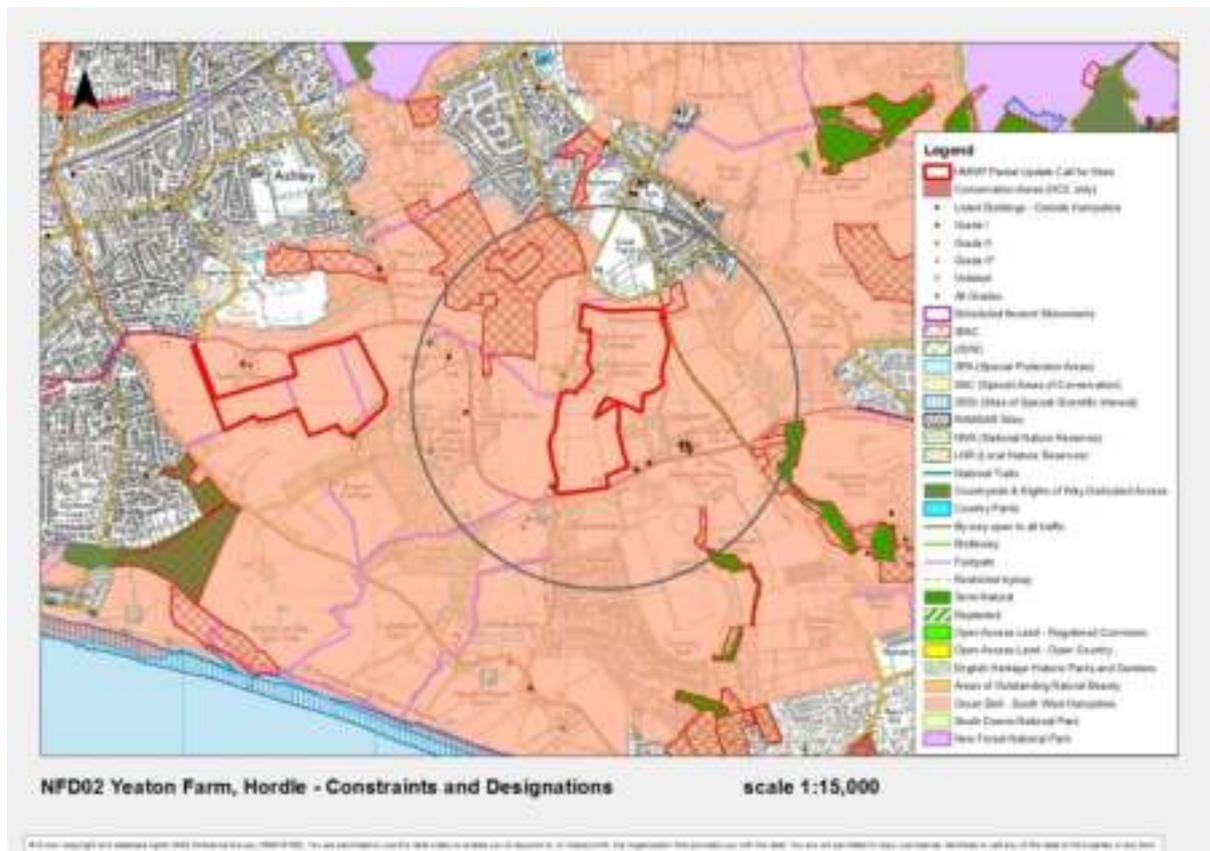
Key Characteristics applicable to this location

- A landscape of mixed topography which is generally flatter closer to the coast and more undulating inland, overlooking Christchurch Bay and the western Solent.
- Predominantly arable landscape of medium to large scale regular pattern agricultural fields with ditches and banks.
- Much of the area had been enclosed by 1790 with areas subject to later reorganisation in the 19th century.
- Small, scattered 19th century plantations and linear deciduous woodlands along very small river valleys.
- Large estates with country houses, estate cottages and gate houses, several have now become schools or hotels.

Impact on Key Characteristics

- Mineral extraction in the west of the character area would risk further loss of the historic field pattern.
- Loss of the historic field pattern and its hedgerows and trees and visually intrusive for near-by properties and users of public rights of way.

Figure 46: NFD02 Yeatton Farm - Constraints and designations



Landscape Condition

The landscape condition is **good**. The landscape is a combination of smaller fields laid to pasture and medium sized fields used for growing arable crops, surrounded by strong growing hedgerows with trees.

Landscape Sensitivity

The proposal would have a **large adverse** effect on the landscape, with the loss of an intimate landscape, defined by its small fields and tranquil nature, particularly at the northern end of the site.

Many landscape elements would be lost as a result of removing mature hedgerows and trees across the site.

Visual Sensitivity

The site is not particularly visible from the public roads surrounding the site, but it can be seen from public rights of way and private properties.

Receptor	Notes	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads	Hordle Lane	Adjacent	Trees and hedgerow	MEDIUM / LOW
	A337 Christchurch Road	Adjacent	Trees and hedgerow	LOW
	Sky End Lane	Near by	Trees and Hedgerows	LOW
Settlement/Housing	Properties on Hordle Lane, inc. Yeatton House,	Adjacent	Garden Boundaries, Trees & vegetation and hedgerows	HIGH

	Yeatton Farm and Farm Cottages; Apple Court & Barn Cottage			
	Properties on Christchurch Road: The Olde Barn, Downton Fields Cottages, Lea Green Cottage & Lea Green Farm	Adjacent and nearby	Garden boundaries and garden planting	HIGH and MEDIUM
	Properties on the north side of Sky End Road	Near-by	Garden boundaries, hedgerows and trees	LOW
Definitive PRow long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	Hordle Byway 118/501/1	Adjacent	Hedgerow and Trees	HIGH
	Hordle Footpath 118/736/1	Near-by	Hedgerow and intermittent trees	MEDIUM
Rail/ Country Parks/Other Parks	N/A			

Mitigation Measures and Restoration

- Restoration to existing levels and agricultural land.
- All hedgerows restored with trees.
- Properties around the site screened from visual intrusion noise and dust.

Figure 47: NFD02 Yeatton Farm Site Plan



NFD03 Purple Haze, Land west of the B3081, south of Verwood, Ringwood Forest. (Sand and gravel extraction/Waste)

Location / Description

The site lies within Moors Valley Country Park and to the west of the B308. The site covers approximately 70 hectares and is comprised mainly of coniferous plantation, divided into compartments with well used footpaths between the woodland blocks.

Landscape Character

1c Ringwood Plantations and Heath

Landscape Type

Settled Lowland Mosaic Heath Plantation

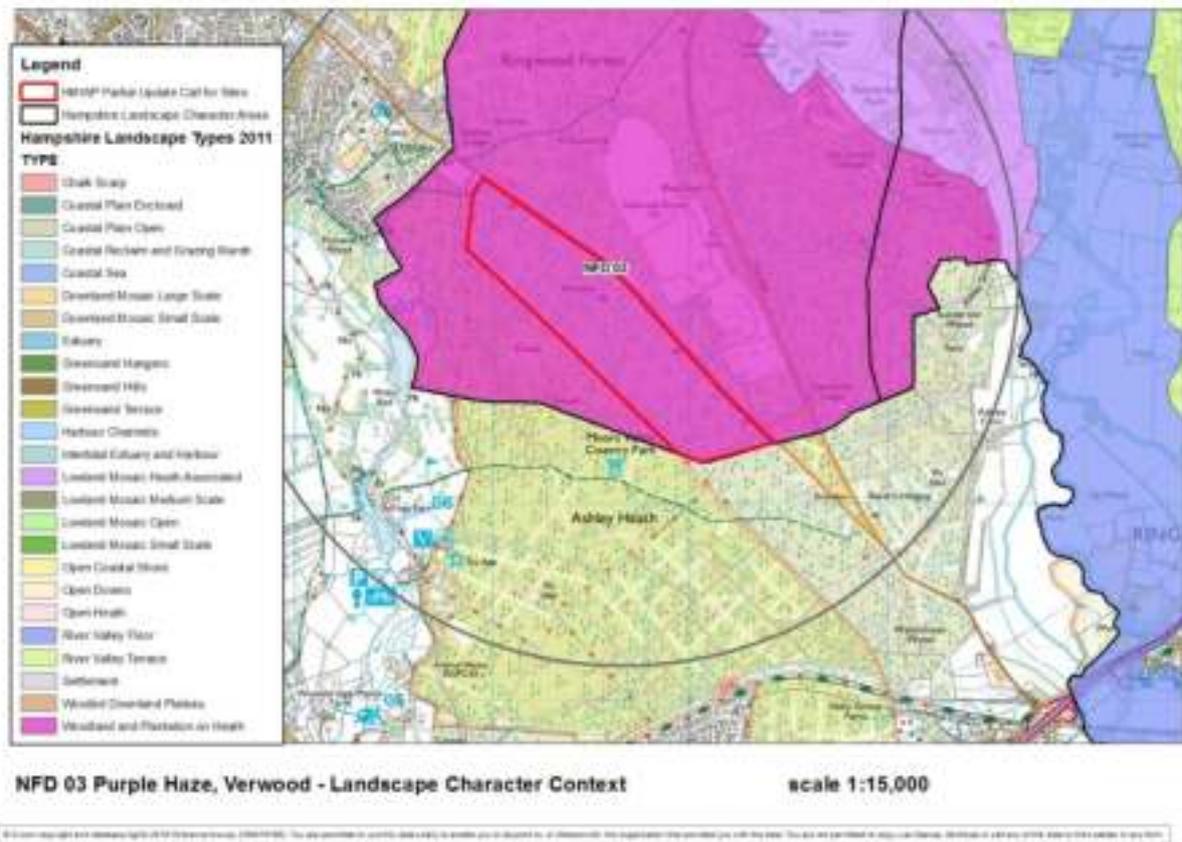
Key Characteristics applicable to this location

- Wooded undulating plateau to the west of the Avon Valley.
- Free draining soils and plateau gravels giving rise to acid soils and associated vegetation.
- Extensive SINC designation, due to the diversity of habitat, species and ecological structure in the area. The area also contains a small part of the Dorset Heaths Ramsar designation.
- Extensive areas of 19th and 20th century conifer plantation comprising even age stands with linear rides and tracks and few surviving areas of former common heath.
- Straight roads derived from routes over former heath common which have fast traffic today.
- Gravel extraction areas, felled areas and soil erosion are a feature.
- Very extensive informal recreational activity associated with plantation woodland.

Impact on Key Characteristics

- The proposed site is relatively consistent with the key characteristics of the landscape type.
- Proposed mineral extraction will limit public access. Large scale development associated with mineral extraction which is visually intrusive in this undeveloped area.

Figure 48: NFD03 Purple Haze - Landscape Character Context



Constraints and Designations

Country Park with open access.

Historic Landscape Character

This landscape was open heathland until the last few hundred years. A process of enclosure seems to have moved in from the valley to the east, and seems to be of post medieval date (or possibly late medieval). This process is also reflected in the creation of the park and estate of Somerley in this post medieval period. This park is registered on the Hampshire Inventory of Historic Parks, Gardens & Public Green Spaces and is found approximately 2km to the north east of the site.

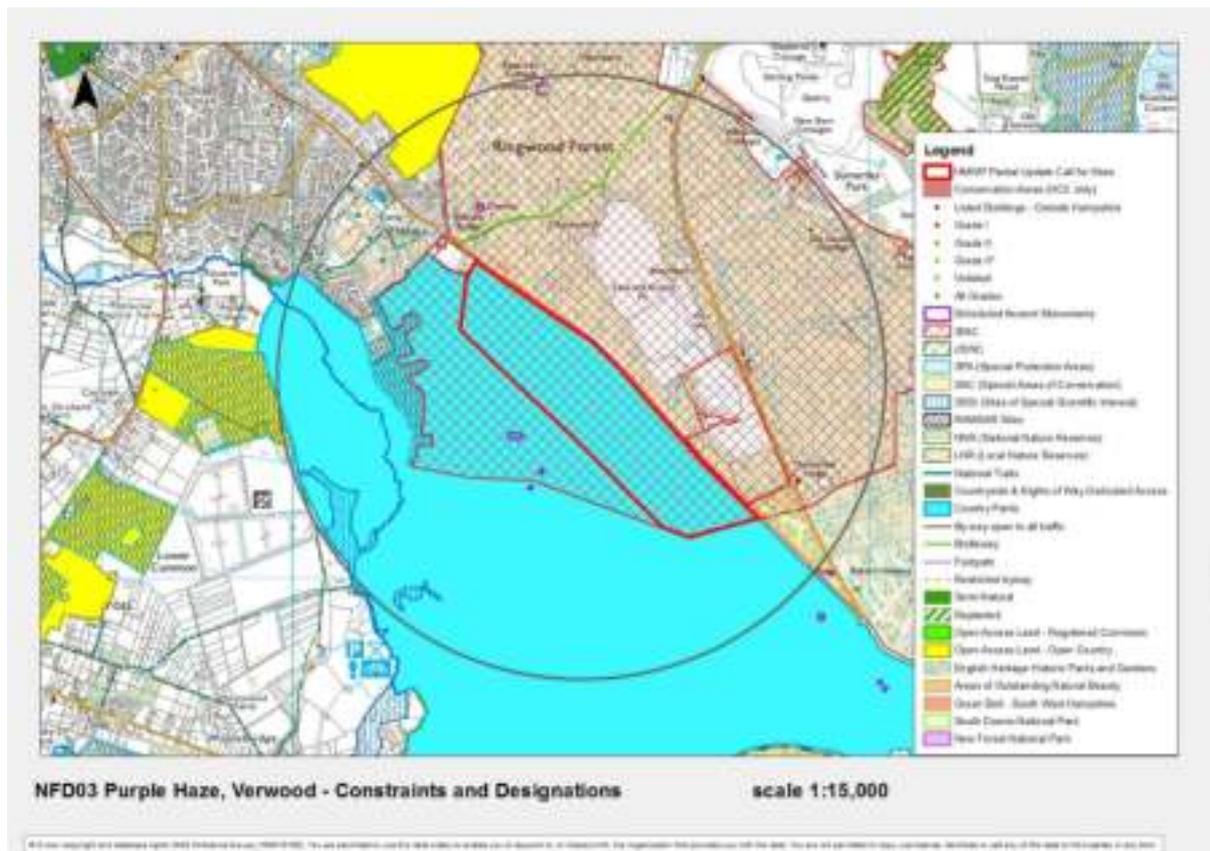
Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas

Ellingham, Harbridge and Ibsley Bridleway 078/39/01 follows the northern boundary of the site. There are forest tracks along the eastern and western boundaries of the site and crossing the site, these are all permissive paths with the western path having open access status.

Ecological designations - International, National & Local

Ebblake Bog is a Ramsar site, SPA and an SSSI is found to the north west of the site. Most of the site is within Ringwood Forest and Homewood SINC.

Figure 49: NFD03 Purple Haze - Constraints and designations



Landscape Condition

- The site is predominantly coniferous forest, which is well maintained, but the landscape lacks diversity and visual interest. The condition is **moderate**.

Landscape Sensitivity

- The proposal would have a **moderate adverse** effect.
- Medium /High biodiversity sensitivities associated with the woodland plantation over heath and the medium to high access sensitivity, where local people place a high value on this area for informal recreation. Elongated plan shape may make mitigation impacts from the road difficult.

Visual Sensitivity

- Proposals would have a **slight adverse** effect.

Receptor	Notes	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads	B3081	Near	Tree belt along the roadside	LOW
Settlement/Housing	N/A			
Definitive PRow long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	Bridleway 078/39/01	Adjacent	Tree belt	LOW
	Ringwood forest access tracks and cycleways	Adjacent	Open	HIGH
Rail/ Country Parks/Other Parks	Moors Valley Country Park	Near-by	Forestry	LOW

Mitigation Measures and Restoration

- Restoration should include large areas of heathland.
- Areas of new deciduous woodland to be located around the edges of the site.
- Restore recreational access across the site.
- Restore the ground levels to shallow side slopes and an undulating land form.
- Any water features /ponds should be shallow scrapes not deep water bodies.

Figure 50: NFD03 Purple Haze - Site Plan



NFD04 Midgham Farm, Hillbury Road, Alderholt, Fordingbridge, Hants SP6 3DD. (Sand and gravel extraction/Waste)

Location / Description

The site is located to the south east of Alderholt with the Hillbury Road forming the western boundary, Lomer Lane cuts the site in two from north to south and the River Avon is found near-by following the route of the eastern boundary. The site is currently agricultural land comprising small to medium sized fields, bounded by hedgerows and some trees. The fields are small to medium size, laid mainly to pasture with a limited number of used for arable crops.

Landscape Character

1c Ringwood Plantations and Heath and 3a Avon Valley

Landscape Type

Lowland Mosaic Small Scale

Key Characteristics applicable to this location

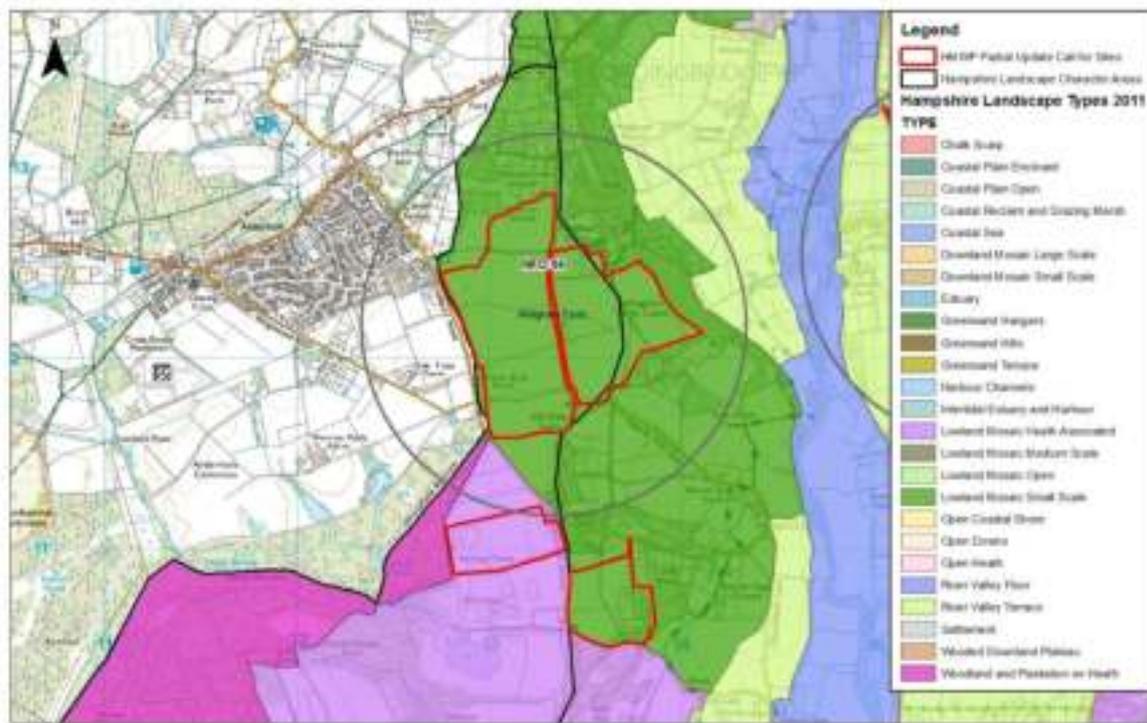
Whilst most of the site falls within the 1c Ringwood Plantations and Heath character area the key characteristics found in the 3a Avon Valley landscape character area are more applicable to this site and its setting.

- Broad, open, relatively flat valley floor containing the meandering river.
- Western valley sides defined by steeply wooded ridge while eastern valley sides are more open with a series of wide terraces containing important heath and mire habitats.
- Extensive areas of neutral grassland (one of the largest expanses of unimproved floodplain grassland in Britain), and open lightly treed river valley floor, often with cattle grazing and horse grazing on the terraces.
- Significant remains of complex water meadows.
- Regular field pattern on valley floor and terracing indicative of formal enclosures.

Impact on Key Characteristics

- The proposed site is consistent with the key characteristics of the landscape type
- There would be a loss of some hedgerows with trees, particularly on the land to the west of Lomer Lane, opening it up to extensive views.
- Loss of the tranquil pastoral landscape.

Figure 51: NFD04 Midgham Farm - Landscape Character Context



NFD 04 Midgham Farm, Alderholt - Landscape Character Context

scale 1:15,000

Constraints and Designations

There are no formal landscape designations on this site.

Historic Landscape Character

North End Park at Ellingham is registered on the Hampshire Inventory of Historic Parks, Gardens & Public Green Spaces, but no information is provided about the garden and its significance. Situated approximately 750m to the south of the proposed site.

The proposed site comprises part of the river terraces and shallow valley sides, which sit above the valley floor. Many of the field patterns, seen today, date predominately to the 18-19th.

Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas

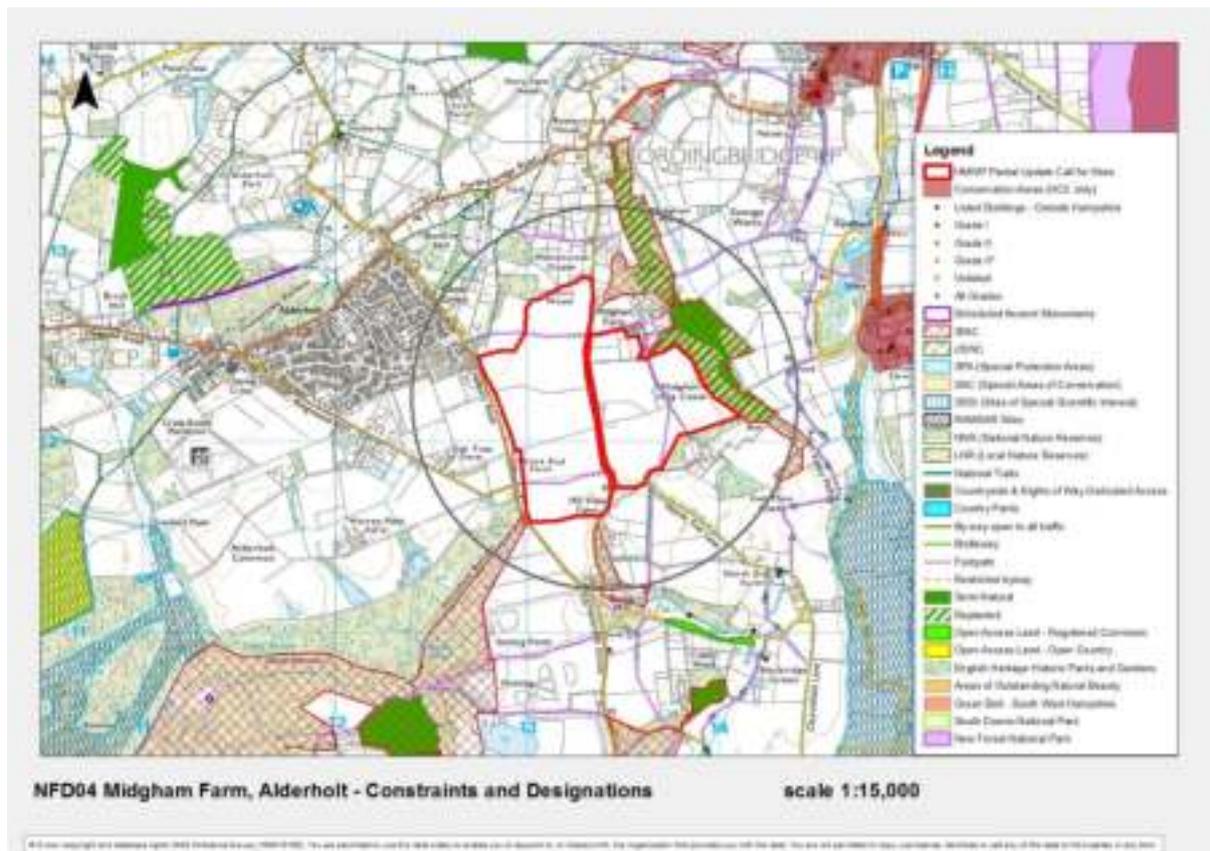
There are a number of public rights of way and roads that pass through the site. Footpaths: Fordingbridge 090/2/1, 090/8a/1 and 090/7/1 are all found crossing or adjacent to the northern section of the site. Footpath, Fordingbridge 090/8a/3 cuts through the site from north to south and footpath 090/3/1 crosses the southern part of the site.

Ecological designations - International, National & Local

Midgham Long Copse follows the eastern boundary of the proposed site, it is Ancient Woodland and a SINC. Lomer Copse is found 200m south of the site and is a SINC and Ringwood Forest and Homewood is another SINC approximately 525m south west.

The Avon Valley river, approximately 840m to the east, is a SPA and an SSSI.

Figure 52: NFD04 Midgham Farm - Constraints and designations



Landscape Condition

The landscape condition is **medium / good**, except in the area which is over-grazed by horses close to Midgham Farm. It is a farmed valley landscape, mainly pastoral, with a traditional field pattern surrounded by hedgerows with trees. Some areas to the east of Lomer Lane are used for horse grazing at all times and have become downgraded, where the land is divided into smaller paddocks with fencing.

Landscape Sensitivity

- The proposal would have a **moderate / low adverse** effect to the east of Lomer Lane, **moderate adverse** to the west of Lomer Lane with a small area of **high adverse** effects in the north west corner close to Alderholt Village.
- The character of large parts of the Avon Valley has been changed by the extraction of sands and gravel and the sites being restored to open water bodies rather than meadow land.
- The landscape value of the remaining parts of the valley that are still intact is becoming a more important and this is considered to be a highly sensitive area.

Visual Sensitivity

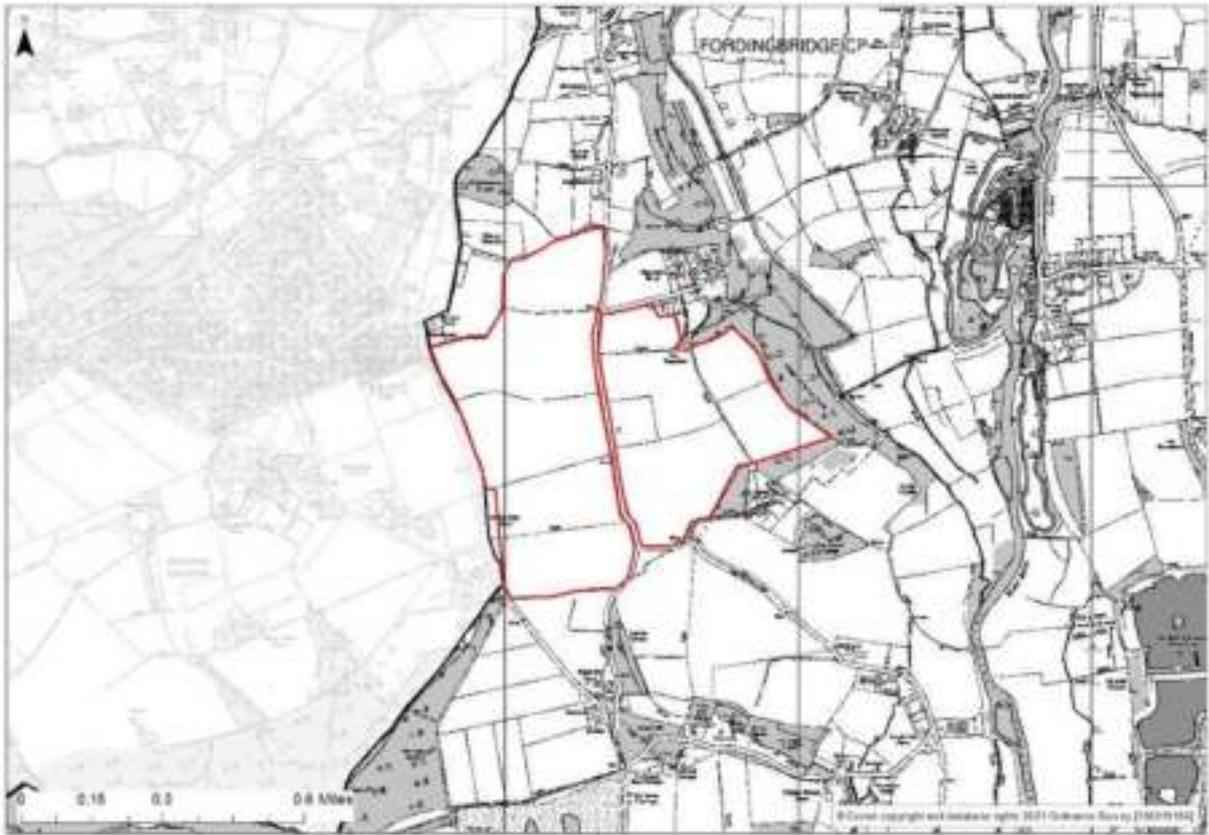
Receptor	Notes	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads	Hillbury Road	Adjacent	Hedgerow with intermittent trees	MEDIUM
	Lomer lane that passes through the centre of the site	Adjacent	Hedgerow with intermittent trees	MEDIUM

	North End Lane	Adjacent	Hedgerow with intermittent trees	MEDIUM
Settlement/Housing	Midgham Farm and a number of adjacent properties	Adjacent	Garden boundaries and vegetation	HIGH
	Primrose Cottage, North End Road	Adjacent	Trees and Woodland belt	MEDIUM
	Bleak Hill Farm, Harbridge Drove	350m to the south	Farm buildings	MEDIUM
	Spring Cottage Hillbury Road	Adjacent	Garden Boundary	HIGH
Definitive PRow long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	FP 090/2/1	Crosses the site through an open field	Open	HIGH
	FP 090/8a/1, & 090/8a/3	Adjacent & crosses through the site	Part open and Hedgerow	HIGH
	FP 090/7/1	Near-by	Trees and vegetation	MEDIUM / LOW
	FP 090/3/1	Crosses the site through an open field	Open	HIGH
Rail/ Country Parks/Other Parks	N/A			

Mitigation Measures and Restoration

- The site area should be reduced so that the north west corner does not extend up to the edge of Alderholt Village.
- Restoration to existing ground levels and to agricultural land use.
- Replacement of hedgerows with trees and additional native tree planting along Hillbury Road.
- No open water bodies.

Figure 53: NFD04 Midgham Farm - Site Plan



NFD05 Hyde Farm, Bicton, Land north of Hern Lane, SP6 2EZ (Sand and gravel extraction/Waste)

Location / Description

The proposed site is located immediately to the east of the A338 Ringwood Road and is divided from north to south by Hern Lane. It is a flat valley floor site comprising mainly small fields divided by hedgerows with intermittent trees. The fields are mainly laid to pasture with one large field used for growing arable crops. Ditchend Brook is found at the northern end of the site where it crosses the A338 and joins the River Avon.

Landscape Character

3a Avon Valley

Landscape Type

River Valley Terrace

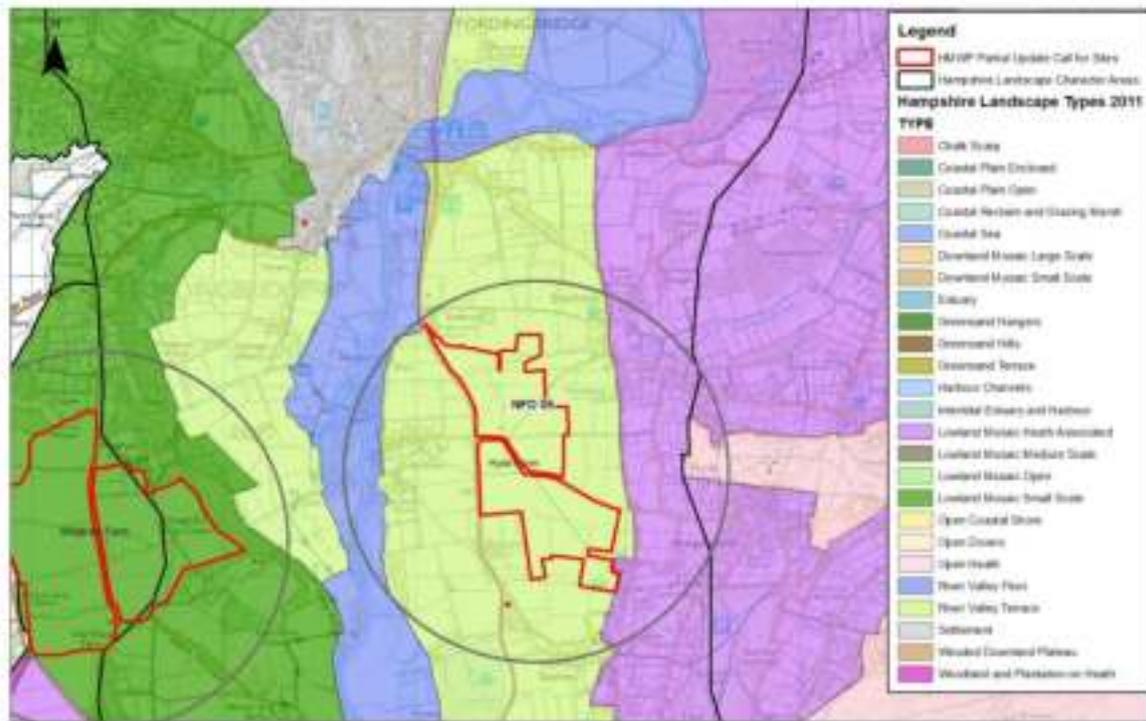
Key Characteristics applicable to this location

- Broad, open, relatively flat valley floor containing the meandering river.
- Western valley sides defined by steeply wooded ridge while eastern valley sides are more open with a series of wide terraces containing important heath and mire habitats.
- Extensive areas of neutral grassland (one of the largest expanses of unimproved floodplain grassland in Britain), and open lightly treed river valley floor, often with cattle grazing and horse grazing on the terraces.
- Significant remains of complex water meadows.
- Regular field pattern on valley floor and terracing indicative of formal enclosures.
- Open bodies of water from former gravel extraction on valley floor particularly immediately north of Ringwood on the eastern terraces.
- Large settlements of Fordingbridge and Ringwood at historic river crossings and occasional hamlets, with little 20th century built development.
- Views contained by valley sides but open floodplain results in medium distant views and large skies.
- Busy A338 on eastern side of the valley contrasts with tranquil pastoral scene on the floodplain.

Impact on Key Characteristics

- The proposed site is consistent with the key characteristics of the landscape type.
- There would be a loss of the intimate field pattern, hedgerows and treed nature of the valley, opening it up to extensive views.
- Loss of the pastoral landscape.

Figure 54: NFD05 Hyde Farm - Landscape Character Context



NFD 05 Hyde Farm, Bickton - Landscape Character Context

scale 1:15,000

Constraints and Designations

The New Forest National Park Boundary runs along Ringwood Road and then along footpath no. 125/742/1, which is approximately 170m to the east of the proposed site boundary to the north of Hern Lane. To the south of Hern Lane the proposed site backs onto the National Park boundary to the rear of properties on Ringwood Road, North Gorley.

Historic Landscape Character

There are three listed buildings adjacent to the site on Ringwood Road, North Gorley, including the Royal Oak pub, Hern Farmhouse and a barn at Hern Farm. To the north of Hern Lane there are three more listed building all associated with Hyde Farm and two barns.

The are no sites registered on the Hampshire Inventory of Historic Parks, Gardens & Public Green Spaces in the immediate area.

Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas

There are a number of footpaths that cross the site from north to south they are FP Hyde 125/740/1, which links Stuckton Road with Hern Lane; FP 125/741/1 Links Hern Lane to Hyde Lane; FP 125/744/1 links A338 Ringwood Road to Hern Lane; and FP 125/745/1 links Hern lane to Ringwood Road (running through Gorley)

Ecological Designations - International, National & Local

The River Avon SSSI and SAC are located just to the west of the A338 Ringwood Road approximately 160m from the site boundary. The majority of the proposed site is in an SSSI impact zone. The New Forest SSSI is found 970m to the north east of the site.

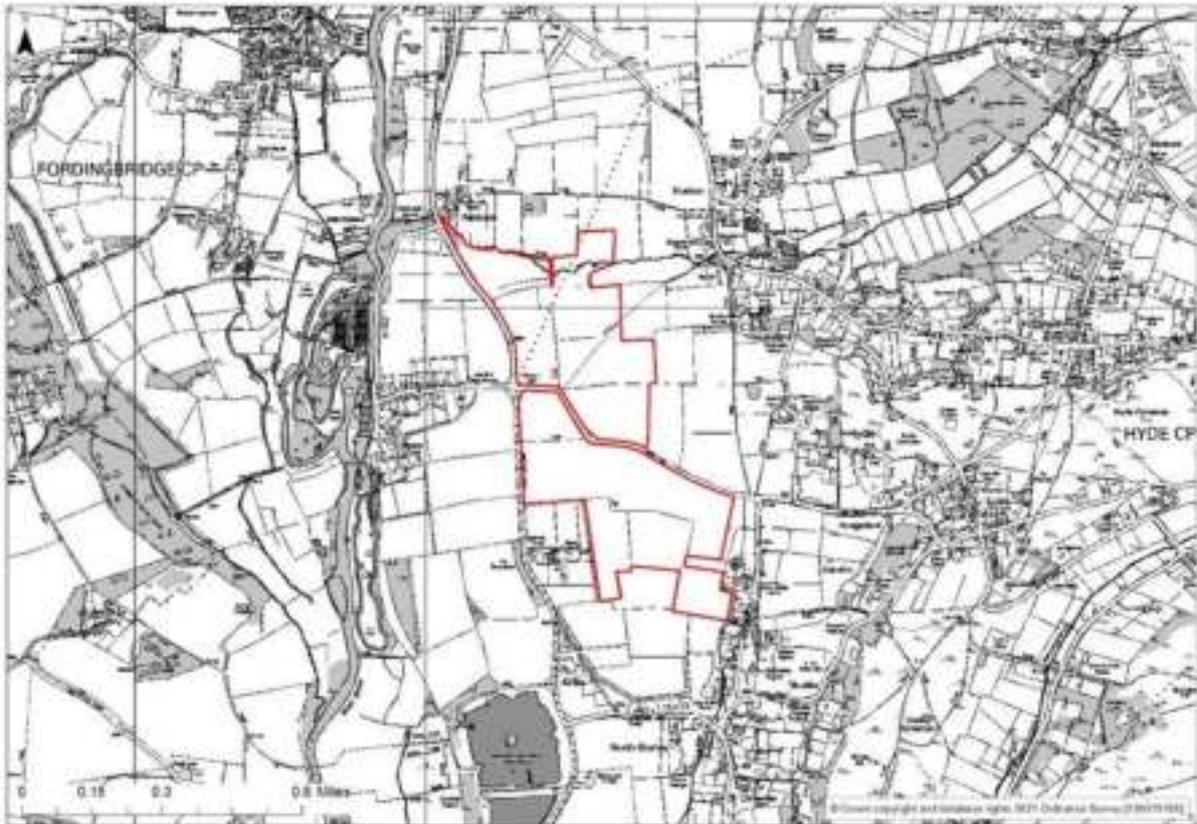
New Forest SPA and Ramsar runs north south along the Ringwood Road through North Gorley approximately 60m east of the site.

	Ringwood Road (through North Gorley)	Near by	Properties, vegetation and distance	LOW
Settlement/Housing	Properties on A338 Ringwood Road	Adjacent	Garden Boundary and vegetation	HIGH
	Properties in North Gorley along the Ringwood Road	Adjacent	Garden Boundary and vegetation	MEDIUM / HIGH
	Properties on Hyde Lane including Hyde Farm house and Flaxfield Farm	Near-by	Hedgerows, Garden boundary	HIGH
	Properties on Stuckton Lane	Near-by approx. 300m	Hedgerows and garden Boundaries	LOW
Definitive PRoW long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	FP 125/740/1	Crosses the site	Open	HIGH
	FP 125/741/1	Crosses the site	Open	HIGH
	FP 125/744/1	Crosses the site	Open	HIGH
	FP 125/745/1	Crosses the site	Open	HIGH
Rail/ Country Parks/Other Parks	New Forest National Park open Access land	Approx. 600m east	Vegetation and possible views across the valley	LOW

Mitigation Measures and Restoration

- Restore to existing ground levels and back to agriculture.
- Replant all hedgerows with trees.
- Reduce the area of the proposed site in the southern section to keep works away from properties in North Gorley.
- No ponds or lakes to form part of the restoration.

Figure 56: NFD05 Hyde Farm -Site Plan



NFD06 Cobley Wood, Harbridge, Fordingbridge, BH24 3PU (Sand and gravel extraction/Waste)

Location / Description

The proposed site is located immediately to the east of Harbridge Road and south of Alderholt village. The Hamer Warren mineral site is found immediately to the west of this site on the opposite side of Harbridge Road. Kent Lane defines the southern boundary. The site is flat open grassland with woodland enclosing distant views from the north and south. The eastern boundary is also partly wooded.

Landscape Character

3a Avon Valley

Landscape Type

Lowland Mosaic Small

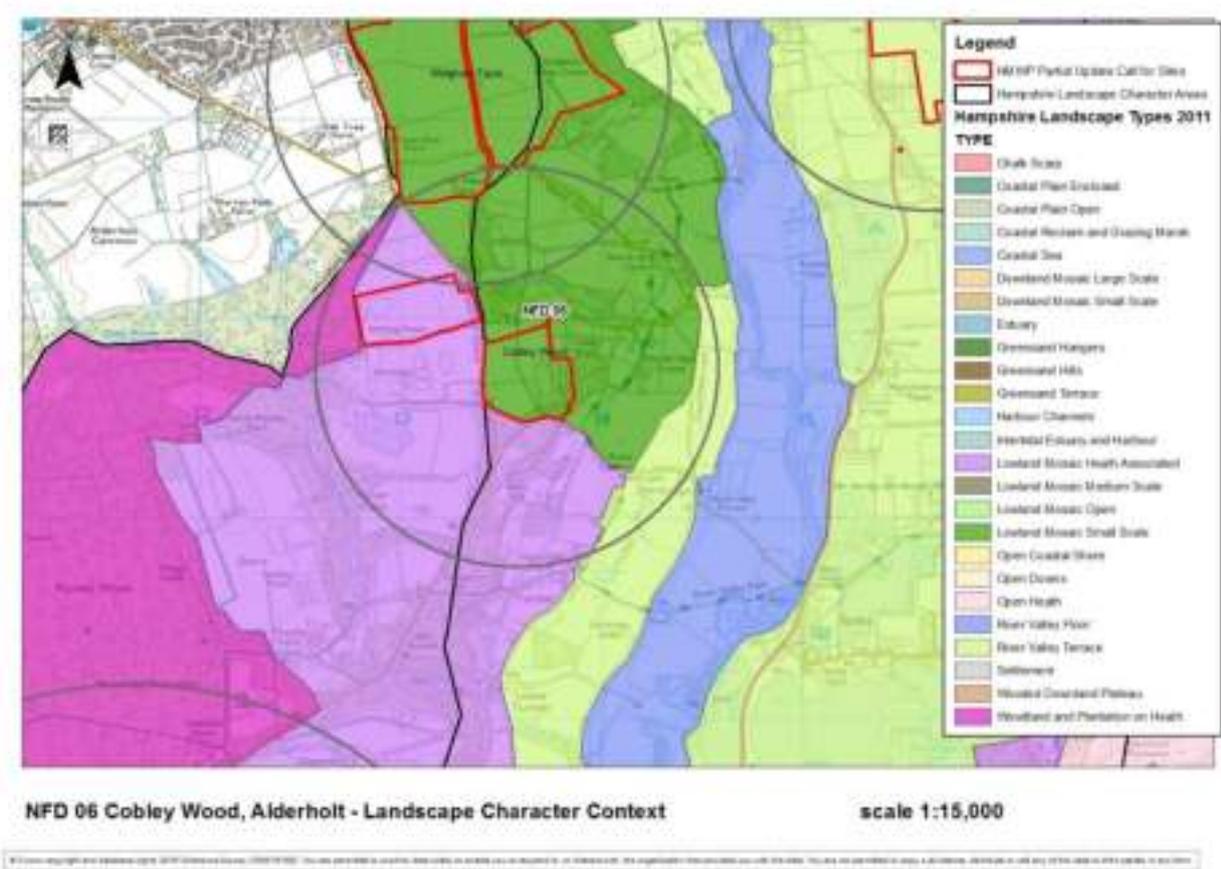
Key Characteristics applicable to this location

- Western valley sides defined by steeply wooded ridge while eastern valley sides are more open with a series of wide terraces containing important heath and mire habitats.
- Extensive areas of neutral grassland (one of the largest expanses of unimproved floodplain grassland in Britain), and open lightly treed river valley floor, often with cattle grazing and horse grazing on the terraces.
- Regular field pattern on valley floor and terracing indicative of formal enclosures.
- Open bodies of water from former gravel extraction on valley floor particularly immediately north of Ringwood on the eastern terraces.

Impact on Key Characteristics

- The proposed site is found on the western edge of the character area and it is not typical of the key characteristics. The site is located on a hilltop with extensive long distant views out to the western side of the Avon Valley and the New Forest National Park. The site is generally one large open field with two properties to the north and further properties at Cobley Wood Farm.

Figure 57: NFD06 Cobley Wood - Landscape Character Context



Constraints and Designations

There are no landscape designations on this site.

Historic Landscape Character

Primrose Cottage on Harbridge Drive is a listed building and overlooks the site.

Somerley is the only property in the vicinity registered on the Hampshire Inventory of Historic Parks, Gardens & Public Green Spaces. This house is located over 2.5km to the south and there is no visual or physical connection between the two.

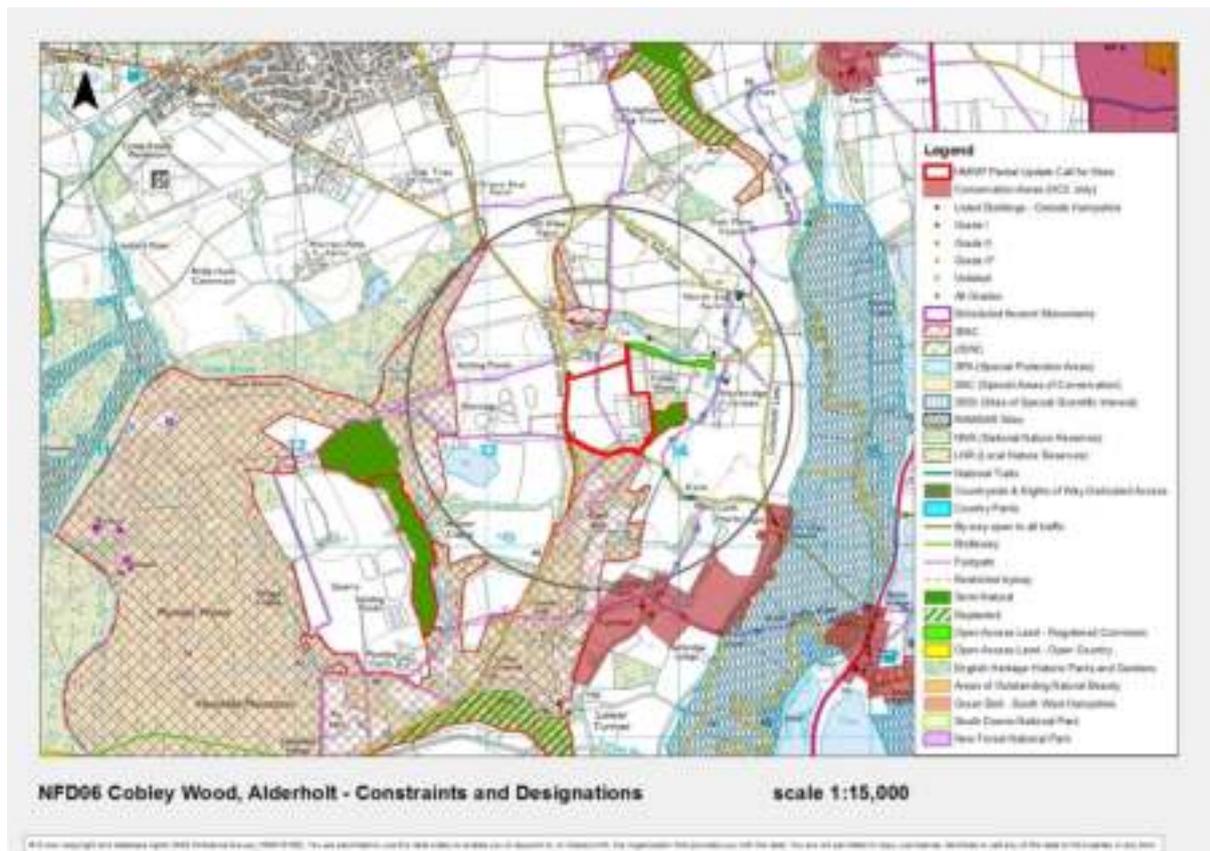
Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas

There is one footpath crossing the centre of the site from north to south Ellingham Harbridge and Iblesey - FP 078/24/1. The long-distance Avon Valley FP is found approximately 200 m to the east of the site.

Ecological designations - International, National & Local

Part of Cobley Wood is Ancient Semi Natural Woodland and a SINC, it borders the south-eastern corner of the site. The woodland to the south of Kent Lane is a SINC. The Avon Valley SINC is just over 800m to the east.

Figure 58: NFD06 Cobley Wood - Constraints and designations



Landscape Condition

The landscape condition is considered to be **good**. It is laid to pasture and although open without any field boundaries other than around the site boundaries and it is an attractive and relatively tranquil area. Old mapping appears to show there was a former gravel pit in the north eastern corner of the site.

Landscape Sensitivity

The lack of landscape features within this site make it less sensitive to the proposed extraction. It is considered that extraction would have a **low adverse** effect on the landscape.

Visual Sensitivity

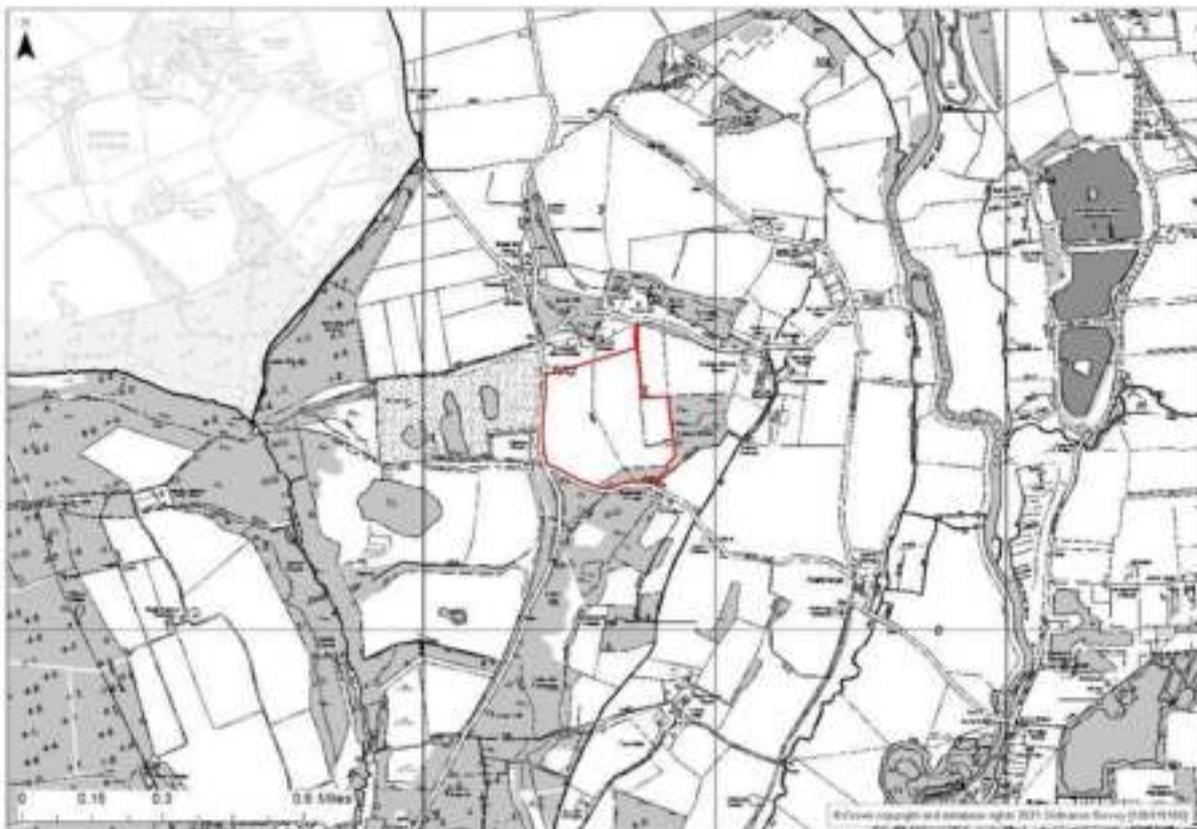
Receptor	Notes	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads	Harbridge Road	Adjacent	Hedgerow with intermittent trees	MEDIUM
	Kent Lane	Adjacent	High hedgerow and part woodland	LOW / MEDIUM
	Un-named lane to the north of the site	Adjacent	Woodland belt	LOW
Settlement/Housing	Primrose Cottage Harbridge Drove	Adjacent	Garden Boundary	HIGH
	Hillcrest House, Harbridge Drove	Western side Harbridge Drove.	Garden boundary, vegetation & hedgerow	MEDIUM

	Properties on un-named road to north of site	Adjacent	Garden boundary and open views	HIGH
	Cobley Wood Farm	Within site	Open Views	HIGH
Definitive PRow long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	FP 078/24/1	Crosses site	Open	HIGH
	Avon Valley Path	Near-by	Woodland	LOW/ NEGLIGIBLE
Rail/ Country Parks/Other Parks	New Forest National Park	On the eastern side of the Avon Valley	Woodland and open areas	LOW

Mitigation Measures and Restoration

- Screening will be required for properties to the north of the site.
- Access should be off Harbridge Drove and not the access road to Cobley Wood Farm.
- Additional screen planting should be carried out along Harbridge Drove.
- Screening for long distant views across the valley needs to be considered along with the careful siting of any plant. The mature woodland found along part of the eastern boundary should be used as a screen.

Figure 59: NFD06 Cobley Wood Site Plan



NFD07 Hamer Warren Quarry, Harbridge Drove, Ringwood, BH24 3PX. (Waste)

Location / Description

The site is an existing minerals and waste and gravel extraction quarry, located to the south of Alderholt and west of Harbridge Road. The landscape is essentially flat with limited distant views. The site is currently screened from the road by temporary earth bunds, and the western and southern boundary are screened by woodland and a tree belt.

Landscape Character

1c Ringwood Plantations and Heath

Landscape Type

Lowland Mosaic Heath Associated

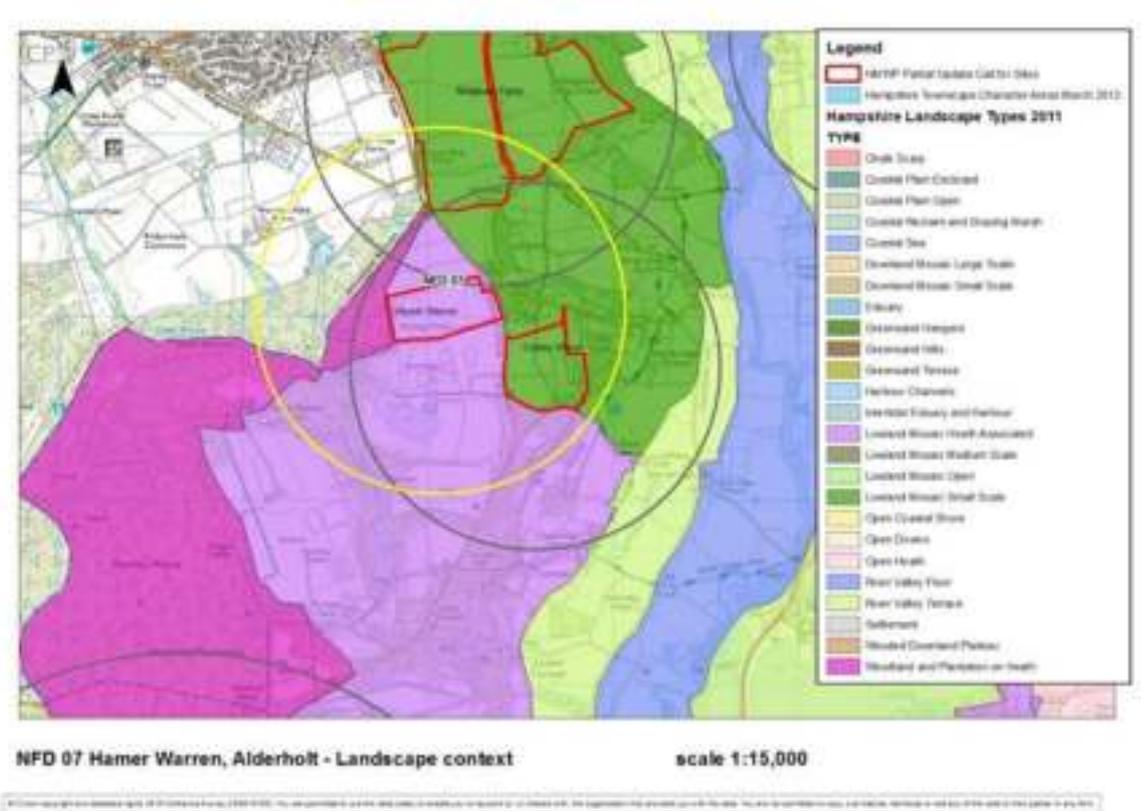
Key Characteristics applicable to this location

- Wooded undulating plateau to the west of the Avon Valley.
- Free draining soils and plateau gravels giving rise to acid soils and associated vegetation.
- Extensive SINC designation, due to the diversity of habitat, species and ecological structure in the area. The area also contains a small wetland part of the Dorset Heaths Ramsar designation.
- Rich mosaic of deciduous copses, tree belts, wooded water course and pasture on the valley sides.
- Extensive areas of 19th and 20th century conifer plantation comprising even age stands with linear rides and tracks and few surviving areas of former common heath.
- Straight roads derived from routes over former heath common which have fast traffic today.

Impact on Key Characteristics

- There will be little impact on this landscape as the site has already been extracted.

Figure 60: NFD07 Hamer Warren Quarry – Landscape Character Context



Constraints and Designations

There are no landscape designations on this site.

Historic Landscape Character

Not applicable as the landscape has already been despoiled by extraction.

Primrose Cottage on the opposite side of Harbridge Drove is a listed building but has no visual connection to the site.

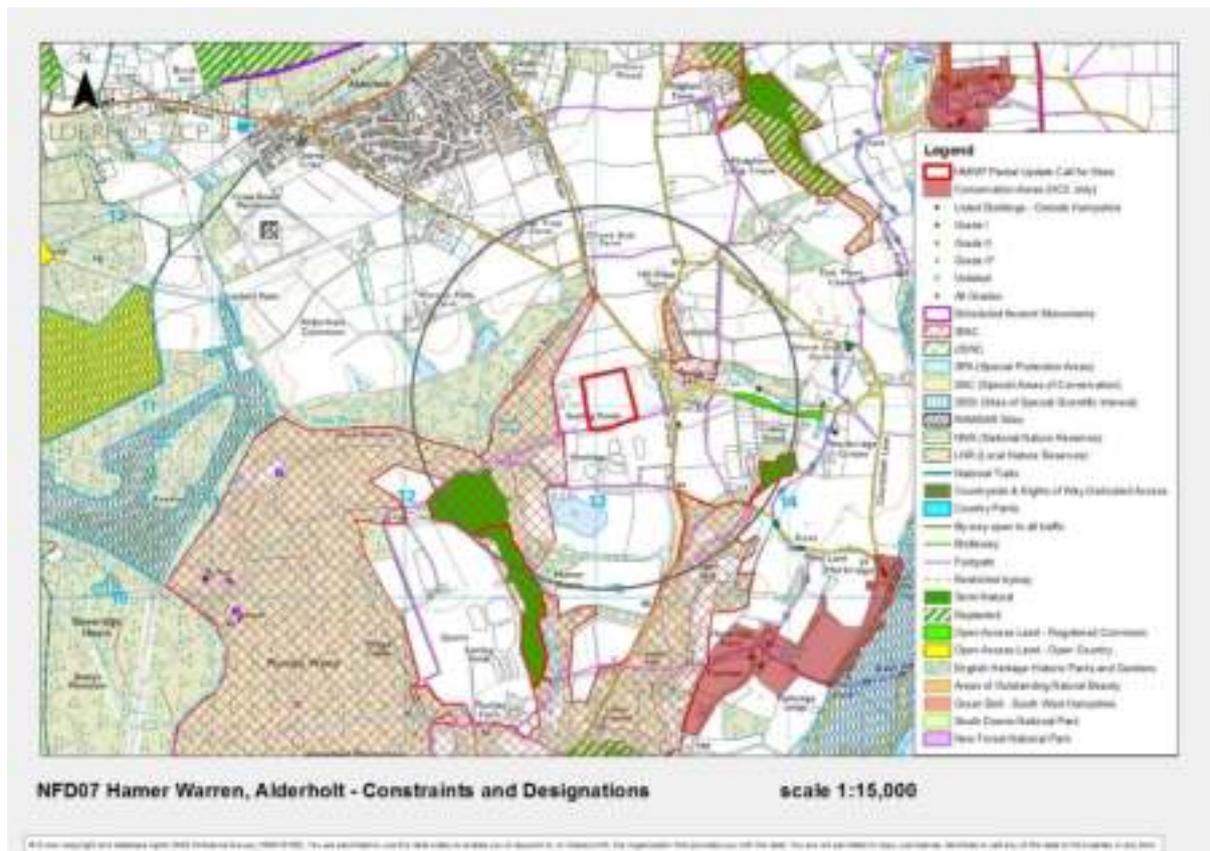
Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas

Ellingham, Harbridge and Ibsley Footpath 078/23a/1 follows a route to the south of the site screened by vegetation and a soil bund from the works. Footpath 078/43/1 follows the western boundary of the site.

Ecological designations - International, National & Local

The woodland bounding the western edge of the site is the New Forest and Home Wood SINC. Hamer Copse Ancient Woodland is approximately 420m to the south west.

Figure 61: NFD07 Hamer Warren Quarry - Constraints and designations



Landscape Condition

The landscape is currently in **poor** condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

The landscape is not considered to be sensitive in its current state, but it requires good mitigation to restore it to its former condition. The proposals would have a **neutral** effect.

Visual Sensitivity

Receptor	Notes	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads	Harbridge Drove	Adjacent	Hedgerow and earth bund	LOW
Settlement/Housing	Lindens House	Adjacent	Garden boundary and earth bund	MODERATE
	Primrose Cottage	Nearby	Hedgerows	MEDIUM
Definitive PRoW long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	078/23a/1	Adjacent	Earth bunds, Hedgerow and Woodland belt	LOW
	078/43/1	Adjacent	Earth bunds & Vegetation	LOW
Rail/ Country Parks/Other Parks	N/A			

Mitigation Measures and Restoration

- The final levels and ground restoration should be as approved for the existing planning permission for this site.

Figure 62: NFD07 Hamer Warren Quarry Site Plan



NFD08 Totton railway Sidings (Creation of a Rail Depot)

Location / Description

The site is an area of railway sidings located to the west of Totton Railway station. The main line railway runs immediately to the north of the sidings. The site was a former coal yard and is presently used as a railway depot. It is all hard surfaced with a combination of tarmac and railway tracks. The tracks are mainly located along the southern boundary of the site and therefore back onto gardens of properties in Jackie Wigg Gardens and new properties at the northern end of Brokenford Lane. A line of trees is located along the boundary of the site and provides a partial screen from the adjacent homes. These trees may be self-sown and therefore of mixed quality and health, but they should be retained if the use of the site is to be increased. Access to the site for vehicles is adjacent to the railway level crossing on Junction Road.

Proposal: Rail Depot.

Restoration: restored to agriculture / open space.

Landscape Character

The site falls within the Hampshire Integrated Character Assessment Townscape Assessment¹³ - Character Area 2, Rumbridge Core.

Landscape Type

Type 29 Transport Corridor

Key Characteristics applicable to this location

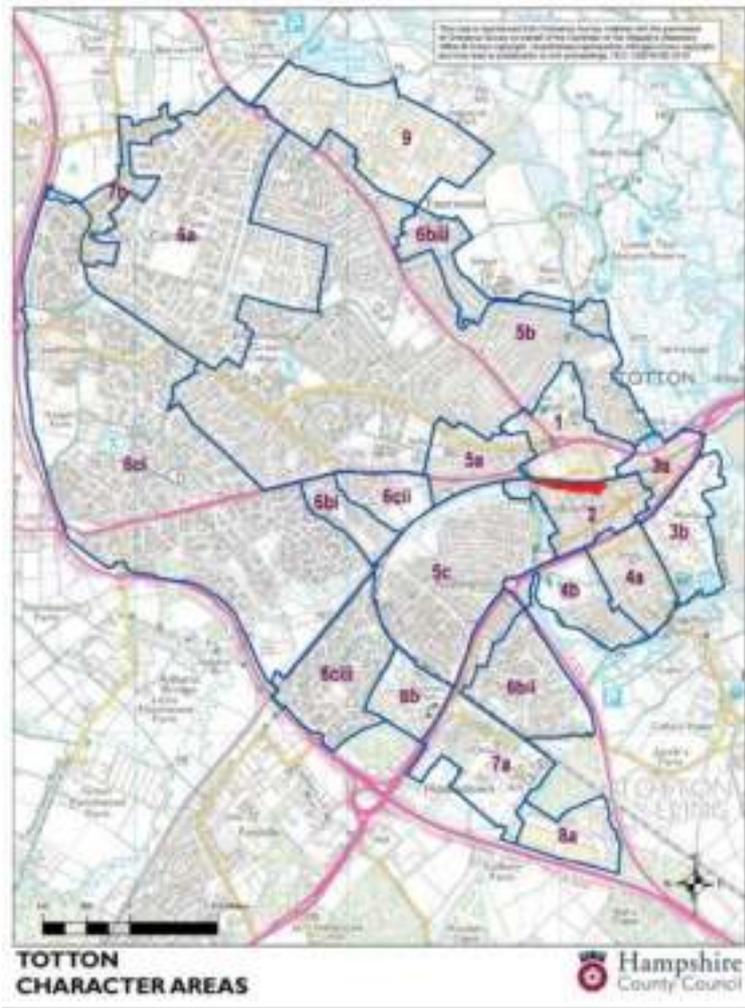
- The historic core and hinterland to the area known as Rumbridge, comprising the principal route through the former village.
- Good survival of earlier buildings (some statutory listed) from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries with a fine-grain character of small plots laid out on rectangular blocks.
- The topography is flat.
- Fine grain to the streetscape and survival of early regular plot divisions set along the principal route.
- A consistent two-storey scale of traditional built form almost throughout.
- Little or no tree cover, some mature trees to gardens, no public open space.
- Good access for car users but pedestrians are constrained by the railway to the north and the busy bypass to the south.

Impact on Key Characteristics

- The Townscape assessment does not detail the effects of the railway or the railway corridor in any detail, other than addressing the constraints it imposes on north south movements through the town.

¹³ Hampshire Integrated Character Assessment (HICA) Townscape Assessments:
<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/environment/landscape/integratedcharacterassessment/townscapeassessments>

Figure 63: NFD08 Totton - Townscape Character Context



Constraints and Designations

The closest landscape designation is the New Forest National Park which is over 1.6km to the west and the intervening area is built townscape.

Historic Landscape Character

The arrival of the railway in the late-nineteenth century probably stimulated some development and reinforced the distinction between the road and railway. By the late-nineteenth century a new area of housing was laid out in a grid of streets to the south of Rumbridge and constructed over the next two decades.

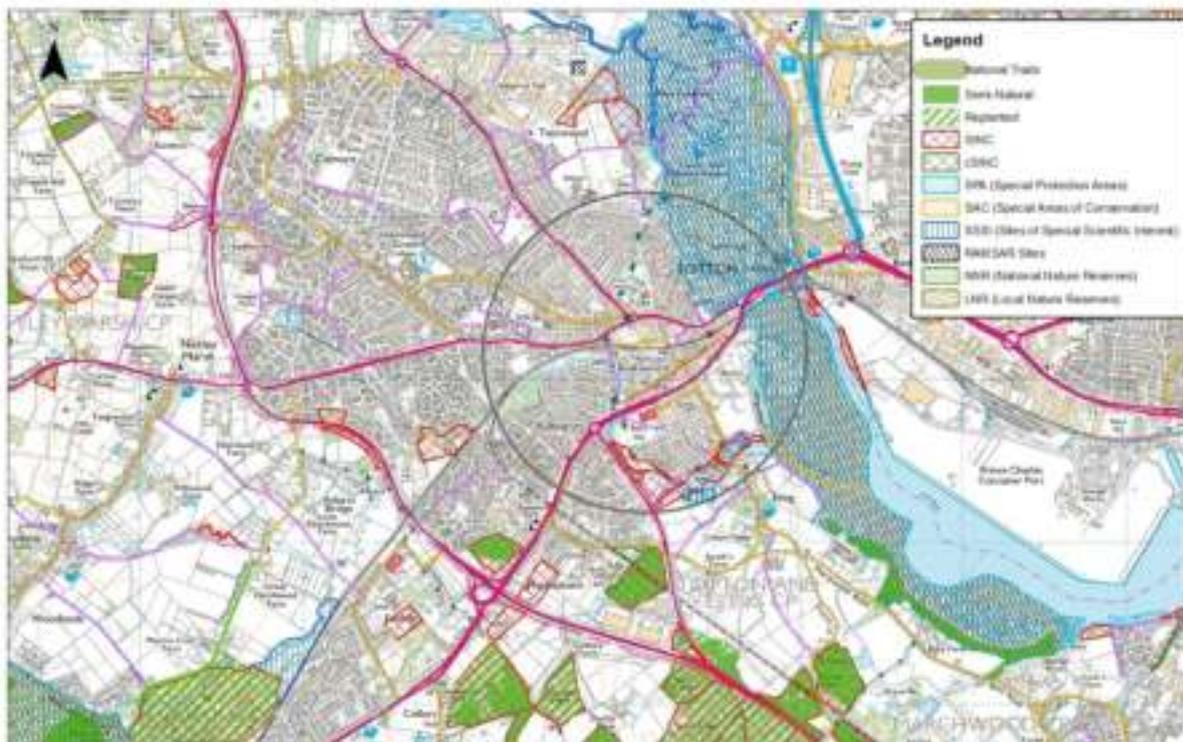
Ecological Designations - International, National & Local

Bartley Water is found 90m to the south-west of the western end of the sidings. This river feeds directly into Southampton Water / the Solent. Southampton Water lies just over 500m to the east of the site, the water environs are covered by a significant number of environmental designations, including a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Ramsar Site and Coastal Marsh Priority Saltmarsh to name some of the most significant. Built development covers the land between the site and the water's edge.

Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas

As the site is located within the centre of the town and accessed from Junction Road adjacent to the level crossing, there is a significant amount of footfall on the pavements at the site entrance. The level crossing on Junction Road has an old footbridge crossing the railway line. This is regularly used when the crossing gates are closed (approximately every 10 mins during the daytime). This bridge affords good views across the site. There is a second footbridge over the railway at the western end of the sidings, this bridge is part of the long-distance Test Way footpath, again it affords views over the site, but the viewers expectations are a view of a railway.

Figure 64: NFD08 Totton Railway Sidings – Designations and Constraints



Landscape Condition

The condition of this urban and industrial landscape is **poor**. The landscape is not sensitive to change.

Landscape Sensitivity

The sensitivity of this landscape is considered to be **moderate / low** in this area, the adjacent residential areas increase the sensitivity, particularly if the development would result in down grading their outlook. The development would have a **moderate adverse** effect, without mitigation to protect the adjacent housing areas.

Visual Sensitivity

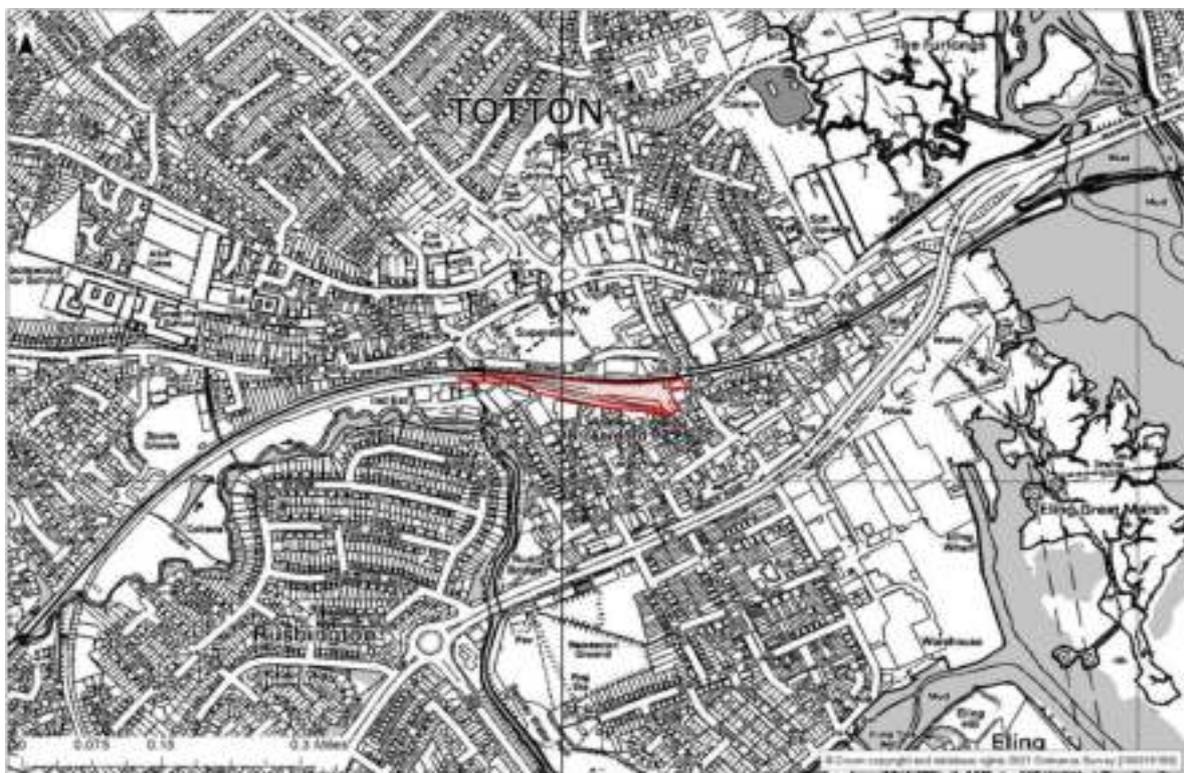
Receptor	Notes	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads	Junction Road	Adjacent to the site entrance	Limited to the adjacent properties on Junction Road,	LOW

			which are all used for commercial premises	
Settlement/Housing	Properties on Jackie Wigg Gardens	Adjacent	Garden boundaries	HIGH
	Osborne Road	Two properties area adjacent	Garden boundaries	HIGH
	Brokenford Lane	New houses and block of flats adjacent	Self-sown vegetation along the railway boundary	HIGH
Definitive PRow long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	Test Way long distance path	Bridge over the railway at the western end of site	Open to site from railway bridge	MEDIUM / LOW
	Junction Road & rail foot bridge over railway line	Adjacent to access	Open to site	MEDIUM / LOW

Mitigation Measures and Restoration

- Retain and enhance all vegetation along the southern boundary and improve the buffer for the adjacent housing areas.
- Increased heavy goods vehicle movements along Junction Road, could further degrade the Urban character, street scene improvements will need to be introduced to offset the impact.

Figure 65: NFD08 Totton Railway Sidings - Site Plan



8. New Forest National Park Local Planning Authority Area

Local Planning Policy

8.1. The New Forest National Park Local Plan 2016-2036¹⁴ was adopted August 2019. Policies that relate to landscape and countryside are set out in Appendix 9 and include:

- DP2: General development principles
- SP5 Nature conservation sites of international importance
- SP6 The natural environment
- SP7 Landscape character
- SP9 Green infrastructure
- SP15 Tranquillity

Landscape Character Assessment

8.2. The England-wide landscape character mapping undertaken by Natural England (2005) defines the New Forest District within the broad National Character Area category:

- Character Area 131 (New Forest).

8.3. The Hampshire Integrated Character Assessment (2012) further subdivides New Forest District into sixteen Landscape Character Areas including:

- Open Down;
- Wooded farmland;
- Woodlands and Plantations;
- Heath associated wooded farmland;
- Open Heaths;
- Plantations and Heath;
- Valleys (Test and Avon);
- Waterside; and
- Coastal Plains.

¹⁴ New Forest National Park Local Plan 2016-2036: <https://www.newforestnpa.gov.uk/planning/local-plan>

NNP01 Tower View, Crabbswood Lane, Sway, Lymington SO41 6EQ. (Sand and gravel extraction/Waste)

Location / Description

The proposal is for redevelopment of an existing site which has been in use since 1952. The proposed use is recycling inert waste leading to recycling. The site is located off Crabbswood Lane, Tiptoe, this lane has an essentially rural appearance with hedgerows on both sides, but it also has linear residential properties spaced out along the whole length of the lane. The landscape is flat, and the roadside vegetation generally screens the wider landscape.

Landscape Character

2k: Lymington Wooded Farmland

Landscape Type

Lowland Mosaic heath Associated

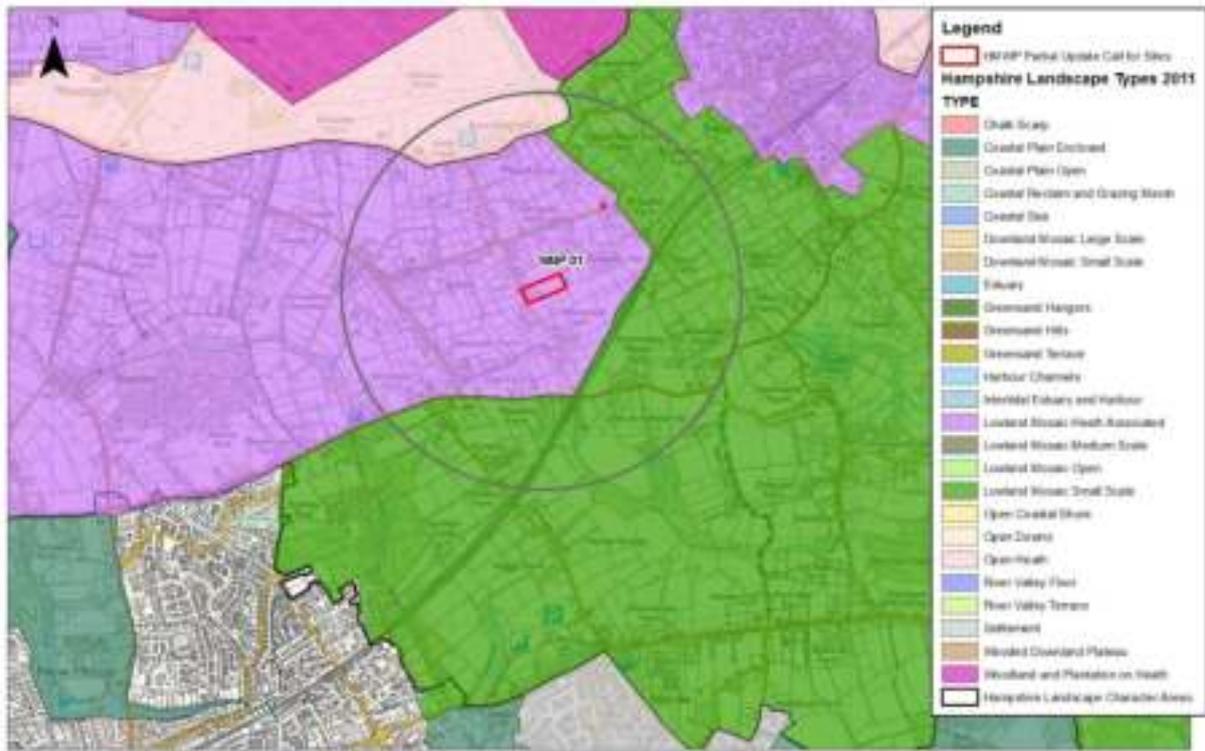
Key Characteristics applicable to this location

- Densely settled of mixed character, often with urban fringe feel, and strong associations with commoning.
- Smallholdings cluster around village greens, linear development along lanes.
- Mixture of small-scale irregular and more regular small and medium scaled enclosures defined by hedgerows with mature hedgerow trees often with banks and ditches and areas of ranch style fencing.
- Generally short views limited by vegetation with some longer distant views from open hills in the west.

Impact on Key Characteristics

As this is an existing site used for industrial purposes, reorganisation of the site should be used as an opportunity to improve its visual and physical appearance.

Figure 66: NNP01 Tower View - Landscape Character Context



NNP 01 Tower View, Sway - Landscape Character Context

scale 1:15,000

Constraints and Designations

The site lies within the New Forest National Park and there is a planning requirement for all development to conserve and enhance the landscape.

Historic Landscape Character

There are no historic landscape character features in the immediate area.

Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas

There are no public rights of way in the immediate area.

Ecological designations - International, National & Local

The New Forest National Park has many designations of ecological significance including SPA and SAC designations, approximately 700m to the north. A SSSI is found 40m to the north west of the site.

Figure 67: NNP01 Tower View - Constraints and designations



Landscape Condition

The landscape condition is **poor**.

Landscape Sensitivity

The site sits within the National Park; therefore all development proposals are required to improve the landscape. This site is currently in poor condition, it requires enhancement and should be improved. The site has **large adverse** sensitivity in the context of its location in the National Park.

Visual Sensitivity

Receptor	Notes	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads	Crabbswood Lane	Adjacent	Intermittent hedgerow with some trees.	MODERATE / HIGH
Settlement/Housing	Properties on Middle Road to the north	150 – 200m	Garden boundaries, hedgerows and vegetations	MEDIUM
Definitive PRoW long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	N/A			
Rail/ Country Parks/Other Parks	New Forest National Park	Within	Limited	HIGH

	South western railway line to the south	300 m	Railway in cutting, hedgerows and trees	NEGLIGIBLE
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Mitigation Measures and Restoration

- Improvements need to be made to the boundary treatment around this site.
- New planting and hedgerow thickening are required because heavy vehicle movements along the access lane have destroyed the rural character of the area.
- Any new structures or buildings need to reflect the rural location and should be of restricted height, less than 8m high.

Figure 68: NNP01 Tower View - Site Plan



9. Southampton City Council Local Planning Authority Area

Local Planning Policy

- 9.1. The Southampton City Council Core strategy (amended 2015)¹⁵, places the following site in the Itchen Riverside Quarter. There are no specific policies relating to this site.
- 9.2 The Southampton City Council Adopted City Centre Action plan 2015 places this site within the 'Itchen Riverside Character of the area'

SOU01 Leamouth Wharf, Belvedere Road, St Marys, Southampton (Sand and gravel extraction/Waste)

Location / Description

The site is an existing gravel and aggregates wharf located on the edge of the River Itchen opposite St Mary's Football Ground. The proposal is for reorganisation of an existing site to improve efficiency.

Southampton City Townscape Character

This site sits within the Southampton City Council Townscape Character area 42 Itchen Shore - Working Wharfs (modern).

Southampton City Townscape Type

Industrial and Power Infrastructure

Key Characteristics applicable to this location

- CA42: Itchen Shore – working wharfs.
- Flat landform.
- Coarse grained.
- The area is low density in terms of built form but with much of the open space laid over to aggregate storage in large piles of material. The machinery and infrastructure of the industry is large scale and industrial in character.

Impact on Key Characteristics

- Very limited impact as the proposal does not aim to change the use of the site, just to rearrange it.

¹⁵ Southampton City Council Core strategy (amended 2015):
<https://www.southampton.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/adopted-plans/adopted-core-strategy-2015/>

Figure 69: SOU01 Leamouth Wharf - Landscape Character Context



SOU 01 Leamouth Wharf, Southampton - Landscape Character Context

scale 1:15,000

Constraints and Designations

There are no landscape designations, conservation areas or historic docks in this area.

Historic Landscape Character

This area represents land that has gradually been reclaimed from the river through the building of jetties and wharfs out from the historic shoreline and the subsequent infilling of the areas between. This process began at the southern end of the area c.1800 and increased in the 1830s/40s.

Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas

Public footways along Belvedere Road, Marine Parade and the junction with Britannia Road. Views from Peartree Green on the eastern side of the River Itchen. Solent Way long distance footpath cross Itchen Bridge to the south of the site.

Ecological designations - International, National & Local

The Itchen River is a SPA. The eastern side of the River Itchen opposite the site is part of the Solent and Southampton Water Ramsar site and also part of the Lee on Solent to River Itchen SSSI. Saxon Wharf / Shamrock Quay SINC is found just to the north of the site and Itchen Bridge Mudflat SINC to the south. Peartree Green on the eastern side of the river is a Local Nature reserve.

Figure 70: SOU01 Leamouth Wharf - Constraints and designations



Landscape Condition

The site is all heavy industry and a working wharf with no soft landscape features. The landscape condition is **poor**.

Landscape Sensitivity

The site is not sensitive, but account needs to be taken of the important ecological designations along the River Itchen. The proposals may have a **slight adverse** effect on both the ecological designations and landscape character.

Visual Sensitivity

The site is clearly visible from the immediate surrounding areas, but it is not an unexpected view in the industrial and waterside context in which it sits.

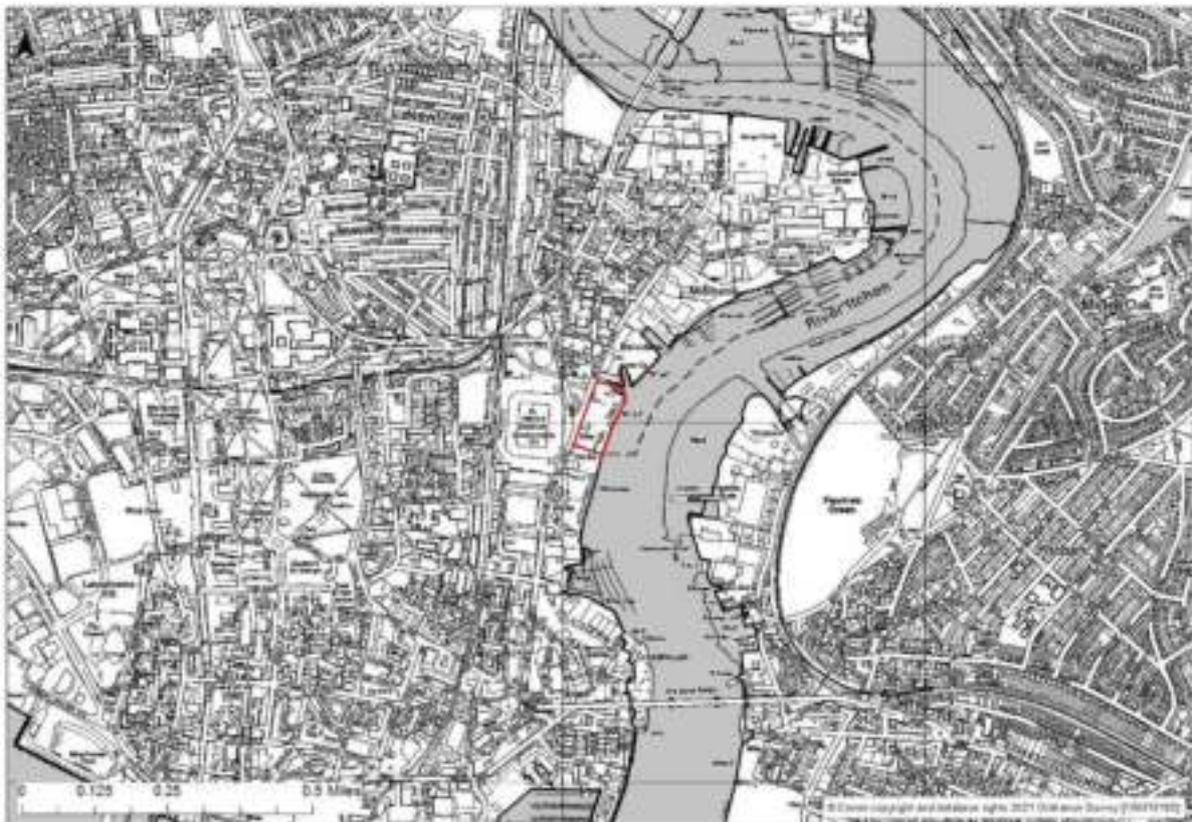
Receptor	Notes	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads	Belvedere Road	Adjacent	Open	LOW / MEDIUM
	B3038 Marine Parade	Adjacent	Open	MEDIUM
	Britannia Road	Near-by	Open	LOW
Settlement/Housing	N / A			
Definitive PRow long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	Public footways along adjacent roads	Adjacent and near-by	Open / Site Fencing	HIGH
	Solent Way Long distance footpath	730m south	Open	LOW

Rail/ Country Parks/Other Parks	Pear Tree Green public open space / Local Nature Reserve	600m east across the River Itchen	Trees and scrub contain most views	LOW / NEGLIGIBLE
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Mitigation Measures and Restoration

- Seek to encourage good design in replacement buildings fronting Marine Parade/Belvidere Road which have a more dynamic and active relationship with the roadside.
- Seek to maximise views/glimpses across the water wherever possible.
- Improve site fencing and consider roadside trees.

Figure 71: SOU01 Leamouth Wharf Site Plan



10. Test Valley Borough Council Local Planning Authority Area

Local Planning Policy

10.1. The Test Valley Borough Revised Local Plan DPD - 2011 - 2029 was adopted by the Council on 27 January 2016. Policies that relate to landscape and countryside are set out in Appendix 11 and include:

- Policy E2: Protect, Conserve and Enhance the Landscape Character of the Borough
- Policy E5: Biodiversity
- Policy E6: Green Infrastructure

Landscape Character Assessment

10.2. The England-wide landscape character mapping undertaken by Natural England (2005) defines Test Valley District within four broad National Character Area categories:

- Character Area 128 (South Hampshire Lowlands);
- Character Area 130 (Hampshire Downs);
- Character Area 131 (New Forest); and
- Character Area 132 (Salisbury Plain and West Wiltshire Downs).

10.3. The Hampshire Integrated Character Assessment (2012) subdivides Test Valley District into a number of Landscape Character Areas including:

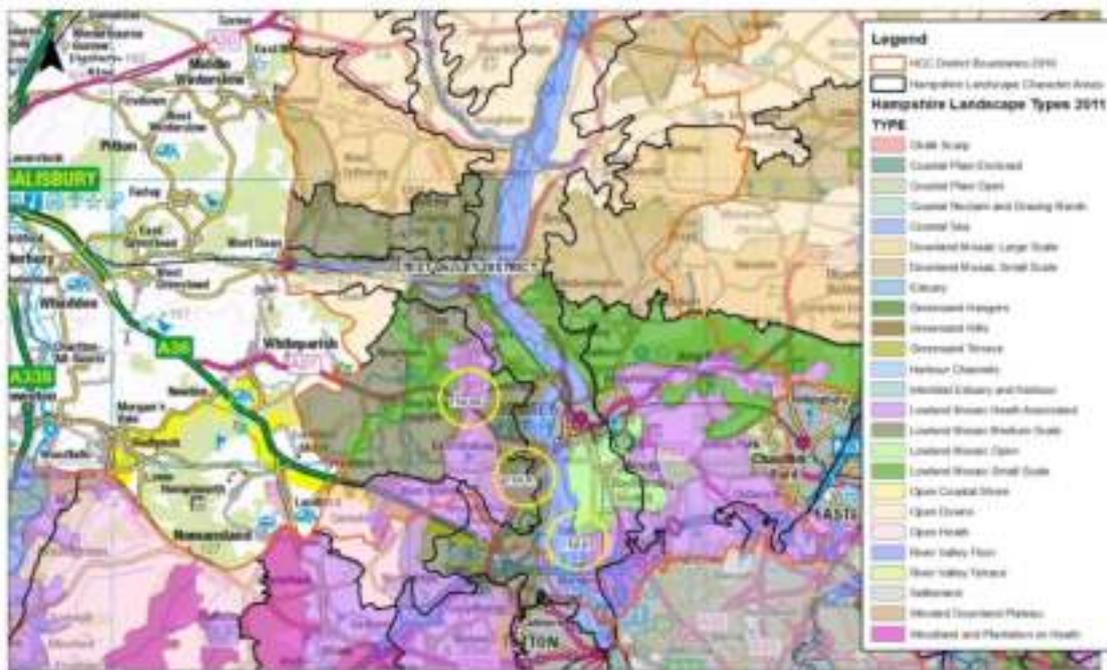
- Downs & Open Downs;
- Wooded Farmland;
- Wooded Lowland Mosaic;
- Heath Associated Wooded Farmland; and
- Open Heaths.

Figure 72: HICA mapping for Test Valley District Council area (north)



Test Valley District Council - Hampshire Landscape Character Areas and Landscape Types

Figure 73: HICA mapping for Test Valley District Council area (south)



Test Valley District Council - Hampshire Landscape Character Areas and Landscape Types

TSV01 Whitehouse Field, Goodworth Clatford, Andover SP11 7HW (Waste)

Location / Description

Situated on the west facing valley side of the River Anton, this site forms part of a small scale, steep sloping pasture landscape adjacent the open chalk downland around Andover.

Bounded by the busy A3057 Romsey Road and the B3420 to Wherwell, tranquillity levels here are depleted. Pylons with high voltage cables transect the field. From across the valley, south of Goodworth Clatford, there are clear views of this site, backed by the woodland of Harewood Forest.

Proposal: processing of inert material already present on site.

Restoration: to a 5 hole golf course.

Landscape Character

3b Test Valley

Landscape Type

Major River Valley

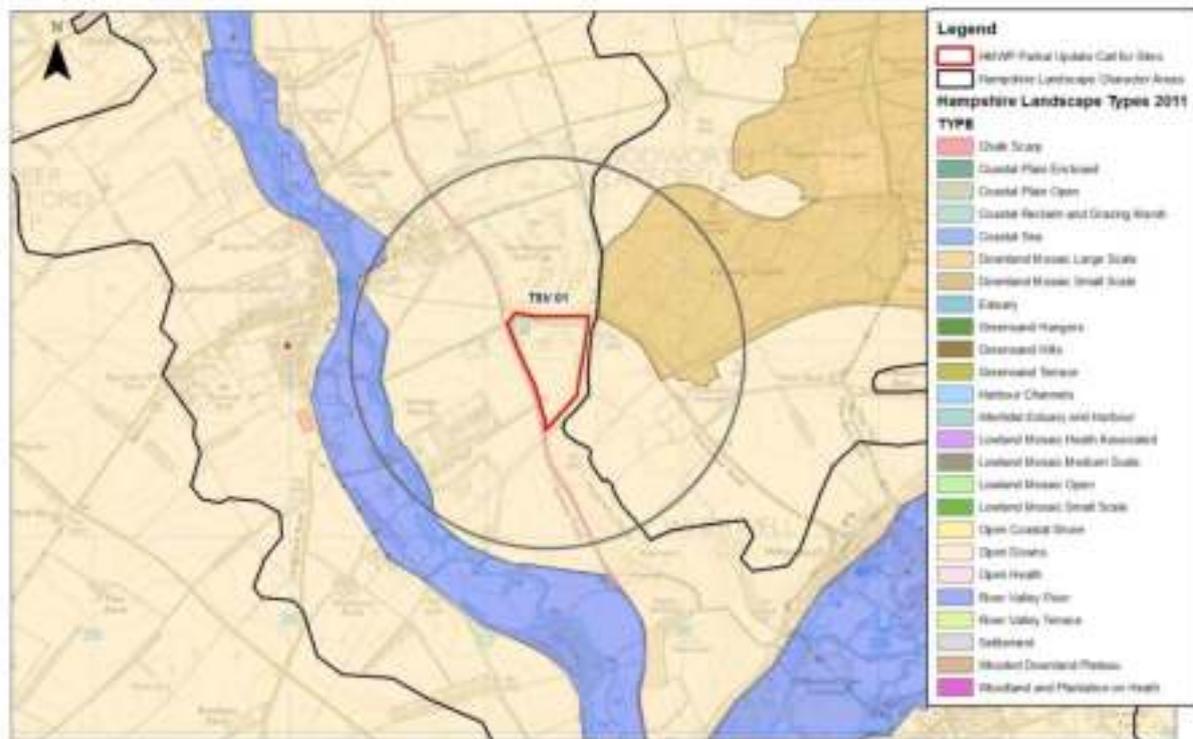
Key Characteristics applicable to this location

- Chalk geology with steep abrupt valley sides becoming gentler further south, long tributaries extending deep into the chalk hinterland.
- Clear alkaline nutrient rich spring water supporting a rich biodiversity and nationally designated riverine, wetland, grassland, and woodland habitats.
- Generally meandering and braided river course boarded by luxuriant riverine vegetation, reedbeds, marshes and former water meadows.
- Unimproved grazed floodplain meadows, arable production on valley terraces, pasture and arable on valley sides.
- Floodplains with no obvious field pattern and overlapping vegetation comprising individual trees, remnant hedgerows and small carr woodlands.
- Valley sides have a range of different enclosure patterns and scales with fields define by hedgerow and hedgerow trees.
- Generally unspoilt, remote and tranquil except for urban influences and noise intrusion close to major towns and roads.
- Generally winding roads and lanes following the edge of the valley floor.
- Small settlements in main valley and tributaries and very lightly populated chalk surroundings.
- On the valley sides in the upper reaches of downland the field sizes are mixed but appear medium to large scaled, regular in form and relatively open. They support arable land use with remnant patches of downland on steeper slopes.

Impact on Key Characteristics

Existing spoil heaps and machinery detract from the 'generally unspoilt' character of this landscape. The exposed nature of the site ensures that activity within it is visible over a wide expanse of the countryside, in particular the nationally designated habitats in the river valley below.

Figure 74: TSV01 Whitehouse Field - Landscape Character Context



TSV 01 Whitehouse Field, Goodworth Clafford - Landscape Character Context

scale 1:15,000

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Constraints and Designations

Within the nationally designated Test Valley SSSI impact zone, the site overlooks the valley of the River Anton, a chalk stream with similar landscape characteristics.

Historic Landscape Character

The historic landscape character has been influenced by formal enclosure in the post medieval period. The valley sides were enclosed relatively late, during a period of population growth, urbanisation and high grain prices.

Whitehouse Cottage (Grade II listed building) is found on the north-east corner of the site. Within 700m to the west along adjacent B3420 are further listed buildings and to the west, the Conservation Area of Goodworth Clafford.

Ecological Designations - International, National & Local

The SINC of Makerel’s Down abuts the south boundary of this site. Harewood Forest SINC and designated Ancient Woodland is immediately to the north-east although separated from it by the B3420. The River Anton SINC is located approximately 700m to the west.

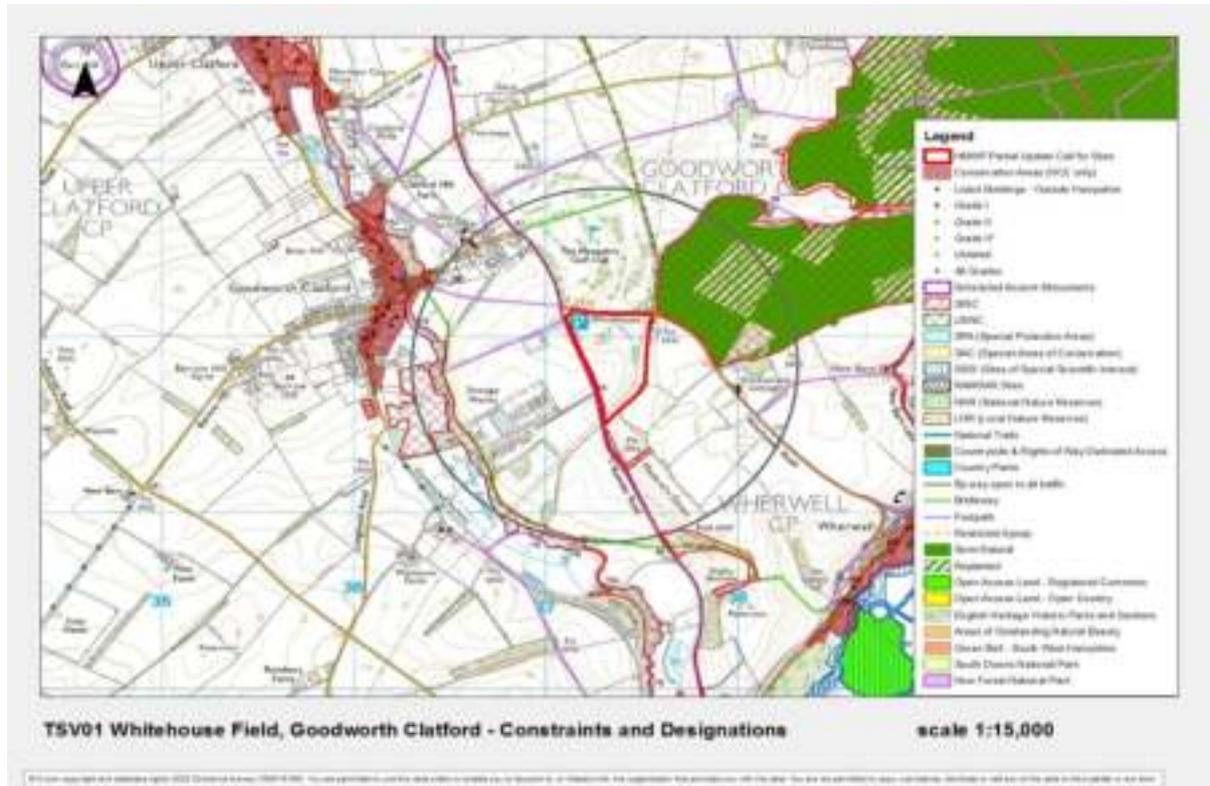
The site is contained within the Harewood Forest Biodiversity Opportunity Area.

Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas

Restricted byway 096/17/2 approaches the boundary of the site from the north. Footpaths 096/3/1 and 096/2/1 approach the site on rising ground, from the west. The valley contains several PRow which run in parallel with the river while narrow country lanes rise up onto the higher ground to the west.

Hampshire Golf Course to the north is separated from the application site by mature hedgerows.

Figure 75: TSV01 Whitehouse Field - Constraints and designations



Landscape Condition

The site has been disturbed by previous stockpiling of construction waste material. Although stockpiles are limited in extent they reduce the overall condition to **poor**.

Landscape Sensitivity

Adjacent to the highly valued and ecologically rich landscape of a chalk river valley the site has a **medium-high** landscape sensitivity. The likely effect of the proposal once restored could be **beneficial**.

Visual Sensitivity

Due to the exposed nature of the sloping ground with prominent views of the site from the west and glimpsed views through gaps in hedgerows from the PRoW (restricted byway 17/2), this site has a **medium-high** visual sensitivity. The likely effect of the proposal once restored could be **beneficial**.

Receptor	Notes	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads	A3057 Romsey Road	Adjacent west boundary	Hedgerows and a bluff in the topography screen most views	MEDIUM
	B3420 Wherwell road	Adjacent north boundary	Hedgerows screen views	LOW

	Longstock Road	1.5km to the west	Parts of the site are screened by hedgerows	MEDIUM
Settlement/Housing	Whitehouse Cottage	Adjacent North-east site corner	Hedgerow part screens	HIGH
	Goodworth Clatford	Approx. 1km to north-west	Riverine vegetation predominantly screens the site from view	LOW
Definitive PRow long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	Restricted byway	Approaches site from the north	Hedgerows – gap allows clear view (restricted width)	MEDIUM
	Footpaths 1 & 2	Approaches from the west	Hedgerows	MEDIUM
	River valley footpaths	Approx. 1km	Riverine vegetation and hedgerows	LOW
Rail/ Country Parks/Other Parks	Golf Course	North boundary across B-road	Mature hedgerows screen from view	LOW

Mitigation Measures and Restoration

- Enhance existing hedgerows with additional planting.
- Create a buffer zone between the development and the adjacent residential property.
- Restore site to species rich grassland in line with the objectives of the Biodiversity Opportunity Area, in keeping with the historic landscape character and in sympathy with the visual landscape qualities of the area.

Figure 76: TSV01 Whitehouse Field, Goodworth Clatford - Site Plan



TSV02 Grateley Bio Depot, Old Stockbridge Road, Grateley, Andover SP11 7EF (Waste)

Location / Description

The site is located south of the London Waterloo to Exeter railway line, in an area of open and relatively flat downland. The land rises to the north of the railway line up to Quarley Hill. Vegetation and hedgerows are sparse in this essentially arable landscape. More trees and shrubs are found around the edge of Grateley and Palestine Villages. The site is partially screened by planting along the southern and eastern boundaries.

Landscape Character

8d Andover Open Downs

Landscape Type

Open Downs

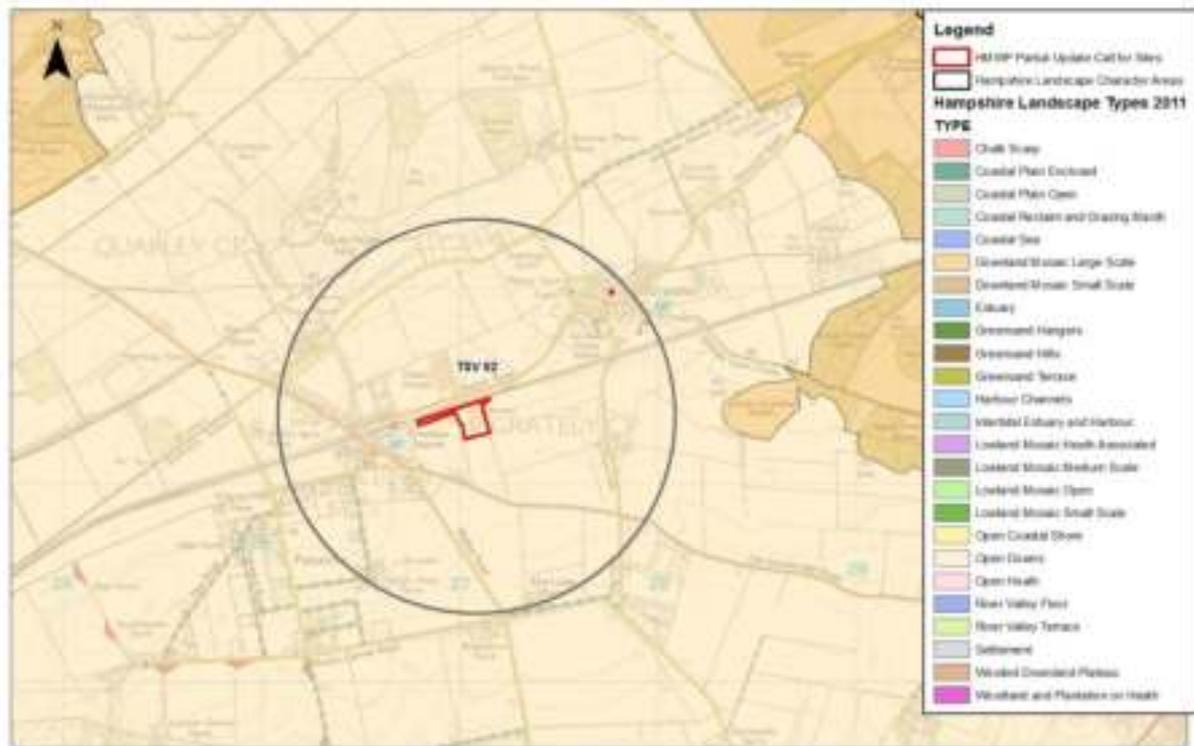
Key Characteristics applicable to this location

- Plateau downland with gentle undulating ridges and dry chalk valleys.
- Occasional prominent hills within the downland create visual features expansive landscape with long distant views across downland and the river valleys which dissect the plateau.
- Predominately arable land use with limited pasture in the west and south on the fringes of Salisbury Plain and Boscombe Down East.
- There is little woodland cover creating a simple composition of landscape elements except where there are notable deposits of clay with flints - here woodland cover becomes dominant e.g. Harewood Forest.
- A landscape with significant time depth and important archaeology particularly from prehistoric and Roman periods, especially associated with the areas of open downland and higher areas - including burial mounds and hill forts such as Danebury.
- Very regular formal enclosure pattern dates predominately from the 19th century. Defined in places by a weak hedgerow structure or no boundaries at all and particularly in the open downland tends to overwrite earlier field boundary patterns.
- Occasional parkland landscapes provide visual diversity.
- Tranquil and remote away from Andover and particularly in the south where there is little settlement.

Impact on Key Characteristics

This site has already developed and the proposal is to increase the amount of inert aggregate and soils recycled on the site. Therefore, there are no landscape elements on the site that can be further damaged. There may be opportunities to improve the landscape setting if further development is approved on the site.

Figure 77: TSV02 Grateley Bio Depot - Landscape Character Context



TSV 02 Grateley Waste Facility - Landscape Character Context

scale 1:15,000

Constraints and Designations

There are no landscape designations on this site.

Historic Landscape Character

Grateley House School is a Listed building and the gardens and parkland are registered on the Hampshire Inventory of Historic Parks, Gardens & Public Green Spaces (approximately 850m north east).

The ancient hill fort of Quarley Hill is found north of the railway line.

Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas

There are no public rights of way in the immediate vicinity of the site. There are some to north of the railway line and Grateley Drove but due to intervening topography and vegetation they afford no views of the site

Ecological designations - International, National & Local

Quarley Hill Fort is also an SSSI, located over 1km to the north.

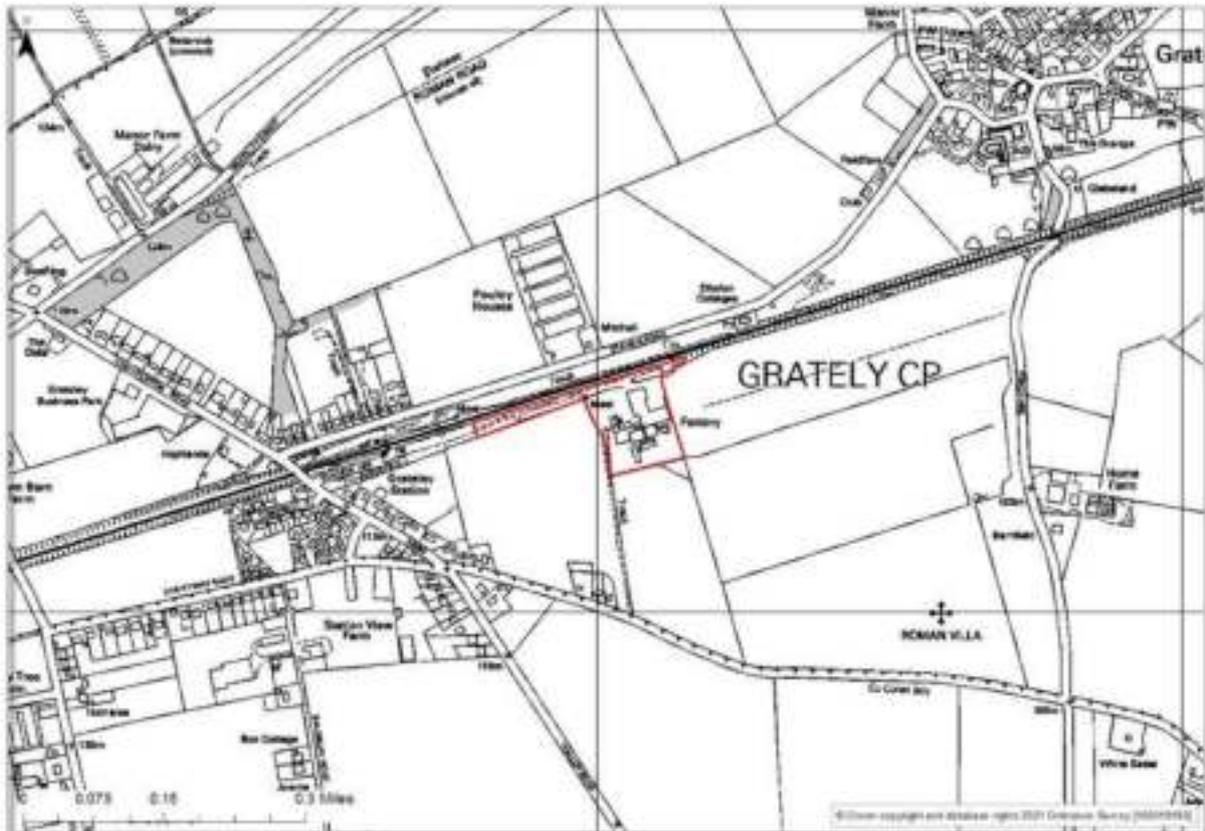
Lower Grateley Wood (approximately 1.35 km) to the east is a SINCR, with no connectivity to the site.

	Properties on Station Approach	350 m west	Garden boundaries	MEDIUM / HIGH
	Properties on the Old Stockbridge Road, adjacent to the site entrance drive	Adjacent & nearby to the site entrance.	Relatively open garden boundaries	MEDIUM / HIGH
Definitive PRoW long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	N/A			
Rail/ Country Parks/Other Parks	London Waterloo to Exeter railway line	Adjacent	Intermittent vegetation	LOW

Mitigation Measures and Restoration

- Improve the screen planting around the site, this may require more land.
- Plant native trees and shrubs along the access the road.

Figure 79: TSV02 Grateley Bio Depot Site Plan



TSV03 Lee Lane, Nursling, Southampton SO16 0AD (Waste)

Location / Description

The site is a flat former gravel pit site located in the Test Valley floor. It has been restored to agriculture, but it does not appear to have been maintained, therefore it has started to revert to scrub. There is a conifer woodland all along the western boundary, which wraps around the northern edge joining up with Lee Lane. Lee Lane is a small narrow rural road that runs along the eastern boundary. The character of this lane has been despoiled by the number of lorries that now use it to access various industrial sites.

Landscape Character

3b Test Valley

Landscape Type

Lowland Mosaic Heath Associated

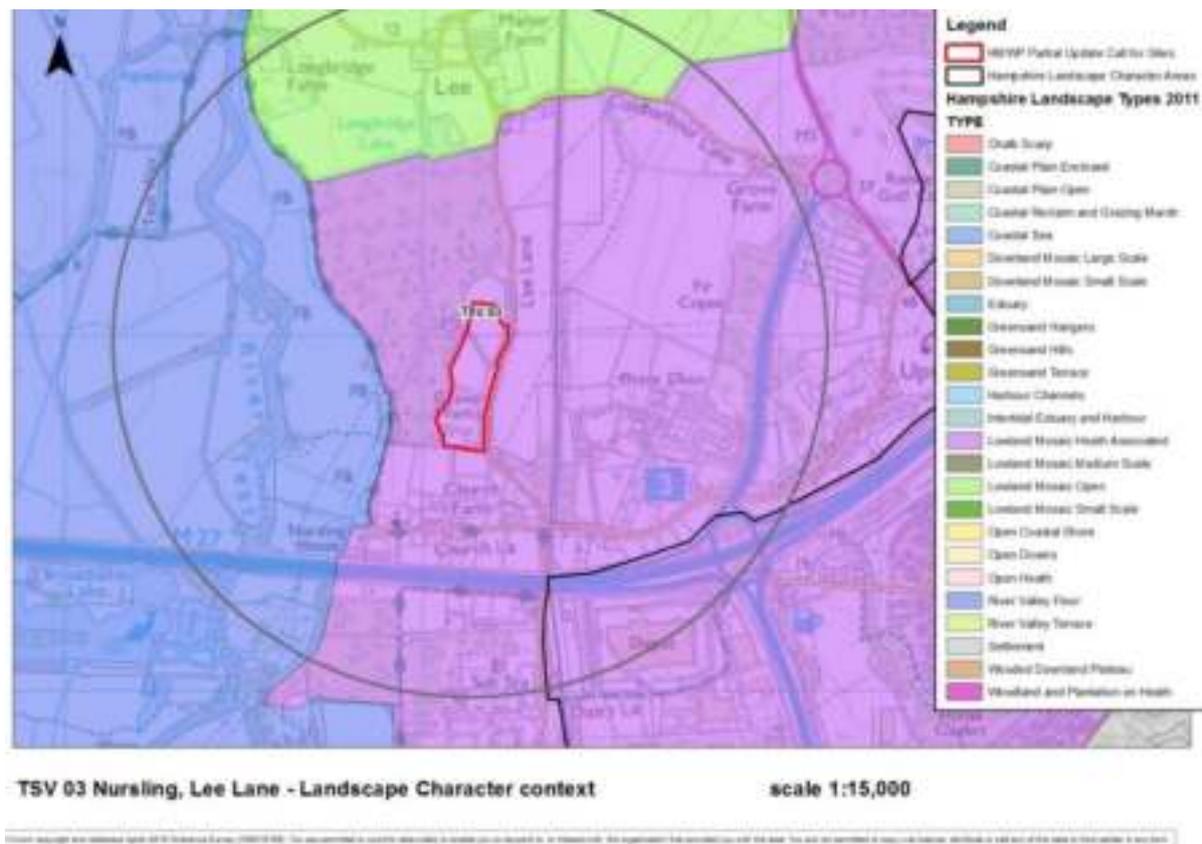
Key Characteristics applicable to this location

- Chalk geology in the north changing to lower lying Tertiary Clays/Plateau Gravels in the south.
- Clear alkaline nutrient rich spring water supporting a rich biodiversity and nationally designated riverine, wetland, grassland, and woodland habitats.
- Generally winding roads and lanes following the edge of the valley floor.
- Small settlements in main valley and tributaries and very lightly populated chalk surroundings contrast in the south with the urban setting beyond the valley edge of Totton and Southampton.

Impact on Key Characteristics

- Increased development of an urban nature affecting the small rural lanes in this area.
- Reduction in the sense of isolation that is found along Lee Lane.

Figure 80: TSV03 Lee Lane, Nursling - Landscape Character Context



Constraints and Designations

There are no landscape designations in this area that would be affected by these proposals.

Historic Landscape Character

There are two properties in the area that are registered on the Hampshire Inventory of Historic Parks, Gardens & Public Green Spaces. They are Lee Manor, also a listed building, 600m to the north, and Grove Place retirement village, 20m to the east of the site. Grove Place contains a number of listed buildings including the Grade 1 listed Grove Place House. Church Lane 380m to the south of the site also has a number of listed buildings including St Boniface Church Grade II*.

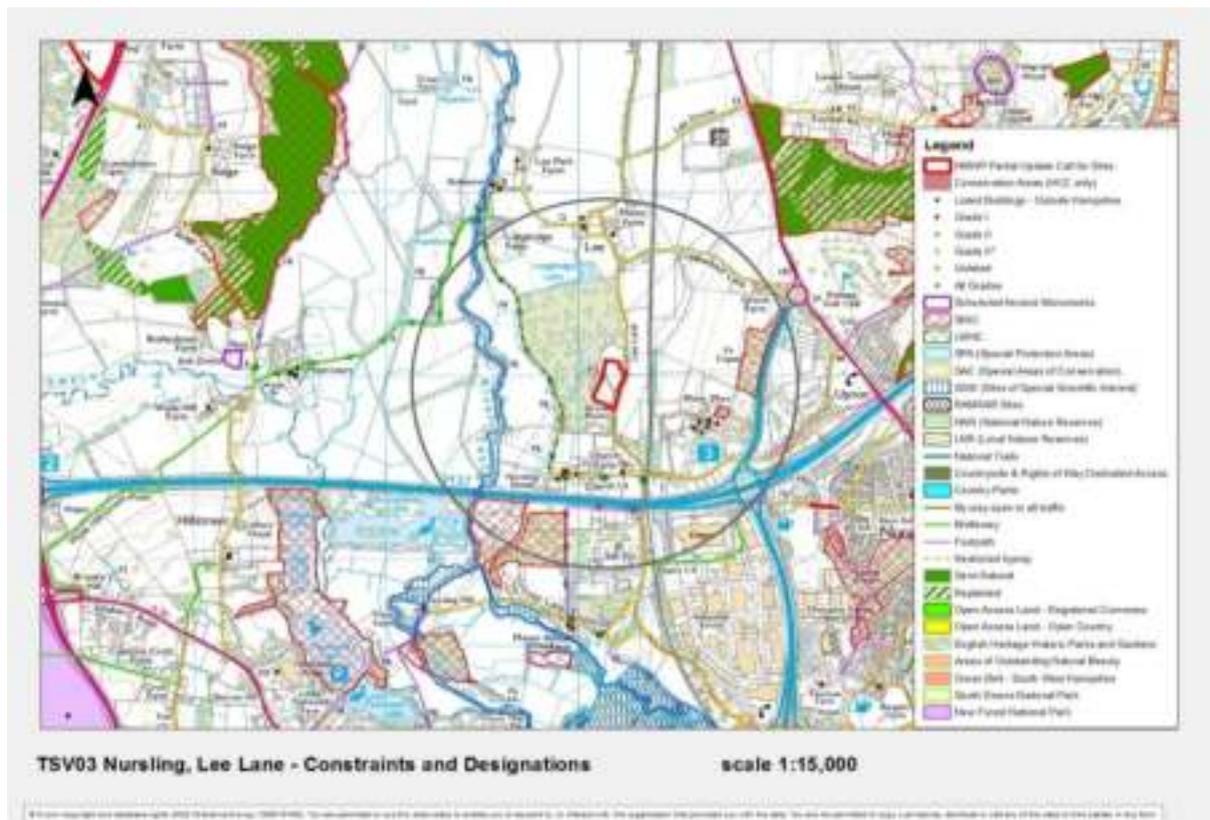
Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas

Romsey Extra restricted byway 198/13/1 part of the long distant Test Way footpath is 200m to the west of the site.

Ecological designations - International, National & Local

River Test SSSI is 450m west, and there are two SINC's to the east (540m).

Figure 81: TSV03 Lee Lane, Nursling - Constraints and designations



Landscape Condition

The landscape condition is **poor**, it is a former gravel pit restored to pasture. It has not been maintained to a good standard and scrub has been allowed to grow.

Landscape Sensitivity

Lee Lane has lost much of its rural character due to the level of traffic reducing tranquillity and a sense of remoteness. Further development will only exacerbate this situation and should be avoided. It is currently **moderately** sensitive.

Visual Sensitivity

Receptor	Notes	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads	Lee Lane	Adjacent	Intermittent hedgerow	LOW
Settlement/Housing	N/A			
Definitive PRow long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	Test Way long distant path	200m to the west	Woodland and properties between the two	NEGLIGIBLE
Rail/ Country Parks/Other Parks	Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust - Manor House Farm Part of Lower Test Nature Reserve	265m south west.	Woodland and hedgerows	NEGLIGIBLE

Mitigation Measures and Restoration

- Improve the screen planting around the site.
- Plant along Lee Lane boundary.
- Look at improving the environment on Lee Lane.

Figure 82: TSV03 Lee Lane, Nursling Site Plan



TSV04 A303 Enviro Park Shooting School, Recycling Facility, Drayton Road, Barton Stacey SO21 3QS (Waste)

Location / Description

Situated on a south facing slope between the valleys of the River Dever and the River Test, the Enviro Park site is contained within the rural landscape by the topography and the shelterbelts of woodland adjacent the A303, on its southern boundary.

Already disturbed by pre-existing development, the proposed site is surrounded to the north and west by young plantation woodland on noise bunds. To the east, a disused and well vegetated railway line provides further screening.

Proposal: Waste processing plant (15ha).

Restoration: Permanent facility.

Landscape Character

8e Mid-Hampshire Open Downs

Landscape Type

Open Downs

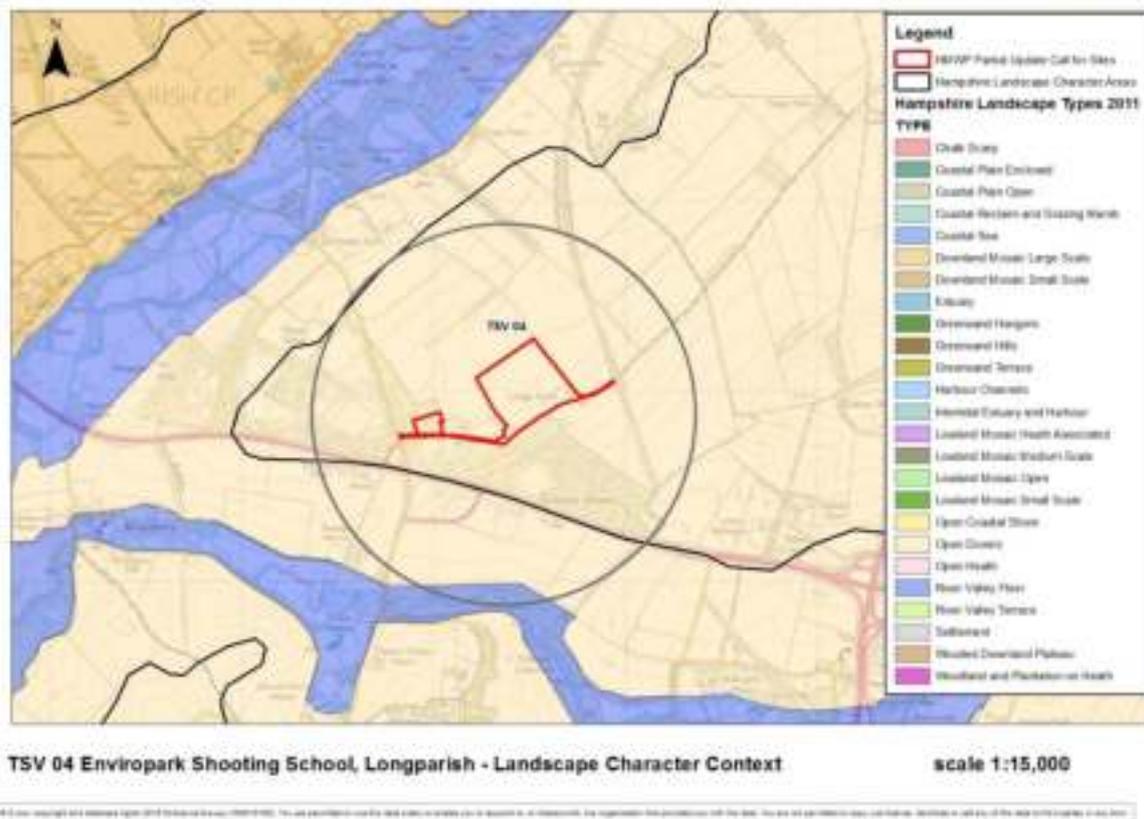
Key Characteristics applicable to this location:

- A sense of elevation, space and expansive views.
- A landscape of straight edges and sense of planned countryside on a large scale.
- Field enclosures of medium-large scale arable fields arranged perpendicular to the river valleys.
- Straight and direct fast roads, some of Roman origin.
- Large farm holdings dominated by cereal crops with little grazing.
- Woodland is rare and largely consists of 19th century shelterbelts.
- Important arable plants supporting farmland bird populations.
- A landscape of considerable perceptual time-depth and an early focus for farming.
- Very few settlements. Most are farmsteads, often with large modern storage sheds.

Impact on Key Characteristics

Protect open vistas from visual intrusion.

Figure 83: TSV04 A303 Enviro Park Shooting School - Landscape Character Context



Constraints and Designations

Set between the valleys of the River Dever and River Test, this site is secluded in an otherwise open downland landscape.

Historic Landscape Character

The Conservation Areas of Longparish to the north and Barton Stacey to the south are both approximately 1.5km distant. The closest Listed buildings are approximately 1km to the north and consist of Grade II Listed barns.

The historic landscape character of this area is typified by parliamentary field enclosures of the 19th century, often large rectangular fields perpendicular to the river valleys.

Ecological designations - International, National & Local

One SINC immediately to the south of the proposed site – Drayton Down. A further SINC approximately 300m to the north-Longparish cornfields.

The Test Valley SSSI is approx. 0.7km distant at its closest point to the site but generally is around 1km to north and south.

The site is within the Longparish Biodiversity Opportunity Area – assigned for important arable plants.

Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas

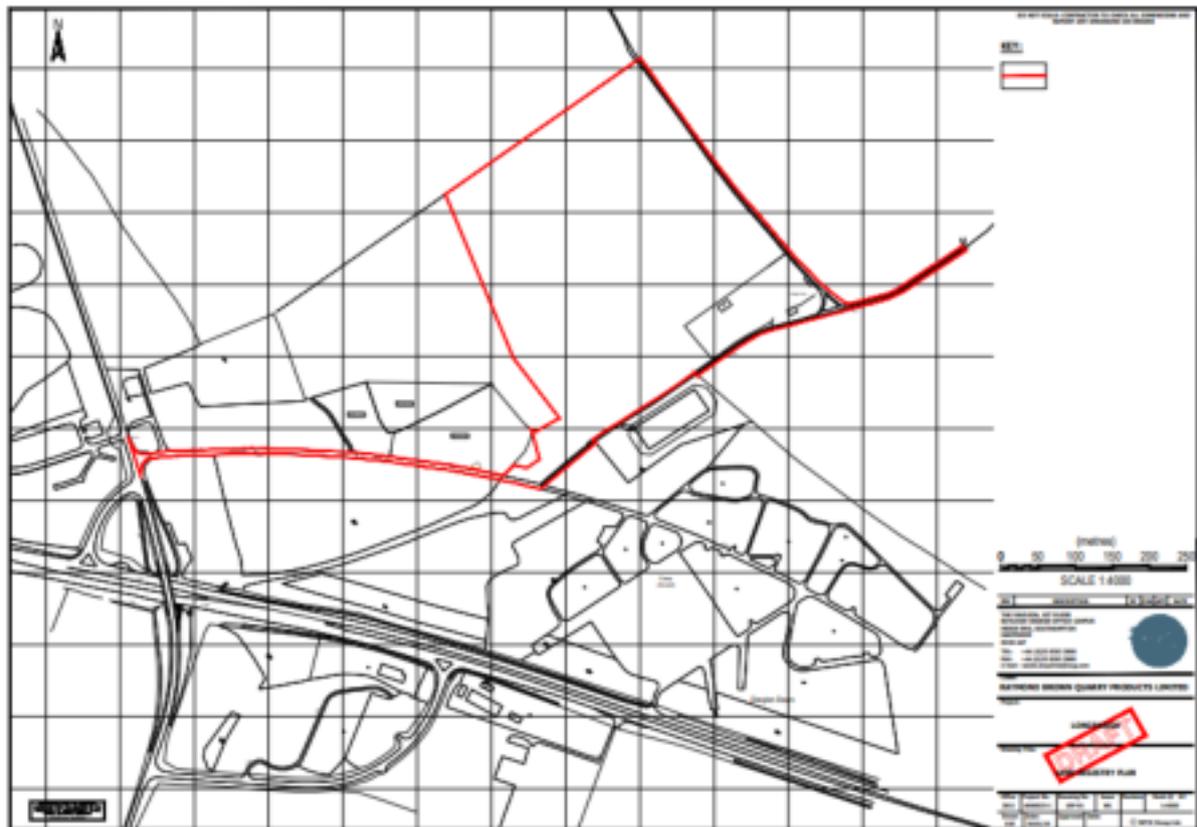
One PRow, (Longparish 50) meets the site at its south-east corner and rises over farmland in a north-easterly direction.

Receptor	Notes	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads	A303	300m to the south	Shelterbelt	LOW
	B road to Longparish	500m to the east	Scattered planting	MEDIUM
Settlement/Housing	Southside Farm, Longparish	900m to the north	Topography – intervening hill	LOW
	Barton Stacey – Roberts Road	900m to the south	Woodland	LOW
	Little Bullington	900m to the east	Shelterbelts	LOW
Definitive PRoW long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	Longparish 50 restricted byway	From south-east corner of the site	Woodland on disused railway line	LOW-MEDIUM
Rail/ Country Parks/Other Parks	n/a			

Mitigation Measures

- Additional planting around the entrance to the site at the junction with the B-road to reduce visual impact and intrusion into the country lane.
- Existing bund planting could be further enhanced with native species trees/shrubs and enrichment of grassland to create biodiverse meadow areas.

Figure 85: TSV 04A303 Enviro Park extension/Shooting School - Site Plan



TSV05 Land west of A303 Enviropark, Recycling Facility, Drayton Road, Barton Stacey SO21 3QS (Waste)

Location / Description

Set in a relatively low-lying area on the edge of a more open agricultural landscape, it is shielded from view by virtue of the rising topography to the north.

Woodland belts to the south and north screen the site from the busy A303 and B-road respectively while scattered planting partially screens the area from the immediate vicinity of the B-road to the west. The site is adjacent to the existing Enviro Park recycling facility to the east and with which it would share an access point from the B-road.

Proposal: Additional incinerator bottom ash transfer and storage area.

Restoration: Permanent facility.

Landscape Character

8e Mid-Hampshire Open Downs

Landscape Type

Open Downs

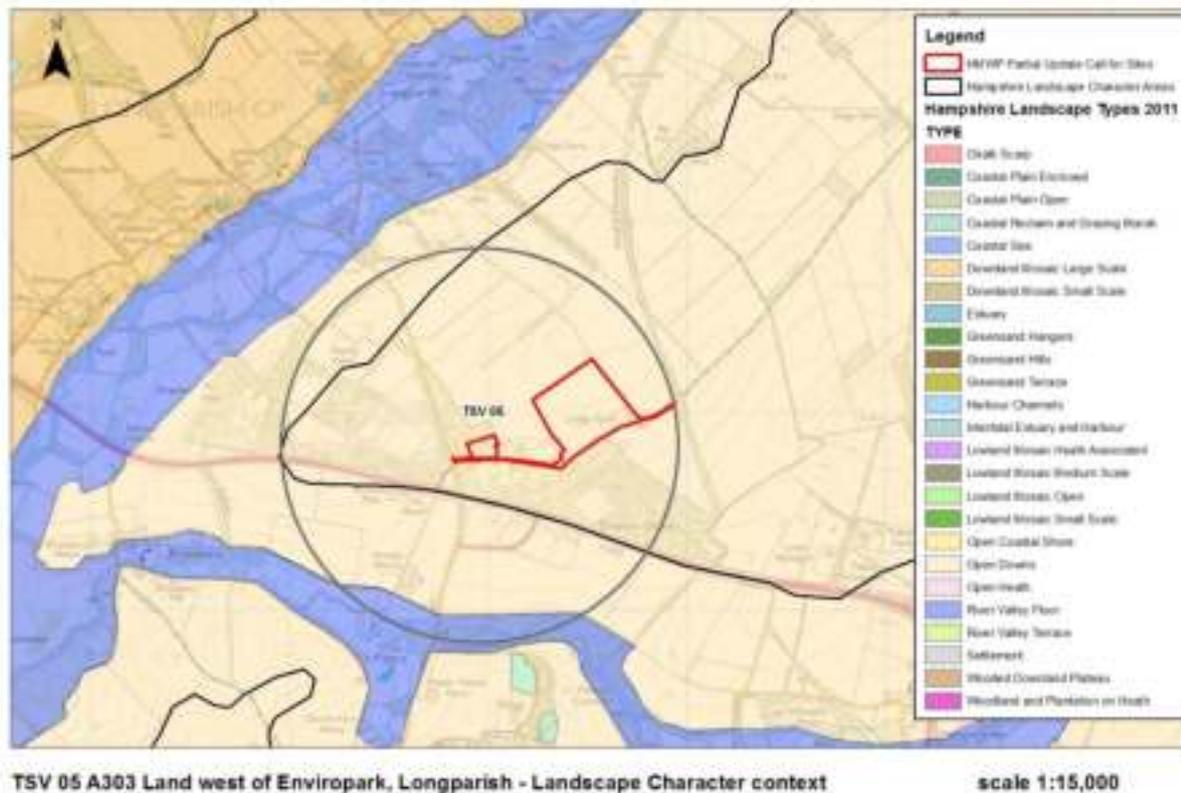
Key Characteristics applicable to this location

- A sense of elevation, space and expansive views.
- A landscape of straight edges and sense of planned countryside on a large scale.
- Field enclosures of medium-large scale arable fields arranged perpendicular to the river valleys.
- Straight and direct fast roads, some of Roman origin.
- Large farm holdings dominated by cereal crops with little grazing.
- Woodland is rare and largely consists of 19th century shelterbelts.
- Important arable plants supporting farmland bird populations.
- A landscape of considerable perceptual time-depth and an early focus for farming.
- Very few settlements. Most are farmsteads, often with large modern storage sheds.

Impact on Key Characteristics

Protect open vistas from visual intrusion.

Figure 86: TSV05 Land west of A303 Enviropark - Landscape Character Context



Constraints and Designations

Set between the valleys of the River Dever and River Test, this site is generally secluded in an otherwise open downland landscape however, the proximity to the B-road renders views from that direction more likely.

Historic Landscape Character

The Conservation Areas of Longparish to the north and Barton Stacey to the south are both approximately 1.5km distant. The closest Listed buildings are approximately 1km to the north and consist of Grade II Listed barns.

The historic landscape character of this area is typified by parliamentary field enclosures of the 19th century, often large rectangular fields perpendicular to the river valleys.

Ecological designations - International, National & Local

One SINC immediately to the south of the proposed site – Drayton Down. A further SINC approximately 300m to the north - Longparish Cornfields.

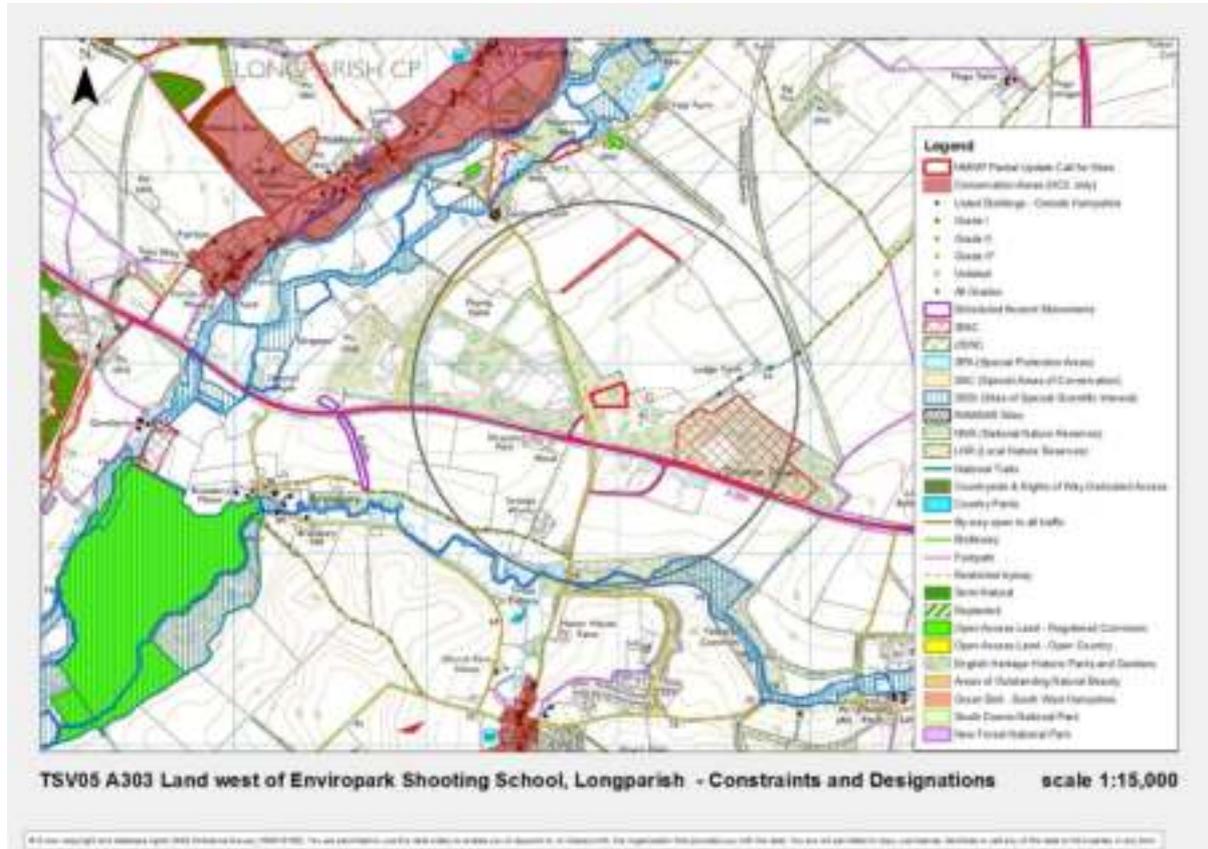
The Test Valley SSSI is approx. 0.7km distant at its closest point to the site but generally is around 1km to north and south.

The site is within the Longparish Biodiversity Opportunity Area – assigned for important arable plants.

Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas

One PRoW, (Longparish 50) joins the site's main access track. The B-road to Longparish is in close proximity (approx. 100m).

Figure 87: TSV05 Land west of A303 Enviropark - Constraints and designations



Landscape Condition

The road noise from the A303 is a major detractor in this otherwise tranquil, rural landscape. The proposed extension site has recently been cleared and a low bund installed around its perimeter. The current landscape condition is **poor**.

Landscape Sensitivity

The proposed extension site is close to the B-road to Longparish. Well screened to the north at present, by a wide belt of woodland. This site has a **medium** level of sensitivity. The likely effect of the proposal on the landscape is **moderately adverse**.

Visual Sensitivity

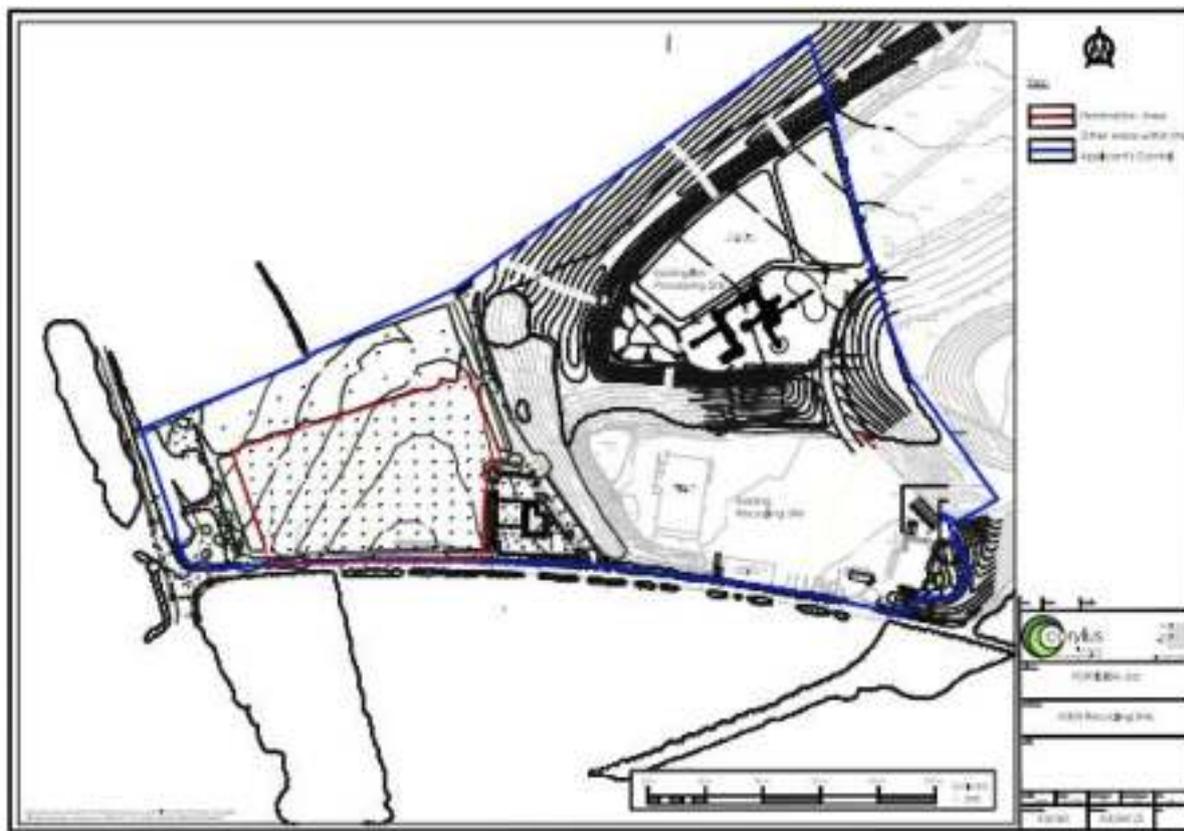
The proximity to the B-road and the more scattered nature of the planting between it and the proposed extension site, increase the visual sensitivity to **medium**. The likely visual effect of the proposal is **moderately adverse**.

Receptor	Notes	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads	A303	300m to the south	Shelterbelt	LOW
	B road to Longparish	100m to the east	Scattered planting	HIGH
Definitive PRow long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	Longparish 50 restricted byway	Exits into the access track for this site	Screening bunds	HIGH
Rail/ Country Parks/Other Parks	n/a			

Mitigation Measures

- Prioritise the retention of existing screening woodland on the north and west sides of this proposed extension site.
- Further enhance the screening by additional planting and higher bunding along the western boundary between the site and the B-road.

Figure 88: TSV05 Land west of A303 Enviro Park - Site Plan



TSV06 Land at Stanbridge Ranvilles Farm, Salisbury Road, Shootash, Romsey, SO51 6GA (Sand and gravel extraction/Waste)

Location / Description

The proposed site is an extension to an existing quarry site at Roke Manor Farm. It is an attractive small-scale landscape with gently undulating topography and the fields divided by mature hedgerows. It is surrounded by woodland to the south and east and Stanbridge Ranvilles Farm to the west and Old Salisbury Lane to the north.

Landscape Character

2n Wellow and Awbridge Heath Associated Wooded Farmland

Landscape Type

Lowland Mosaic Heath Associated

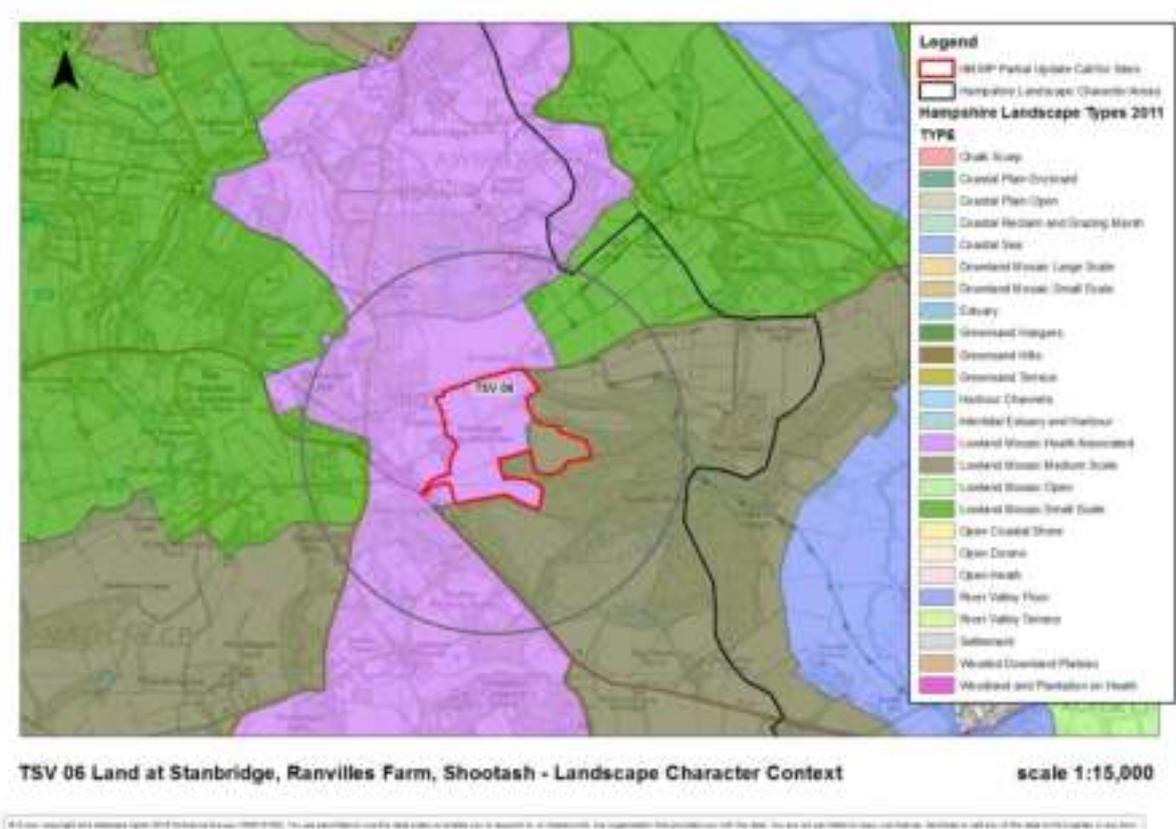
Key Characteristics applicable to this location

- Undulating wooded landscape dissected by tributaries of the River Test.
- Mixture of soil types from sandy Reading Beds to London Clay.
- Biodiversity value from ancient woodlands (locally designated), and pockets of heathland, wetland and grassland.
- Small scale field pattern – especially associated with the stream valleys, defined by thick well treed hedgerows supporting a mixed farming economy with significant stands of ancient semi-natural woodland and some conifer plantations.
- Settled character with dispersed farmsteads and small hamlets with more recent linear expansion or housing areas.
- Areas of gravel and clay extraction.
- High density of leafy green lanes.

Impact on Key Characteristics

- Loss of small-scale field pattern and loss of boundary hedgerows.
- Potential loss of topographical undulations and diversity due to simplified restoration levels and soil settlement.
- Loss of tranquillity along the rural lanes and associated properties.

Figure 89: TSV06 Land at Stanbridge Ranvilles Farm - Landscape Character Context



Constraints and Designations

There are no landscape designations on this site.

Historic Landscape Character

Awbridge Danes is found approximately 260m to the north of the site, this is listed on Historic England’s Register of Parks and Gardens (Grade II). There are 2 listed buildings close to the site; the Round House is on the corner of Danes Road and Old Salisbury Lane, approximately 350m to the west and Longdown Cottage off the A27, 200m to the south of the site, in the woodland.

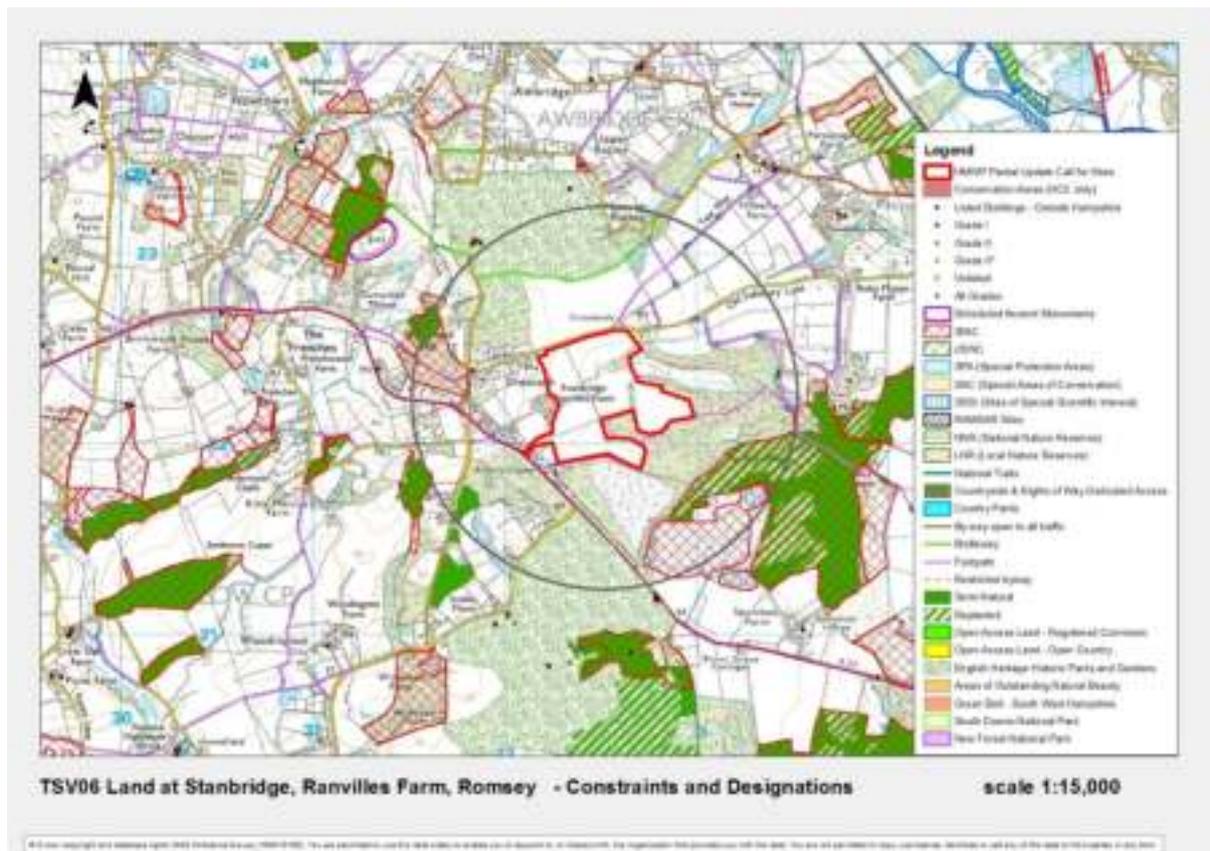
Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas

Footpath Romsey Extra 198/5/1 follows the southern boundary of the proposed site. It currently has clear views into the fields.

Ecological designations - International, National & Local

There are a number of SINCs around the site, including Dunwood Manor, 400m to the west, Squabb wood to the south east which is also partly designated Ancient Woodland. Part of Allans Copse to the south (approximately 450m) is Ancient semi natural woodland.

Figure 90: TSV06 Land at Stanbridge Ranvilles Farm - Constraints and designations



Landscape Condition

The landscape condition is **good**.

Landscape Sensitivity

Increased development on this site could have a negative impact on the surrounding rural landscape, with the loss of the gentle undulations in the local topography and loss of the small scale fields and hedgerow boundaries. The sensitivity of this site is **moderate / high**, and additional development would require careful mitigation.

Visual Sensitivity

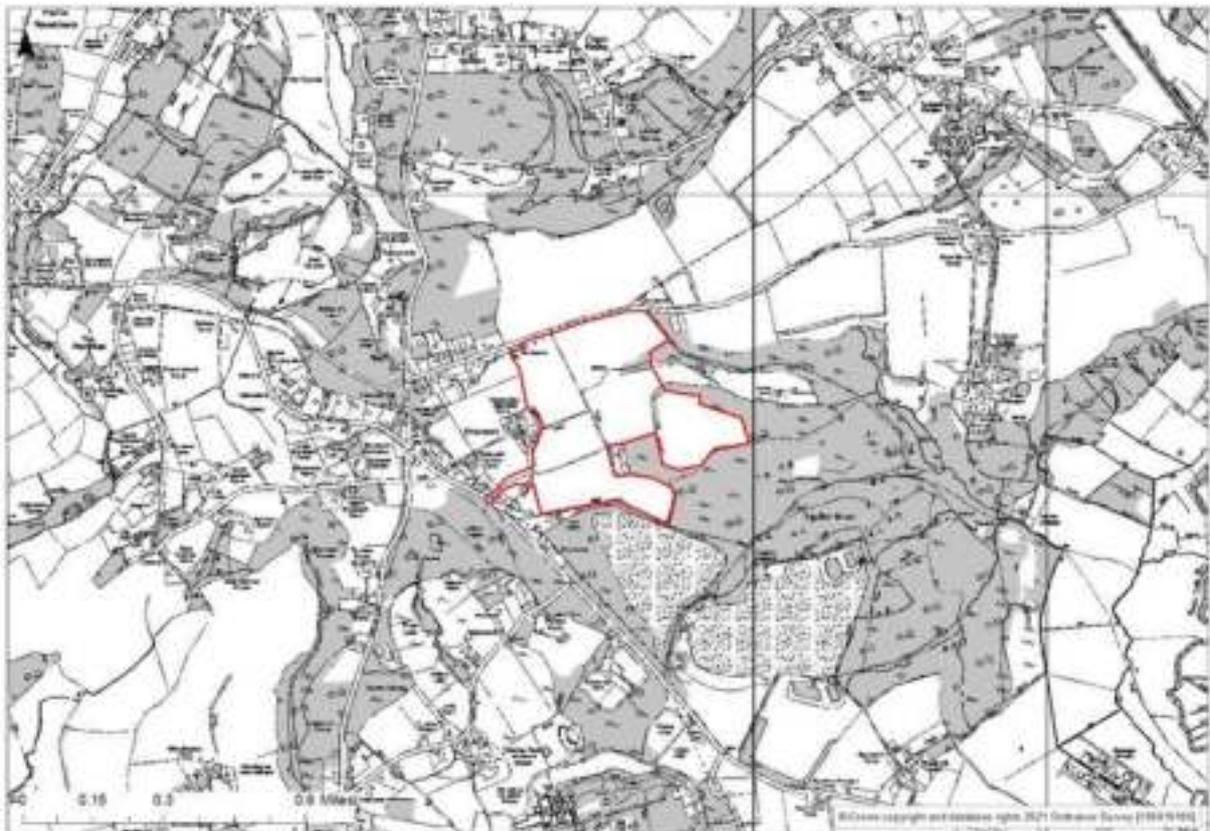
Receptor	Notes	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads	A27 Salisbury Road	320m west	Properties, vegetation and hedgerows	LOW
	Danes Road	400m west	Woodland, hedgerows and properties.	LOW
	Old Salisbury Lane	Adjacent	Hedgerow	LOW / MEDIUM
Settlement/Housing	Stanbridge Ranvilles Farm	Adjacent	Garden boundary	HIGH
	2 properties on Old Salisbury Lane	Adjacent	Garden Boundary and intervening vegetation	HIGH

	A27 Properties on Salisbury Road	150m west	Garden boundaries and intervening vegetation	MEDIUM
Definitive PRoW long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	FP Romsey extra 198/5/1	Adjacent	Open views	HIGH
Rail/ Country Parks/Other Parks	N/A			

Mitigation Measures and Restoration

- The site should be restored to existing levels, the hedgerows replaced and include trees.
- Management of the adjacent woodland to increase biodiversity.

Figure 91: TSV06 Land at Stanbridge Ranvilles Farm Site Plan



TSV07 Land at the Triangle, Ryedown Lane, Ower, Romsey, SO51 6BD (Sand and gravel extraction/Waste)

Location / Description

The proposed site is triangular in shape and bounded by roads on each of its three sides. The northern boundary is Ryedown Lane a small country lane characterised by mature and semi mature oak trees lining the road and suppressed hedgerows below, allowing views into the site. Gardeners Lane follows the western boundary with woodland and trees along the west side of the road and a poor intermittent hedgerow bounding the proposed site. The eastern boundary is the busy A3090 dual carriage way from Romsey to junction 2 on the M27, the vegetation along this boundary is mainly hedgerow with semi mature trees within the highway boundary along with the occasional gap. The site is relatively flat agricultural land, sitting on the hill top above Romsey. It is divided into a series of fields bounded by hedgerows containing many significant mature trees. The fields are used for growing arable crops and asparagus.

Landscape Character

2n Wellow and Awbridge Heath Associated Wooded Farmland

Landscape Type

Lowland Mosaic Medium Scale

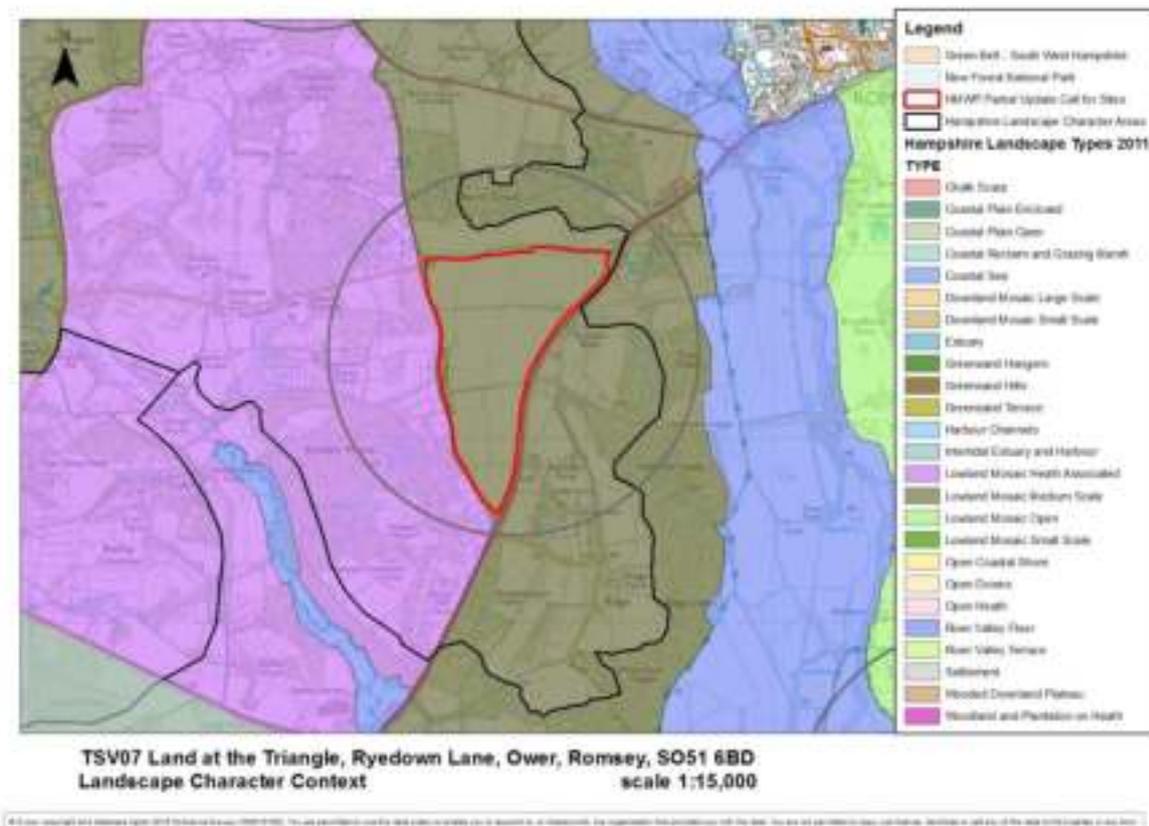
Key Characteristics applicable to this location

- Undulating wooded landscape dissected by tributaries of the River Test.
- Mixture of soil types from sandy Reading Beds to London Clay.
- Biodiversity value from ancient woodlands (locally designated), and pockets of heathland, wetland and grassland.
- Designed parklands and associated landscape features exert a strong influence.
- Small scale field pattern – especially associated with the stream valleys, defined by thick well-treed hedgerows supporting a mixed farming economy with significant stands of ancient semi-natural woodland and some conifer plantations.
- Areas of gravel and clay extraction.
- High density of leafy green lanes.

Impact on Key Characteristics

- Potential loss of significant mature oak trees within the hedgerows across the site.
- Impacts on the character of the lanes around the site as a result of additional HGV movements.

Figure 92: TSV07 Land at the Triangle - Landscape Character Context



Constraints and Designations

There are no landscape designations associated with this site.

Historic Landscape Character

Embley Park is adjacent to the north west corner of the site and is listed on Historic England’s Register of Parks and Gardens (Grade II). The house and entrance lodges are listed buildings. Broadlands House is Grade I listed, the park and garden is grade II* listed on the Historic England Parks and Gardens Register, with its origins thought to be the work of William Kent and the park later remodelled by Lancelot Brown. There are a number of properties registered on the Hampshire Inventory of Historic Parks, Gardens & Public Green Spaces in Romsey including the War Memorial Park and King John’s House garden.

Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas

There is one footpath to the east of the A3090 approximately 200m from the site.

Ecological designations - International, National & Local

There are a number of woodlands around or near the proposed site, many are ancient and ancient semi natural woodland; to the north there is Burnt Wood, Embley Park is to the north west and Yew Tree Copse to the east of the A3090.

Kentford Lake Wood SINC and Ancient Semi-Natural woodland is on the western side of Gardeners Lane adjacent to the northern end of the site.

Figure 93: TSV07 Land at the Triangle - Constraints and designations



Landscape Condition

The site is currently a series of agricultural fields divided by mature hedgerows and trees, used for growing arable crops. The condition is **good**.

Landscape Sensitivity

Proposal would have a **moderate / high adverse** impact if the whole site was developed and the tree lined hedgerows / tree belt across the site removed.

Visual Sensitivity

Receptor	Notes	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads	A3090	Adjacent	Hedgerow with semi mature trees	LOW
	Gardeners Lane	Adjacent	Intermittent hedgerow with many mature and semi mature trees	MEDIUM / HIGH
	Ryedown Lane	Adjacent	Intermittent hedgerow with some mature and semi mature trees.	MEDIUM / HIGH
Settlement/Housing	Pauncefoot Cottages	Within site	Open	HIGH
	Ranvilles Farm House, Cutters	East side of A3090	Hedgerows, vegetation and A3090 planting	LOW / NEGLIGIBLE

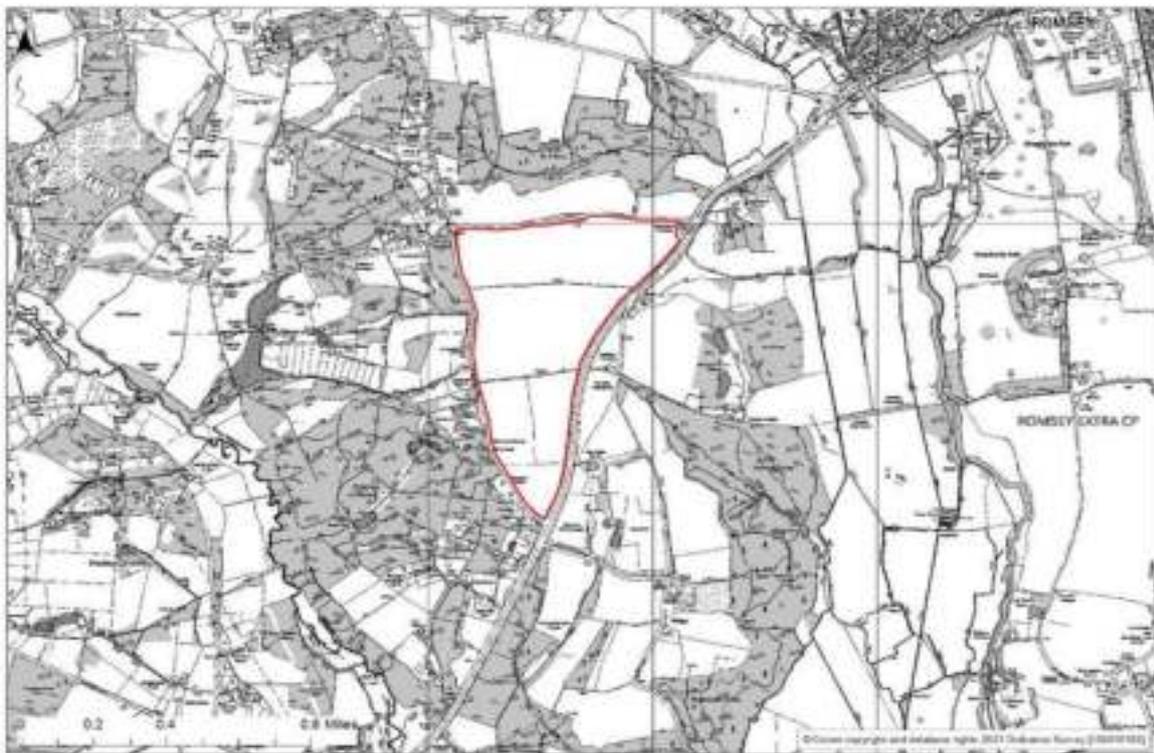
	Barn & Goldring Cottages			
	Properties on Gardeners Lane	West side of Gardeners Lane	Garden boundaries, vegetation, hedgerows and open in some locations	HIGH
Definitive PRow long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	Romsey Extra 198/19/1	East of the A3090	Hedgerows, trees and the roadside vegetation	NEGLIGIBLE
Rail/ Country Parks/Other Parks	N / A			

Mitigation Measures and Restoration

If the whole of this site was developed there would be a very significant loss of mature trees that cross the site from east to west. The middle belt is a particularly wide belt typical of a double hedgerow with trees. These tree belts are within hedgerows and they should be retained, loss of these ancient trees would be unacceptable.

The southern end of the site is divided into smaller fields with hedgerows that also contain some mature trees. The southern-most field, is a small triangular field, currently used for growing asparagus. It should also be removed from the site area to retain the northern treed hedgerow.

Figure 94: TSV07 Land at the Triangle Site plan.



TSV08 Cutty Brow, Longparish (sand/gravel extraction)

Location / Description

Arable farmland set within the assart landscape of Harewood Forest to the north of the busy A303, the proposal site comprises parts of four fields, bisected by the narrow lane, Middleway.

Surrounded by woodland, the elevated position of part of this site allows long distance views across the Test Valley to the south. The disused Longparish railway line runs along the eastern site boundary and is currently overgrown with maturing vegetation.

Proposal: extraction of sharp sand and gravel (1 million tonnes; 36.7 ha).

Restoration: to agricultural uses.

Landscape Character

8d Andover Open Downs

Landscape Type

Downland mosaic small scale

Key Characteristics applicable to this location

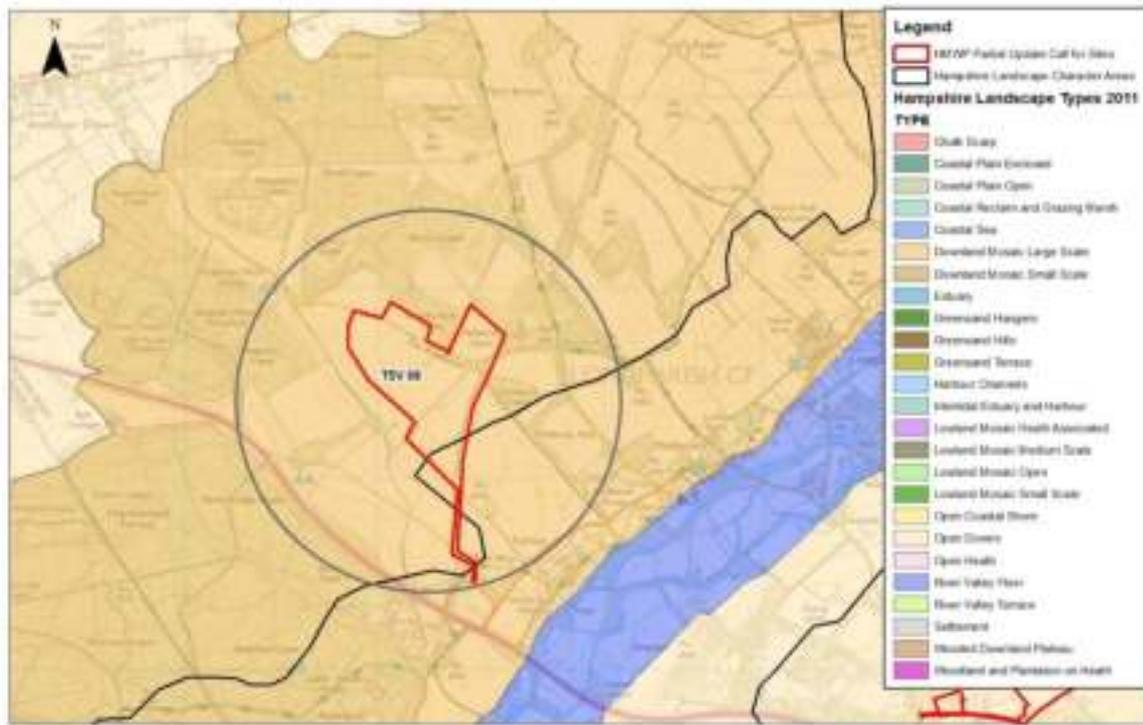
- Plateau downland with gentle undulating ridges and dry chalk valleys.
- Long distant views across downland and the river valleys which dissect the plateau.
- Biodiversity value from Harewood Forest, and dispersed areas of chalk grassland, including internationally-designated sites.
- Predominately arable land use with limited pasture. Woodland cover becomes dominant e.g. Harewood Forest where there are deposits of clay with flints
- A landscape with significant time depth and important archaeology.
- Occasional parkland landscapes provide visual diversity.
- Urban edges of Andover extend into this character area.
- In the Harewood Forest area hedgerows comprise shelterbelts or spinneys contributing to the general sense of enclosure and contrasting with the openness of the wider area.
- A large area of ancient and semi-natural woodland, associated with Harewood Forest and consisting of broadleaved woodland, mixed woodland, active coppice with standards and some broadleaved plantation.

Impact on Key Characteristics

Visual intrusion on the immediate setting of Harewood Forest (the largest area of forest in Hampshire outside the New Forest), and potentially on long distance views from the south.

Negative impact on this plateau downland area which, although disturbed aurally by the busy A303, is currently intact visually with few detractors.

Figure 95: TSV08 Cutty Brow - Landscape Character Context



TSV 08 Cutty Brow, Longparish - Landscape Character Context scale 1:15,000

Constraints and Designations

Harewood Forest Ancient and semi-natural Ancient Woodland is immediately adjacent to this site while the Test Valley is within 450m. The North Wessex Downs AONB is located 2km to the north-east.

Historic Landscape Character

Formerly likely to have been covered by woodland as part of Harewood Forest, the landscape was disafforested and enclosed for mainly arable use, with later reorganisation into larger scale fields.

The Longparish Conservation Area boundary is 350m to the south-east beyond the disused railway line. The closest listed buildings are around 700m to the south-east and include Middleton Park a Grade II listed building which is also registered on the Hampshire Inventory of Historic Parks, Gardens & Public Green Spaces.

The historic route of the Longparish branch line runs alongside the eastern boundary. Currently engulfed in maturing vegetation, it runs in a cutting past the north-eastern field.

Ecological Designations - International, National & Local

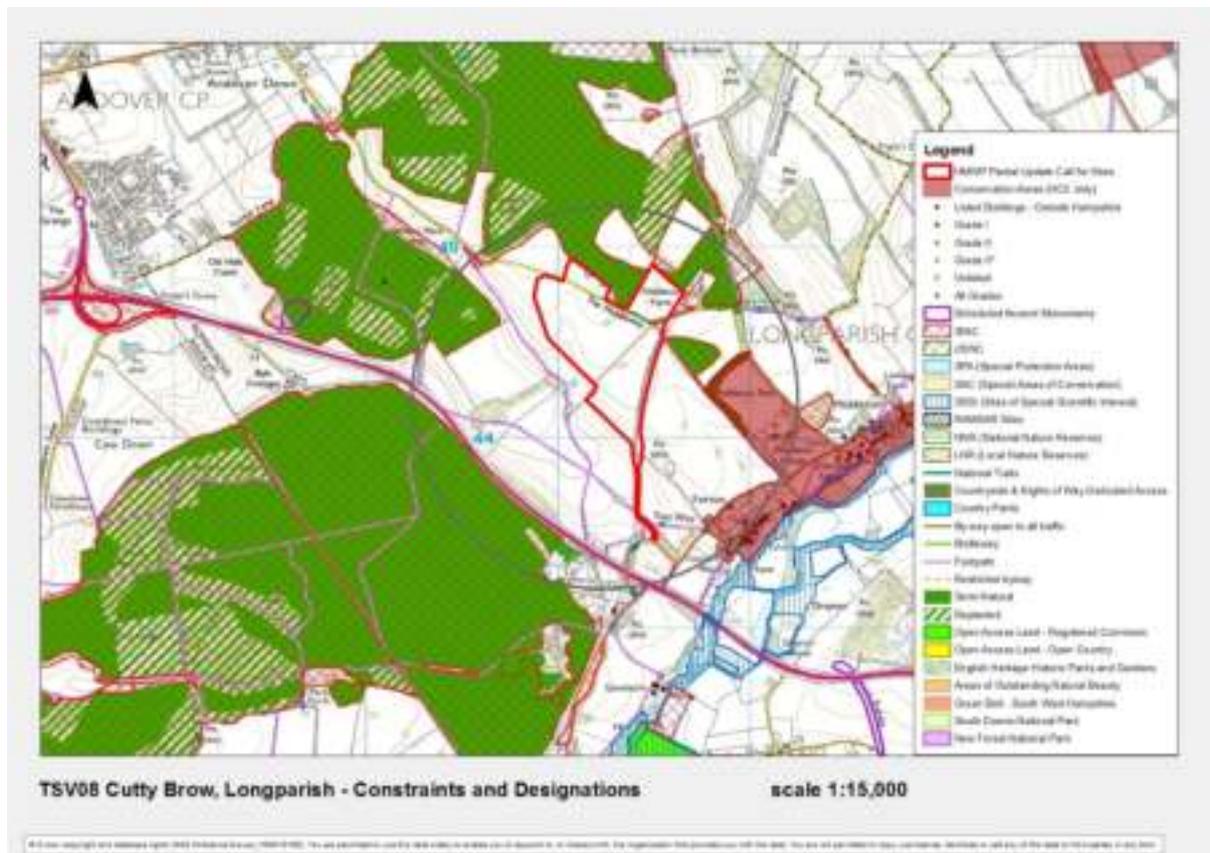
Harewood Forest, contiguous with the northern site boundary is a nationally designated Ancient Woodland and locally designated SINC. The SSSI, River Test is 450m to the south-east.

Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas

The PROW network runs through, adjacent and up to the proposed development site. C road, Middleway, cuts across the site north-west to south-east – a narrow country lane with expansive views to the south.

Footpaths 44 and 27a Longparish run in close proximity while the Long Distance Path, Test Way, is approximately 250m to the north-east.

Figure 96: TSV08 Cutty Brow - Constraints and designations



Landscape Condition

The existing fields are well managed arable with a smaller field in pasture. Their current condition is **good**.

Landscape Sensitivity

Due to its rural character, location adjacent to an important landscape feature (Harewood Forest) and its value for recreation, evidenced by numerous public rights of way, the landscape sensitivity level is **high**. The proposal is likely to have a **large adverse** effect on the landscape.

Visual Sensitivity

By virtue of the proximity of the country lane which cuts through the site, the PRowS, and the likely visibility from longer distance viewpoints, the visual sensitivity is **high**. The proposal is likely to have a **large adverse** visual effect.

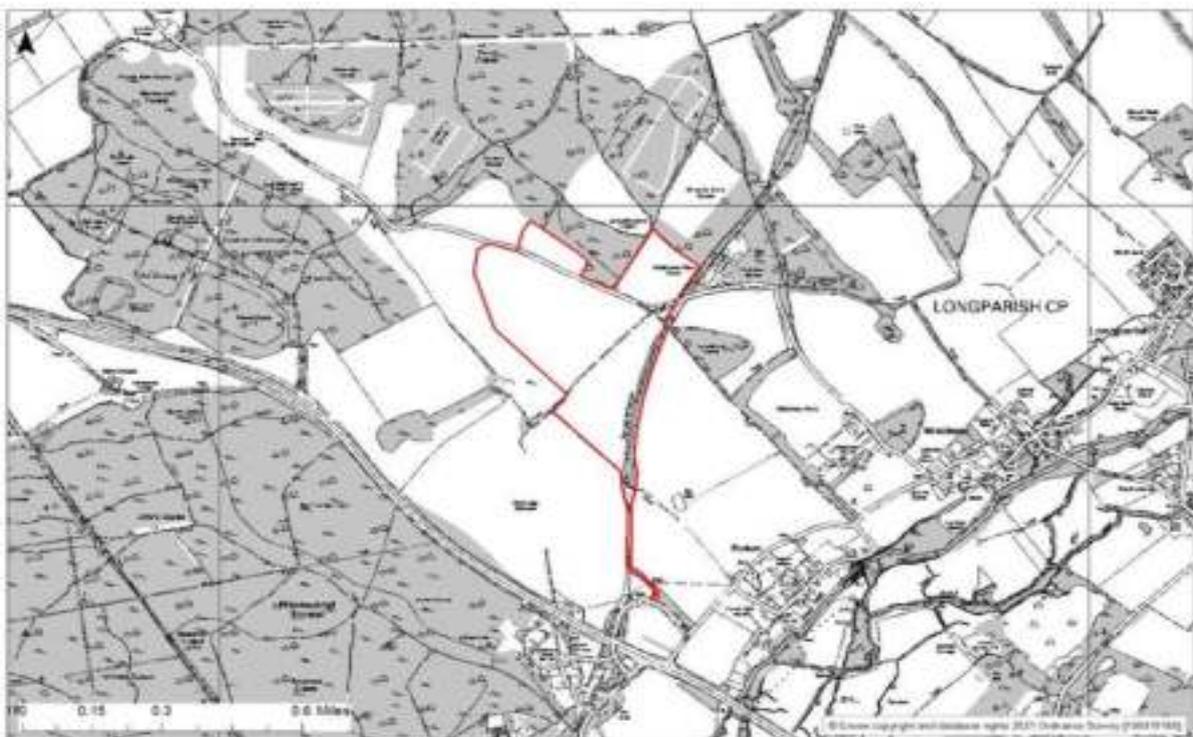
Receptor	Notes	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads	C road, Middleway	In the middle of the site	None	HIGH
	A303	Approx. 1km to south	Topography and hedgerows	LOW
Settlement/Housing	Longparish	1km to east	Hedge/woods alongside disused railway line	LOW

	Middleton Farm	Adjacent NE site corner	Hedge/woods alongside disused railway line	MEDIUM
Definitive PRow long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	FP 44 to Longparish	Joins site at eastern boundary	Hedgerow	MEDIUM-HIGH
	FP 27A	Parallel with west boundary of site	Topography and vegetation provide some screening	MEDIUM-HIGH
	Test Way	250m to north of site	Woodland	MEDIUM
Rail/ Country Parks/ Other Parks	N/A			

Mitigation Measures and Restoration

- The site will be difficult to mitigate successfully due to the lie of the land, its exposed nature and the proximity of public rights of way and the country lane.
- The smaller north-eastern field is less exposed and may be screened with boundary planting along the southern/lane edge however, the land falls away into the site making screening more difficult to achieve. The creation of access points will likely have a negative impact on the existing mature boundary vegetation.
- Adjacent mature hedgerows and woodland must be protected with generous exclusion/buffer zones.
- Restoration to arable and pasture in keeping with the landscape character.

Figure 97: Cutty Brow - Site Plan



TSV09 Andover railway Sidings. (Rail Depot)

Location / Description

The site is an area of railway sidings located to the north of Andover Railway station. The main line railway runs immediately to the south of the sidings. The site was used as sidings to the railway, but it is presently used as an industrial site. The site is currently hard surfaced with a combination of tarmac, railway tracks and an Industrial building. The site is accessed along a tree lined private road to the northwest of the site from Mylen Road. Trees and shrubs line most of the northern and eastern boundary of the site. The trees on the northern boundary provide a partial screen from the adjacent properties. The eastern boundary is a tree lined embankment leading down to Charlton Road. The trees may be self-sown and therefore of mixed quality and health, but they should be retained if the use of the site is to be increased.

Proposal: Rail Depot.

Restoration: N/A

Landscape Character

The site falls within the Hampshire Integrated Character Assessment Townscape Assessment - Character Area AND06: 'Post war residential suburbs' and this area falls within area 6g. *Hospital and residential areas to the south-east*. The main station building is located to the south of the railway tracks and this area sits within character area 3a and 3b.

Landscape Type

Type 29 Transport Corridor

Key Characteristics applicable to this location

The Townscape assessment of this character area does not mention the railway or its impact other than it divides the character area to the north and south. The character area is two storey residential homes.

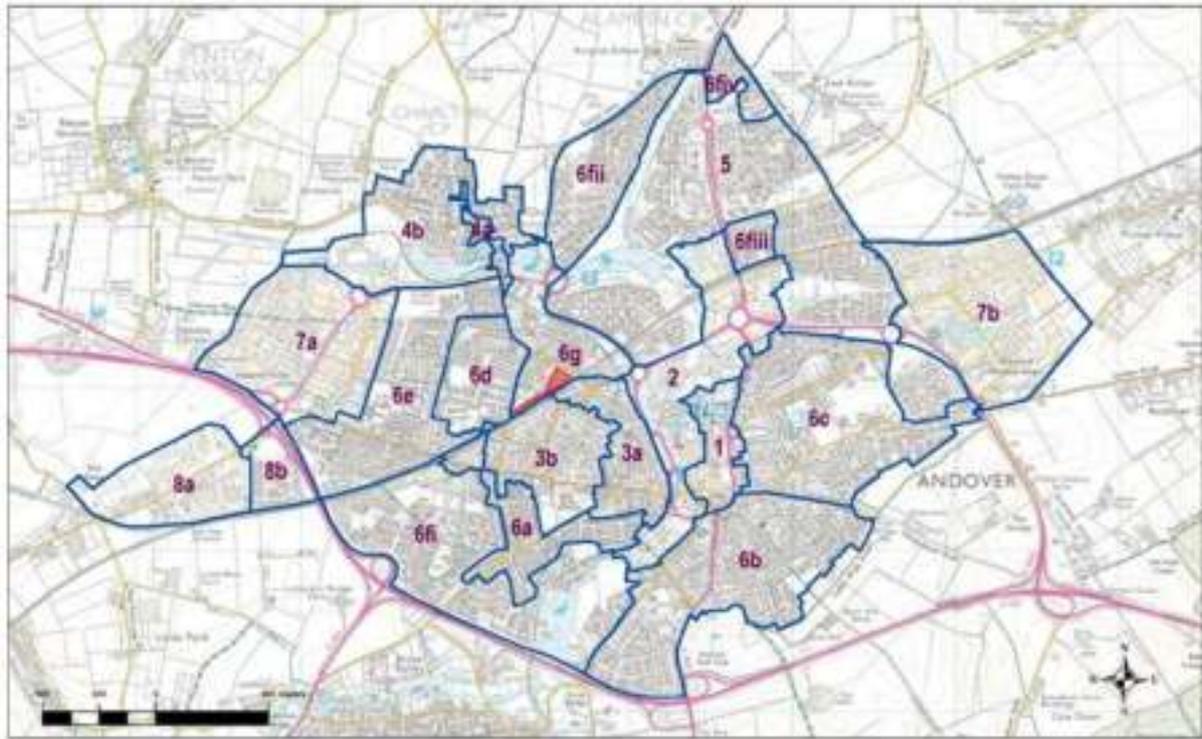
Figure 98: TSV09 Land at Andover Station Sidings - Landscape Character Context



Test Valley District Council - Hampshire Landscape Character Areas and Landscape Types

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Figure 99: TSV09 Andover - Townscape Character Context



Constraints and Designations

The closest landscape designation is the North Wessex Downs AONB which is approximately 4 km to the north and much of the intervening area is built townscape.

Historic Landscape Character

The main station building is listed as Grade II.

This area comprises the early residential extensions of the town centre with development beginning to infill roads laid out in the late-nineteenth century. This older residential area is distinctive for its larger, medium to fine-grain late Victorian and Edwardian housing set in a grid of roads forming small to medium-sized blocks. To the north of the railway the development includes pockets of infill housing along with industrial land uses immediately adjacent to the railway.

Ecological Designations - International, National & Local

There are no sites of ecological significance in the immediate vicinity, due to the urban nature of the environs.

Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas

There are no public rights of way in the area, although there is public access to the railway station and the surrounding roads and footways.

Landscape Condition

This landscape is urban and industrial, and the immediate site area is in poor condition. The nearby housing is in good condition. The landscape of the site is not sensitive to change.

Landscape Sensitivity

The sensitivity of this landscape is considered to be moderate/low in this area, the adjacent residential areas increase the sensitivity, particularly if the development would result in down grading their outlook. The development would have a **moderate/low adverse** effect, without mitigation to protect the adjacent housing areas.

Visual Sensitivity

The site is well screened from the wider landscape the main views into the site are from the railway station and from the adjacent housing estate.

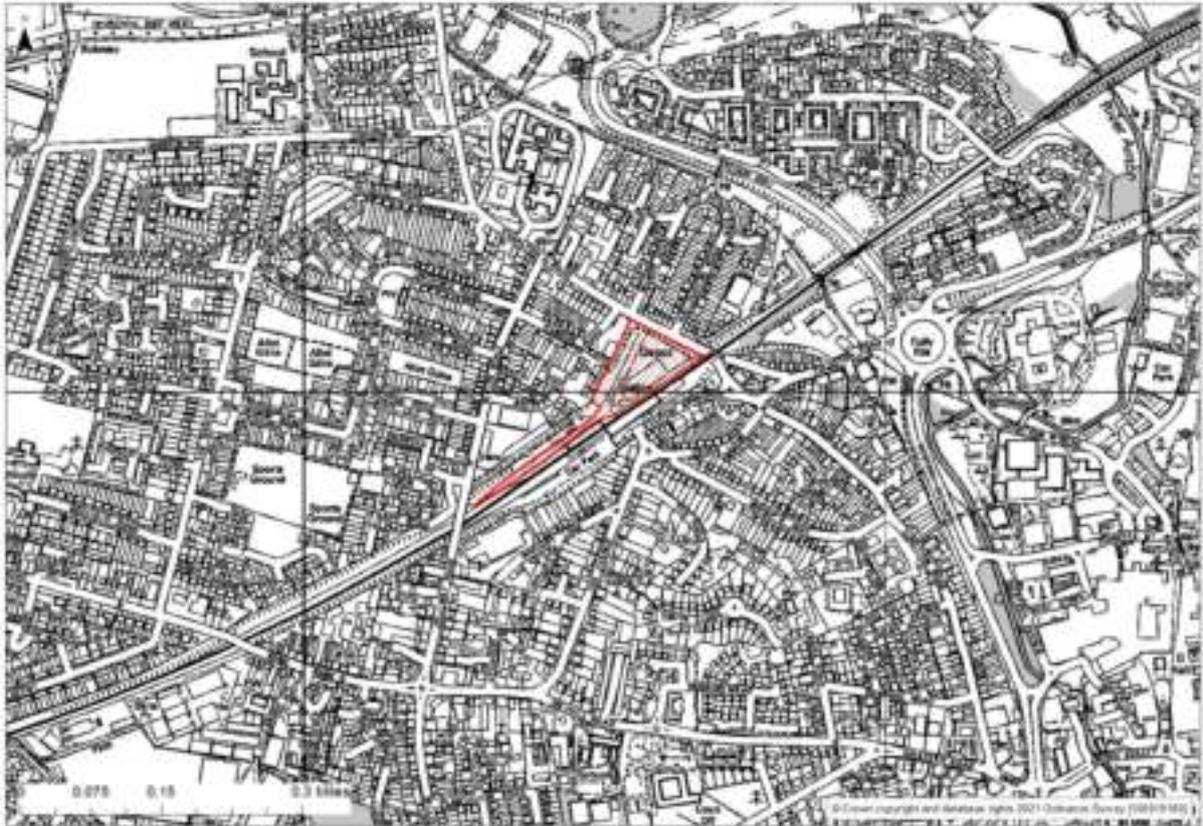
Receptor	Notes	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads	Junction Road	Adjacent to the eastern end of the site	The road is at a lower level than the site, and the embankment between the two is covered in vegetation. There are no direct views into the site	NEGLIGIBLE

	Mylen Road	Adjacent to the access road	The access road to the sidings is from Mylen Road. The access is tree lined and there are no direct views of the sidings.	NEGLIGIBLE if the vegetation is retained
	Hanson Road	Adjacent	The site is just visible across another industrial site in the fore ground.	LOW
	Cricklade place & Beckett Road	Adjacent	Glimpsed views over the fence and from between properties	LOW
Settlement/Housing	Properties on Cricklade Place and Beckett Road.	Adjacent	Garden boundaries and some self-sown vegetation on the railway boundary	HIGH
Definitive PRoW long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	No PRoW. Highway footpath links Beckett Road and Hanson Road	Near by	A terrace of houses immediately adjacent to the site screens views.	NEGLIGIBLE
Rail/ Country Parks/Other Parks	Andover Station Platforms	Near by	The closest platforms are no longer in use. Rail users will have views of the site but as users of the railway their sensitivity is considered to be low	LOW

Mitigation Measures and Restoration

- Retain and enhance all vegetation along the northern and eastern boundary and improve the buffer for the adjacent housing areas.
- Increased heavy goods vehicle movements along Mylen Road, could further degrade the urban character. Street scene improvements will need to be introduced to offset the impact.

Figure 100: TSV09 Andover Railway Sidings - Site Plan



TSV10 Dunwood Nurseries / Fruit Farm, Sherfield English (soft sand extraction)

Location / Description

Set within a wooded landscape, located on both flat and sloping ground. The site is effectively L-shaped with the rectangular area adjacent to the A27 being a relatively flat plateau, whilst the other arm of the site, located in the north-western corner, slopes very steeply down to a wooded strip running along the valley bottom. The land was used as a Nursery, but currently is mainly used as horse grazing fields, divided by electric fences. The land sits immediately to the north of the busy A27. Woodland surrounds the eastern, western and northern boundaries.

Properties along Newtown Lane to the west of the site back onto the woodland strip that forms the north-western boundary of the site. The site access is proposed to be off the A27 to the west of the existing farmhouse, along an existing gravel surfaced track.

Proposal: extraction of soft sand (500,000 tonnes; 4.2ha of which approx. 2.8ha is likely to be extracted with the remainder used for access and screening).

Restoration: to agricultural uses.

Landscape Character

2n Wellow and Awbridge Heath Associated Wooded Farmland

Landscape Type

Lowland Mosaic Small Scale

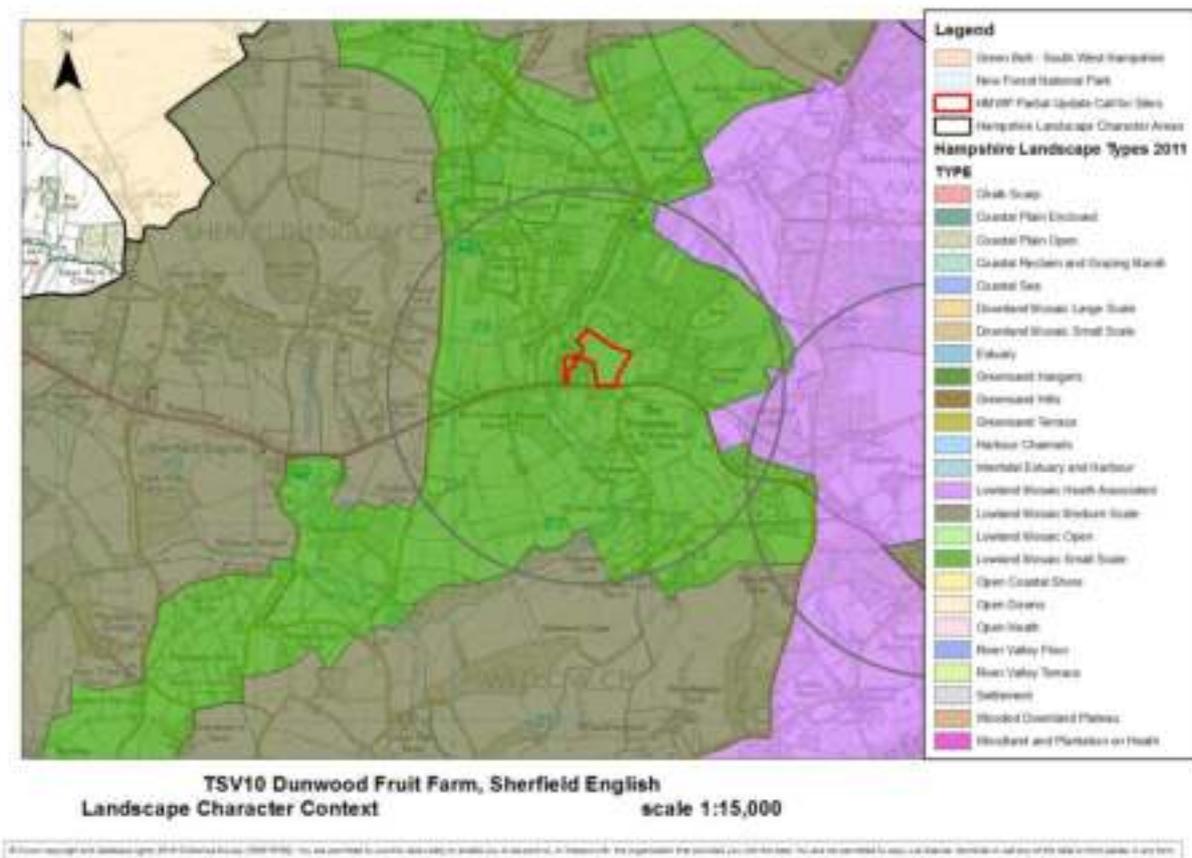
Key Characteristics applicable to this location

- Undulating wooded landscape dissected by tributaries of the River Test.
- Mixture of soil types from sandy Reading Beds to London Clay.
- Biodiversity value from ancient woodlands (locally designated), and pockets of heathland, wetland and grassland.
- Small scale field pattern – especially associated with the stream valleys, defined by thick well treed hedgerows supporting a mixed farming economy with significant stands of ancient semi-natural woodland and some conifer plantations.
- Settled character with dispersed farmsteads and small hamlets with more recent linear expansion or housing areas.
- Areas of gravel and clay extraction.
- High density of leafy green lanes.

Impact on Key Characteristics

- Visual intrusion on the immediate surrounding area, including properties on Newtown Road.
- Negative impact on this wooded rural area which, although aurally disturbed by the A27, is currently intact visually with few detractors.
- Potential loss of topographical undulations and diversity due to simplified restoration levels and soil settlement.
- Loss of tranquillity along the rural lanes and associated properties.

Figure 101: TSV10 Dunwood Fruit Farm - Landscape Character Context



Constraints and Designations

There are no landscape designations on this site. The boundary with the New Forest National Park is found some 4.5 km to the west.

Historic Landscape Character

A notable character of this landscape is the high concentration of parkland landscapes including Embley Park, Roke Manor, Stransbridge Earls (on the edge of the Test Valley), Awbridge Danes, Sherfield House and Melchet Court and Park. Awbridge Danes is 1km to the east and Embley Park 2km to the south-east. The nearest Listed building is Buck Hill (Grade II listed) is located on the south side of the A27 immediately opposite the proposed site entrance.

The historic landscape character of the area shows signs of early assart enclosure reflected in a pattern of small-scale irregular enclosures and association with pre 1810 broadleaved woodland.

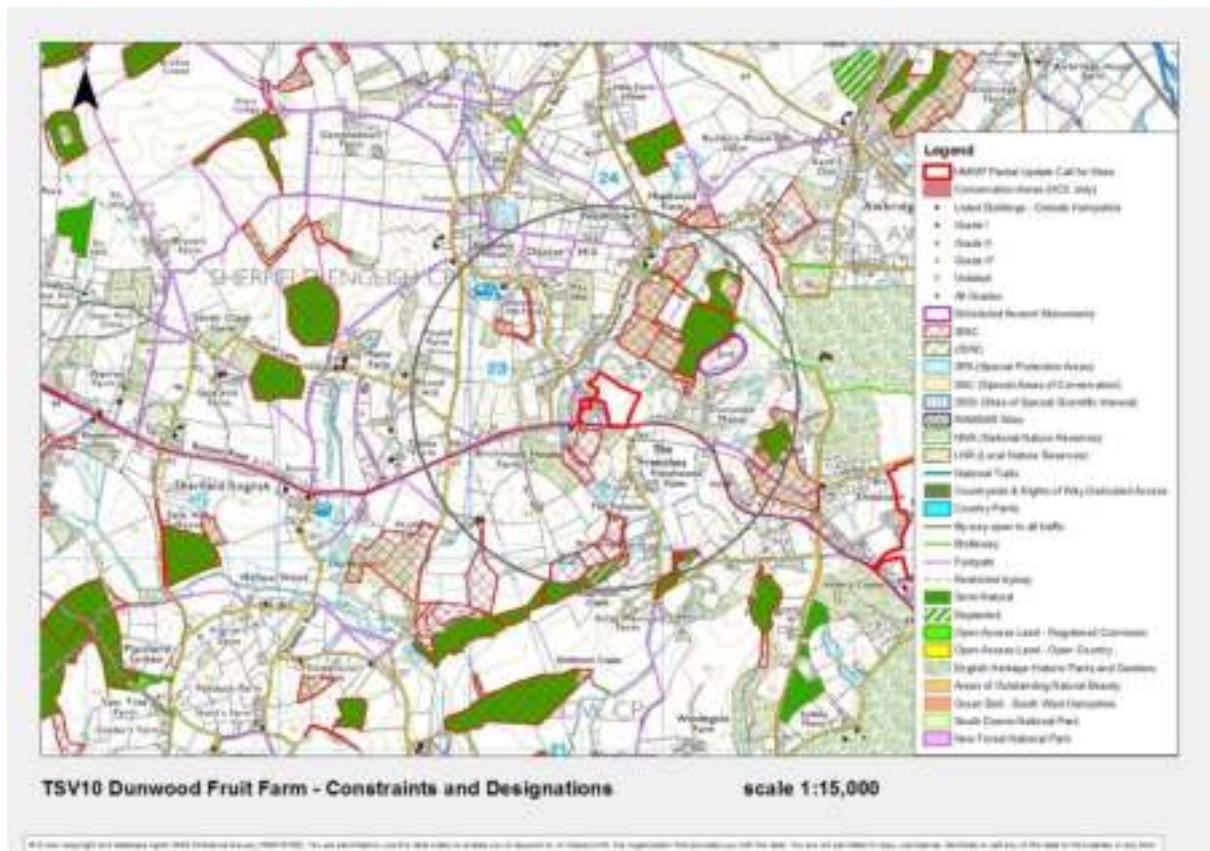
Ecological designations - International, National & Local

Dunwood Woodland SINC is 180m to the north, Whilst Dunwood Ancient Woodland Semi Natural Woodland is 270m to the north east. Both areas are contiguous areas of woodland. On the south side of the A27 opposite the site is Buckhill Meadow SINC.

Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas

There are two public rights of way close to the site. Footpath: Sherfield English 209/39/1 follows the western edge of the site overlooking the area. This path merges into footpath: Sherfield English 209/38/1 just to the west of the site, this path overlooks the access road into the site.

Figure 102: TSV10 Dunwood Fruit Farm - Constraints and designations



Landscape Condition

The physical condition of this site area is currently degraded, because the fields are used for intensive horse grazing. However, the woodland surrounding the site is very attractive and it is a significant landscape element in the local landscape character. The localised undulating topography on the site is also a strong feature in the local landscape. The southern and eastern of the site are open and flat, this part of the site is not particularly sensitive to change. The north western part of the site is steeply sloping ground with woodland on two sides, and its condition is good.

Landscape Sensitivity

The sensitivity of this landscape is considered to be moderate on the flat hilltop and high on the west facing slope. The adjacent woodland and the residential area along Newtown Lane increases the site sensitivity. If the development can be confined to the flat hill top part of the site the development would have a **low** adverse effect. If all the land including the steeply sloping hillside is extracted then the development would have a **moderate/high** adverse effect. The working area must omit the sloping hillside in the north western part of the site to protect the landscape character and the adjacent housing areas.

Visual Sensitivity

The site is well screened from the wider landscape the main views into the site are from the A27, footpath no. 209/39/1 and from some of the adjacent houses on Newtown Lane.

Receptor	Notes	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads	A27	Adjacent to the southern end of the site	The roadside vegetation is intermittent and there are clear views into the site along one section.	LOW
	Newtown Lane	West of the site	In the summer months the vegetation along the road, combined with the screening provided by properties screens views. Might be possible in winter	NEGLIGIBLE particularly if the extraction is limited to the flat land at the top of the hill.
Settlement/Housing	Properties on Newtown Lane.	West of the site	It is likely that some of the houses located at the southern end of Newtown Lane will have views of the site if the hillside area is extracted.	MODERATE
Definitive PRow long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	PRow 209/39/1 follows the western boundary of the site. 209/38/2 is further west and located in the bottom of the valley within the woodland. There may be views in winter.	Adjacent and nearby	The adjacent footpath will be disturbed by the proposed works as the access road crosses the path.	HIGH
Rail/ Country Parks/Other Parks	Historic parkland at Awbridge Danes and Embley Park	1 & 2 Km away	The combination of distance and intervening vegetation mean there is no connectivity between the sites.	NEGLIGIBLE

Mitigation Measures and Restoration

- The area of extraction should omit the sloping hillside in the north-western part of the site. This will reduce impacts on landscape character and visual intrusion on the nearby properties.
- Impact on the surrounding woodland due to changes in level and water table. Tree surveys and impact assessments will be required.
- Screening for properties and the adjacent footpath and roads.
- The possibility of cumulative effects if this site was worked at the same time as the extension to Rokes Manor.

11. Winchester City Council Local Planning Authority Area

Local Planning Policy

11.1. Winchester District Core Strategy 2013¹⁶. The local plan is currently at a consultation phase. Policies that relate to landscape and countryside are set out in Appendix 12 and include:

- Policy CP15 - Green Infrastructure
- Policy CP16 - Biodiversity
- Policy CP20 - Heritage and Landscape Character

Landscape Character Assessment

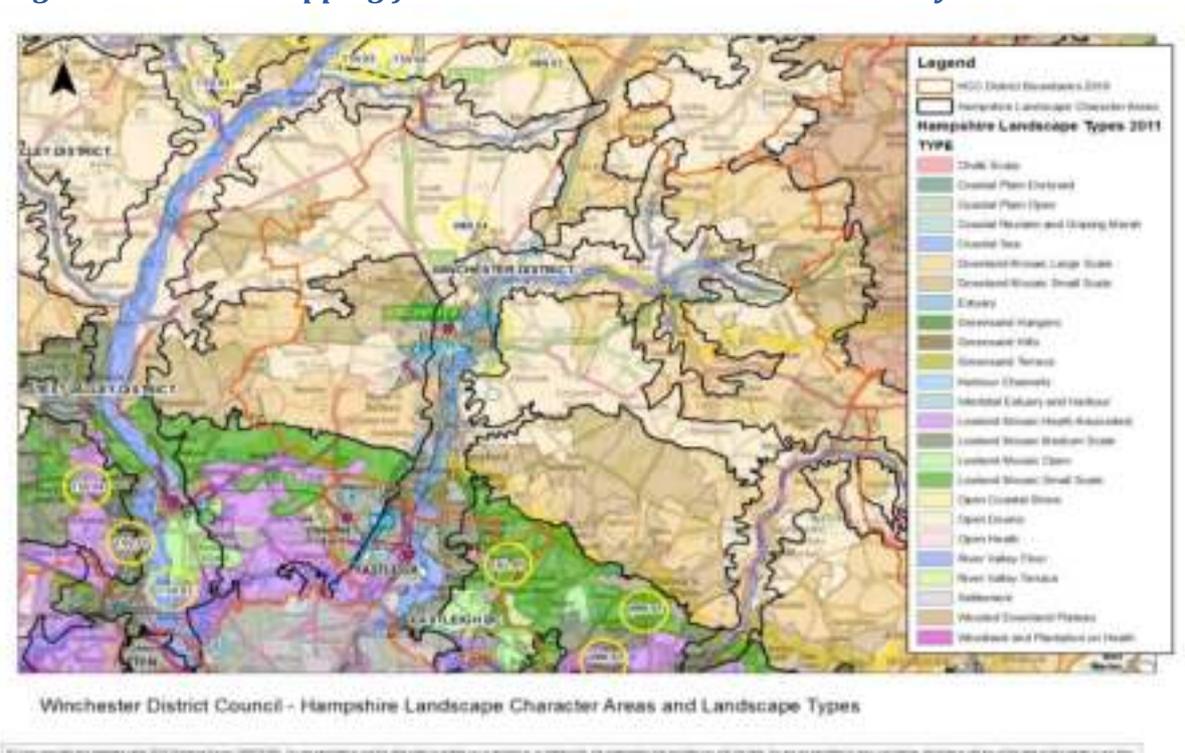
11.2. The England-wide landscape character mapping undertaken by Natural England (2005) defines Winchester District within three broad National Character Area categories:

- Character Area 128 (South Hampshire Lowlands);
- Character Area 130 (Hampshire Downs); and
- Character Area 125 (South Downs).

11.3. The Hampshire Integrated Landscape Character Assessment (2012) further subdivides Winchester District into 15 Landscape Character Areas broadly:

- 9 x Downs & Open Downs areas;
- Wooded Lowland mosaic;
- Forest of Bere West; and
- 4 x River Valleys.

Figure 103: HICA mapping for Winchester District Local Authority



¹⁶ Winchester District Core Strategy 2013: <https://www.winchester.gov.uk/planning-policy/winchester-district-local-plan-2011-2036-adopted/local-plan-part-1-joint-core-strategy-adopted-march-2013-local-plan-review-2006/local-plan-part-1-joint-core-strategy-adopted-2013>

WIN01 Church Farm, Clewers Hill, Waltham Chase, Southampton, SO23 2LN (Waste)

Location / Description

Medium sized pasture fields (Grade 4 and part Grade 3) enclosed by hedgerows and lined with large mature oak trees characterise this agricultural landscape in the Local Gap between Waltham Chase and Bishops Waltham.

The topography in the immediate vicinity is flat with little apparent long distance intervisibility. Nearby residential properties along the B2177 overlook the site although their view is filtered by intervening hedgerow trees. A disturbed landscape, the busy B-road and the high voltage cables/pylons, impinge on this rural fringe. The long-distance footpath, Allan King Way, passes through the northern edge of the proposed site.

Proposal: recycling concrete/hardcore, inert soil & green waste – for reuse in construction industry.

Restoration: Permanent facility.

Landscape Character

2e Forest of Bere West

Landscape Type

Lowland mosaic small scale

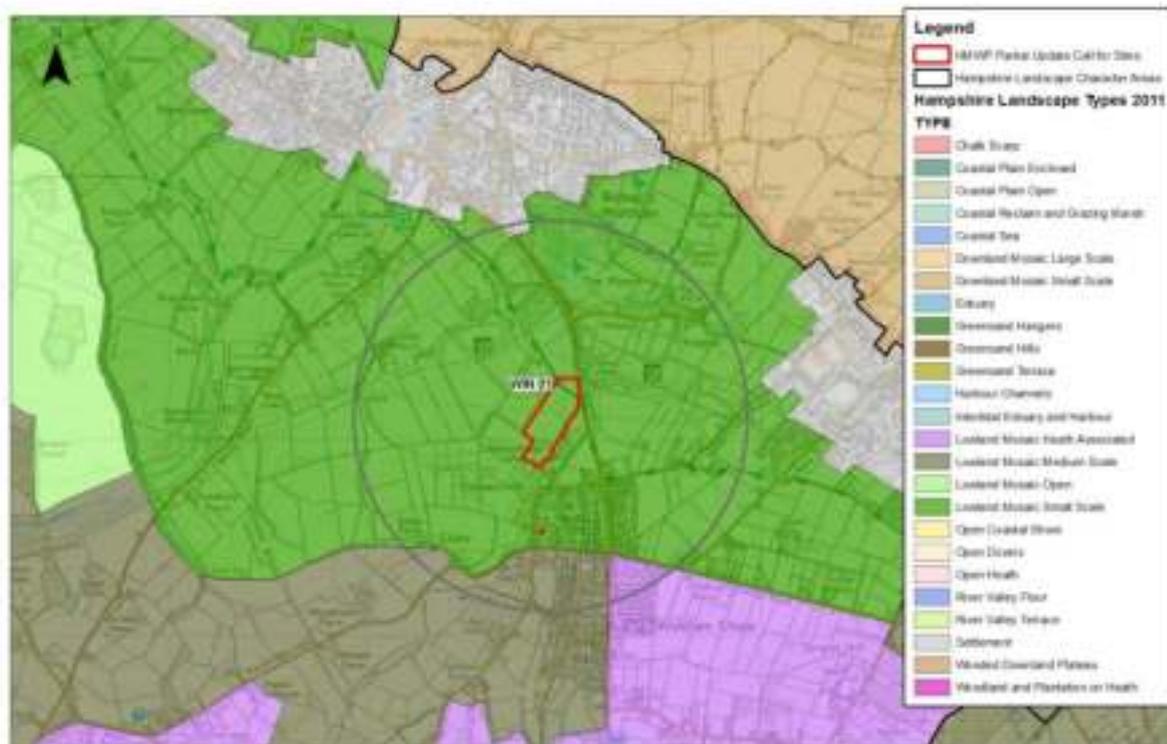
Key Characteristics applicable to this location

- A low lying landscape.
- Varied geology with permanently saturated heavy clays in the central and southern parts and locally higher sandy outcrops which are more undulating resulting in agriculturally poor soils.
- Permanent pasture, plantations woodland and small holdings with secluded, heavily wooded, often ancient origin but replanted, away from the major towns.
- This area is strongly associated with the Royal Forest of Bere, a hunting reserve that retains wooded and to a lesser extent, open commons, assart field and woodland patterns.
- Hedgerows often low but with individual spreading mature oaks, sometimes of ancient origin or lines of oak with no 'understory' hedge and occasionally isolated field specimens.
- Extensive C.20th development, including urban expansion and infilling of common-edge settlements.
- Historically, mixed settlement pattern of very low density, tending towards nucleation along streams and around heath scattered throughout the area.
- Rich biodiversity, including woodland, heathland, grassland and wetland sites.

Impact on Key Characteristics include:

- Potential negative impact on mature hedgerows and statuesque hedgerow tree.
- Potential urbanising influence on this rural Local Gap.

Figure 104: WIN01 Church Farm - Landscape Character Context



WIN 01 Church Farm, Waltham Chase - Landscape Character Context

scale 1:15,000

Constraints and Designations

Situated in the settlement gap between Bishops Waltham and Waltham Chase the site is within 250m of the South Downs National Park to the north. Bounded by two Tree Preservation Order (TPO) Areas (Park Lug and Cambria) with at least one additional TPO tree on its periphery the larger field is contained physically and visually by mature hedgerow trees.

Historic Landscape Character

The nearest Listed building is Forest Farmhouse adjacent to the north-east site corner while Church House Farmhouse is at the south-east corner of the site; both are Grade II listed. A further five listed buildings are found on the Winchester Road B2177 to the north/east of the site.

A Lowland Mosaic Landscape extensively cleared of woodland and informally enclosed for pasture creating a pattern of irregular shaped small fields, with a mix of open land and assart woodland in between. By the time the Forest of Bere was disbanded in 1810 much of the Lowland Mosaic Small Scale Landscape had already been the subject of informal enclosure with copses, shaws and remnant oaks forming the field boundaries. This area has become increasingly developed and expansion of settlements such as Bishops Waltham, have led to field boundary alterations and loss.

Ecological designations - International, National & Local

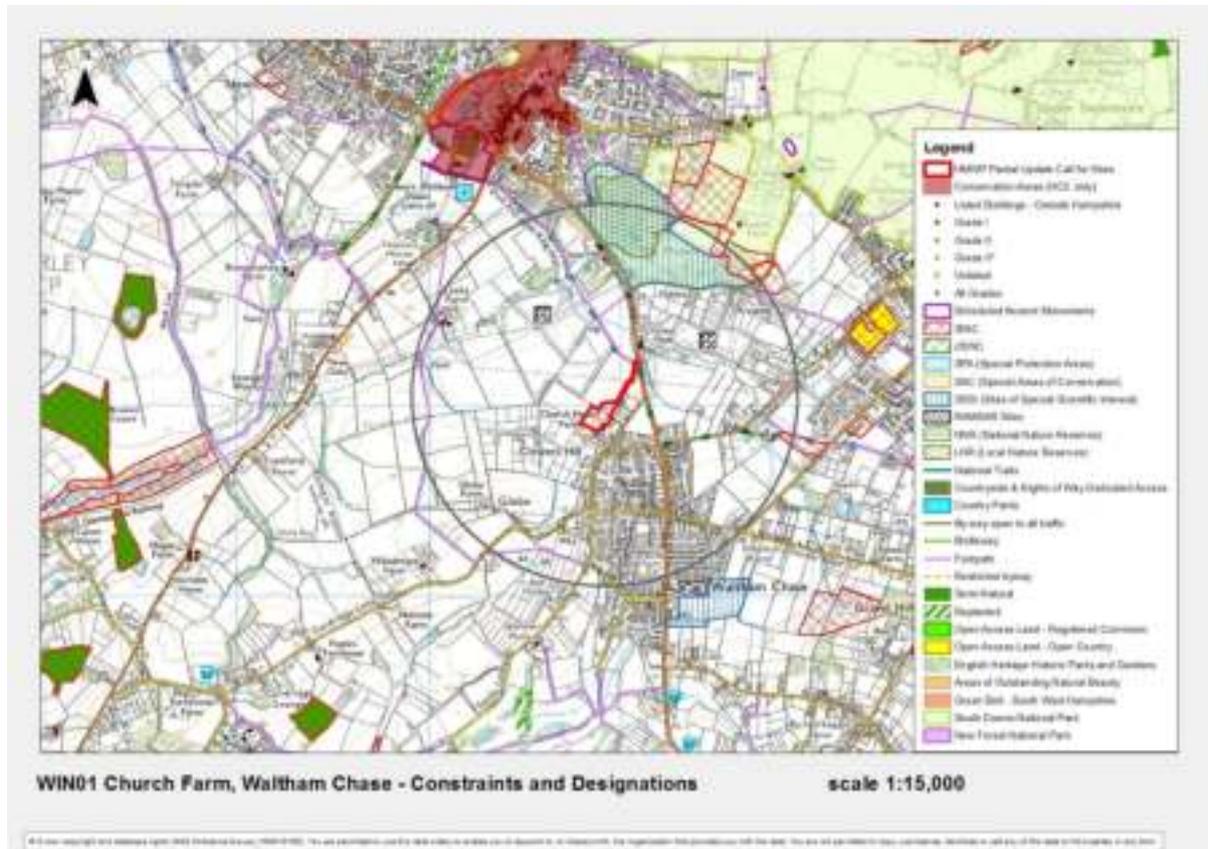
The Moors, Bishops Waltham SSSI and Local Nature Reserve is 300m to the north, adjacent to a locally designated SINC 'Pumping Station' all of which are contained with the South Downs National Park.

The site is within the Forest of Bere Biodiversity Opportunity Area.

Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas:

Bishops Waltham Footpath 12 – part of The Allan King Way and Pilgrims Trail from Winchester to Portsmouth - runs alongside the northern boundary of this site, separated from it by a post and wire fence.

Figure 105: WIN01 Church Farm - Constraints and designations



Landscape Condition

The landscape of this site comprises pasture (ley), bounded by historic oak-lined hedgerows. A former landfill site, following sand/gravel extraction, the current condition is **good**.

Landscape Sensitivity

The prime sensitivities are the historic boundary hedgerows/hedgerow trees and its location in the settlement gap between Waltham Chase and Bishops Waltham. The overall landscape sensitivity is considered **medium**. The proposals may have a **moderate** adverse effect on the landscape.

Visual Sensitivity

The relatively flat topography and the boundary vegetation reduce long distance although there are close views from the PRoW, residential properties and passing traffic on the B-road. The field adjacent to the B2177 is too visually sensitive to be developed without having a negative impact on both the historic boundary hedgerow trees, the adjacent listed buildings and the Local Gap as viewed from the B2177. The visual sensitivity of this small parcel of land is **high** while that of the larger field behind is considered **medium**. The proposals (if contained to the area furthest from the road) are likely to have a **moderate adverse** effect.

Receptor	Notes	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads	Winchester Road B2177	Adjacent	Hedgerows/hedgerow trees	HIGH
	Clewers Hill unclassified road	100m	Screened by housing, commercial properties and vegetation	LOW
Settlement/Housing	Historic, listed buildings alongside B2177	Less than 25m	Low hedging with numerous mature oaks	HIGH
	Properties alongside Clewers Hill U road	Adjacent	Intervening hedgerow vegetation	MEDIUM
Definitive PRow long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	FP 12 – LDP	Adjacent	none	HIGH
Rail/ Country Parks/Other Parks	n/a			

Mitigation Measures

- Existing historic boundary hedgerows and specimen oaks must be protected by generous buffer zones.
- Screening for the PRow might comprise low bunding and substantial hedgerow planting with specimen oaks, comparable to those existing on adjacent boundaries.

Figure 106: WIN 01 Church Farm, Waltham Chase- Site Plan



WIN02 Silverlake Automotive Recycling, Row Ash, Botley Road, SO23 2HL (Waste)

Location / Description

Situated in the relatively low-lying wood pasture landscape of the Forest of Bere between Curdrige and Shedfield, this site is surrounded by woodland on its west and northern sides, by a mature hedgerow to its east and by the roadside landscape of scattered residential and commercial properties to the south. Higher land to the west and north may overlook this site.

The existing automotive recycling site is narrow and contained by belts of maturing vegetation on the lower slopes of the overall land ownership, adjacent 'Shawford Lakes'/stream. The proposed extension area rises from here, with a gradient of around 1 in 25 to a domed arable field, a level difference of some 12m. It is classed as Grade 3 agricultural land.

Proposal: 7.4ha extension site for the existing automotive recycling business.

Restoration: permanent facility.

Landscape Character

2E Forest of Bere West

Landscape Type

Lowland Mosaic Medium Scale

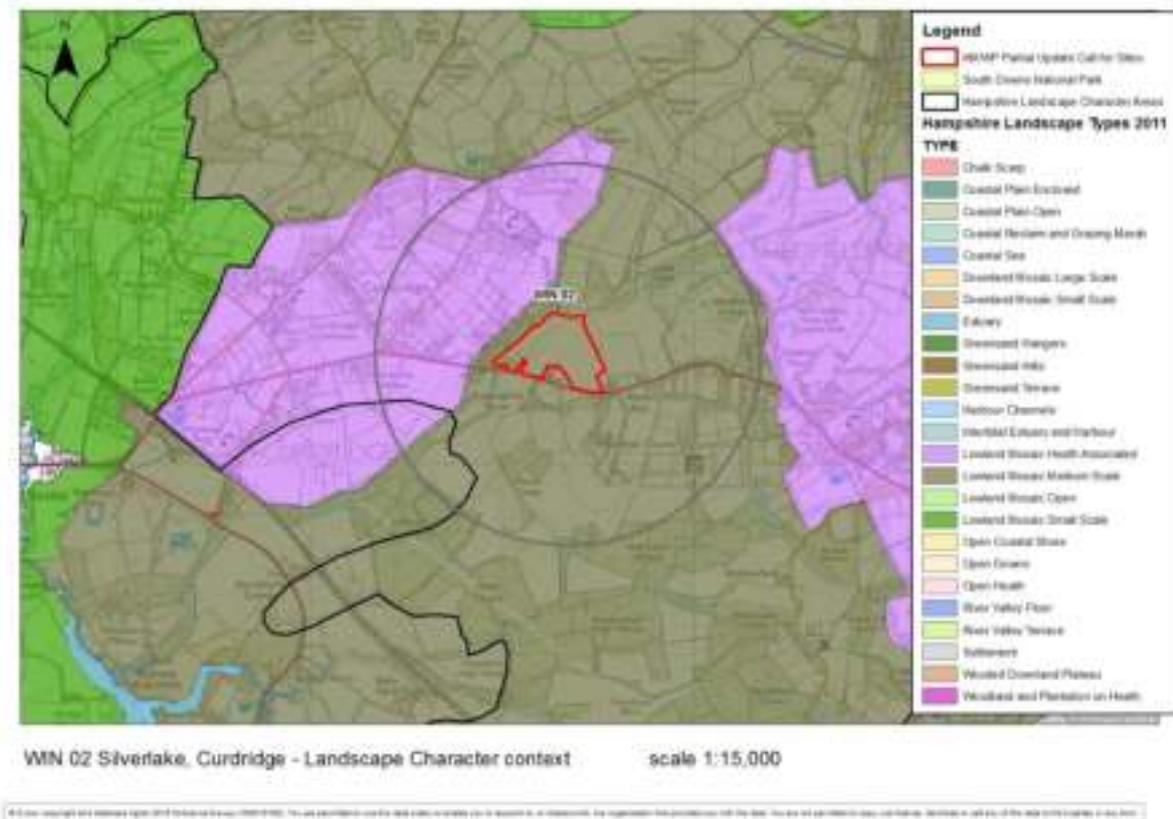
Key Characteristics applicable to this location

- A low-lying landscape with shallow undulations.
- Varied geology with permanently saturated heavy clays and locally higher sandy outcrops which result in agriculturally poorer soils.
- Permanent pasture, plantations woodland and small holdings with secluded, heavily wooded, often ancient origin but replanted, away from the major towns.
- This area is strongly associated with the Royal Forest of Bere, a hunting reserve that retains wooded and to a lesser extent, open commons, assart field and woodland patterns.
- Hedgerows often low but with individual spreading mature oaks, sometimes of ancient origin or lines of oak with no 'understory' hedge and occasionally isolated field specimens.
- Extensive C.20th development, including urban expansion and infilling of common-edge settlements.
- Historically, mixed settlement pattern of very low density, tending towards nucleation along streams and around heath scattered throughout the area.
- Rich biodiversity, including woodland, heathland, grassland and wetland sites.

Impact on Key Characteristics

Suburbanisation and urban fringe encroachment onto the existing rural agricultural landscape.

Figure 107: WIN02 Silverlake Automotive Recycling - Landscape Character Context



Constraints and Designations

Situated in the Forest of Bere Biodiversity Opportunity Area, the land currently has a predominantly agricultural character forming part of the rural sweep of land between Curdrige, Shedfield and Waltham Chase.

Historic Landscape Character

Listed buildings (all Grade II) include: Rowan Ash Farmhouse on the south-east corner of the site; Raglington Farmhouse 100m to the south and; Hall Court 250m to the south. The closest Conservation Area is 1km to the east, Shedfield.

A Lowland Mosaic Landscape extensively cleared and informally enclosed for pasture created a pattern of irregular shaped small fields, with a mix of open land and assart woodland in between, by the time the Forest of Bere was disbanded in 1810. This area has become increasingly developed with the expansion of settlements leading to field boundary alterations and loss.

Ecological designations - International, National & Local

Lyons Copse Site of Importance for Nature Conservation, and designated Ancient Woodland is contiguous with the site's north boundary. A number of other SINCs and Ancient Woodlands are within a 1km radius of the site.

Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas:

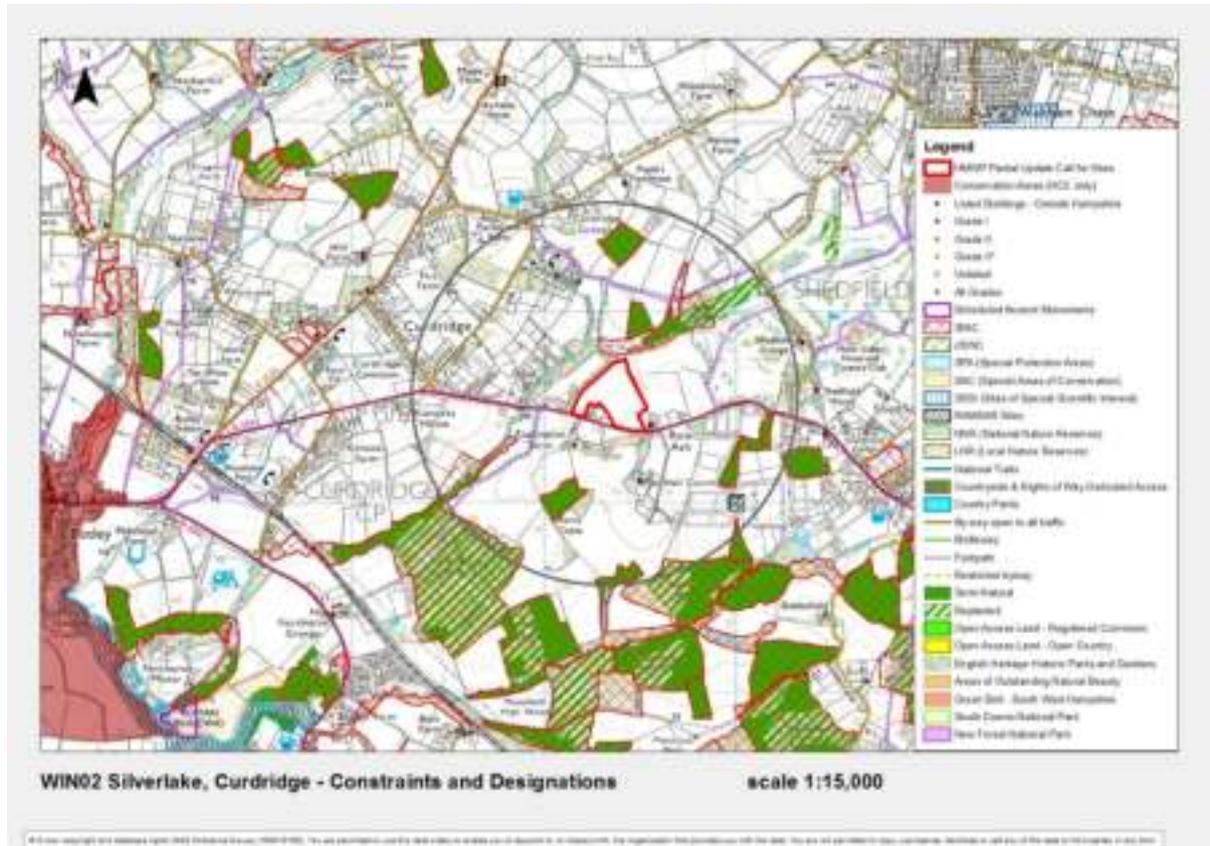
Curdrige Footpath 5 runs approximately 300m to the north of the site separated by woodland and tree belts in the stream valley.

The well-used, Shedfield Footpath 9, is located approximately 350m to the east of the site while Shedfield Footpath 10 approaches the site from the south exiting onto the A334 - which runs along the site's southern boundary.

Meon Valley Golf Course is located approximately 350m to the east while Three Choirs Vineyard and wedding venue adjoins the site's eastern and south-eastern boundary.

Roads on higher ground surrounding the site i.e. Lockhams Road to the west, and Curdrige Lane to the north, may provide glimpsed views due to their relatively elevated position in relation to the low lying proposal site.

Figure 108: WIN02 Silverlake Automotive Recycling - Constraints and designations



Landscape Condition

The existing arable field is well managed, agricultural land surrounded by designated woodland, dense streamside vegetation and hedgerows. The condition of the current landscape is **good**.

Landscape Sensitivity

Due to the presence of adjacent designated habitats, the good condition of the existing rural landscape and a location subject to incremental suburbanisation, the site has a **high** landscape sensitivity. The proposal is likely to have a **large adverse** effect on the landscape.

Visual Sensitivity

The proximity of PRow, adjacent road, residential and commercial properties and the effect of storing highly reflective materials (increasing the likelihood of visibility from surrounding higher ground), give the proposal a **large adverse** visual effect.

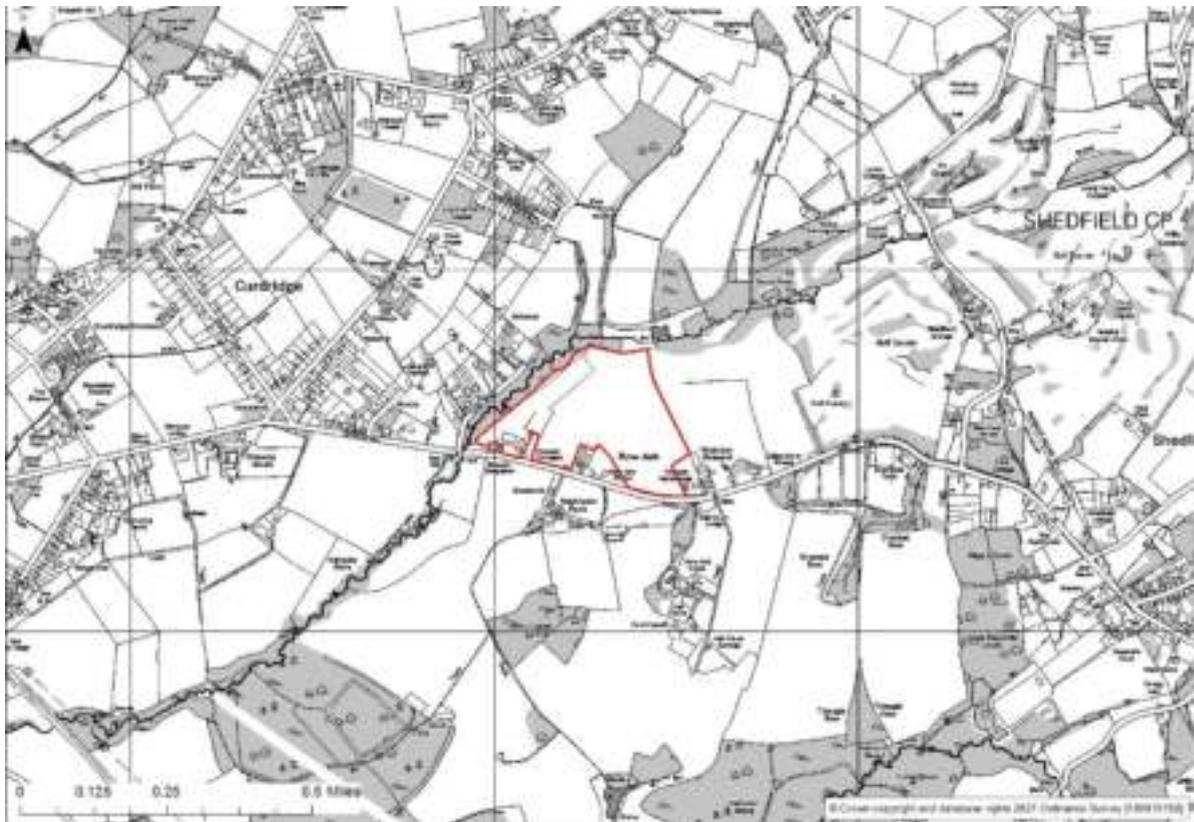
Receptor	Notes	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads	A334	Adjacent south boundary	hedgerows	HIGH

Settlement/Housing	Scattered properties along the A334	Adjacent the south boundary	hedgerows	HIGH
	Properties along Lockhams Road and Curdrige Road	Over 500m distant views	Some woodland vegetation	MEDIUM
Definitive PRoW long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	FP 5	300m	woodland	LOW
	FP 9	350M	hedgerow	MEDIUM
	FP 10	Approaches site from the south	Topography/slope	LOW
Rail/ Country Parks/Other Parks	Golf course	350m to east	hedgerow	LOW

Mitigation Measures

- Generous buffer zones of woodland planting - similar in width to those around the existing site - around east and southern perimeters to minimise visual impact on adjacent residential/commercial properties and public recreation areas/paths.
- Additional strips of woodland plants within the site to break up a potential expanse of reflective materials and reduce potential impact on long distance views.
- Offset any storage areas by at least 15m from Ancient Woodland/SINCS to the north.
- Utilise appropriate native species planting and seeding in to ensure minimal impact on adjacent ecologically important areas.

Figure 109: WIN02 Silverlake, Shedfield - Site Plan



WIN03 Micheldever Sidings, Micheldever Station (Rail depot)

Location / Description

The proposal is located adjacent to Micheldever Station in the railway sidings. The station is set in a deep cutting with a woodland belt along the eastern side of the cutting adjoining Overton Road.

Landscape Character

8e Mid Hampshire Open Downs

Landscape Type

Open Downland

Key Characteristics applicable to this location

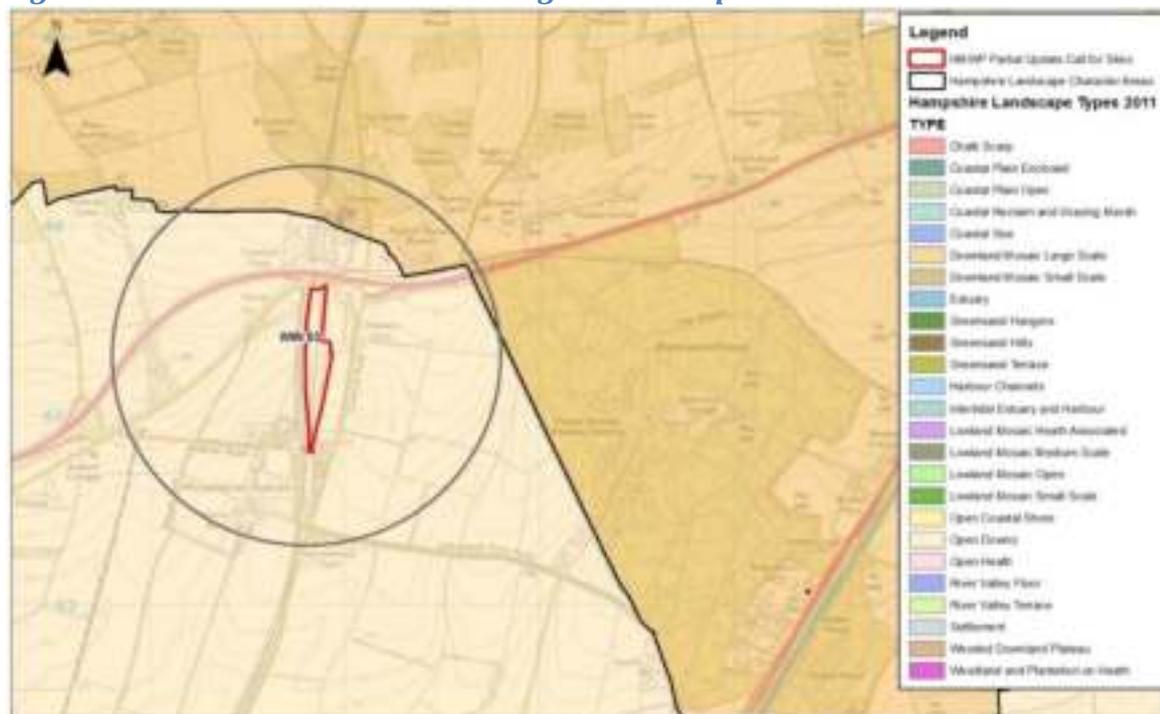
The landscape around the site contains the following key characteristics:

- A sense of elevation, space and expansive views.
- A landscape of straight edges and sense of planned countryside on a large scale.
- Straight and direct fast roads, some of Roman origin.
- Large farm holdings dominated by cereal crops with little grazing.
- Woodland is rare and largely consists of 19th century shelterbelts.

Impact on Key Characteristics

The former railway sidings are situated adjacent to the mainline railway, the landscape character is atypical of the of the overall character area. Greater traffic flow around Micheldever Station may stimulate further development which could compromise the village character which is largely made up of Victorian and late 20th Century housing. The site is currently partly used for rail related uses such as storage. As such, the development of the site would not result in a significant change to the operations which are currently, and have historically, taken place on the site.

Figure 110: WIN03 Micheldever Sidings - Landscape Character Context



WIN 03 Micheldever Sidings - Landscape Character context

scale 1:15,000

Constraints and Designations

There are no landscape designations associated with this site.

Historic Landscape Character

There are no Registered Parks and Gardens near the site. The rail station and a telephone kiosk adjacent to the station are both Grade II listed buildings.

Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas:

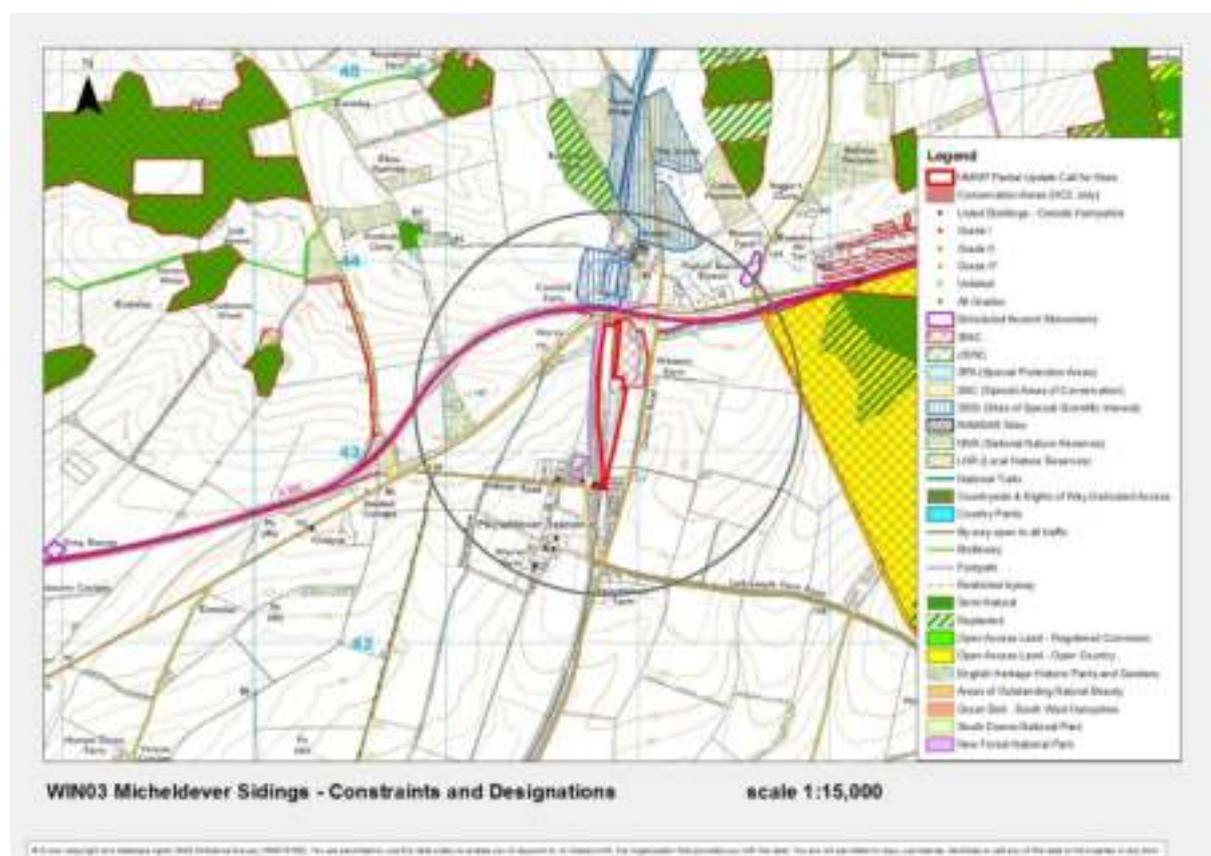
Footpath 157/23/1 follows the western boundary of the railway cutting.

Ecological designations - International, National & Local

The Micheldever Spoil Heaps SSSI is found just to the north of the A303 nearby the site. The former oil terminal within the Micheldever station cutting is a SINC.

Burntheath Copse, 650m north, is Ancient Semi Natural woodland.

Figure 111: WIN03: Micheldever Sidings - Constraints and designations



Landscape Condition

Site is located around and including the existing railway sidings, there is a large flat area that contains disused underground tanks with thin soils above. This part of the site is designated as a SINC. The landscape condition is mixed with **good**, wooded side-slopes to the cutting and **poor** condition immediately around the sidings.

Landscape Sensitivity

The proposal would have a **slight adverse** impact. Proposal could lead to greater traffic around Micheldever Station and could stimulate further development which could compromise

the village character which is largely made up of 20th Century small housing estates and Victorian housing.

Visual Sensitivity

Receptor	Notes	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads	Overton Road	Adjacent	Woodland belt along the road	LOW
	A303	Adjacent	Vegetation along the road and adjacent land	LOW / NEGLIGIBLE
Settlement/Housing	New Road	Near-by	Properties at the western end of the road overlook the railway	HIGH for adjacent properties LOW for properties towards the middle and eastern end of the road.
	Mill Place	Near-by	Thin tree belt	MEDIUM for properties close to the railway line.
	Brunel Close	Near-by	Vegetation along the railway boundary	MEDIUM / LOW
Definitive PRow long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	157/23/1	Adjacent	Woodland on railway cutting	MEDIUM / LOW
Rail/ Country Parks/Other Parks	Railway Station users	Within site	Open	HIGH

Mitigation Measures and Restoration

- Road access into the site needs to be carefully designed to minimise tree loss.
- The biodiversity and ecological value of parts of the site needs to be protected.
- Building heights should be restricted to be no more than 10m high.

Figure 112: WIN03: Micheldever Sidings - Site Plan



WIN04 Three Maids Hill, Winchester SO21 2QU (Waste)

Location / Description

Former downland, currently grassland, a relatively narrow strip of agricultural land sandwiched between the A272 and the A34 at the Three Maids Hill junction, approximately 1km from the village of Littleton, on the northern edge of Winchester.

With woodland shelterbelt to the west, regenerating tree lined verges to the south and young plantations to the east, the site is partially enclosed although visible beneath tree canopies.

Proposal: recycling of inert construction waste (1.8 ha).

Restoration: Permanent facility.

Landscape Character

8e Mid Hampshire Open Downs (Winchester District LCA – Wonston)

Landscape Type

Open Downs

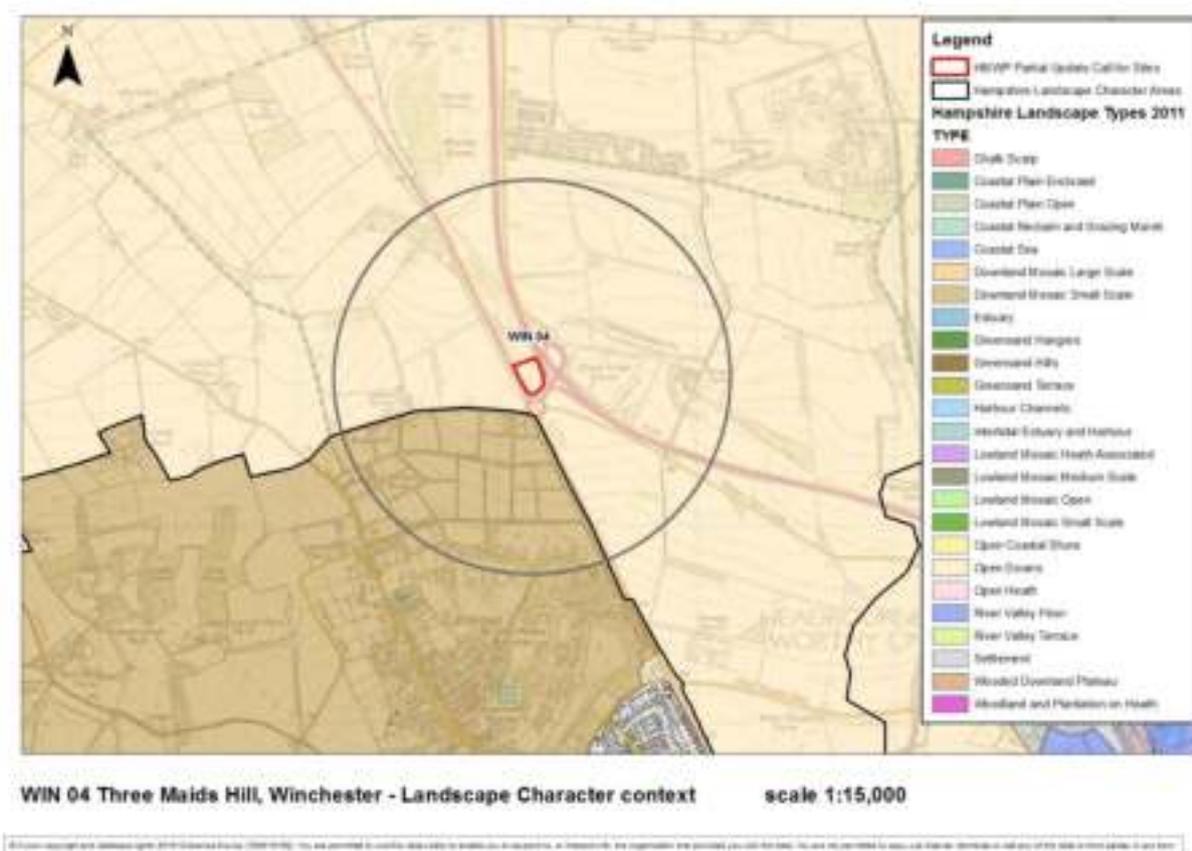
Key Characteristics applicable to this location

- A gently sloping but open landscape with a central east-west ridge referred to as Worthy Down.
- The remnant (and important area) of downland at Worthy Down south-west of South Wonston is diverse calcareous grassland, supporting a distinctive vegetation community.
- A widely spaced network of straight roads, lanes and tracks providing access to the farms, together with a limited public rights of way system and public access.
- Straight and direct fast roads, including the A34 and A272, some of Roman origin.
- Woodland is rare and largely consists of 19th century shelterbelts.
- A landscape of considerable perceptual time-depth and an early focus for farming.

Impact on Key Characteristics

Interruption of the flow of the gently sloping open landscape, the extension of the historic downland at Worthy Down. Introduction of urbanising elements into this rural character area.

Figure 113: WIN04 Three Maids Hill - Landscape Character Context



Constraints and Designations

Historic Landscape Character

Late 18th century parliamentary enclosures swept through this area but the isolated chalk downland at Worthy Down remained open.

The boundary of Littleton Conservation Area is just under 1km to the south-west.

Ecological Designations - International, National & Local

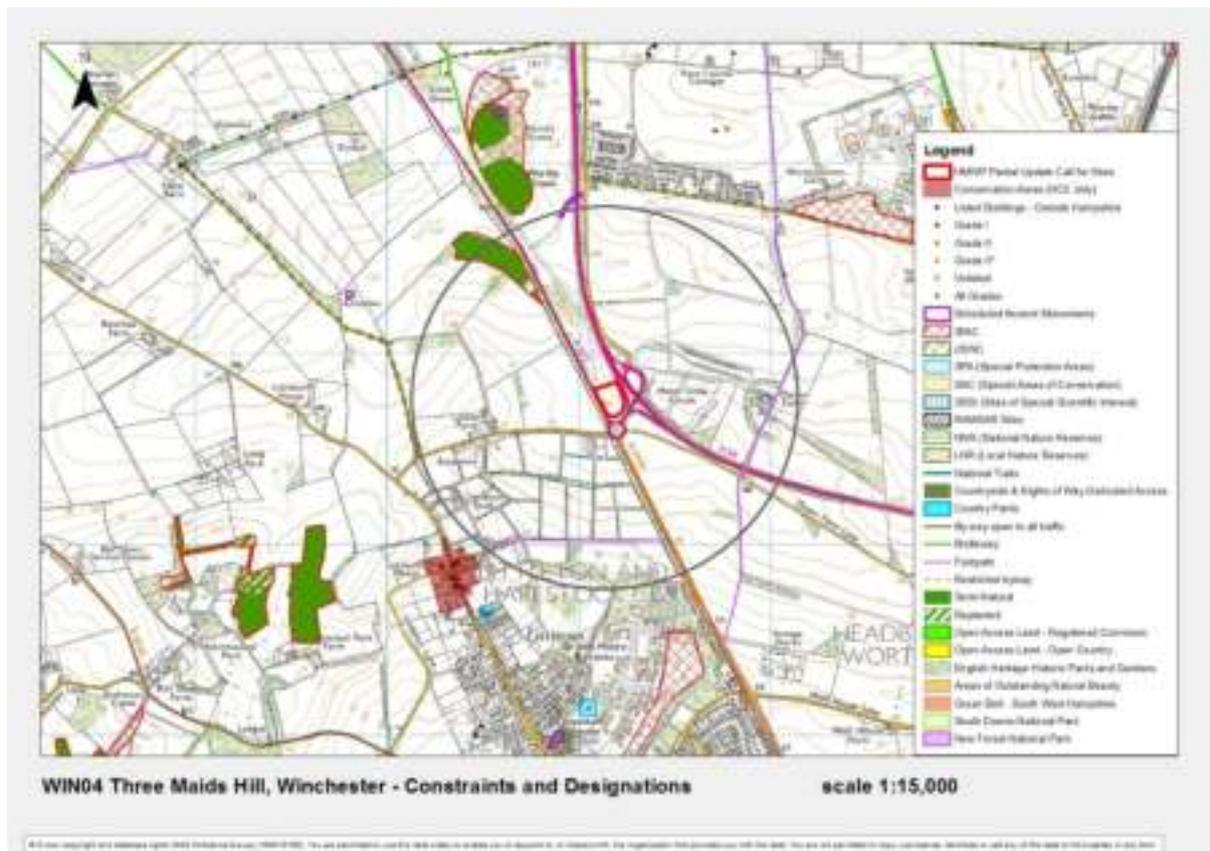
Ancient woodland and SINC's exist at Worthy Grove and The Gallops to the north and at Worthy Copse 1km or more to the north-west.

Public Rights of Way, recreation and public access areas

A permissive path passes parallel to the western site boundary, contained within the shelterbelt woodland on the opposite side of the A272.

Other public rights of way are sufficiently distant to likely be minimally impacted by the proposal either due to intervening vegetation/woodland or major roads.

Figure 114: WIN04 Three Maids Hill - Constraints and designations



Landscape Condition

The site is currently pasture bounded by A-roads including the major A34 trunk road. The condition is **Good**.

Landscape Sensitivity

The landscape is aurally disturbed by virtue of the surrounding major roads and interchange, (although it 'reads' visually as part of the countryside associated with the open chalk downland of Worthy Down). It is on the edge of the open downs landscape character area, north of Winchester. It has a **moderate** landscape sensitivity. The proposal would likely have a **moderate** adverse landscape effect by virtue of introducing development into the edge of perceived countryside.

Visual Sensitivity

Although partially screened by surrounding vegetation, the site has **medium** visual sensitivity due to the topography and proximity of receptors. The presence of existing, and potential for further, boundary screen planting gives the likely visual effect of the proposal a **moderate adverse** rating.

Receptor	Notes	Distance	Existing Mitigation	Visual Sensitivity of Receptor
Roads	A34	Adjacent east boundary	Young plantation woodland	LOW
	A272	Adjacent west boundary	Open views into the site, short section of tree lined verge	HIGH

	3 Maids Hill roundabout	Adjacent south boundary	Filtered views beneath tree canopy; more visible in winter	MEDIUM
Settlement/Housing	Lower Farm	550m to west	Screened by topography and woodland shelterbelt	LOW
	Littleton Stud	100m to south	Screened by woodland shelterbelt	LOW
Definitive PRow long distance routes/cycle routes and permissive paths	Permissive path to west of site	20m to west	Filtered views through woodland shelterbelt; more visible in winter	MEDIUM
Rail/ Country Parks/Other Parks	n/a			

Mitigation Measures and Restoration

- Additional screening is needed both along the south and west boundaries. This to include both bunding and planting to enhance the existing planting.
- Proposals need to be sympathetically designed and located within the site so as to sit in the bowl of the land to reduce visual impact.
- Enhancement of the site to chalk downland in keeping with the historic landscape character of open downs.

Figure 115: WIN 04 Three Maids Hill, Winchester - Site Plan



Glossary

Biodiversity

The total variety of life on earth, including all genes, species, ecosystems and the ecological processes of which they are part.

Biodiversity Opportunity Area (BOA)

Specific geographical areas with the best opportunity to restore and create habitats of regional importance. They are defined entirely on the basis of identifying those areas where conservation action is likely to have the most benefit for biodiversity interest and opportunities for enhancement. The purpose of BOAs is to guide support for land management as they represent those areas where assistance for land management and habitat restoration would have particular benefit.

Conservation Area

An area of notable environmental or historical interest or importance which is protected by law against undesirable changes.

Countryside

Areas that are not urbanised.

Department of Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)

The UK Government department responsible for environmental protection, food production and standards, agriculture, fisheries and rural communities.

Floodplain

An area of low-lying ground adjacent to a river, formed mainly of river sediments and subject to flooding.

Green Belt

An area designated in planning documents, providing an area of permanent separation between urban areas. The main aim of Green Belt policy is to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open; the most important quality of Green Belts is their openness. There is one Green Belt located in Hampshire, in the south west of the county.

Historic Landscape Character

The analysis of present-day landscapes with a view to explaining the history and development of an area in order to provide advice on sustainable management.

Landscape Character Assessment

The process of identifying and describing variation in character of the landscape. LCA documents identify and explain the unique combination of elements and features that make landscapes distinctive by mapping and describing character types and areas.

Landscape Strategy

Principles to manage and direct landscape change for a particular landscape type or character area including identification of any particular management needs for specific elements.

Listed Buildings and Sites

Buildings and sites protected under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

Local Nature Reserve (LNR)

A statutory designation made (by principal local authorities) under Section 21 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949. They are places of local, but not necessarily national, wildlife or geological importance and also often have good public access and facilities. Local Nature Reserves are almost always owned by local authorities, who often pass the management of the Local Nature Reserves to County Wildlife trusts.

Local Plan Area

The geographical/administrative area covered by the local plan.

Local Wildlife Site (LWS)

LWSs are wildlife-rich sites selected for their local nature conservation value. They vary in shape and size and can contain important, distinctive and threatened habitats and species.

Mineral

Limited and finite natural resources which can only be extracted where they are found geologically.

Mitigation

Measures taken to avoid or reduce negative effects. Measure may include locating the development and its working areas and access routes away from areas of ecological interest, or timing works to avoid sensitive periods.

National Site Network (NSN)

Under the Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019, SACs and SPAs in the UK no longer form part of the EU's Natura 2000 ecological network. The 2019 Regulations have created a national site network on land and at sea, including both the inshore and offshore marine areas in the UK.

Natural Landscape

Original landscape that exists before it is acted upon by human activities.

Ramsar Sites (Wetlands of International Importance)

Sites of international importance for waterfowl protected under the Ramsar Convention of the Conservation of Wetlands of International Importance, ratified by the UK Government in 1976.

Reservoir

A large natural or artificial lake used as a source of water supply or for recreational uses.

Public Rights of Way (PRoW)

Paths/access routes which the public have a legally protected right to use.

SANG

Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspaces (SANGs) are existing open spaces that are going to be improved. The aim is to encourage more visitors to enjoy the natural environment of SANGs and protect SPAs.

Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

Sites identified under the EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) supporting habitats or species listed within Annex I and II of that legislation, which form a network of internally recognised sites across Europe alongside SPA and Ramsar sites. Following the UK withdrawal from the EU, these sites are provided equivalent protection under the UK transposition of this Directive - The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended), as amended by the Conservation of Habitats and Species Amendment (EU Exit) Regulations 2019.

Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC)

A local designation conferred on an area of particular interest in Hampshire for its biodiversity by the Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre according to criteria agreed with Natural England and the Hampshire Wildlife Trust. These sites may be designated for a range of ecological interests and may be of national importance.

Special Protection Area (SPA)

Sites identified under the EU Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds protecting sites supporting the habitats of migratory and other particularly threatened species of bird. They form a network of internally recognised sites across Europe alongside SAC and Ramsar sites. Following the UK withdrawal from the EU, these sites are provided equivalent protection under the UK transposition of this Directive - The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations

2017 (as amended), as amended by the Conservation of Habitats and Species Amendment (EU Exit) Regulations 2019.

Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

A national designation for an area of special interest because of its flora, fauna, or geological or physiographical features, selected by Natural England and notified under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

Tree Preservation Order

A designation usually made by the local planning authority to protect specific trees or a particular woodland from deliberate damage and destruction.

Unitary Authority

Form of local authority which is responsible for all local government functions within its area and other functions which are normally carried out by a higher form of government.

Urban areas

An area characterised by higher population density and vast human features in comparison to areas surrounding it. Urban areas may be cities, towns or conurbations.

Sensitivity

A judgement of how sensitive or vulnerable a landscape component is to change. Combining the judgement for each component leads to an analysis of landscape sensitivity which relates to the stability of character and the degree to which that character is robust enough to continue to be able to recuperate from loss or damage.

Wetlands

Land consisting of marshes or swamps; saturated land.

Appendix 1: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Methodology

Landscape Character Assessments

Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments has been undertaken in accordance with the methodology described in **Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Third Edition** (GLVIA3) produced by Landscape Institute and Institute for Environmental Management & Assessment, published 2013.

Methodology for Site Assessments

Desk Study

The desktop survey included a review of the following existing information for each of the sites identified:

- National Planning Policy Framework and other Central Government Guidance;
- relevant Local Planning Policy and Policies maps for *Hampshire County Council, Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, Eastleigh Borough Council, East Hampshire District Council, Fareham Borough Council, Hart District Council, New Forest District Council, New Forest National Park Authority, Southampton City Council, Test Valley Borough Council and Winchester City Council*;
- Ordnance Survey maps including Historic OS mapping;
- aerial photographs of the site and surrounding area;
- the relevant Authority Data sets of heritage features and environmental designations;
- Unitary Authority designations including Tree Protection Orders and 'important' hedgerows as defined under the hedgerows designation;
- national, county and district scale Character Assessments; and
- MAGIC (Defra) and Natural England Data sets.

Field Study

Landscape and visual sensitivity assessments have been undertaken for each of the sites identified by Hampshire County Council Officers. Each site has been assessed from publicly accessible locations. Landscape and Visual assessments have been undertaken and receptors identified in the field. Results for each site were recorded on survey forms.

Limitations and assumptions of the studies are summarised as follows: distances of viewpoints will be approximated from the centre of the site; where no direct view of the site is available, direction may have to be estimated; visibility from individual private buildings or land has not been checked as part of the LVIA fieldwork. Where there are important views from private buildings these will be estimated from within the site; seasonal limitation provided by leaf cover dictates that winter visibility is estimated.

Data Analysis and Presentation of Results

The sites will be assessed in the field to give a categorisation (**high, medium, low or negligible**) for each site's **landscape sensitivity, visual sensitivity and condition**. These will be used to assess the site's capacity to accommodate the proposed use, the effects of

which will be described as: **large adverse; moderate adverse; slight adverse; neutral, or; Slight beneficial**

If the development on a particular site varies significantly from the information provided or the development and mitigation is designed poorly without adequate reference to landscape character and views, the effects are likely to be greater than indicated in this assessment.

Mitigation and restoration

Ideas for mitigation and restoration are included in the assessment for each site in the form of a brief written text. Where tree planting is proposed to screen a proposed site, this would need to be established a few years prior to the commencement of works for it to be effective. It will also need to be managed to ensure it establishes quickly and is maintained as a dense screen.

Further detailed work (including a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA)) would be required as part of any future planning application. Proper, detailed design and fully compliant implementation is essential to the delivery of any proposal.

Landscape Character

The study of landscape character has formalised the components of character into themes of physical, experiential, biodiversity, historic environment and visibility. Analysis will be made of their significance (which is a combination of the landscape's sensitivity and susceptibility to change and the value of the landscape receptor), robustness and where possible condition. The study will go on to analyse the effect on the proposed sites of mineral extraction, waste or recycling activities (MW&R) on each component and how this in turn affects the landscape character. The reporting scale will be in accordance with local District or Borough Council Landscape Types, or where such reports do not exist, at National Character Area scale.

The proposed approach draws on the guidance set out in 'Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment' Third Edition 2013¹⁷ and Topic Paper 6 Landscape Character Assessment: guidance on Techniques and Criteria for Judging Capacity and Sensitivity, published by the Countryside Agency in 2002.

The key analysis and background documents include:

- National Character Area Profiles – September 2014.
- Hampshire County Council Integrated Character Assessment 2012.
- Southampton City Council. The Southampton City Council Core strategy 2015, and Southampton City Council Adopted City Centre Action plan 2015.
- Landscape Institute Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Assessment: third edition.

Defining threshold criteria sensitivity levels

The following five-point reporting scale will be used to make the assessment:

¹⁷ <https://www.landscapeinstitute.org/technical/glvia3-panel/>

**Landscape Sensitivity – Criteria used to determine the significance of change
(operation and restoration potential considered)**

Summary of likely effect	Criteria	MW&R Scale
Large adverse	<p>The proposed development site is very damaging to the landscape in that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is at considerable variance with the landform, scale and pattern of the landscape. • The Landscape may be designated at national level. • It is likely to degrade, diminish, or even destroy the integrity of a range of characteristic features and elements and their setting. • It will be substantially damaging to a high quality or highly vulnerable landscape, causing it to change and be considerably diminished in quality. Likely to be in a highly inherent sensitive landscape. • It cannot be adequately mitigated. • It is in serious conflict with government policy to respect and enhance landscape character. • The cumulative operations of other proposed sites results in an unacceptable loss or detriment to character. • It is adverse to several key issues/priorities or strategies for the LCA. 	Red
Moderate adverse	<p>The proposed development site is out of scale with the landscape, or at odds with the local pattern and landform.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is probably not possible to fully mitigate for. Mitigation will not prevent the scheme from scarring the landscape in the longer term, as some features of interest will be partly destroyed or their setting reduced or removed. Likely to be in a medium high or highly inherent sensitive landscape. • The landscape may be designated at a local level or have significant historic associations. • It conflicts with national and local policy to respect and enhance landscape character across a wide range of character themes. • The potential cumulative operations of other proposed sites result in an unacceptable loss or detriment to character, unless sequential operating restrictions are enforced. • Adverse to a few (at least 2) of the key issues/ priorities or strategies for the LCA. 	Orange/Amber
Slight adverse	<p>The development site does not quite fit the landform and scale of the landscape.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposals are unlikely to be completely mitigated due to the nature of the proposal itself or the character of the landscape it is in. Likely to be in a medium or higher inherent sensitivity landscape. • In conflict with national and local policy to respect and enhance character across a few character themes. • There is a slight potential of cumulative operations of other proposed sites resulting in loss or detriment to character, sequential operating restrictions may need to be enforced. • It is at variance with some aspects of the LCA. 	Yellow

Neutral effect	<p>The proposal is likely to be able to complement and fit the scale, landform and pattern of the landscape.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mitigation measures are likely to ensure the scheme will blend in well with surrounding landscape character components. • Will probably maintain existing landscape character with specific planning conditions and be of a medium to low inherent sensitivity. • Likely to be in a degraded landscape or one with restoration objectives (identified in unitary authority assessments). • Likely to be isolated or small site with minimal cumulative effect from neighbouring operations. 	Blue
Slight beneficial	<p>The proposal will probably fit well in the landform, pattern and historical use of the area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By incorporating measures for mitigation it will ensure that landscape character is enhanced and improved, such as habitat creation, restoration of previously degraded landscape. Likely to be medium low or of low inherent sensitivity. • Could incorporate national and local policy to enhance landscape character. • Likely to be isolated or small site with no likely cumulative effect from neighbouring operations. 	Light Green

The following sensitivity analysis was applied:

Generic sensitivity analysis of components of landscape character from MW&R activities

Character theme/ Proposed activity	Landscape character components with least tolerance to MW&R activities	Landscape character components with most tolerance to MW&R activities
Physical		
Soils (Waste and minerals extraction)	Associated with high grade agricultural, or types that are difficult to restore/recreate the profiles of. One which are supporting a high capacity of one or several functions; including biodiversity, food/biomass production, water/hydrological influence.	Previously extracted areas, type that are relatively easy to recreate soil profiles, existing contaminated soils. Ones which are supporting a function which is at odds with the most suitable function(s).
Landcover	Landcover patterns which are already fragmented, intricate small scale, older stand types. Very complex landform/landcover (difficult to replicate).	Large extensive tracts of single landcover type that are at odds with the management objectives, simple/limited composition which is relatively young/immature or types which are fast growing/shorter time to reach climax vegetation.
Landform	Flat (especially land raising, landfill sites), high and prominent landform, short landcover type. Widespread exploitation. Ones which are rich in desirable mineral resources. Landforms with naturally distinct profiles, river valleys and dip and scarp slope systems.	Landscapes with existing man-made landforms. Landscape with lake/pond systems (extraction sites)
Experiential		
Tranquillity	Remote, rural, inherently quiet, landscapes. Dark night skies.	Disturbed landscape by other man-made influences. Non tranquil areas.
Access	Sites with long operation periods in areas with plenty of existing access facilities/type. Severance and fragmentation of routes and access opportunities during operation.	Sites with short operation timespans. Restoration criteria can bring increased availability of access opportunities, therefore reducing sensitivity to MRS operations.
Biodiversity		
	Habitats which are difficult to restore. Older more ancient habitats.	Habitats and plant communities which can be recreated rapidly.

Historic Environment		
Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC)	Older more complex landscapes or remnant individual types or assemblages that are rare survivals. Designed parklands.	Historic landscape patterns which can most easily be restored e.g. young, small, non-treed hedgerow filed boundaries.
Archaeology	Considered irreplaceable, finite or not possible to recreate in true sense.	
Built Environment	Considered as irreplaceable, finite or not possible to recreate in true sense. Indirect effect of works traffic on settlements.	

Visual Sensitivity

The criteria used to determine the visual receptor's (people viewing the MW&R site) sensitivity to change in view and visual amenity is mainly a function of:

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

Judging the overall sensitivity of a visual receptor will be a combination of assessing the sensitivity of each receptor and the magnitude for each effect. Sensitivity and magnitude can then be combined to assess the overall significance.

Sensitivity of the location or receptors

Criteria for receptors	Visual sensitivity of receptors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residents at home. People, whether residents or visitors, who are engaged in outdoor recreation, including use of public rights of way, whose attention or interest is likely to be focused on the landscape and particular views. Visitors to heritage assets, or to other attractions, where the surroundings are an important contributor to the experience. Communities where views contribute to the landscape setting enjoyed by residents in the area. Little or no natural screening. 	High
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Users of public rights of way, accessible landscape and visitor attractions, wildlife designations and historic features on county lists, national registers and/or of international significance that are not focussed directly upon the landscape, but the site is considered to fall within its setting. Receptors with 'mid views' of sites. People travelling through or past the proposed sites in cars and trains and other modes of rapid transport. Workplaces with a 'near view or the site. Limited natural screening. 	Medium
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People engaged in outdoor recreation or sport which does not involve or depend on the appreciation of views of the landscape. People travelling through or past the proposed sites in cars and trains and other modes of rapid transport. Residential or commercial premises with an indirect view/partial existing screening of the site, no nearer than 'mid view'. 	Low
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People at their place of work, recreational users, residential, industrial or commercial premises whose view of the proposed improvements is no nearer than a 'distant view' and/or the site is heavily screened. 	Negligible

Magnitude of visual effects.

Each of the visual effects identified needs to be evaluated in terms of size or scale, and geographical extent of the area influenced and its duration and reversibility. Visibility of receptors is directly related to distance from a site. A professional judgement has to be made as to when the site becomes less prominent. Seasonal variations of leaf cover should be taken into account in the assessment.

Zone of Theoretical Visual Influence (ZTV's) should be reserved for sites with particularly sensitive receptors.

Judging the magnitude of size and scale includes:

- the scale of the change in the view with respect to the loss or addition of features in the view and changes to its composition, including the proportion of the view occupied by the proposed development;

- the degree of changes in the landscape with the existing or remaining landscape elements and characteristics in terms of form, scale, mass, line, height, colour and texture; and
- the nature of the view of the development, in terms of the relative amount of time over which it will be experienced and whether views will be full or partial or glimpses.

The geographical extent of a view varies from each location depending on:

- the angle of the view;
- the distance from the view; and
- and the extent of the area visible.

Mineral extraction sites are by their nature temporary developments. However, the restoration, however extensive, is unlikely to return the landscape to the exact nature and character found prior to works starting on the site. GLVIA describes the duration of landscape effects on the following basis:

- Short term – one to five years;
- Medium term - five to ten years; and
- Long term - ten to twenty five years.

Visual sensitivity (criteria used to determine the significance of change)

Summary of likely effect	Criteria	MW&R Scale
Large adverse	High receptor sensitivity. The project or a part of it would become the dominant feature or focal point of the view.	Red
Moderate adverse	Medium receptor sensitivity The proposed development occupies much of the view and may even obstruct a portion/view of the landscape.	Orange/Amber
Slight adverse	Low receptor sensitivity The site or part of it would be visible but not alter the overall balance of features and elements that comprise the existing view.	Yellow
Neutral effect	Negligible receptor sensitivity. Only a very small part of the site would be discernible, or it is such a distance that it would be barely noticeable feature or element in the view.	Blue
Slight positive	No part of the project or activity associated with the site is discernible.	Light Green

Assessment Structures

The sites assessed are listed in the following order:

- By Authority

- By type of development:
 - minerals extraction extensions;
 - minerals extraction proposed new sites;
 - waste extension sites; and
 - waste proposed new sites.

The Format of Individual Site Assessments is set out as follows:

- Site: Name;
- Location/description: Address;
- Landscape Character;
- Landscape Type;
- Key characteristics (of the whole character area);
- Impact on key characteristics;
- Condition;
- Landscape sensitivity to proposal;
- Visual impact; and
- Mitigation measures and restoration.

Cumulative Assessments

Cumulative Impact Assessment will be undertaken for all sites as part of any future planning application.

Proposed Assessment Summary

This section will provide an overview of the likely impact on landscape and visual character of each of the proposed sites and sets out what mitigation measures could be put in place to offset these effects.

Assessment and mitigation summary proposed format:

Site name	Impact on landscape character	Visual impact	Mitigation measures
	Neutral	Neutral	
	Slight	Slight	
	Moderate	Moderate	
	Large	Large	

Appendix 2: Relevant HMWP Partial Update Policies

Policy 3: Protection of habitats and species

Minerals and waste development that will contribute to the conservation, restoration and enhancement of biodiversity through the securing of at least 10% measurable net gain in biodiversity value will be permitted.

Development that is likely to result in a significant effect, either alone or in combination, on the following designated sites: Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation, Ramsar sites; sites identified, or required, as compensatory measures for adverse effects on such sites; and European Protected Species, will need to satisfy the requirements of the Habitats Regulations.

The following sites, habitats and species will be protected in accordance with the level of their relative importance:

- a. nationally designated sites including Sites of Special Scientific Interest and National Nature Reserves, nationally protected species;
- b. irreplaceable habitats (such as Ancient Woodland and ancient or veteran trees);
- c. local interest sites including Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation, County Wildlife Sites and Local Nature Reserves;
- d. habitats and species listed in Section 41 of the NERC Act 2006 or as a Hampshire Notable Species;
- e. Habitats and species identified in Hampshire Authorities' Biodiversity Action Plans.
- f. Features of the landscape that are mapped as Nature Recovery Network, or function as 'stepping stones', linear features or form part of a wider network of features by virtue of a coherent ecological structure or function, or importance in the migration, dispersal and genetic exchange of wild species.

Development which is likely to have a significant adverse impact upon such sites, habitats and species will only be permitted where it is judged, in proportion to their relative importance, that the merits of the development outweigh any likely environmental damage. Appropriate mitigation and compensation measures will be required where development would cause harm to biodiversity interests.

Policy 4: Protection of the designated landscape

Major minerals and waste development will not be permitted in the New Forest or South Downs National Parks, or in the North Wessex Downs, the Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs, and Chichester Harbour Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs), except in exceptional circumstances, and where it can be demonstrated that the development is in the public interest. In this respect, an Assessment will be required giving consideration to:

- a. the need for the development, including in terms of any national considerations, and the impact of permitting it, or refusing it, upon the local economy;

- b. the cost of, and scope for, meeting the need outside the designated area, or meeting the need in some other way; and
- c. any detrimental effect on the environment, landscape and recreational opportunities, and the extent to which that could be moderated.

The scale and extent of minerals and waste proposals within National Parks and AONBs should be limited, while development within their settings should be sensitively located and designed to avoid or minimise adverse impacts on the designated areas.

Minerals and waste development should reflect and where appropriate enhance the character of the surrounding landscape and natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage, tranquillity, and dark skies of the designated area.

Minerals and waste development should also be subject to a requirement that it is restored in the event it is no longer needed for minerals and waste uses.

Small-scale waste management facilities for local needs should not be precluded from the National Parks and AONBs, provided that they can be accommodated without undermining the objectives of the designation.

Policy 5: Protection of the countryside

Minerals and waste development in the open countryside, outside the National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, will not be permitted unless:

- a. it is a time-limited mineral extraction or related development; or
- b. the nature of the development is related to countryside activities, meets local needs or requires a countryside or isolated location; or
- c. the development provides a suitable reuse of previously developed land, including redundant farm or forestry buildings and their curtilages or hard standings.

Where appropriate and applicable, minerals and waste development in the countryside will be expected to:

- i. meet highest standards of design, operation and restoration; and
- ii. consider the qualities of the landscape which would be determined by the Local Character Assessment; and
- iii. ensure any public rights of way are protected, and where possible, enhanced; and
- iv. be subject to a requirement that it is restored in the event it is no longer required for minerals and waste use.

Appendix 3: Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council Policies

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council Local Plan 2011 - 2029¹⁸

Adopted June 2016

Policy EM1 – Landscape Development will be permitted only where it can be demonstrated, through an appropriate assessment, that the proposals are sympathetic to the character and visual quality of the area concerned. Development proposals must respect, enhance and not be detrimental to the character or visual amenity of the landscape likely to be affected, paying particular regard to:

- a. The particular qualities identified within the council's landscape character assessment and any subsequent updates or relevant guidance;
- b. The visual amenity and scenic quality;
- c. The setting of a settlement, including important views to, across, within and out of settlements;
- d. The local character of buildings and settlements, including important open areas;
- e. Trees, ancient woodland, hedgerows, water features such as rivers and other landscape features and their function as ecological networks;
- f. Intrinsically dark landscapes;
- g. Historic landscapes, parks and gardens and features; and
- h. The character of the borough's rivers and tributaries, including the River Loddon and Test, which should be safeguarded. Development proposals must also respect the sense of place, sense of tranquillity or remoteness, and the quiet enjoyment of the landscape from public rights of way.

Development proposals will not be accepted unless they maintain the integrity of existing settlements and prevent their coalescence.

Where appropriate, proposals will be required to include a comprehensive landscaping scheme to ensure that the development would successfully integrate with the landscape and surroundings. The assessment of character and visual quality and the provision of a landscaping scheme should be proportionate to the scale and nature of the development proposed.

Designation of the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty reflects the national importance of that landscape and its setting. Development proposals in the AONB or its setting will also be determined in accordance with national planning policy and criteria set out in the North Wessex Downs AONB Management Plan.

Policy EM10 - Delivering High Quality Development All development proposals will be of high quality, based upon a robust design-led approach.

1. Development proposals (excluding household extensions²⁸) will be permitted where they:
 - a. Contribute to the provision of neighbourhoods and places for work and leisure that are well connected, accessible, safe, easy for people to find their way around and, function well in practical terms;
 - b. Are accessible to all and promote buildings that are durable, adaptable and able to respond to changing social, environmental, technological and economic conditions;
 - c. Positively contribute to the appearance and use of streets and other public spaces;

¹⁸ Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan 2011-2029: <https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/planningpolicy>

- d. Promote the efficient use of land and achieve appropriate housing densities which respond to the local context, as informed by community documents²⁹, and which take into account the urban, suburban or rural location of the site;
- e. Provide a co-ordinated and comprehensive scheme that does not prejudice the future development or design of adjoining sites; and
- f. Minimise energy consumption through sustainable approaches to design.

2. All development proposals will be required to respect the local environment and amenities of neighbouring properties in accordance with the principles set out below. Development proposals will be permitted where they:

- a. Positively contribute to local distinctiveness, the sense of place and the existing street scene, taking into account all relevant SPDs and community documents that identify the local character and distinctiveness of an area which is valued by local communities, whilst allowing for innovation where appropriate;
- b. Provide a high quality of amenity for occupants of developments and neighbouring properties, having regard to such issues as overlooking, access to natural light, outlook and amenity space, in accordance with the Design and Sustainability SPD;
- c. Have due regard to the density, scale, layout, appearance, architectural detailing, materials and history of the surrounding area, and the relationship to neighbouring buildings, landscape features and heritage assets;
- d. Are visually attractive as a result of good architecture;
- e. Provide appropriate parking provision (including bicycle storage), in terms of amount, design, layout and location, in accordance with the adopted parking standards; and
- f. Provide appropriate internal and external waste and recycling storage areas and accessible collection points for refuse vehicles, in accordance with the Design and Sustainability SPD, in order to promote effective recycling and disposal of household and commercial waste.

Appendix 4: Eastleigh Borough Council Policies

Eastleigh Borough Council Policies **Eastleigh Borough Local Plan 2016 – 2036 (Draft)**¹⁹

STRATEGIC POLICY S7, NEW DEVELOPMENT IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

There is a presumption against new development in the countryside, subject to other policies of this Local Plan. Countryside is defined as all the areas outside the urban edge as defined on the policies map, including river valleys, ancient woodland and the undeveloped coast.

Planning permission will be granted for new development in the countryside provided it is related to:

- the provision of employment through agricultural development (policy DM17), the extension and replacement of existing employment uses (policy DM18) and the re-use of existing buildings (policy DM19);
- ii. residential extensions and replacement buildings (policies DM18 and 27), limited residential conversions (policy DM19), rural workers' dwellings (policy DM29) and accommodation for Gypsies, Travellers and travelling showpeople (policy DM33);
- iii. community, tourist, or visitor uses through the re-use of buildings including facilities for the interpretation of heritage assets (policies DM12);
- iv. outdoor recreation and open space (policies DM34 and DM35);
- v. allotments and community farms (policy DM34);
- vi. cemeteries (policy DM39); and
- vii. essential public utilities (policy DM9).

In permitting new development in the countryside the Borough Council will seek to:

- a) avoid adverse impacts on the rural, woodland, riparian or coastal character, the intrinsic character of the landscape including the avoidance of adverse landscape impacts on areas adjoining national parks and their settings, and on the biodiversity of the area;
- b) secure long-term beneficial management practices that will enhance the landscape and biodiversity of the countryside and coast; and
- c) avoid sterilisation of mineral resources, in accordance with the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan.

STRATEGIC POLICY S8, PROTECTION OF COUNTRYSIDE GAPS

In order to maintain the separate identity of settlements and separation from Southampton, countryside gaps are defined between:

- Eastleigh and Southampton;
- Eastleigh and Bishopstoke;
- the two new communities at the Strategic Growth Option*;
- the Strategic Growth Option and Colden Common*;
- the Strategic Growth Option and Lower Upham/Upham*;
- Fair Oak (including the Strategic Growth Option) and Horton Heath*;
- Botley and Boorley Green;
- Hedge End and Botley;
- Hedge End and Southampton;
- Hedge End and Horton Heath;
- Hedge End and Bursledon;
- Bursledon/Netley and Southampton;
- Bursledon and Hamble/Netley;

¹⁹ Eastleigh Borough Local Plan 2016-2036: <https://www.eastleigh.gov.uk/media/3484/final-local-plan-document-june-2018-print.pdf>

- Boyatt Wood and Otterbourne Hill;
- Boyatt Wood and Allbrook;

as set out in the key diagram and on the policies maps.

*The precise boundaries of countryside gaps connected to the Strategic Growth Option will be determined following masterplanning. In countryside gaps, development which physically or visually diminishes the gap, or has an urbanising effect detrimental to the openness of the gap, the character of the countryside or the separate identity of the adjoining settlements will not be permitted. Proposals for development within gaps will also be assessed against other relevant policies but will be resisted where this approach is not met.

STRATEGIC POLICY S10, GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Through new development and other initiatives the Borough Council will seek to achieve the provision, retention and/ or enhancement of the following forms of multi-functional green infrastructure, including provision of:

- i. landscape scale strategic links across the Borough boundary, to and between the Borough's settlements, the countryside, the coast, and the major areas of open space including the country parks (see policy S13);
- ii. interlinked publicly accessible open space through new and existing development including for example formal sports facilities and informal amenity spaces and cemeteries (see policies DM34-DM36, Chapter 5 and detailed proposals in Chapter 6);
- iii. green infrastructure incorporated into all new development with multifunctional spaces connected by primary, secondary and tertiary green links
- iv. interconnected urban green infrastructure within the fine grain of existing and new development including green, cycle ways, paths and linkages between community facilities and open spaces to link community facilities;
- v. green stepping stones such as street trees, green roofs and walls, pocket parks and urban copses (see policy DM1, Chapter 5);
- vi. connected habitats linking the network of designated sites and existing priority habitats (see policy DM11, Chapter 5);
- vii. incorporation of historic buildings and landscapes, including historic parks and gardens within the wider Green Infrastructure to protect their setting (see policy DM12, Chapter 5); and
- viii. opportunities for local food growing including allotments, community orchards and farms (see policies DM34 to DM36, Chapter 5 and detailed proposals in Chapter 6).

Appendix 5: East Hampshire District Council Policies

East Hampshire Core Strategy Adopted 2014²⁰

CP19 DEVELOPMENT IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

The approach to sustainable development in the countryside, defined as the area outside settlement policy boundaries, is to operate a policy of general restraint in order to protect the countryside for its own sake. The only development allowed in the countryside will be that with a genuine and proven need for a countryside location, such as that necessary for farming, forestry, or other rural enterprises (see Policy CP6). Within the South Downs National Park the pursuit of National Park purposes will be paramount.

The countryside (the area outside of settlement policy boundaries as defined on the Proposals Map) needs to be protected for the sake of its intrinsic character and beauty, the diversity and qualities of its landscapes, heritage and wildlife, the wealth of its natural resources and to ensure it may be enjoyed by all.

At the same time, the countryside is under great pressure to meet a range of demands. Farming has a key influence on the landscape. Farm diversification and the reasonable expansion of existing rural businesses needs to be supported to help sustain agricultural enterprise and to maximise opportunities to strengthen the rural economy (see also Policy CP6).

It is therefore recognised that some development can take place which is beneficial to the countryside and the people that live and work there. The emphasis in the Local Plan: Joint Core Strategy is therefore to allow development in the countryside where it can be demonstrated that a countryside location is both necessary and justified. Such an approach will preclude development for which a rural location is not essential. Inappropriate types and scales of development will not be permitted in order to maintain the landscape character and quality of the countryside. The countryside will continue to be protected for its intrinsic value. Even so, it is possible to maximise opportunities to strengthen the rural economy by encouraging uses related to the land, including appropriate forms of agriculture, forestry and green tourism.

Large swathes of the District's countryside form part of the MoD's training estate, and as such, it is recognised that the continued use of this land for a wide range of uses to meet operational requirements is in the national interest.

CP20 LANDSCAPE

The special characteristics of the district's natural environment will be conserved and enhanced. New development will be required to:

- a) conserve and enhance the natural beauty, tranquillity, wildlife and cultural heritage of the South Downs National Park and its setting, and promote the opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of its special qualities, and be in accordance with the ambitions within the emerging South Downs Management Plan;
- b) protect and enhance local distinctiveness sense of place and tranquillity by applying the principles set out in the district's Landscape Character Assessments, including the Community/Parish Landscape Character Assessments;
- c) protect and enhance settlements in the wider landscape, land at the urban edge and green corridors extending into settlements;

²⁰ East Hampshire District Local Plan: Joint Core Strategy Adopted 2014:

<https://cdn.easthants.gov.uk/public/documents/DP01%20East%20Hampshire%20District%20Local%20Plan%20Joint%20Core%20Strategy%20COMPLETE.pdf>

- d) protect and enhance natural and historic features which contribute to the distinctive character of the district's landscape, such as trees, woodlands, hedgerows, soils, rivers, river corridors, ditches, ponds, ancient sunken lanes, ancient tracks, rural buildings and open areas;
- e) incorporate appropriate new planting to enhance the landscape setting of the new development which uses local materials, native species and enhances biodiversity;
- f) maintain, manage and enhance the green infrastructure networks (see Policy CP28 Green Infrastructure). Priority will be given to working with landowners and others in order to ensure that land management practices improve public access to the countryside, conserve and enhance valued landscapes of major importance for wild flora and fauna, and restore landscapes where valued features have been lost or degraded.

The District is rightly proud of the character and attractive appearance of the countryside and its protection is essential. The distinct and varied landscape provides a very attractive rural setting that defines the whole area, providing opportunities for agriculture, forestry, recreation and tourism and supporting rural communities and economies.

Most of the District lies within the National Park. The National Parks are designated under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 by Natural England. National Park status gives national recognition to the special importance of the area and offers the highest level of protection. National Parks are also designated for the opportunities they provide to understand and enjoy the special qualities of the area.

The natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of National Parks should be conserved and enhanced and opportunities to understand and enjoy their special qualities should be promoted. Major developments should not take place within the South Downs National Park except in exceptional circumstances. All such developments will be subject to the most rigorous examination and must be demonstrated to be in accordance with the National Parks purposes.

Development will not be permitted if it is unsustainable and fails to protect the special character of the landscape; accordingly the emphasis will be on small-scale proposals which are sustainable in terms of location and construction. Affordable housing schemes, and other proposals aimed at benefiting the economic and social well-being of the National Park communities, will be encouraged as long as they do not compromise the natural beauty or special qualities of the National Park.

The policies of this Local Plan: Joint Core Strategy seek to support the advice and ambitions of the South Downs Partnership Management Plan 2014-2019, which was published in 2013. The South Downs National Park Authority will work together with the Council, other, adjoining local authorities and landowners, towards forming future strategies for this very special and sensitive area.

Much of the remaining countryside beyond the boundaries of the National Park is unspoilt and any new development should not harm this. A Landscape Character Assessment (2006), covering the District, and supporting Community/Parish Landscape Assessments identify the distinctive features and character of the East Hampshire countryside and aim to ensure their retention and, where possible, enhancement.

CP22 INTERNATIONALLY DESIGNATED SITES

Any new housing that is proposed to be located within 400m of the boundary of the Wealden Heaths Phase II SPA will be required to undertake a project-specific Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA). This must form a part of the planning application process to demonstrate that either no adverse effect on the ecological integrity of the SPA will occur or that adequate measures will be put in place to avoid or (as a secondary solution) adequately mitigate any adverse effects. Such measures must be agreed with Natural England and the planning authority. In order to undertake such an assessment, it is likely that information on the distribution of birds for which the SPA is designated would be required. To help protect the

Solent SPA, SAC and Ramsar sites along the coast, the Council will work with local authorities to monitor the progress of ongoing assessments and recreational management studies being undertaken by the Solent Forum on these sites. Planning permission will only be granted for development that responds to the emerging evidence from the Solent Disturbance and Mitigation Project, the published recommendations, and future related research.

Internationally important sites include SACs and SPAs within the District. They include the Wealden Heaths Phase II SPA and the Thursley, Hankley and Frensham Commons SPA which are protected for their birdlife, the latter lies just beyond the north eastern boundary of the District. There are four Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) which are protected for 60 their habitats – Woolmer Forest, Shortheath Common, East Hampshire Hangers and Butser Hill. These international designations are collectively called ‘Natura 2000’ sites.

Specific and stringent tests within the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 are in place in respect of ‘Natura 2000’ sites. Any development proposed within the District that might cause harm to these sites must be avoided. The tests ensure that it is most unlikely that harmful development would be acceptable. It will only be approved if there are no alternative solutions, if there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest for the development and if the overall coherence of the network of international sites is maintained.

The Local Plan: Joint Core Strategy includes sufficient safeguards for the ‘Natura 2000’ sites. A full Appropriate Assessment in accordance with the Habitats Regulations has been prepared²⁸. An Appropriate Assessment has also been carried out for Whitehill & Bordon²⁹. The Council has also produced a Green Infrastructure Study and Green Infrastructure Strategy, which includes opportunities for potential new areas for natural green space.

Evidence collated for the Local Plan: Joint Core Strategy’s Habitats Regulations Assessment has shown that the Council is able to define a policy that recommends that any new housing located within 400 metres of the Wealden Heaths Phase II SPA will be required to carry out a project-specific HRA as part of the planning application process. Other housing proposals capable of affecting the SPA will be considered on a case-by-case basis as to whether a project-specific HRA is required (this should be assessed at the HRA Screening Assessment stage). The requirement is likely to vary depending on the size of the site, the ‘in combination’ effects and its distance from the SPA. Advice on this should be sought from Natural England at the earliest opportunity.

In general, the Council and the National Park Authority will endeavour to locate development more than 500m from Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) as recommended in the Local Plan: Joint Core Strategy’s Habitats Regulations Assessment. However, this is not an exclusion or ‘no build’ zone and development proposals for sites within 500m may be considered if it can be demonstrated that effects on the sites are unlikely to be significant.

The Council and National Park Authority will continue to engage with other South Hampshire authorities, Natural England and the Environment Agency to reduce the impact of recreational pressures from new housing on the coastal ‘Natura 2000’ sites.

East Hampshire Draft Local Plan 2017 - 2036²¹

POLICY S17: DEVELOPMENT IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

S17.1 The countryside will be protected for its landscape, natural resources and ecological value as well as its intrinsic character and beauty.

S17.2 The individual identity of settlements and the integrity of predominantly open and undeveloped land between settlements will not be undermined.

²¹ East Hampshire District Draft Local Plan 2017-2036:
<https://cdn.easthants.gov.uk/public/documents/Draft%20Local%20Plan.pdf>

S17.3 Development proposals in the countryside will only be granted planning permission in exceptional circumstances where there is a genuine and proven need for a countryside location and they are in compliance with other policies in the Development Plan

POLICY S18: LANDSCAPE

S18.1 Development proposals must conserve and wherever possible enhance the special characteristics, value and visual amenity of the Area's landscapes.

S18.2 Development proposals will be supported where there will be no adverse impact to

- a) the qualities and principles identified within the relevant landscape character assessments, capacity study³⁴ and relevant guidance;
- b) the visual amenity and scenic quality of the landscape;
- c) Important local, natural and historic landscapes and features; and d. the setting of the South Downs National Park.

S18.3 Where a proposal is likely to have a significant impact on landscape, an assessment of the impact on landscape character and visual quality proportionate to the scale and nature of the development proposed will be required.

S18.4 Where appropriate, proposals will be required to include a comprehensive landscaping scheme to ensure that the development would successfully integrate with the landscape and surroundings

POLICY S19: BIODIVERSITY, GEODIVERSITY AND NATURE CONSERVATION

S19.1 To conserve, protect, enhance and contribute to biodiversity, geodiversity and the natural environment, new development will only be permitted if it can be clearly demonstrated that:

- a. it will not have an adverse effect on the integrity of an international, national or locally designated site. The level of protection afforded to these sites is commensurate with their status within this hierarchy;
- b. it does not result in the loss of irreplaceable habitats and/or deterioration in geodiversity, for example important trees, woodlands, hedgerows, rivers and river corridors;
- c. the development results in a net gain in biodiversity wherever possible;
- d. development avoids the fragmentation and isolation of habitats and wildlife corridors within or close to the development site;
- e. opportunities to conserve, protect and enhance biodiversity and contribute to wildlife and habitats connectivity are taken where possible, including the preservation, restoration and recreation of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species populations.

S19.2 Where development proposals do not comply with the above they will only be permitted if it has been clearly demonstrated that there is an overriding public need for the proposal which outweighs the need to safeguard biodiversity and/or geodiversity and there is no satisfactory alternative with The Local Plan should be read as a whole 219 less or no harmful impacts. In such cases, as a last resort, compensatory measures will be secured to ensure no net loss of biodiversity and, where possible, provide a net gain.

S19.3 Applications for development must include adequate and proportionate information to enable a proper assessment of the implications for biodiversity and geodiversity

POLICY DM26: TREES, HEDGEROWS AND WOODLAND

DM26.1 Planning permission will be granted where the approach to the planting, retention and protection of trees, hedgerows and woodlands:

- a. reflects, conserves or enhances the existing landscape and integrates the development into its surroundings, adding scale, visual interest and amenity;
- b. encourages adaptation to climate change by providing shade, shelter and cooling;
- c. adequately protects existing trees and hedgerows including their root systems prior to, during and after the construction process;
- d. would not result in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats including ancient woodland and ancient or veteran trees; and
- e. includes proposals for the successful implementation, maintenance and management of landscape and tree planting schemes.

DM26.2 The Local Planning Authority will refuse planning permission for proposals that threaten the retention of trees, hedgerows, and woodland or adversely affects the importance to the site's character, an area's amenity or the movement of wildlife, unless:

- a. the need for, and benefits of, the development in that location clearly (following due process) out-weigh the loss; and,
- b. adequate mitigation and compensation measures can be agreed with the Local Planning Authority.

POLICY S20: WEALDEN HEATHS PHASE II SPECIAL PROTECTION AREA

S20.1 No net gain in residential dwellings or Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople pitches or plots will be permitted within 400m of the Wealden Heaths Phase II Special Protection Area boundary, unless in agreement with Natural England an Appropriate Assessment demonstrates that there will be no adverse effects on the integrity of the SPA.

S20.2 Development within the 400m to 5 km core catchment boundary around the Wealden Heaths Phase II SPA boundary must be supported by a Habitats Regulations Assessment setting out details of any potential impacts from the development on the interest features of the SPA and avoidance and/or mitigation measures proposed.

S20.3 The types of mitigation measures will depend on the size of the proposed development and are to be delivered prior to occupation and in perpetuity.

S20.4 Planning permission will only be granted where an Appropriate Assessment concludes that there are no adverse effects on the integrity of the Wealden Heaths Phase II Special Protection Area.

Appendix 6: Fareham Borough Council Policies

Fareham Policies in emerging Draft Local plan 2037²²

STRATEGIC POLICY DS1: DEVELOPMENT IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

Proposals for development in the countryside, which is defined as land outside the Urban Area boundary as shown on the Policies map, will be supported where the proposal:

- a) Is for development associated with an existing lawful dwelling, or
- b) Is proposed on previously developed land and appropriate for the proposed use,
- c) Is for retail, community and leisure facilities, tourism or specialist housing where it can be demonstrated that there is a local need for the facility that cannot be met by existing facilities elsewhere; or
- d) Is for a new or replacement building, conversion and/or extension within an existing educational facility (as identified on the Policies map) and would not result in the loss of playing fields and/or sports pitches unless it can be demonstrated that these facilities are no longer required or they can be adequately replaced elsewhere on site or,
- e) Is for housing development compliant with one of the following policies; HP1, HP2, HP4, HP5, HP6 or HP11, or
- f) Is for employment development compliant with one of the following policies: E1 or E5, or
- g) Is for a new small-scale employment development to convert or extend an existing building, or replace a redundant or derelict structure, or
- h) Provides infrastructure that meets an overriding public need. In addition, proposals will need to demonstrate that they;
- i) Require a location outside of the urban area, and
- j) Conserve and enhance landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils, and
- k) Recognise the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside and, if relevant, do not significantly affect the integrity of a Strategic Gap, and
- l) Maintain the character of the undeveloped coast, and
- m) Are not on Best and Most Versatile agricultural land.

STRATEGIC POLICY DS3: LANDSCAPE

Areas of Special Landscape Quality have been identified in the Borough and are shown on the Policies map. Development proposals shall only be permitted in these areas where the landscape will be protected and enhanced. Development in the countryside shall recognise the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, paying particular regard to:

- a) Intrinsic landscape character, quality and important features;
- b) Visual setting, including to/from key views;
- c) The landscape as a setting for settlements, including important views to, across, within and out of settlements;
- d) The landscape's role as part of the existing Local Ecological network;
- e) The local character and setting of buildings and settlements, including their historic significance;
- f) Natural landscape features, such as trees, ancient woodland, hedgerows, water features and their function as ecological networks; and
- g) The character of the Borough's rivers and coastline, which should be safeguarded. Major development proposals must include a comprehensive landscaping mitigation and enhancement scheme to ensure that the development is able to successfully integrate with the landscape and surroundings. The landscaping scheme shall be proportionate

²² Revised Fareham Local Plan 2037:

http://planningpdf.fareham.gov.uk/PDF/planning/local_plan/RevisedPublicationLocalPlan.pdf

to the scale and nature of the development proposed and shall be in accordance with the enhancement opportunities specified in the Council's Landscape Sensitivity Assessment

STRATEGIC POLICY NE1: PROTECTION OF NATURE CONSERVATION,

Biodiversity and the Local Ecological Network Development will be permitted where:

- a) Designated international, national sites and local sites of nature conservation value are protected and enhanced, reflecting their status in the hierarchy of nature conservation designations; and
- b) Protected and priority habitats and species, including breeding and foraging areas are protected and enhanced; and
- c) Proposals do not prejudice the Ecological Network or result in its fragmentation.

Development within the Borough whose primary objective is to conserve and enhance biodiversity (including the Local Ecological Network), geodiversity and natural resources through restoration, re-creation or management will be supported.

POLICY NE6: TREES, WOODLAND AND HEDGEROWS

Development will be permitted which:

- a) Avoids the unnecessary loss of non-protected trees, hedgerows and woodland, particularly those which have high amenity value;
- b) Where their loss is unavoidable, provides for their replacement in a suitable location; and
- c) Where practicable, provides for new and suitable trees, woodland and hedgerows.

The removal of protected trees, groups of trees (including veteran trees), woodland (including ancient woodland) or hedgerows will only be permitted in exceptional circumstances. Where protected trees, woodland and hedgerows are subject to removal, a replacement of an appropriate number, species and size in an appropriate location will be required.

POLICY NE9: GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Where appropriate, development shall provide Green Infrastructure (GI) which is fully integrated into development and maximises opportunities to connect to the wider GI Network.

Development proposals that reduce the quality of the existing GI network will only be permitted where suitable mitigation is identified and secured.

Development that directly impacts upon or is adjacent to proposed GI projects that are included within the PfSH Green Infrastructure Strategy/Implementation Plan or Fareham Borough Infrastructure Delivery Plan should not prevent its future delivery and provide a physical connection to the proposed GI Project. Exceptions will only be permitted where:

- Suitable alternative GI provision of equivalent benefit is provided as part of the development; or
- A financial contribution is secured for suitable alternative GI provision by the relevant authority.

Appendix 7: Hart District Council Policies

Hart District Local Plan 2032 adopted April 2020²³

POLICY N BE1 DEVELOPMENT IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

Development proposals within the countryside (the area outside settlement policy boundaries and designated Strategic and Locally Important Employment Sites, as defined by the Policies Map) will only be supported where they are:

- a) meeting the proven essential need of a rural worker to live permanently at or near their place of work; or
- b) providing business floorspace to support rural enterprises (Policy ED3); or
- c) providing reasonable levels of operational development at institutional and other facilities; or
- d) providing community facilities close to an existing settlement which is accessible by sustainable transport modes; or
- e) providing affordable housing on rural exception sites (Policy H3); or
- f) providing specialist housing (Policy H4); or
- g) providing either a replacement dwelling, an extension to an existing dwelling or the subdivision of an existing residential dwelling; or
- h) converting previously used permanent buildings or redundant agricultural buildings for appropriate uses¹⁷; or
- i) are for a replacement building that is not temporary in nature, or for an extension to an existing building, provided that the proposal does not require substantial rebuilding¹⁸, extension or alteration; or
- j) located on suitable previously developed land appropriate for the proposed use; or
- k) proposals for small scale informal recreation facilities such as interpretation centres and car parks which enable people to enjoy the countryside; or
- l) To secure the optimal viable use of a heritage asset or would be appropriate enabling development to secure the future of heritage assets (Policy N BE8); or
- m) Of exceptional quality or truly innovative in design and which significantly enhances its immediate setting and is sensitive to the local character; or
- n) For traveller sites that comply with Policy H5.

POLICY NBE2 LANDSCAPE

Development proposals must respect and wherever possible enhance the special characteristics, value or visual amenity of the district's landscapes. Development proposals will be supported where there will be no adverse impact to:

- a) the particular qualities identified within the relevant landscape character assessments and relevant guidance;
- b) the visual amenity and scenic quality of the landscape;
- c) historic landscapes, parks, gardens and features;
- d) important local, natural and historic features such as trees, woodlands, hedgerows, water features e.g. rivers and other landscape features and their function as ecological networks; and
- e) it does not lead to the physical or visual coalescence of settlements, or damage their separate identity, either individually or cumulatively with other existing or proposed development.

An assessment of the impact on landscape character and visual quality should be carried out proportionate to the scale and nature of the development proposed.

²³ Hart Local Plan (Strategy and Sites) 2032:

[https://www.hart.gov.uk/sites/default/files/4 The Council/Policies and published documents/Planning policy/Hart%20LP%20S.pdf](https://www.hart.gov.uk/sites/default/files/4%20The%20Council/Policies%20and%20published%20documents/Planning%20policy/Hart%20LP%20S.pdf)

Where appropriate, proposals will be required to include a comprehensive landscaping scheme to ensure that the development would successfully integrate with the landscape and surroundings.

POLICY N BE 4 BIODIVERSITY

In order to conserve and enhance biodiversity, new development will be permitted provided:

- a) It will not have an adverse effect on the integrity of an international, national or locally designated site including the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area (SPA), Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) and National and Local Nature Reserves (NNRs and LNRs). The level of protection afforded to these sites is commensurate with their status within this hierarchy and gives appropriate weight to their importance and contribution to wider ecological networks.
- b) It does not result in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats, including ancient woodland and the loss of aged or veteran trees found outside ancient woodland, unless the need for, and benefits of, the development in that location clearly outweigh the loss;
- c) Opportunities to protect and enhance biodiversity and contribute to wildlife and habitat connectivity are taken where possible, including the preservation, restoration and re-creation of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species populations. All development proposals will be expected to avoid negative impacts on existing biodiversity and provide a net gain where possible.

If significant harm resulting from a development cannot be avoided (through locating on an alternative site with less harmful impacts), adequately mitigated, or, as a last resort, compensated for, or, in the case of European Protected sites does not comply with the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, then planning permission will be refused.

POLICY INF2 GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Development will be supported provided that:

- a) it protects the green infrastructure network as shown on the Policies Map, avoiding any loss, fragmentation or significant impact on the function of the network;
- b) where possible it enhances green infrastructure, through provision within the site, or where appropriate provision for off-site improvements in line with the Green Infrastructure Strategy;
- c) any adverse impacts on the green infrastructure network are fully mitigated through the provision of green infrastructure on site or, where this is not possible, through appropriate off-site compensatory measures; and
- d) where new green infrastructure is provided with new development, suitable arrangements are put in place for its future maintenance and management.

Development proposals that would result in the loss of green infrastructure will only be supported if an appropriate replacement is provided that is of equivalent or better value in terms of quantity, quality and accessibility.

Appendix 8: New Forest District Council Policies

New Forest District Local Plan 2016 – 2036; adopted July 2020²⁴

POLICY ENV1: MITIGATING THE IMPACTS OF DEVELOPMENT ON INTERNATIONAL NATURE CONSERVATION SITES

1. Except as provided for in the first paragraph of Saved Policy DM2: Nature Conservation, Biodiversity and Geodiversity, development will only be permitted where the Council is satisfied that any necessary mitigation, management or monitoring measures are secured in perpetuity as part of the proposal and will be implemented in a timely manner, such that, in combination with other plans and development proposals, there will not be adverse effects on the integrity of any of the following International Nature Conservation sites:
 - The New Forest Special Area of Conservation (SAC), the New Forest Special Protection Area (SPA) and the New Forest Ramsar site;
 - The Solent Maritime SAC, Solent and Isle of Wight Lagoons SAC, the Solent and Southampton Water SPA, and the Solent and Southampton Water Ramsar site;
 - The River Avon SAC, Avon Valley SPA and Ramsar site; and
 - The River Itchen SAC.
2. For residential development and the provision of overnight visitor accommodation adverse effects can be adequately mitigated by implementing approved measures relevant to the site location, including as set out in the Mitigation for Recreational Impacts SPD and in the Solent Recreation Mitigation Strategy²⁹, and in supplementary guidance on nutrient management.
3. For non-residential developments, the requirement for mitigation will be considered on case-by-case basis with regard to the nature, scale and location of the proposed use.
4. The approved mitigation measures for residential developments currently include:
 - i. For developments providing 49 or fewer net additional units of residential accommodation, financial contributions towards the provision of recreational mitigation measures as set out below and in the Mitigation for Recreational Impacts SPD:
 - (a) Projects for the provision of alternative natural recreational green spaces and recreational routes: new or improved open space and recreational routes of a quality and type suitable to attract residents of new development within the Plan Area who might otherwise visit the International Nature Conservation sites for recreation; and
 - (b) Access and Visitor Management: measures to manage the number of recreational visits to the New Forest and Solent Coast International Nature Conservation sites; and to modify visitor behaviour within those sites so as to reduce the potential for harmful recreational impacts; and
 - (c) Monitoring of the impacts of new development on the International Nature Conservation sites and establishing a better evidence base: to reduce uncertainty and inform future refinement of mitigation measures.
 - ii. For developments of 50 or more net additional residential dwellings:
 - (a) Direct provision by the developer of at least eight hectares of natural recreational greenspace per 1,000 population located on the development site or directly adjoining and well connected to it; and
 - (b) A financial contribution towards Access and Visitor Management and Monitoring as set out above at i(b) and i(c).

²⁴ New Forest District Local Plan 2016-2036: https://www.newforest.gov.uk/media/705/Local-Plan-Document-2016-2036/pdf/Local_Plan_2016-2036_Part_One_FINAL.pdf?m=637329191351130000

- iii. Additionally for all residential developments within 5.6km of the Solent and Southampton Water SPA, as shown on Figure 5.1, a financial contribution is required towards a Solent-wide programme of visitor management, monitoring and development mitigation projects.
- iv. Additionally for residential developments and the provision of overnight visitor accommodation draining or discharging wastewater to the River Avon in relation to phosphate neutrality or to the Solent and Southampton Water in relation to nitrogen neutrality, a financial contribution or other appropriate mechanisms to achieve nutrient-neutral development.
- v. Additionally for all residential developments, a financial contribution towards monitoring and, if necessary (based on future monitoring outcomes) managing or mitigating air quality effects within the New Forest SPA, SAC and Ramsar site.

POLICY ENV2: THE SOUTH WEST HAMPSHIRE GREEN BELT

The openness and permanence of the South West Hampshire Green Belt will be preserved with particular regard to its stated purposes and those of national policy for the Green Belt.

Development proposals in the Green Belt will be determined in accordance with national planning policy.

POLICY ENV4: LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AND QUALITY

Where development is proposed there is a requirement to retain and/or enhance the following landscape features and characteristics through sensitive design, mitigation and enhancement measures, to successfully integrate new development into the local landscape context:

- I. Features that contribute to a green infrastructure and distinctive character within settlements including the locally distinctive pattern and species composition of natural and historic features such as trees, hedgerows, woodlands, meadows, field boundaries, coastal margins, water courses and water bodies;
- II. Features that screen existing development that would otherwise have an unacceptable visual impact;
- III. Existing or potential wildlife corridors, footpath connections and other green links that do, or could, connect the site to form part of an integrated green infrastructure network;
- IV. The landscape setting of the settlement and the transition between the settlement fringe and open countryside or coast;
- V. Important or locally distinctive views, topographical features and skylines; and
- VI. Areas of tranquillity and areas of intrinsically dark skies.

Appendix 9: New Forest National Park Policies ²⁵

The objective of a National Park is to conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the landscape.

POLICY DP2: GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES

All new development and uses of land within the New Forest National Park must uphold and promote the principles of sustainable development.

New development proposals must demonstrate high quality design and construction which enhances local character and distinctiveness. This includes, but is not restricted to, ensuring:

- a) development is appropriate and sympathetic in terms of scale, appearance, form, siting and layout
- b) development respects the natural, built and historic environment, landscape character and biodiversity
- c) development takes opportunities to protect and enhance the setting of groups and individual trees, hedges and hedgerows and to include new planting of native trees and hedges where appropriate
- d) materials and boundary treatments are appropriate to the site and its setting
- e) development would not result in unacceptable adverse impacts on amenity in terms of additional impacts, visual intrusion, overlooking or shading
- f) development would not result in unacceptable adverse impacts associated with traffic or pollution (including air, soil, water, noise and light pollution)

POLICY SP5: NATURE CONSERVATION SITES OF INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE

All development must comply with the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended). Development which may affect the integrity of an internationally important site for nature conservation will not be permitted unless there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest for the development, and there are no alternatives. If this is the case, the Authority will require compensatory measures to ensure the overall coherence of the designated site.

Development may satisfy the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations if sufficient and effective measures are put in place to avoid or fully mitigate any likely significant adverse effects of the proposal (either individually or in combination with other plans and projects) through its lifetime on the designated sites. A contribution to the Authority's Habitat Mitigation Scheme and/or the Solent Recreation Mitigation Partnership's Scheme will enable developers to ensure that mitigation measures are secured for the recreational impacts of their development. The type of development and situations where recreational impacts can be mitigated are described in the Authority's Habitat Mitigation Scheme and the Solent Recreation Mitigation Strategy Explanatory Note.

Avoidance or mitigation may not be possible in some cases due to the impacts, scale, type, or proximity of the proposed development in relation to the designated site, and so the Authority will assess each case on its merits

POLICY SP6: THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Proposals should protect, maintain and enhance nationally, regionally and locally important sites and features of the natural environment, including habitats and species of biodiversity importance, geological features and the water environment.

²⁵ New Forest National Park Local Plan 2016-2036: <https://www.newforestnpa.gov.uk/planning/local-plan/>

Development which is likely to have an adverse effect on a Site of Special Scientific Interest (either individually or in combination with other developments) will not be permitted. Only where the benefits of the development clearly outweigh both the impacts on the special interest features of the SSSI and on the broader national network of SSSIs will an exception be considered.

Development proposals which adversely affect locally designated sites, priority habitats and species populations, protected species or those identified of importance by national or local biodiversity plans will be refused unless the Authority is satisfied that:

- a) it has been demonstrated that suitable measures for mitigating adverse effects will be provided and maintained in order to achieve a net gain in biodiversity value
- b) there are no alternative solutions
- c) there are overriding reasons which outweigh the harm.

In cases where it is not possible to fully avoid or mitigate for the loss of biodiversity interests resulting from a development, appropriate compensation will be secured for any residual losses via on or off-site compensation measures. The latter may include the provision of compensatory habitats elsewhere.

In addition, opportunities to enhance ecological or geological assets and the water environment should be maximised, particularly in line with the Authority's 'Action for Biodiversity'¹². Applicants will be required to demonstrate the impacts of their proposal on biodiversity, and for certain types of development¹³ by submission of an Ecological Appraisal, which should outline the mitigation and enhancement measures needed to achieve a net gain in biodiversity.

POLICY SP7: LANDSCAPE CHARACTER

Great weight in planning decisions will be given to conserving the landscape and scenic beauty of the National Park and to its wildlife and cultural heritage. Development proposals will be permitted if they conserve and enhance the character of the New Forest's landscapes and seascapes by demonstrating that:

- a) they are informed by New Forest National Park Landscape Character Assessment and are compatible with the distinct features and type of landscape in which the development is located
- b) the design, layout, massing and scale of proposals conserve and enhance existing landscape and seascape character and do not detract from the natural beauty of the National Park
- c) the character of largely open and undeveloped landscapes between and within settlements will not be eroded or have their setting harmed
- d) landscape schemes reinforce local landscape or seascape character. Where planting is appropriate, it is consistent with local character and native species are used.

POLICY SP9: GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Proposals which create, maintain and enhance green infrastructure will be supported, particularly where they:

- a) encourage connectivity between different habitats and designated sites
- b) provide opportunities for local communities to access open space and provide for healthy recreation
- c) relieve recreational pressure on internationally important nature conservation sites.

The Authority will work with other partners and adjoining authorities to develop green infrastructure, and to ensure the impacts of development both within and outside the National Park's boundary do not adversely affect the landscape character of the National Park or the internationally important nature conservation designations. However, providing new Suitable

Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) in the nationally protected landscape of the National Park as mitigation for development outside the National Park is not appropriate, and will only be considered in exceptional circumstances where very significant benefits for the landscape, biodiversity and internationally designated sites of the National Park can be clearly demonstrated.

POLICY SP15: TRANQUILLITY

New development should avoid, or provide mitigation measures, if the proposal will lead to noise, visual intrusion, nuisance and other unacceptable environmental impacts on the National Park and its special qualities.

This should include reducing the impacts of light pollution on the 'dark skies' of the National Park and control of development to prevent artificial lighting from eroding rural darkness and tranquillity.

Development proposals that seek to remove visually intrusive man-made structures from the landscape will be supported.

Appendix 10: Southampton City Council Policies

Southampton City Council Adopted City Centre Action plan 2015²⁶

The site falls into the 'Itchen Riverside Character of the area' There are no direct Policies within the Southampton Local Plan that relate to this site other than cross refereeing it to the Minerals and Waste Plan. It is stated that *'This area provides one of the main opportunities to create a waterside residential / leisure mixed use community, including family accommodation, to enhance the attractiveness of the city centre as a place to live.'*

This Quarter lies entirely within the Middle-Saxon town of Hamwic, which is a site of international archaeological importance. The Quarter has a diverse character comprising a working riverfront with industrial areas, residential behind, and the football stadium. As a result, there is limited public access to the waterfront.

In relation to the wharves, it states *'The wharves to the north provide an important supply of minerals. The Council will ensure that South Hampshire's need for sand and gravel continues to be met, in line with paragraphs 4.34-4.36 and the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan. If the wharves can be relocated to a suitable site outside the city, or are no longer needed, there will be an opportunity to redevelop the wharves to provide (for example) a mix of waterfront residential, leisure and alternative marine employment uses. This could link the football stadium into a wider waterside leisure based destination, with a new riverside walkway south to Ocean Village; and enhance links from the waterfront back into the core of the city centre; providing a substantial regeneration benefit which the Council will support. The current expectation is that if this occurs, it is more likely to be in the longer term.'* It goes to state that *'The Central Trading Estate is safeguarded for employment use. However, if either the wharves are relocated, or if Southampton Football Club devise appropriate expansion plans for the stadium, it might be appropriate to pursue a regeneration incorporating the Central Trading Estate (whilst retaining some employment use, and where possible helping businesses to relocate).'*

'While the mineral wharves are still in operation, the design and layout of nearby development should ensure that an appropriate level of amenity is created for residential occupiers, such that the operations of the nearby mineral wharves are not significantly constrained (e.g. by pollution legislation). This is in line with Policy 16 of the Minerals and Waste Plan.'

'The city's strategic flood defence will run through the area, and the plans for this should integrate with new development. The Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy indicates that in the medium term to 2060 an interim flood wall will be required; and that as redevelopment occurs a strip of raised land should be created to form a more durable defence.'

Design Guidance includes:

- Master plans should be developed for the Chapel Riverside site, and for the Itchen Riverside redevelopment when it comes forward, each of which will consider the links between and beyond their respective sites;
- A vibrant waterfront should be created with continuous and attractive public access, active commercial frontages and terraces, open spaces, roof gardens and balconies facing on to the waterfront. Development should deliver attractive overlooked routes which encourage movement to and along the river front, and create a positive relationship with the football stadium;
- Development should carefully consider its roof profile when viewed from the River and Itchen Bridge;

²⁶ Southampton City Council City Centre Action Plan 2015:

<https://www.southampton.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/adopted-plans/city-centre-action-plan/>

- New development should respect listed buildings and structures including American Wharf and the Cross House.
- The quarter is within the Local Area of Archaeological Potential 8 'City Centre and Itchen Ferry'. Development should respect and reflect the underlying archaeology of the area, which includes Saxon and Medieval cemeteries and associated occupation, in accordance with policy CS 14 in the Core Strategy and Local Plan Review policy HE 6 (see Archaeological Background Paper for information on this quarter).
- Development will protect biodiversity in line with policy CS 22
- The Transco PLC Southampton Holder Station on Britannia Road is a major hazard site. The Health and Safety Executive must be consulted regarding any housing or other potentially incompatible land uses within up to 300 metres of the site, as indicated on the Policies Map (depending on the type of development).

Site policies

Policy AP 26 Chapel Riverside

Policy AP 26 Chapel Riverside at Chapel Riverside, as defined on the Policies Map, a high quality landmark waterfront development will be supported.

The development will be designed to integrate with links into the city centre and to promote a continuous public promenade and cycle way along the waterfront to the north and south. Within the development this promenade will include high quality waterfront public realm and 'active' frontages (e.g. restaurants, bars, etc). Wherever possible, the development should maintain strategic views across the site. Development will respect the site's archaeology and respect and enhance built heritage in line with policy CS 14.

Appendix 11: Test Valley District Council Policies

Test Valley Local Plan 2011 – 2029²⁷

POLICY E2: PROTECT, CONSERVE AND ENHANCE THE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER OF THE BOROUGH

To ensure the protection, conservation and enhancement of the landscape of the Borough development will be permitted provided that:

- a) it does not have a detrimental impact on the appearance of the immediate area and the landscape character of the area within which it is located;
- b) it is designed and located to ensure that the health and future retention of important landscape features is not likely to be prejudiced;
- c) the existing and proposed landscaping and landscape features enable it to positively integrate into the landscape character of the area;
- d) arrangements for the long term management and maintenance of any existing and proposed landscaping have been made; and
- e) it conserves the landscape and scenic beauty of the New Forest National Park or the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty where applicable; and
- f) does not result in the loss of important local features such as trees, walls, hedges, or water courses

POLICY E5: BIODIVERSITY

Development in the Borough that will conserve, and where possible restore and / or enhance, biodiversity will be permitted.

Development that is likely to result in a significant effect, either alone or in combination, on an international or European nature conservation designation, or a site proposed for such designation, will need to satisfy the requirements of the Habitat Regulations⁹⁸.

Development likely to result in the loss, deterioration or harm to habitats or species of importance to biodiversity or geological conservation interests, either directly or indirectly, will not be permitted unless:

- a) the need for, and benefits of, the development in the proposed location outweighs the adverse effect on the relevant biodiversity interest;
- b) it can be demonstrated that it could not reasonably be located on an alternative site that would result in less or no harm to the biodiversity interests; and
- c) measures can be provided (and secured through planning conditions or legal agreements), that would avoid, mitigate against or, as a last resort, compensate for the adverse effects likely to result from development.

The habitats and species of importance to biodiversity and sites of geological interest considered in relation to points a) to c) comprise:

- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs);
- legally protected species;
- Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) and Local Nature Reserves (LNRs);
- priority habitats and species listed in the national and local Biodiversity Action Plans⁹⁹;

²⁷ Test Valley Local Plan 2011-2029:

<https://www.testvalley.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planningpolicy/local-development-framework/dpd>

- habitats and species of principal importance for the conservation of biodiversity in England;
- trees, woodlands, ancient woodland (including semi-natural and replanted woodland), aged and veteran trees, and hedgerows; and
- features of the landscape that function as ‘stepping stones’ or form part of a wider network of sites by virtue of their coherent ecological structure or function or are of importance for the migration, dispersal and genetic exchange of wild species.

The level of protection and mitigation should be proportionate to the status of the habitat or species and its importance individually and as part of a wider network.

POLICY E6: GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Development will be permitted provided that:

- a) it protects, conserves and where possible, enhances the Borough’s Green Infrastructure network;
- b) it avoids the loss, fragmentation, severance or a negative impact on the function of the Green Infrastructure network;
- c) mitigation is provided where there would be an adverse impact on the Green Infrastructure network; and
- d) where it is necessary for development to take place on identified areas of Green Infrastructure an appropriate replacement is provided.

Appendix 12: Winchester City Council Policies

Joint Core Strategy Adopted 2013²⁸

POLICY CP15 - GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

The Local Planning Authority will support development proposals which:-

- maintain, protect and enhance the function or the integrity of the existing green infrastructure network identified at a District and sub regional level, including strategic blue and green corridors and spaces, as illustrated on Map 9 particularly where the proposal allows for the enhancement of GI both on-site and in the immediate area;
- provide a net gain of well-managed, multifunctional green infrastructure, in accordance with the categories and standards specified in Policy CP7 and appropriate for the scale of development, through on-site provision which:-
- addresses deficits in local green infrastructure provision where appropriate;
- integrates with the green network/grid identified at the District and sub-regional level (as illustrated on Map 9);
- provides a high quality public realm for the local community;
- encourages public access to and within the natural environment where appropriate;
- allows for adaptation to climate change;
- is well planned to allow cost effective ongoing management of the GI;
- links areas of biodiversity;
- is provided at the earliest feasible stage.

Where on-site provision is not possible financial contributions will be required for the provision and management of GI sites and will be negotiated on a site by site basis.

POLICY CP16 - BIODIVERSITY

The Local Planning Authority will support development which maintains, protects and enhances biodiversity across the District, delivering a net gain in biodiversity, and has regard to the following:

- protecting sites of international, European, and national importance, and local nature conservation sites, from inappropriate development.
- supporting habitats that are important to maintain the integrity of European sites.
- new development will be required to show how biodiversity can be retained, protected and enhanced through its design and implementation, for example by designing for wildlife, delivering BAP targets and enhancing Biodiversity Opportunity Areas.
- new development will be required to avoid adverse impacts, or if unavoidable ensure that impacts are appropriately mitigated, with compensation measures used only as a last resort. Development proposals will only be supported if the benefits of the development clearly outweigh the harm to the habitat and/or species.
- maintaining a District wide network of local wildlife sites and corridors to support the integrity of the biodiversity network, prevent fragmentation, and enable biodiversity to respond and adapt to the impacts of climate change.
- supporting and contributing to the targets set out in the District's Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) for priority habitats and species.

Planning proposals that have the potential to affect priority habitats and/or species or sites of geological importance will be required to take account of evidence and relevant assessments or surveys.

POLICY CP20 - HERITAGE AND LANDSCAPE CHARACTER

²⁸ Winchester District Joint Core Strategy 2013: <https://www.winchester.gov.uk/planning-policy/winchester-district-local-plan-2011-2036-adopted/local-plan-part-1-joint-core-strategy-adopted-march-2013-local-plan-review-2006>

The Local Planning Authority will continue to conserve and enhance the historic environment through the preparation of Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans and/or other strategies, and will support new development which recognises, protects and enhances the District's distinctive landscape and heritage assets and their settings. These may be designated or undesignated and include natural and man made assets associated with existing landscape and townscape character, conservation areas, scheduled ancient monuments, historic parks and gardens, listed buildings, historic battlefields and archaeology.

Particular emphasis should be given to conserving:

- recognised built form and designed or natural landscapes that include features and elements of natural beauty, cultural or historic importance;
- local distinctiveness, especially in terms of characteristic materials, trees, built form and layout, tranquillity, sense of place and setting.

A summary of this document can be made available in large print, in Braille or audio cassette. Copies in other languages may also be obtained. Please contact Hampshire County Council by email HMWP.consult@hants.gov.uk or by calling 01962 846746.