

Llandyfaelog Substation Landscape and Visual Appraisal (LVA)

On behalf of **National Grid**
nationalgrid

Project Ref: 331201429 | Rev: Final | Date: November 2025

Document Control Sheet

Project Name: Llandyfaelog Substation

Project Ref: 331201429

Report Title: Landscape and Visual Appraisal (LVA)

Date: 05/11/2025

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Revision	Date	Description	Prepared	Reviewed	Approved

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1 Introduction

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 Stantec UK Ltd (Stantec) was commissioned by National Grid to undertake a landscape and visual appraisal (LVA) of a substation and associated elements on land approximately 6km south of Carmarthen in South Wales (hereafter referred to as 'the Proposed Development').
- 1.1.2 The Proposed Development is located within a predominantly rural area, characterised by a patchwork of agricultural land punctuated with individual farm properties (hereafter referred to as 'The Site').
- 1.1.3 This report presents a summarised methodology in addition to the context and results of the LVA, including the approach to mitigation. The methodology used for the appraisal is summarised in Section 2 and detailed within **Appendix B: Methodology**. The findings of the desk study and site visit are summarised at Sections 3 and 4. Section 5 sets out the key landscape and visual constraints and opportunities, and mitigation requirements. The principle of development is appraised in terms of landscape and visual effects at Section 6. Conclusions are set out at Section 7.
- 1.1.4 Photos from a range of view locations which support the visual analysis of the site are represented by stitched panoramic photographs, presented in **Appendix A, Figure L5**, further supported by visualisations which have utilised the panoramic photographs from four of these view locations where change is most likely to occur as a result of the proposals, presented in **Appendix A, Figure L6**.

1.2 Scope of Assessment

- 1.2.1 This LVA report considers:
- Features of the Site and its context;
 - Landscape / townscape character, the character of the Site, and its relationship to its surroundings;
 - Landscape-related planning designations;
 - Views towards the Site;
 - The approach to mitigation; and
 - Likely effects upon landscape / townscape features, character and views, and the magnitude of those changes which are likely to arise as a result of development on the Site.

1.3 The Proposed Development

- 1.3.1 The Llandyfaelog Project is comprised of the following principal elements:
- Construction of a single level platform (260 metres by 640 metres) on which an Air Insulated Substation (AIS) is sited measuring 155 metres by 602 metres.
 - Bellmouth access to the A484 with an operational access road to connect the platform to the A484.

- Modification works to the existing 400kV Overhead Line (OHL) to connect the substation to the existing OHL involving the installation of two new towers (pylons) and one replacement tower (pylon) circa 18 metres and 62 metres.
- Associated drainage, and hard and soft landscaping.

2 Methodology

2.1 Approach

- 2.1.1 A detailed methodology is laid out in **Appendix B: Methodology** appended to this report; however, a summarised version is provided below.
- 2.1.2 Stantec is a registered practice with the Landscape Institute and corporate member of the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA). This appraisal is based on the principles of the Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment: Third Edition (GLVIA3) (Landscape Institute, IEMA, 2013) and professional experience.
- 2.1.3 The appraisal has been informed by a desktop study, supplemented by field survey visits to the Site and its surroundings.

2.2 Desktop Study

- 2.2.1 The desktop study comprised collation and review of published background information on the Site and surrounding context. This included a review of landscape planning policy and the landscape character of the Site, as well as information on statutory and non-statutory landscape designations on the Site or in the surrounding area.

Sources of Baseline Information

- 2.2.2 The sources of baseline data are summarised below:
 - Ordnance Survey OpenData for mapping.
 - 1:25,000 OS Explorer, for example via Bing Maps, for a general map overview of the Site and surrounding area, as well as to review the Public Rights of Way network (bridleways, footpaths, byways, other routes), including names and locations of Long-Distance Route or National Trails, and for Open Access Land area locations and boundaries.
 - Google Earth Pro for aerial photography and Google Street View.
 - [MAGIC \(defra.gov.uk\)](https://magic.defra.gov.uk/) for an initial review of statutory and non-statutory designations.
 - [Home | DataMapWales](https://data.gov.uk/data/data-map-wales) for an initial review of specific Welsh statutory and non-statutory designations.
 - <https://www.sustrans.org.uk/> for routes on the National Cycle Network.
 - Future Wales: The National Plan 2040 [Future Wales: the national plan 2040 | GOV.WALES](https://gov.wales/future-wales-the-national-plan-2040)
 - Planning Policy Wales (Edition 12, February 2024) [Planning Policy Wales - Edition 12](https://gov.wales/planning-policy-wales-edition-12)
 - Historic Wales [Historic Wales \(arcgis.com\)](https://historicwales.gov.uk/).
 - Local authority websites for Local Plans and Development Frameworks, including Area Action Plans if relevant;
 - [Natural Resources Wales / LANDMAP - the Welsh landscape baseline](https://gov.wales/natural-resources-wales-landmap) for information on the spatial aspects of the Welsh landscape, typically used for LVIA;
 - Regional or local landscape character assessments and relevant supplementary design or planning guidance (SPD or SPG); and
 - Relevant Conservation Area appraisals.

2.3 Field Survey

- 2.3.1 A site visit was undertaken in June 2024 by Landscape Architects employed by Stantec. Consultation was sought prior to the site visit with the landscape officer at Carmarthenshire Council on the suitability of the view locations by Stantec and National Grid, however no response was received. The purpose of the fieldwork was to:
- Gain an understanding of the landscape character of the Site and its context;
 - Determine the extent of visibility of the existing Site and Proposed Development - the actual extent of which is determined by existing landform, vegetation, and existing / proposed built form;
 - Collect baseline view location photography. In addition, the area surrounding the Site was surveyed and photographed to assess visibility of the Site and the Proposed Development; and
 - Support the landscape and visual appraisal.
- 2.3.2 The site visit was undertaken during summer months, when visual effects of the Proposed Development will be reduced as a result of intervening trees being in full leaf. A winter visual survey demonstrates the 'worst case' visual effects and professional judgment has been used to inform this worst-case scenario.

2.4 Study Area

- 2.4.1 The spatial scope of this LVA was determined through desktop study combined with a visit to the Site and surrounding area, to determine the Site's existing visual envelope and the extent to which the proposed development is likely to be visible from within the surrounding area.
- 2.4.2 Zone of Theoretical Visibility ('ZTV') analysis has been prepared in this reporting, which is used as a tool in the assessment process to understand the potential visibility of components of the Proposed Development within a defined study area. The methodology used to undertake the ZTV is set out in **Appendix B: Methodology, Section 4.1**.
- 2.4.3 Professional experience of other assessments and site appraisals for this type and height of development has shown that effects on landscape and visual receptors would not be significant beyond a 3km extent from a site for the massed elements within the substation compound. Although the ZTV plans (**Figure 4a and 4b, Appendix A**) show there is a likelihood of visibility beyond the defined study area, the combination of overall distance, intervening landform, well defined hedgerows and existing OHL which are noticeable visual detractors within the view mean that any views towards the substation elements would not create a notable distraction from wider views where these are available. The Study Area therefore comprises 3km from the Site.
- 2.4.4 The spatial scope, together with a review of potential visual receptors (all visual receptors are people), guided the selection of representative view locations that are included within the visual impact assessment for the LVA.

2.5 Appraisal Stages

- 2.5.1 A two-stage assessment process was adopted, in accordance with the Landscape Institute / Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment "Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment" (3rd Edition, 2013) (GLVIA3), combined with our professional experience and judgement.

- 2.5.2 Firstly, the nature of receptors (sensitivity) was assessed. Secondly the nature of effects (magnitude) likely to result from the proposed development was assessed.

Sensitivity of Receptors

- 2.5.3 The assessment of landscape and visual receptor sensitivity combines judgements on the value attributed to the receptor and the 'susceptibility to change' of the receptor to the specific type of development proposed.
- 2.5.4 Landscapes may be valued at community, local, national or international levels. Existing landscape designations have been taken as the starting point for the assessment. The value of undesignated landscapes and individual elements or features which contribute to that landscape character will also be assessed.
- 2.5.5 The value assigned to views will consider popularity and recognition through planning and heritage assets.
- 2.5.6 The sensitivity of landscape and visual receptors is defined in terms of a three-point scale which is detailed within **Table 3.4** within **Appendix B: Methodology** which accompanies this LVA.

Magnitude of Effects

- 2.5.7 The magnitude of a landscape or visual effect will be assessed in terms of its size or scale, the geographical extent of the area influenced and its duration and degree of reversibility.
- 2.5.8 The size or scale of change in the landscape relates to the loss or addition of features in the landscape which are likely to result from the proposed development, and considers:
- The extent/proportion of landscape elements that are lost or added;
 - The contribution of those elements to landscape character and the degree to which aesthetic/perceptual aspects are altered; and
 - Whether the effect is likely to change the key characteristics of the landscape, which are critical to its distinctive character.
- 2.5.9 The size or scale of change in the view relates to the degree of contrast to, or integration with, the visual composition, which is likely to result from the proposed development; and is influenced by the relative time over which a view is experienced and whether it is a full, partial or glimpsed view.
- 2.5.10 The nature of effects may be positive (beneficial) or negative (adverse) and direct or indirect. Direct effects are those which result directly from the proposed development; whereas indirect, or secondary, effects may arise as a consequential change resulting from the development, for example: changes to offsite and downstream vegetation as a result of alterations to a drainage regime. This appraisal considers likely direct effects on landscape features and landscape character.
- 2.5.11 The effects on landscape and visual receptors are defined on a 10-point scale which is detailed within **Table 3.5, Appendix B: Methodology** which accompanies this LVA.

Assumptions and Limitations

- 2.5.12 For the purpose of undertaking this LVA, the assessment assumes the maximum parameters for the Proposed Development as defined on the Application drawings as provided to the landscape team prior to issue of this document. These drawings are listed below for clarity:

- PDD-101256-LAY-050: Platform General Arrangement Plan.
- PDD-101256-LAY-051: Platform Earthworks.
- PDD-101256-LAY-053: Access Road General Arrangement.
- PDD-101256-LAY-054: Site Hazard Plan
- PDD-101256-LAY-055: CDM Layout
- PDD-101256-LAY-056: Road Bellmouth.
- PDD-101256-LAY-057: Access Road Drainage.
- PDD-101256-LAY-058: Platform Drainage.
- PDD-101256-LAY-059: Access Road Earthworks.

2.5.13 **Limitations of this LVA:** in accordance with the EU Directive 2014/52/EU and GLVIA3, this LVA identifies the likely landscape and visual impacts arising from the Proposed Development, rather than identifying every conceivable landscape and visual impact.

2.5.14 The visual assessment has been carried out utilising a combination of professional judgement and visual aids in the form of baseline site photography and visualisations. The 3D substation model utilised in these visualisations was created using an example of a typical 400kW substation layout and is therefore considered to provide a reasonable representation of the Proposed Development for assessment purposes.

3 Landscape Context and Analysis

3.1 Site Location and Description

- 3.1.1 The Site lies approximately 6km south of Carmarthen, approximately 550m east of the A484, and comprises a number of agricultural fields which lie on a raised plateau within the landscape at around 130m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD). Fields within the Site boundary are generally bounded by a mix of formal and informal hedgerow, with occasional hedgerow trees. The Site is broadly surrounded by agricultural fields of a similar vein, aside from the north-western boundary which lies adjacent to a narrow farm access road (C2074) which connects the A484 in the west with the B4309 by way of a number of individual farmsteads.
- 3.1.2 Land beyond the Site boundaries generally falls away, particularly to the east, which falls from 130m AOD to around 100m AOD at Pen Y Maes Farm before falling more sharply again to meet the banks of Gwendraeth Fach River approximately 1.2km southeast of the Site.
- 3.1.3 Electricity infrastructure is a dominant visual factor, with two existing National Grid transmission overhead lines running parallel to each other, running broadly north to south and passing adjacent to the proposed substation's western boundary through the neighbouring field. In addition, low voltage trident wood poles and overhead cables pass through the two northernmost fields within the Site boundary, broadly northeast to southwest.
- 3.1.4 This combination of robust hedgerow, occasional woodland and undulating landscape at times results in visual containment, particularly in the valleys of watercourses, whilst at other times provides relatively far-reaching visibility.

3.2 Landscape Planning Policy

Planning Policy Wales (Edition 12, February 2024)

- 3.2.1 This document, prepared by the Welsh Government sets out land use planning policies across Wales.
- 3.2.2 **Chapter 6: Distinctive and Natural Places** includes a section on green infrastructure (**6.2 – Green Infrastructure**) in which **Paragraph 6.2.4** states that: *“Green infrastructure plays a fundamental role in shaping places and our sense of well-being, and are intrinsic to the quality of the spaces we live, work and play in. The planning system must maximise its contribution to the protection and provision of green infrastructure assets and networks as part of meeting society’s wider social and economic objectives and the needs of local communities. Taking a proactive and spatial approach, which links to wider activity being taken by local authorities to protect and provide green infrastructure, will help provide clarity around the contribution which the planning system can make. This means considering how it complements existing and future maintenance and management regimes within urban areas and contributes towards wider land management activities in rural areas to aid nature recovery, and its underpinning natural resources. This will require effective joint working and collaboration across various sectors and activities, including administrative boundaries. Establishing arrangements to promote collaboration across local authority borders will be necessary, especially where the provision of off-site compensatory land to address biodiversity loss and provide enhancement will have the greatest benefit for biodiversity and resilient ecological networks.”*
- 3.2.3 **Section 6.3 – Landscape, Paragraph 6.3.3** states that: *“All the landscapes of Wales are valued for their intrinsic contribution to a sense of place, and local authorities should protect and enhance their special characteristics, whilst paying due regard to the social, economic, environmental and cultural benefits they provide, and to their role in creating valued places. Considering landscape at the outset of formulating strategies and policies in development plans and when proposing development is key to sustaining and enhancing their special*

*qualities and delivering the maximum well-being benefits for present and future generations as well as helping to deliver an effective and integrated approach to natural resource management over the long term. Collaboration and engagement with adjacent planning authorities, Natural Resources Wales (NRW), Cadw and the third sector will be necessary to draw on a wide range of expertise and evidence. **Where adverse effects on landscape character cannot be avoided, it will be necessary to refuse planning permission.***

- 3.2.4 With regards to LANDMAP, **Paragraph 6.3.20** states that: “LANDMAP is an important information resource, methodology, and monitoring baseline for the landscapes of Wales, which can help inform planning for the sustainable management of natural resources in an area. LANDMAP describes and evaluates the physical, ecological, visual, cultural, and historic aspects of the landscapes of Wales, and provides the basis of a consistent, quality assured national approach to landscape assessment. LANDMAP assessments can help to inform green infrastructure assessments, SPG on landscape, development management decisions, landscape character assessment, special landscape areas (SLA), local distinctiveness, design, and landscape sensitivity studies.”
- 3.2.5 **Section 6.4 – Biodiversity and Ecological Networks** includes a section on Trees, Woodland and Hedgerows, and Paragraph 6.4.40 states that: “Where trees, woodland and hedgerows are present, their retention, protection and integration should be identified within planning applications. Where surveys identify trees, hedgerows, groups of trees and areas of woodland capable of making a sufficient contribution to the area, these trees should be retained and protected. The provision of services and utilities infrastructure to the application site should also avoid the loss of trees, woodlands or hedges and must be considered as part of the development proposal; where such trees are lost, they will be subject to the replacement planting ratios...” The planting ratios (prescribed in Paragraph 6.4.42) state that “Replacement planting shall be at a ratio equivalent to the quality, environmental and ecological importance of the tree(s) lost, and this must preferably be onsite, or immediately adjacent to the site, and at a minimum ratio of at least 3 trees of a similar type and compensatory size planted for every 1 lost”. **Paragraph 6.4.43** states that: “Ancient woodland and semi-natural woodlands and individual ancient, veteran and heritage trees are irreplaceable natural resources, and have significant landscape, biodiversity and cultural value. Such trees and woodlands should be afforded protection from development which result in their loss or deterioration unless there are significant and clearly defined public benefits; this protection should prevent potentially damaging operations and their unnecessary loss (Paragraph 6.4.26). The protection and planting of trees and hedgerows should be delivered, where appropriate, through locally-specific strategies and policies, through imposing conditions when granting planning permission, and/or by making Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs). They should also be incorporated into Green Infrastructure Assessments and Plans (Paragraph 6.4.27).”

Future Wales: The National Plan 2040 (2019: updated 2025)

- 3.2.6 National planning policy is set out in The National Plan 2040, which replaced the Wales Spatial Strategy Plan (WSSP), and supplements the Planning Policy Wales document.
- 3.2.7 Policies within the National Plan 2040 which are of relevance to the planning application and landscape and visual issues, include the following:
- **Policy 9 – Resilient Ecological Networks and Green Infrastructure (page 76):**
“...action towards securing the maintenance and enhancement of biodiversity (to provide a net benefit), the resilience of ecosystems and green infrastructure assets must be demonstrated as part of development proposals through innovative, nature-based approaches to site planning and the design of the built environment”.
 - **Policy 17 – Renewable and Low Carbon Energy and Associated Infrastructure (page 95):** “New strategic grid infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of energy should be designed to minimise visual impact on nearby communities.”

- **Policy 32 Haven Waterway and Energy (page 159):** New energy related development should support local and regional communities and provide jobs and investment in training and skills. In determining any applications for energy proposals, consideration should be given to the contribution it will make to decarbonising energy supplies, the impacts on the landscape, seascapes, natural and historic environment and the economic benefits they would bring to the region.

Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan (LDP) 2006 – 2021

3.2.8 The Carmarthenshire LDP 2018 – 2033 is yet to be adopted by Carmarthenshire County Council (CCC), and therefore the Carmarthenshire LDP 2006 – 2021 remains in place for planning decisions within the County.

3.2.9 Policies relevant to this LVIA within the Carmarthenshire LDP are as follows:

- **SP14 Protection and Enhancement of the Natural Environment:** which states that *“Development should reflect the need to protect, and wherever possible enhance the County’s natural environment. All development proposals should be considered in accordance with national guidance/legislation and the policies and proposals of this Plan, with due consideration given to areas of nature conservation value, the countryside, landscapes and coastal areas.”*
- **SP17 Infrastructure:** this strategic policy states that: *“Development will be directed to locations where adequate and appropriate infrastructure is available or can be readily provided. Proposals for ancillary developments to the utilities infrastructure will be permitted where:*
 - *They have regard to their setting;*
 - *Incorporate landscaping; and*
 - *Do not conflict with the areas built, historic, cultural and nature conservation and landscape qualities.”*
- **GP1 Sustainability and High-Quality Design:** this general policy states that: *“Development proposals will be permitted where they accord with the following:*
 - *It conforms with and enhances the character and appearance of the site, building or area in terms of siting, appearance, scale, height, massing, elevation treatment, and detailing;*
 - *It incorporates existing landscape or other features, takes account of site contours and changes in levels and prominent skylines or ridges;*
 - *It would not have a significant impact on the amenity of adjacent land uses, properties, residents or the community; and*
 - *It retains, and where appropriate incorporates important local features (including buildings, amenity areas, spaces, trees, woodland and hedgerows) and ensures the use of good quality hard and soft landscaping and embraces opportunities to enhance biodiversity and ecological connectivity.”*
- **EQ5 Corridors, Networks and Features of Distinctiveness:** This policy states that: *“Proposals for development which would not adversely affect those features which contribute local distinctiveness/qualities of the County, and to the management/development of ecological networks (wildlife corridor networks), accessible green corridors and their continuity and integrity will be permitted.”*

3.2.10 In addition to Policies laid out within the Carmarthenshire LDP, they are supported by a number of Supplementary Planning Guidance ('SPG') documents. Relevant SPGs are listed below:

- **Nature Conservation and Biodiversity**, which contains guidance on landscaping and planting, habitat creation and green infrastructure, and buffers and wildlife corridors;
- **Placemaking and Design**, which provides overarching design guidance including an approach to landscape character, green infrastructure, siting of development including landscape and topography, landscape features, landscape planting and green corridors, and the overall design process.

Guidance and Standards

3.2.11 The following standards and guidance documents have been used in devising the methodology for data collection and appraisal of landscape and visual impacts:

- Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, Third Edition (GLVIA3) (Landscape Institute and IEMA, 2013)
- Notes and Clarifications on Aspects of Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Third Edition (GLVIA3) (Landscape Institute, 2024)
- An Approach to Landscape Character Assessment (Natural England, 2014)
- Landscape Institute Technical Guidance Note 06/19: Visual Representation of Development Proposals (Landscape Institute, 2019)
- Technical Information Note 08/2015 'Landscape Character Assessment' (Landscape Institute, 2015)
- Technical Guidance Note 'Assessing Landscape Value Outside National Designations' 02/21 (Landscape Institute, 2021).

3.3 Landscape Designations

3.3.1 Landscapes may be valued at community, local, national or international levels. Existing landscape designations are taken as the starting point for the LVA, and the value of undesignated landscapes is also considered.

3.3.2 Relevant designations for the site and 3km study area are set out in **Table 1**.

Table 1: Relevant Landscape Designations

Typical Designation and Importance (Value)	Description	Actual Designation Applicable to the Site and Surrounding Area
World Heritage Site <i>International (Very High)</i>	Unique sites, features or areas of international importance with settings of very high quality, and Outstanding Universal Values according to UNESCO criteria.	None

Typical Designation and Importance (Value)	Description	Actual Designation Applicable to the Site and Surrounding Area
National Park, National Landscape (formerly AONB), Conservation Area, curtilage of Grade I, II and II* Listed Buildings, Registered Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest, Scheduled Monuments <i>National (High)</i>	Sites, features or areas of national importance with settings of high quality.	There are no National Parks, National Landscapes or Conservation Areas within the study area. There are a number of Scheduled Monuments within the study area, with the nearest of these to the Site being Castell y Domen motte and ditch approximately 1.5km to the east. There are 6 Listed Buildings within a 3km radius of the Site. These are: Former stables at Upland, 2.28km away from the Site to the west. Upland, approximately 2.3km to the west of the Site. Church of St Maelog, 2.6km to the south of the Site, and Glanrhydwr, approximately 2.5km to the east of the Site.
Non- statutory regional landscape designations, such as Special Landscape Areas or Areas of Great Landscape Value; Long Distance Routes / Paths / Trails, National Cycle Network (NCN) Routes <i>Regional (High or Medium)</i>	Sites, features or areas of regional importance with intact character. Areas of landscape identified as having importance at the regional level.	Carmarthenshire Bay and Estuaries Special Landscape Area (SLA) lies approximately 1.5km west of the Site. Carmarthenshire Limestone Ridge SLA lies approximately 2.9km southeast of the Site. The long-distance trail Wales Coast Path lies 650m northwest of the proposed access road. NCN route 4 passes approximately 620m west of the proposed access road.
Non-statutory district or local landscape designations, such as Areas of Local Landscape Importance; Designated Public Open Space, Tree Preservation Orders (TPO) <i>District (Medium)</i>	Sites, features, or areas of importance at the district / local authority level.	There are pockets of Ancient Woodland within the wider study area, including Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland to the south and west of Pen Y Maes Farm.
Areas with no designation, local Public Right of Way <i>Local (Medium or Low)</i>	General countryside area valued at the local level.	There are a number of Public Rights of Way ('PRoW') within the wider study area, with PRoW 29/14/2 encroaching the southern extents of the Site.

Protected Landscapes: World Heritage Sites, National Parks and National Landscapes

- 3.3.3 The Site does not lie within a designated protected landscape.

Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, Register of Historic Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest and Scheduled Monuments

- 3.3.4 The Site does not lie within a Conservation Area or contain Listed Buildings or Scheduled Monuments. See **Figure L1: Landscape Planning Context, Appendix A**.
- 3.3.5 All Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings and Scheduled Monuments lie beyond the defined study, and are therefore not considered further within this assessment.

National Cycle Network Routes, Long Distance Paths, Special Landscape Areas

- 3.3.6 The Wales Coast Path lies approximately 650m northwest of the proposed access road entrance on the A484 and is a long-distance footpath which traverses the Welsh coastline over 1400km in total.
- 3.3.7 There is one NCN route which passes through the study area; NCN Route 4 which passes to the west of the Site (proposed access road) at approximately 620m, linking up with the Wales Coast Path for a short stretch before joining the A484 and travelling north to Carmarthen.
- 3.3.8 There are two SLAs within the 3km study area, namely Carmarthenshire Bay and Estuary SLA approximately 1.5km west of the Site, and Carmarthenshire Limestone Ridge SLA which lies approximately 2.9km southeast. Given the overall distance from the Site and subsequent unlikelihood of indirect experiential effects, the Carmarthenshire Limestone Ridge SLA has not been considered within this appraisal.

Green Infrastructure Network

- 3.3.9 The Site currently enjoys a well-defined network of field boundaries, characterised by robust hedgerows with occasional hedgerow trees. These boundaries connect with the wider landscape and given its agricultural character the connectivity continues throughout the study area.
- 3.3.10 Nearby semi-natural ancient woodlands at Pen Y Maes Farm and linear woodland belts which follow the minor watercourses provide additional habitat connectivity with field boundaries.
- 3.3.11 The presence of these assets ensures a strong existing green network within the Site and the study area.
- 3.3.12 Regarding public access as a green infrastructure asset, there are a number of PRoW in the wider area, PRoW 29/14/2 lies approximately 140m south of the Site, travelling northeast to connect with PRoW 29/13/1 at Pen Y Maes Farm. The Wales Coast Path, which is a long-distance trail lies some 1km west of the Site's western boundary.

Tree Preservation Orders

- 3.3.13 There are no TPOs within the Site or wider study area.

3.4 Public Rights Of Way and Registered Common Land

- 3.4.1 There are numerous PRoW within the wider study area, mainly to the east and south of the Site, forming a relatively well-connected matrix of byways, particularly around the high ground north and northeast of Kidwelly, which lies approximately 6km south of the Site.
- 3.4.2 Relevant PRoW to the Site include:
- PRoW 29/14/2 which runs broadly west to east through the southern extents of the Site;
 - PRoW 29/13/1 which runs broadly south to north approximately 560m east of the Site; and
 - PRoW 29/14/1 which follows on from PRoW 29/14/2 approximately 600m east of the Site.
- 3.4.3 All of the above PRoW meet at Pen Y Maes Farm.
- 3.4.4 There are no areas of Registered Common Land within the study area.

3.5 Topography, Site Landform, and Watercourses

- 3.5.1 Land within the Site lies on a natural raised plateau within the surrounding landscape. There is little change in elevation across land within the Site boundary, which lies at approximately 130m AOD. Change in elevation is a gentle fall from north to south, although there is an area of notably raised landform at the southern extents of the Site, which then falls again to nearer 120-125m AOD at Crugan Fach Farm. This area of undulating landform consequently precludes views north into the Site from the south.
- 3.5.2 Beyond the southern Site boundary land falls relatively sharply south, with Crugan Fach sitting into the hillside, which falls rapidly towards Ystrad Ferthyr Farm some 570m south of the Site.
- 3.5.3 Changes in elevation elsewhere are less dramatic, although land to the east of Bwlch Y Gwynt Farm falls from 125m AOD to around 90m AOD at Pen Y Maes Farm.
- 3.5.4 There are no notable watercourses within the Site boundaries, however drainage ditches run parallel to a number of field boundary hedgerows.

3.6 Existing Vegetation of the Site

- 3.6.1 Trees within the Site boundary are limited to hedgerow trees, although there are notable linear areas along the north-western site boundary, and to a lesser extent on the southern boundary of the most north-eastern field. The remaining field boundary treatments are a mixture of formal and informal hedgerow which form a strong green infrastructure both within the Site boundaries and beyond. There are no areas of woodland within the Site.
- 3.6.2 The field pattern is irregular, a characteristic of the local area, and comprises a mix of medium to large, predominantly arable land. LANDMAP identified this pattern as “a good example of a Carmarthenshire lowland agricultural landscape”.
- 3.6.3 Field boundaries are generally robust, forming a feeling of enclosure across the Site.

3.7 Settlement

- 3.7.1 Settlement within the study area is largely represented by individual farmsteads and small settlements such as Idole and Bancycafel to the north and Llandyfaelog to the south. The nearest settlements/individual properties to the Site are:

- Llwyngwcw approximately 120m north;
- Bwlch-Y-Gwynt Farm approximately 100m northeast;
- Pen-y-maes Farm approximately 430m east;
- Llwynelyn opposite the Site entrance on the western carriageway edge of the A484;
- Crugan Fach approximately 170m southeast; and
- Cwmafael adjacent to the south-western part of the Site.

3.7.2 The majority of these residences already experience the visual influence of electrical infrastructure, both high and low voltage, however this currently does not comprise substation elements such as those proposed.

3.7.3 Overall, the influence of settlement in the area is relatively limited, with Carmarthen to the north and to a lesser extent, Kidwelly in the south (both beyond the study area) the only developments of note. Potential effects on settlement are broadly represented by the view locations included within the visual appraisal.

3.8 Other Features within the Site

3.8.1 Existing infrastructure within the Site boundaries is limited to low voltage wood poles and overhead cables which pass through the northern part of the Site broadly northeast to southwest, then west to pass under the more visually prominent high voltage electricity towers within the adjacent field. There are two trident wood poles within the Site.

3.9 Landscape Character

3.9.1 Relevant published landscape character areas and LANDMAP data for the Site and surrounding area are shown on **Figure L2 and Figure L3, Appendix A**, and include those published in:

- Natural Resources Wales (2014) National Landscape Character Areas (NLCAs); and
- Natural Resource Wales, LANDMAP - the Welsh landscape baseline.

National Landscape Character Areas

3.9.2 Descriptions of NLCAs relevant to the Site including their key characteristics are set out in **Appendix C: Landscape Effects Table**.

3.9.3 The majority of the Site lies within the National Landscape Character Area **33: Gwendraeth Vales** (Natural Resources Wales, 2014).

3.9.4 The northern part of the Site which largely comprises the proposed access lies within National Landscape Character Area **45: Taf, Tywi and Gwendraeth Estuaries**.

3.9.5 NLCAs **44: Taf and Cleddau Vales** and **41: Twi Valley** lie within the study area to the west and north of the Site respectively.

LANDMAP

3.9.6 LANDMAP is an “all-Wales GIS (Geographical Information System) based landscape resource where landscape characteristics, qualities and influences on the landscape are recorded and

evaluated into a nationally consistent data set. In Wales, LANDMAP is the formally adopted methodology for landscape assessment and is advocated by Planning Policy Wales". This LVA has also taken cognisance of 'Using LANDMAP in Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments GN46 (Natural Resources Wales, 2024) with regards to the study area and the use of LANDMAP information.

- 3.9.7 LANDMAP consists of five spatial dataset layers: Cultural Landscape, Geological Landscape, Historic Landscape, Landscape Habitats, and Visual and Sensory.
- 3.9.8 This LVIA considers the **Visual and Sensory** layer, **Landscape Habitats**, and **Historic Landscape** layer within which the Site lies as these are considered most relevant and sensitive to the Proposed Development. The assessment of these LANDMAP layers along with their relevant key characteristics can be found within **Appendix C: Landscape Effects Table**.
- 3.9.9 The Site lies within the following Visual and Sensory areas:
- **CRMRTVS960 Middleton Hills:** rolling hills between the Tywi Valley and the Gwendraeth Fach - overall moderate evaluation (this encompasses the eastern area of the Site);
 - **CRMRTVS936 Llansaint Coastal Hills:** rolling hills overlooking the coast and the Tywi Estuary – overall high evaluation (this encompasses the western part of the Site); and
 - **CRMRTVS400 Gwendraeth Fach:** a shallow valley dominated by agriculture and scenically attractive (this encompasses the southern extents of the Site).
- 3.9.10 The Landscape Habitat layer which encompasses the Site and much of the surrounding area is **CRMRTLH042 Llansaint North** – overall moderate evaluation.
- 3.9.11 The Historic Landscape layer considered to be of relevance to the Site is **CRMRTLH39492 Llandyfaelog, Llangyndeyrn** – overall outstanding evaluation.

Carmarthenshire Landscape Character Assessment

- 3.9.12 Carmarthenshire County Council invited tenders for consultants to prepare a Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) for Carmarthenshire in July 2023. This is to be used as evidence to inform the review of the emerging Revised Local Development Plan 2018 – 2033. At the time of writing the LCA had not been published.

Local Landscape Character: The Site

- 3.9.13 Stantec has undertaken its own appraisal of the Site's local landscape character to consider landscape character at the more detailed site level. The findings of this assessment are summarised in the following paragraphs.
- 3.9.14 At the time of the landscape and visual survey, the Site character was defined by predominantly pastoral fields, bounded by robust hedgerows which provide visual containment. Although land within the Site boundary appears largely flat, there is a gradual fall to the south, which provides distant views south from the northern fields.
- 3.9.15 This perceptual agricultural character is however altered to a degree by the presence of the low voltage trident wood poles and overhead cables which pass through the northern part of the Site, and by the visually prominent high voltage pylons and overhead cables which run parallel to the Site's western boundary within the adjoining fields.
- 3.9.16 There is no development within the Site, however nearby farmsteads and associated outbuildings are perceptible from the Site boundaries, mainly at Llwyngwcw and Bwlch Y

Gwynt, although during the summer months any views are generally precluded by field boundary hedgerows.

4 Visual Analysis

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 All visual receptors are people. Potential visual receptors include those people who use the network of PRoWs, open spaces and outdoor recreational facilities and the road network, who are visiting, living or working within the study area, including residents of nearby farmhouses, users of local routes and users of the A484.
- 4.1.2 Potential visual receptors include:
- a. Walkers, cyclists and equestrians using PRoW;
 - b. People travelling on roads; and
 - c. People living and working in nearby properties.
- 4.1.3 Typical views towards the Site were from publicly available view locations are appraised in the section below and are illustrated on the Photosheets in **Appendix A (Figure L5)**. The location of these views is shown on the Photosheets.

4.2 Visual Analysis and Sensitivity to Change

- 4.2.1 **Table 2** below sets out the identified view locations, together with the sensitivity of receptors at those locations. Agreement was sought on these view locations by Stantec in August 2024 and by National Grid in October 2024 through the Landscape Officer at Carmarthenshire County Council however no response was received.
- 4.2.2 No private (e.g. residential) views or visual receptors have been assessed in the LVA. However, where appropriate, visual receptors have been considered in the LVA through selection of representative view locations at publicly accessible locations within or on the edge of main settlements, property groupings or other buildings likely to be significantly affected by the proposed development.
- 4.2.3 The baseline description for each visual receptor view location, including information about the type of view and relative number of people whose views are likely to be affected, is set out within the **Visual Effects Table at Appendix D**, together with representative photograph panoramas illustrating people's baseline views.

Table 2: Representative Views: Locations and Sensitivity of Views for Visual Appraisal

View Location Reference	Location	Distance from Site Boundary	Reason for Inclusion and Type of Visual Receptor	Sensitivity
VL1	PRoW 29/14/2 between Cwmafael Farm and Crugan Fach Farm	200m	Representative of views experienced by recreational users of the PRoW network and workers/residents at Crugan Fach	Medium
VL1a	Southeast of Lanfryn residence	350m	Representative of nearby residents and road users along the single track leading from the A484	High
VL2	Situated on the western extents of	300m	Representative of recreational users of the PRoW network	Medium

View Location Reference	Location	Distance from Site Boundary	Reason for Inclusion and Type of Visual Receptor	Sensitivity
	Pen Y Maes Farm woodland on PRow 29/14/2			
VL3	Adjacent to the northern Site boundary along the C2074 farm access road	Adjacent	Representative of users of the C2074 farm access road between the A484 and B4309	Low
VL3a	Adjacent to the northern Site boundary along the C2074 farm access road	Adjacent	Representative of users of the C2074 farm access road between the A484 and B4309	Medium
VL4	On the A484 adjacent to Llwynceilyn Farm	585m	Representative of residents/workers at Llwynceilyn Farm and road users of the A484	High
VL5	Wales Coast Path near Gellylednais Farm	1.1km	Representative of recreational users of the long-distance trail Wales Coast Path	High
VL6	On PRow 29/13/1 near Fforest-isaf Farm	600m	Representative of recreational users of the PRow network and residents/workers at Fforest-isaf Farm	Medium
VL7	From the B4309 near Maesgwyn residence	1.5km	Representative of residents of nearby properties and road users along the B4309	High

5 Approach to Mitigation

- 5.1.1 Embedded mitigation measures are defined as primary mitigation which has been included to reduce potential effects of the Proposed Development.
- 5.1.2 The embedded mitigation measures which are relevant to, and which have been relied upon for this LVA are summarised below:
- Enhancement / reinforcement of a number of existing hedgerows across the Site to retain field boundary patterns in perpetuity where possible, enhance visual screening opportunities, and enhance the existing Green Infrastructure Network;
 - Proposed native hedgerow planting to introduce new habitat connections where hedgerows are lost to construction wherever possible and suitable;
 - Proposed native hedgerow planting along the northern and southern cutting of the proposed access road to compensate for the loss of field boundary hedgerows, provide additional visual screening, and provide amenity value;
 - Seeding areas with species rich grassland where land would no longer be viable for agricultural use to increase amenity and ecological value, with particular focus on purple moor grass and rush pasture;
 - Planting of woodland blocks southeast and directly west of the substation compound to provide visual screening from nearby properties and enhance key characteristics of the local landscape character;
 - Planting of individual trees on the field boundaries to the east of the substation to break up views towards the substation from sensitive receptors at Bancycapel;
 - Creation of SuDS ponds south of the proposed access road to provide amenity value and potentially increase Net Benefit for Biodiversity (NBB);
 - Provision of a 3m landscape bund which effectively wraps around the south-eastern corner of the substation compound planted with scrub up to an additional 5m to provide screening in views from the property to the southeast and from the A484; and
 - Scrub planting throughout the Proposed Development, including along and between the landscape bund, to aid visual screening, provide additional green network connections, and enhance NBB.
- 5.1.3 In addition, there are standard construction practices for avoiding and reducing environmental effects, such as the use of tree and hedgerow protection fencing to protect retained vegetation. The LVA assumes these standard construction practices will be adopted.

6 Appraisal

6.1 Assumptions

- 6.1.1 This section appraises the principle of the electrical infrastructure development on the Site, in terms of direct effects upon landscape features, landscape character and views.
- 6.1.2 For the purpose of this appraisal, it has been assumed that Proposed Development at the Site would be based upon the GI approach, landscape mitigation strategy and design principles which have been described in the preceding section and are illustrated on **Figure L7: Landscape Mitigation Strategy**. The strategy is supported by detailed planting plans which are provided within **Appendix A: Figures, Figure L8 Detailed Planting Plans**.
- 6.1.3 The appraisal outcomes set out in Table 3 below provide a summary of the effects predicted for landscape and visual receptors. A more detailed appraisal of each receptor is set out within **Appendix C: Landscape Effects Table** and **Appendix D: Visual Effects Table**.

6.2 Landscape Appraisal

- 6.2.1 The nature of indirect or direct effects on landscape assets as a result of the Proposed Development are set out in the table below.

Table 3: Landscape Appraisal

LANDSCAPE APPRAISAL			
Landscape Feature, Designation or Character Area	Level and Direction of Effect		
	Construction	Year 1	Year 15
Carmarthenshire Bay and Estuaries Special Landscape Area (SLA)	No change	No change	No change
NLCA 33: Gwendraeth Vales	Minor adverse	Minor adverse	Negligible adverse
NLCA 45: Taf, Tywi and Gwendraeth Estuaries	Minor adverse	Minor adverse	Negligible adverse
Visual and Sensory Layer CRMRTVS960 Middleton Hills	Minor adverse	Negligible adverse	Negligible adverse
Visual and Sensory Layer: CRMRTVS936 Llansaint Coastal Hills	Negligible adverse	Negligible adverse	Negligible adverse
Visual and Sensory Layer CRMRTVS400 Gwendraeth Fach	Negligible adverse	Negligible adverse	Negligible adverse
Landscape Habitat Layer: CRMRTLH042 Llansaint North	Negligible adverse	Negligible adverse	Negligible adverse
Historic Landscape Layer: CRMRTLH39492 Llandyfaelog, Llangyndeyrn	Minor adverse	Negligible adverse	Negligible adverse

LANDSCAPE APPRAISAL			
Landscape Feature, Designation or Character Area	Level and Direction of Effect		
	Construction	Year 1	Year 15
Landscape Character of the Site	Moderate adverse	Moderate adverse	Minor adverse
Green Infrastructure Network – (function of the Site)	Moderate adverse	Moderate adverse	Minor adverse
Long Distance Walking Routes, Public Rights of Way and National Cycle Networks	Negligible adverse	No change	No change
Landform of the Site	Moderate adverse	Moderate adverse	Moderate adverse
Trees, woodland and hedgerows within the Site	Moderate adverse	Moderate adverse	Minor adverse
Field Pattern / Field Boundaries	Moderate adverse	Moderate adverse	Minor adverse
Existing Infrastructure	Negligible adverse	Negligible adverse	Negligible adverse

6.3 Visual Appraisal

- 6.3.1 The Proposed Development on the Site is likely to result in visual effects upon views and people's visual amenity, as set out in the **Table 4**.

Table 4: Visual Appraisal

VISUAL APPRAISAL			
Viewpoint No. and Location	Overall Magnitude of Effect		
	Construction	Year 1	Year 15
VL1: PRoW 29/14/2 between Cwmafael Farm and Crugan Fach Farm	No change	No change	No change
VL1a: Southeast of Lanfryn residence	Major adverse	Major adverse	Moderate adverse
VL2: Situated on the western extents of Pen Y Maes Farm woodland on PRoW 29/14/2	Moderate adverse	Moderate adverse	Minor adverse
VL3: Adjacent to the northern Site boundary along the C2074 farm access road	Minor adverse	Minor adverse	Negligible adverse
VL3a: Adjacent to the northern Site boundary along the C2074 farm access road	Major adverse	Major adverse	Minor adverse

VISUAL APPRAISAL			
Viewpoint No. and Location	Overall Magnitude of Effect		
	Construction	Year 1	Year 15
VL4: On the A484 adjacent to Llwyncelyn Farm	Major adverse	Major adverse	Moderate adverse
VL5: Wales Coast Path near Gellylednais Farm	No change	No change	No change
VL6: On PRoW 29/13/1 near Fforest-isaf Farm	No change	No change	No change
VL7: From the B4309 near Bancycafel	Moderate adverse	Moderate adverse	Minor adverse

7 Summary and Conclusions

7.1 Summary

- 7.1.1 The Site lies some 6km south of Carmarthen in South Wales, directly east of the A484. Land within the Site comprises agricultural fields generally bounded by hedgerows and occasional hedgerow trees which lie on a raised plateau. Land falls away to the south and the east relatively sharply forming river valleys, with undulating land to the west also forming a river valley by way of the River Towy, which lies approximately 1.4km northwest of the Site.
- 7.1.2 This slightly raised plateau at times provides relatively distant views, generally to the south; however, the field boundary treatments often provide visual enclosure. Electrical infrastructure is a dominating visual feature within views in the area which can at times detract from wider views.
- 7.1.3 This LVA has taken cognisance of national and local policy and supplementary guidance, including Policy 17 within Future Wales: The National Plan 2040 which states that “*New strategic grid infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of energy should be designed to minimise visual impact on nearby communities.*”, and Policy GP1 within the Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan which states that development proposals will be permitted where “*It retains, and where appropriate incorporates important local features (including buildings, amenity areas, spaces, trees, woodland and hedgerows) and ensures the use of good quality hard and soft landscaping and embraces opportunities to enhance biodiversity and ecological connectivity.*”
- 7.1.4 The LVA methodology was informed by the Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment: Edition 3 (GLVIA3), which was produced by the Landscape Institute and IEMA in 2013. The LVA considered the overall sensitivity of the identified landscape and visual receptors to the proposals and combined that with the magnitude of potential impacts to produce the resulting level of effect. An LVA does not however consider whether a level of effect should be deemed significant or not; that is for an LVIA to decide.
- 7.1.5 A site visit was undertaken by Stantec Landscape Architects in order to understand the Site and its surroundings, and to capture the photography which has informed the visual appraisal. The Figures which accompany this LVA provide an overview of:
- the constraints of the Site;
 - the potential visibility of the Proposed Development;
 - the proposed mitigation measures which aim to reduce the landscape and visual effects associated with the Proposed Development; and
 - a visual representation of the existing conditions of the Site from the view locations and the potential conditions following construction of the Proposed Development.

Landscape

- 7.1.6 With regards to landscape receptors, the appraisal found that during construction, moderate adverse effects were predicted for features associated with the Site including landscape character, Green Infrastructure Network, landform, trees, woodland and hedgerows, and field boundaries / patterns. This is generally as a result of the changes brought about by the introduction of the substation and ancillary elements along with the proposed access road through what is currently agricultural land.

- 7.1.7 Minor or negligible adverse effects were predicted for landscape character at all levels, with Carmarthenshire Bay and Estuaries Special Landscape Area (SLA) experiencing no change. A negligible adverse effect was predicted for existing infrastructure within the Site.
- 7.1.8 At year 1 of operation, a moderate level of adverse effects were predicted to remain for landscape character of the Site, the Green Infrastructure Network, landform, trees, woodland and hedgerows, and field boundaries/patterns. Effects on landscape character are predicted to remain as experienced during construction or reduce. A negligible adverse effect was predicted to remain for existing infrastructure within the Site.
- 7.1.9 By year 15, as outlined in Table 5, Paragraph 6.2.1 above, a moderate adverse effect is predicted to remain for landform across the Site as a result of the permanent change to accommodate the Proposed Development. All other landscape receptors are predicted to experience a minor, negligible or no change level of effects.

Visual

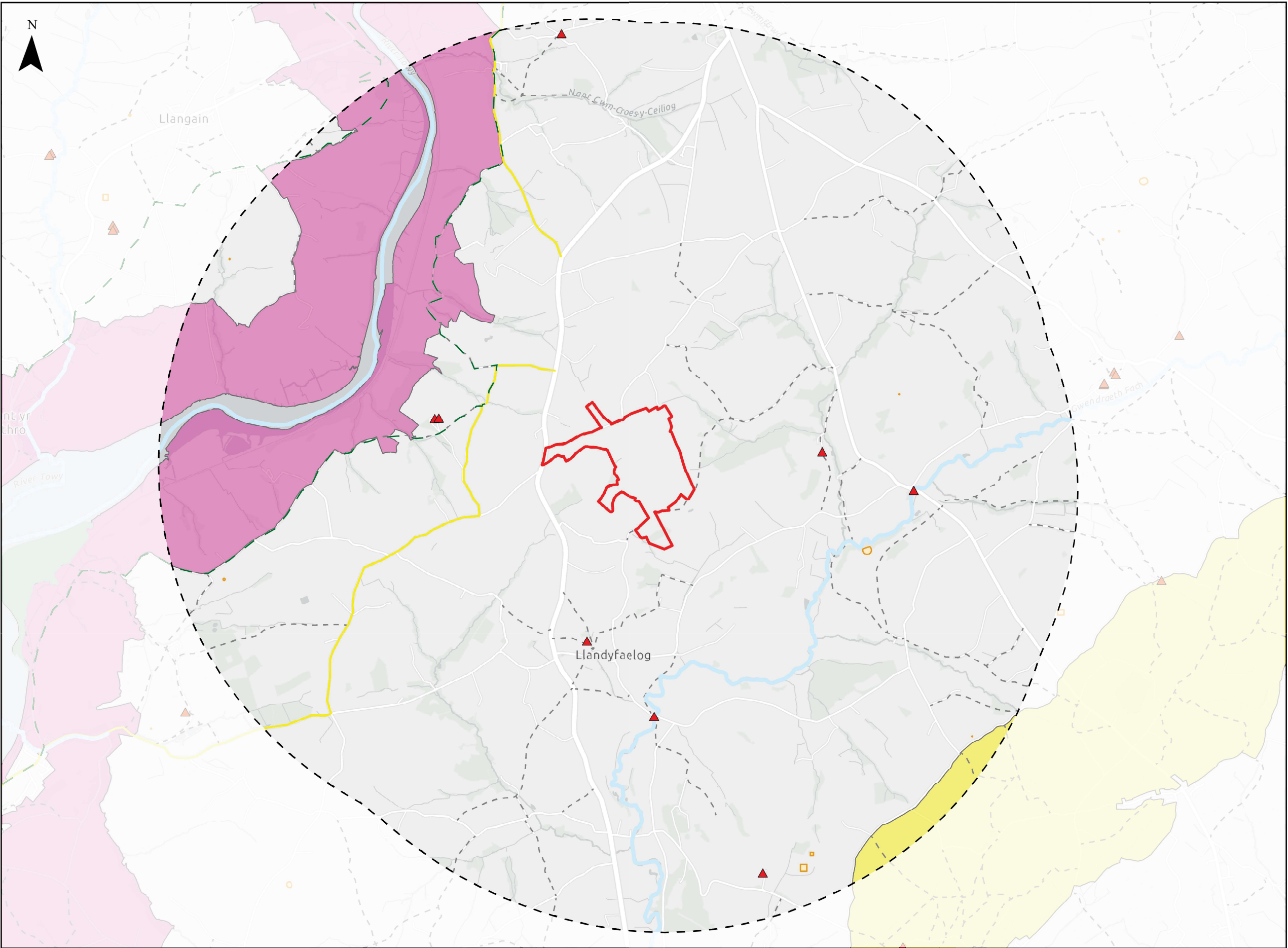
- 7.1.10 For visual receptors during construction, a major adverse effect was predicted for receptors at VL1a, VL3a and VL4, largely as a result of the proximity to noticeable changes with regards to construction of the Proposed Development. A moderate adverse effect was predicted for receptors at VL2 and VL7 as a result of partial views. Effects for receptors at VL3 are predicted to be minor, while no change in views was predicted for receptors at VL1, VL5 and VL6. This no change level of effect will remain throughout all phases.
- 7.1.11 At year 1 of operation the major adverse effects are predicted to remain at VL1a, VL3a and VL4, with moderate adverse effects predicted at VL2 and VL7. Views from VL3 are predicted to remain as minor effects.
- 7.1.12 By year 15, residential receptors at VL4 predicted to experience moderate effects as a result of the permanent change in view brought about by the proposed access road, reduced from Year 1 by the proposed mitigation planting along the access road which would soften its appearance. Similarly, effects at VL1a for residential receptors are predicted to reduce to moderate as a result of mitigation planting which provide effective screening or filtering of views from the property. Effects at VL3a would reduce to minor as the proposed hedgerow provides partial screening of the Proposed Development at close range. Effects are also predicted to reduce at VL2, VL3 and VL7 as a result of effective mitigation planting.

7.2 Conclusion

- 7.2.1 The appraisal concludes that, while permanent adverse effects are anticipated, these are not unexpected given the scale and nature of the Proposed Development. The Site has the capacity to accommodate the infrastructure, provided that the proposed green infrastructure strategy and landscape mitigation measures such as new hedgerows, enhanced hedgerows, woodland, scrub, and individual tree planting are fully implemented. This approach would help integrate the Proposed Development into the existing landscape and reduce its visual prominence, particularly in conjunction with the existing overhead line infrastructure.
- 7.2.2 The Llandyfaelog Substation Landscape and Visual Appraisal (LVA) has identified that the Proposed Development would result in a range of landscape and visual effects, primarily during the construction and early operational phases. These effects are largely associated with the introduction of large-scale electrical infrastructure into a predominantly rural, agricultural landscape.
- 7.2.3 Moderate adverse effects are predicted for the Site's landform, green infrastructure, and field pattern during construction and early operation, with these effects reducing to minor or negligible by Year 15 due to the implementation of embedded mitigation measures. The most

persistent landscape effect is associated with the permanent alteration of the Site's landform to accommodate the substation platform.

- 7.2.4 Visual effects are most pronounced for receptors in close proximity to the Site, particularly at VL1a, VL3a, and VL4, where major adverse effects are predicted during construction and Year 1. These effects are expected to reduce over time as mitigation planting matures, with moderate or minor adverse effects remaining by Year 15.



LEGEND:

- Site Boundary
- 3km Study Area

The study area is within the county of Carmarthenshire.

- Listed Buildings¹
- Public Rights of Way (PRoW)²
- Wales Coast Path³
- Watercourses
- National Cycle Network⁴
- Scheduled Monuments⁵
- Open Access Registered Common Land⁶

Special Landscape Areas⁷

- Carmarthenshire Bay & Estuary
- Carmarthenshire Limestone Ridge

Notes:

1. Cadw. Listed Buildings. <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/listedbuilding/FullReport?lang=en&id=9732> (12.06.2024)

2. Ordnance Survey, Bing Maps. Public Rights of Way. <https://www.bing.com/maps?q=woolavington&FORM=HDRSC7&cp=51.786088%7E-4.292074&lvl=13.9&style=s> (12.06.2024)

3. Wales Coast Path. Interactive Coast Path Map. <https://www.walescoastpath.gov.uk/plan-your-visit/interactive-coast-path-map/?lang=en#> (19.06.2024)

4. Sustrans. National Cycle Network. <https://www.sustrans.org.uk/> (12.06.2024)

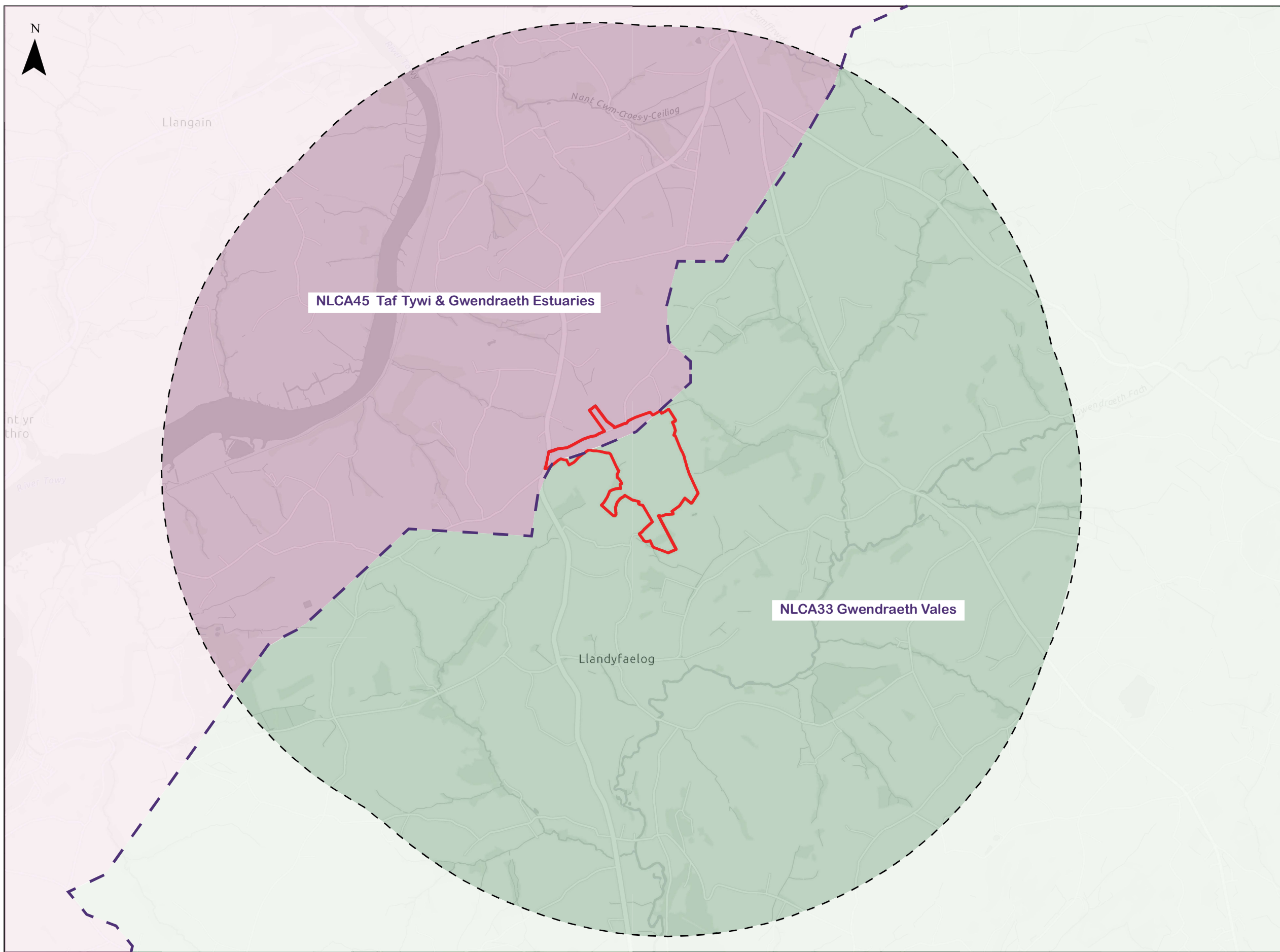
5. Cadw. Scheduled Monuments. <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/sam/FullReport?lang=en&id=662> (12.06.2024)

6. Natural Resources Wales. Open Access Land. <https://naturalresources.wales/days-out/recreation-and-access-policy-advice-and-guidance/managing-access/open-access-land/?lang=en> (12.06.2024)

7. Cyngor Sir Gâr Carmarthenshire. Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan. <https://www.cartogold.co.uk/CarmarthenshireLDP/english/text/Appendix-4.htm> (19.06.2024)

331201429: Llandyfaelog Substation

Figure L1: Planning Context



LEGEND:

-  Site boundary
-  3km Study area
-  National Landscape Character Areas

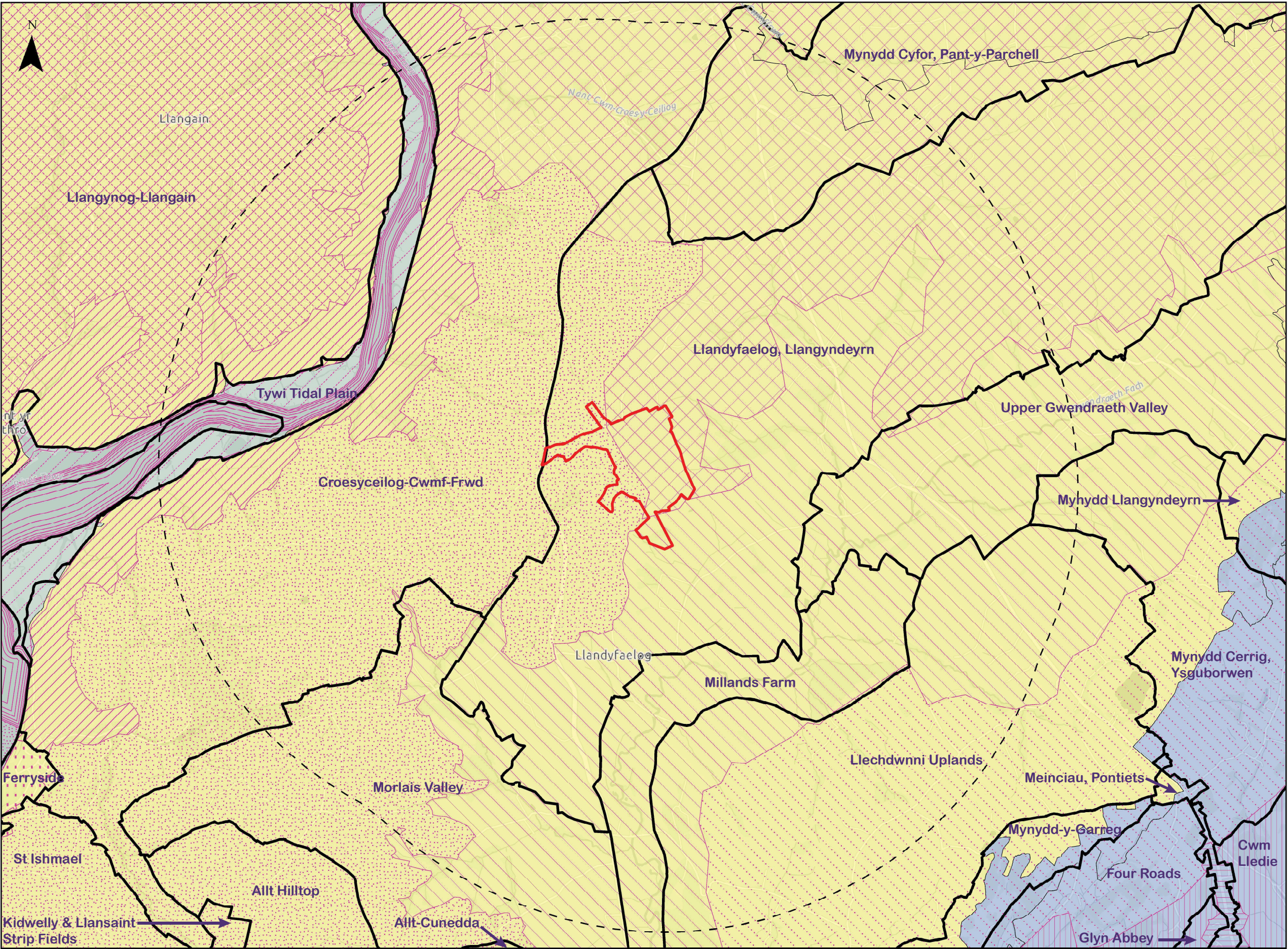
National Landscape Character¹

The study area is within the county of Carmarthenshire.

-  NLCA33 Gwendraeth Vales
-  NLCA45 Taf Tywi & Gwendraeth Estuaries

Notes:
1.Natural Resources Wales. NLCA33 Gwendraeth Vales & NLCA45 Taf Tywi & Gwendraeth EstuariesVales.
<https://naturalresources.wales/evidence-and-data/maps/nlca/?lang=en>
(19.06.2024)

331201429: Llandyfaelog Substation **Figure L2: National Landscape Character Areas**



LEGEND:

Site boundary

3km Study area

The study area is within the county of Carmarthenshire

Landmap Landscape Habitats¹

Taf-Twyi-Gwendraeth Estuary

Llansaint North

Carmarthen Coalfield

Landmap Visual Sensory²

LLanybri Coastal Hills

LLansaint Coastal Hills

Tywi Estuary - Slopes

Gwendraeth Fach

Ferryside

Middleton Hills

Crwbin Ridge

Gwendraeth Valley

Gwendraeth Settlements

Lower Tywi River

River Estuaries

Coastal Saltmarsh

Landmap Historic Landscape³

Area Name

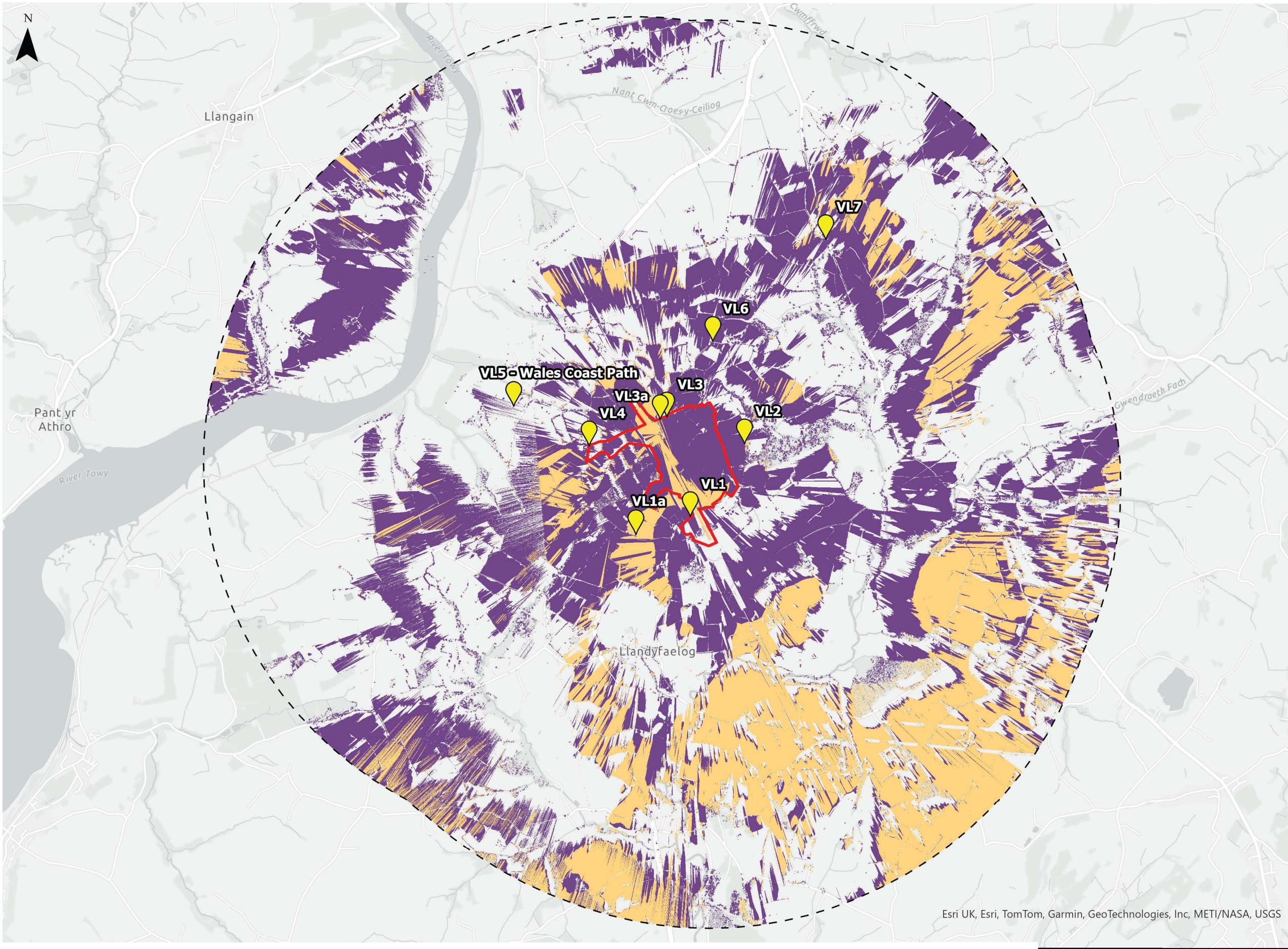
Notes:

1.DataMapWales. Landmap Landscape Habitats
<https://datamap.gov.wales/maps/new#/>
(11.06.2024)

2. DataMapWales. Landmap Visual Sensory
<https://datamap.gov.wales/maps/new#/>
(11.06.2024)

3.DataMapWales. Landmap Historic Landscape
<https://datamap.gov.wales/maps/new#/>
(11.06.2024)

331201429: Llandyfaelog Substation **Figure L3: LANDMAP Layers**



LEGEND:

Site boundary

3km Study area

Zone of Theoretical Visibility:

Viewshed of proposed towers

Viewshed of existing towers

NOTES:

1) This ZTV was run on a Digital Surface Model (DSM) using DataMap Wales DSM LiDAR, March 2023, Open Government Licence (Available: <https://datamap.gov.wales/maps/lidar-viewer/>)

2) The ZTV was created using ESRI ArcGIS Pro version 3.4.3 Spatial Analyst tool.

3) The ZTV illustrates the area of theoretical visibility of the existing pylons:

- Pylon 4YV164 set to 53m
- Pylon 4YV165 set to 48m
- Pylon 4YV167 set to 50m
- Pylon 4YV168 set to 59m

And the area of theoretical visibility for the following proposed pylons:

- Pylons 4YV165A and 4YV166A, set to 62m height.
- Tower 4YV165B set to 18m height,
- Gantries set to 15.5m height.

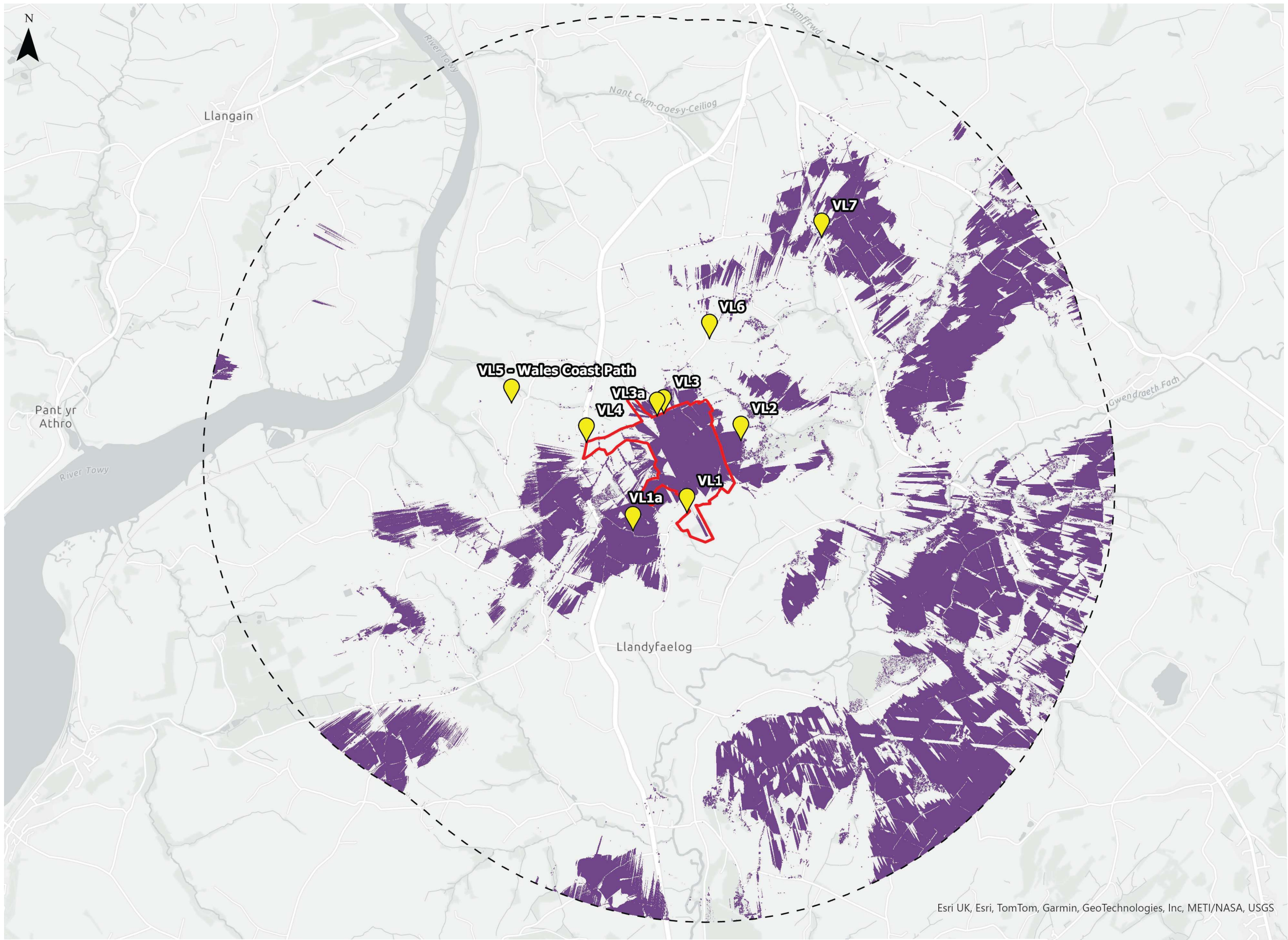
4) Observer height was set to 1.6m.

5) Viewsheds have been clipped to a 3km study area.

6) The ZTV analysis remains only as a tool in the visual appraisal of the project. It's accuracy is limited to the digital information that it has been based upon and the algorithm used in it's calculation.

331201429: Llandyfaelog Substation

Figure L4a: Zone of Theoretical Visibility



LEGEND:

 Site boundary

 3km Study area

Zone of Theoretical Visibility:

 Viewshed of proposed elements

NOTES:

1) This ZTV was run on a Digital Surface Model (DSM) using DataMap Wales DSM LiDAR, March 2023, Open Government Licence (Available: <https://datamap.gov.wales/maps/lidar-viewer/>)

2) The ZTV was created using ESRI ArcGIS Pro version 3.4.3 Spatial Analyst tool.

3) The ZTV illustrates the area of theoretical visibility of the following proposed elements:

- 132kv Gantries set to 8m height.
- Busbars set to 12m height.
- Control Room layout set to 7m height.

4) Observer height was set to 1.6m.

5) Viewsheds have been clipped to a 3km study area.

6) The ZTV analysis remains only as a tool in the visual appraisal of the project. It's accuracy is limited to the digital information that it has been based upon and the algorithm used in it's calculation.

331201429: Llandyfaelog Substation

Figure L4b: Zone of Theoretical Visibility



View Location 1
Sheet 1 of 2

331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

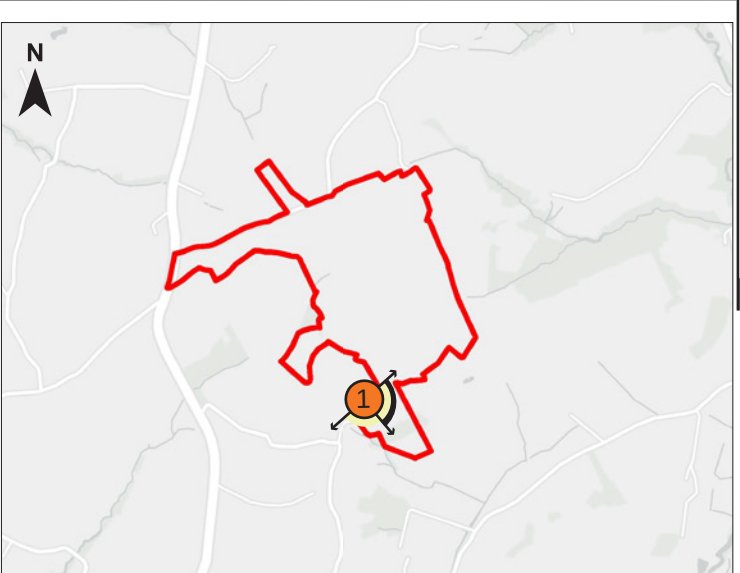
The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

Figure L5: Photosheets Sheet 1 of 16



Client: **nationalgrid**

Viewpoint grid ref:	E 241957, N 212821	Drawing Ref:	331201429_L5
Sheet Size:	A1 Landscape	Rev:	P01
Photographs taken:	30.05.2024	Date:	03.07.2025
		Drawn:	CC
		Checked:	RW



Photograph continued on previous sheet



331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

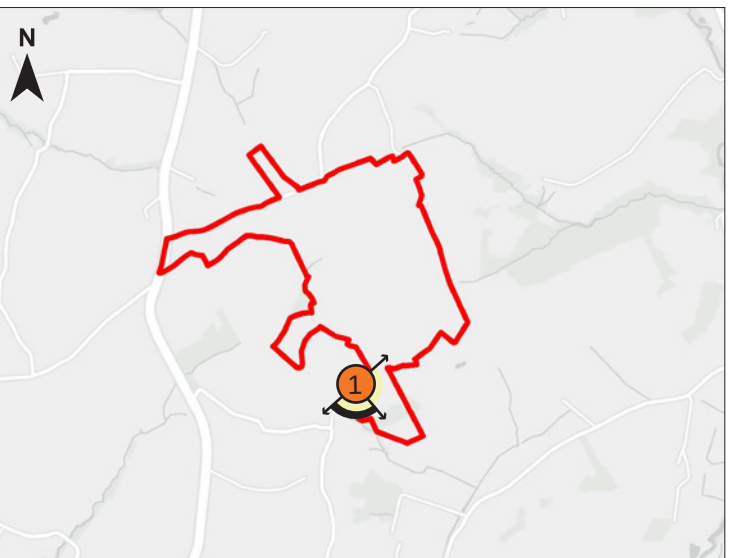
Figure L5: Photosheets Sheet 2 of 16



Client: [nationalgrid](#)

Viewpoint grid ref: E 241957, N 212821
Sheet Size: A1 Landscape
Photographs taken: 30.05.2024

Drawing Ref: 331201429_L5
Rev: P01
Date: 03.07.2025
Drawn: CC
Checked: RW





331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

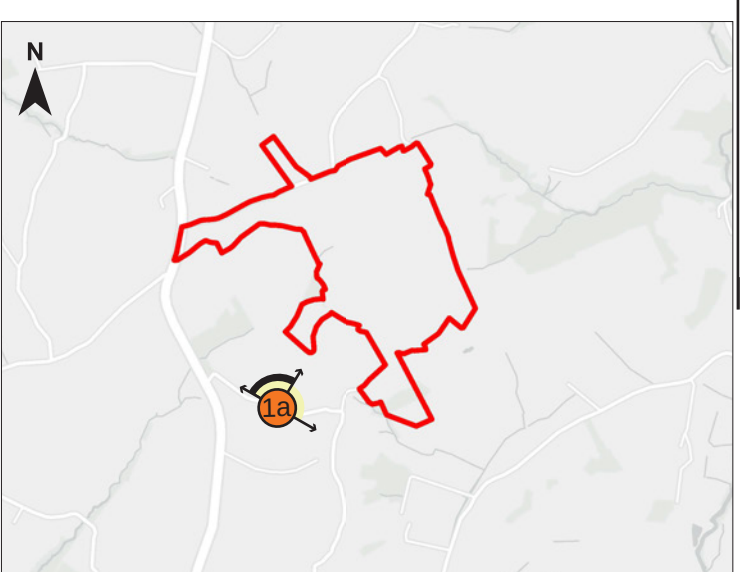
Figure L5: Photosheets Sheet 3 of 16



Client: **nationalgrid**

Viewpoint grid ref: E 241528, N212678
Sheet Size: A1 Landscape
Photographs taken: 30.05.2024

Drawing Ref: 331201429_L5
Rev: P01
Date: 03.07.2025
Drawn: CC
Checked: RW



Photograph continued on previous sheet



Cwmafael Farm

View Location 1a
Sheet 2 of 2

331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

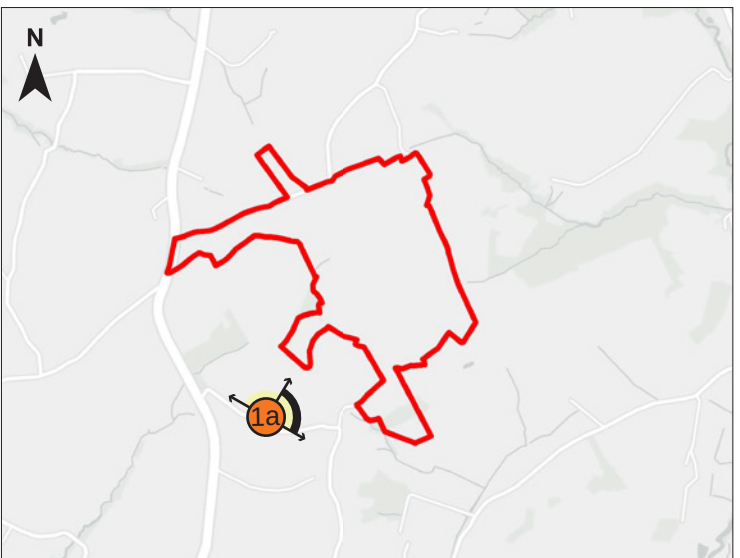
Figure L5: Photosheets Sheet 4 of 16



Client: **nationalgrid**

Viewpoint grid ref: E 241528, N212678
Sheet Size: A1 Landscape
Photographs taken: 30.05.2024

Drawing Ref: 331201429_L5
Rev: P01
Date: 03.07.2025
Drawn: CC
Checked: RW





Photograph continued on following sheet

331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

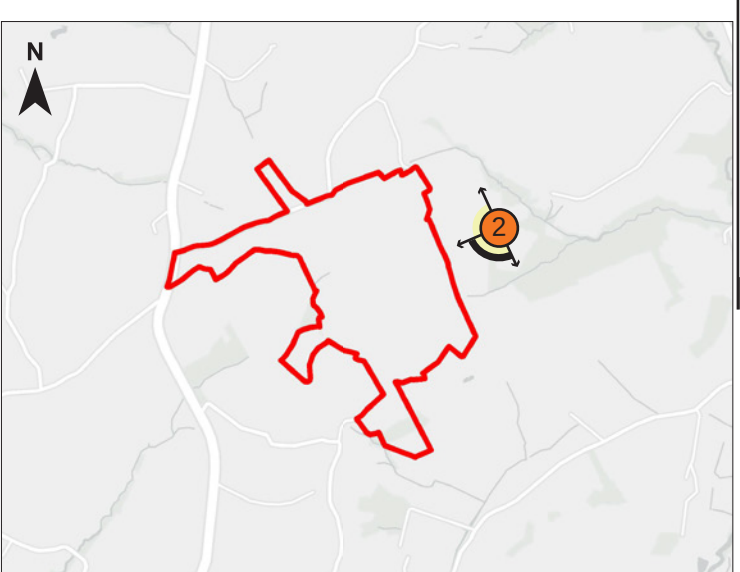
Figure L5: Photosheets Sheet 5 of 16



Client: **nationalgrid**

Viewpoint grid ref: E 242393, N 213415
Sheet Size: A1 Landscape
Photographs taken: 30.05.2024

Drawing Ref: 331201429_L5
Rev: P01
Date: 03.07.2025
Drawn: CC
Checked: RW



Photograph continued on previous sheet



View Location 2
Sheet 2 of 2

331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

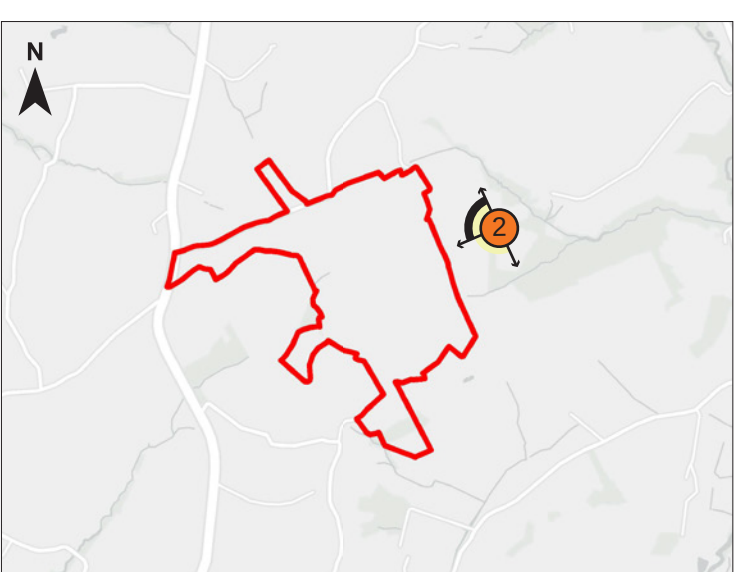
Figure L5: Photosheets Sheet 6 of 16



Client: [nationalgrid](#)

Viewpoint grid ref: E 242393, N 213415
Sheet Size: A1 Landscape
Photographs taken: 30.05.2024

Drawing Ref: 331201429_L5
Rev: P01
Date: 03.07.2025
Drawn: CC
Checked: RW





View Location 3

Sheet 1 of 2

331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

Figure L5: Photosheets Sheet 7 of 16

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.



Client: 

Viewpoint grid ref: E 241774, N 213601

Sheet Size: A1 Landscape

Photographs taken: 30.05.2024

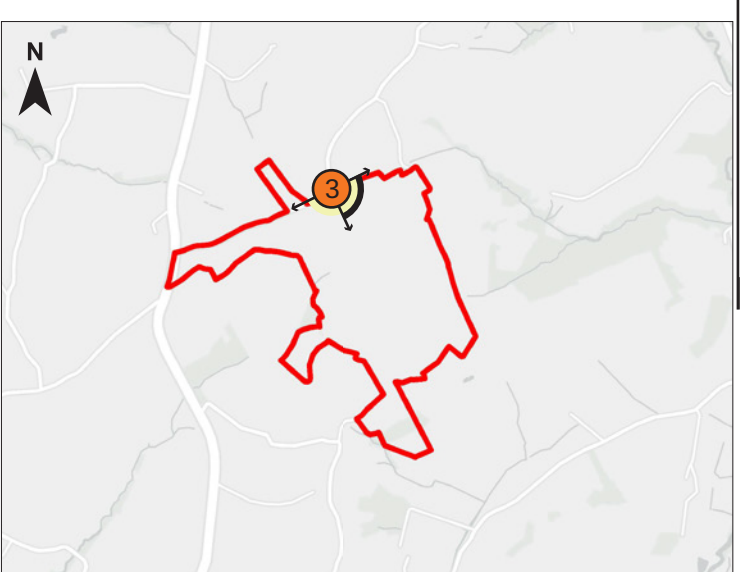
Drawing Ref: 331201429_L5

Rev: P01

Date: 03.07.2025

Drawn: CC

Checked: RW



Photograph continued on previous sheet



View Location 3
Sheet 2 of 2

331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

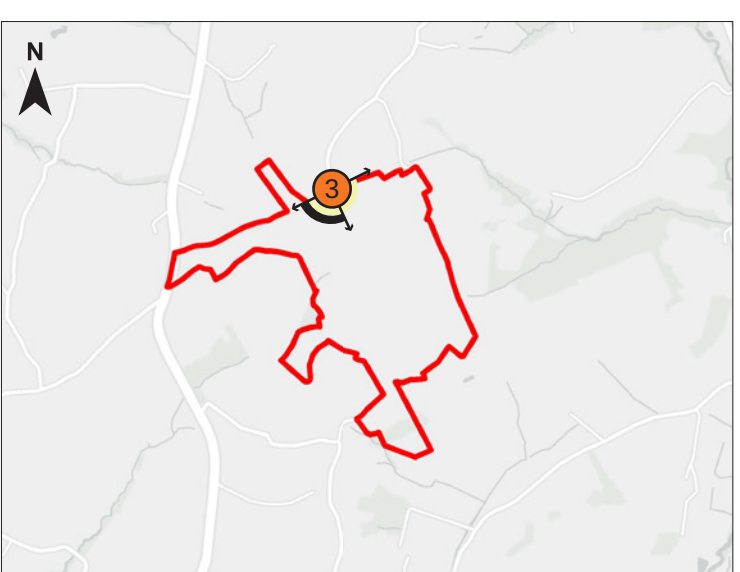
Figure L5: Photosheets Sheet 8 of 16



Client: **nationalgrid**

Viewpoint grid ref: E 241774, N 213601
Sheet Size: A1 Landscape
Photographs taken: 30.05.2024

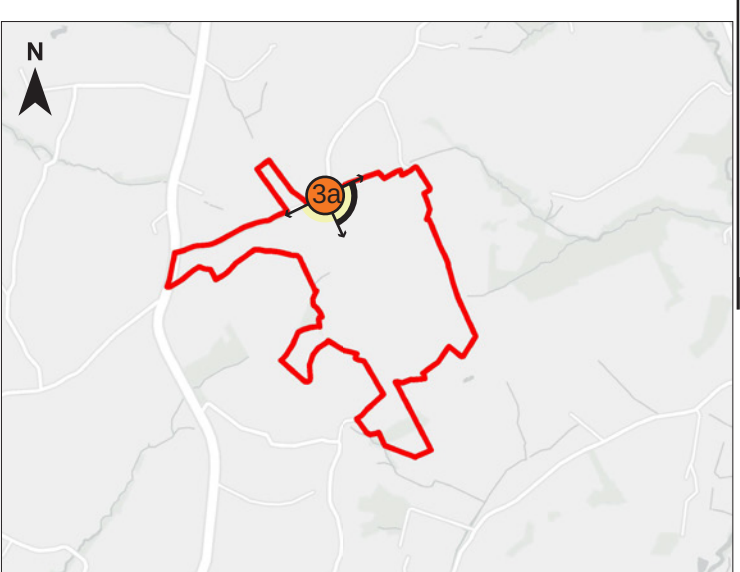
Drawing Ref: 331201429_L5
Rev: P01
Date: 03.07.2025
Drawn: CC
Checked: RW





NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.



Approximate extents of Application Site

Photograph continued on previous sheet



View Location 3a
Sheet 2 of 2

331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

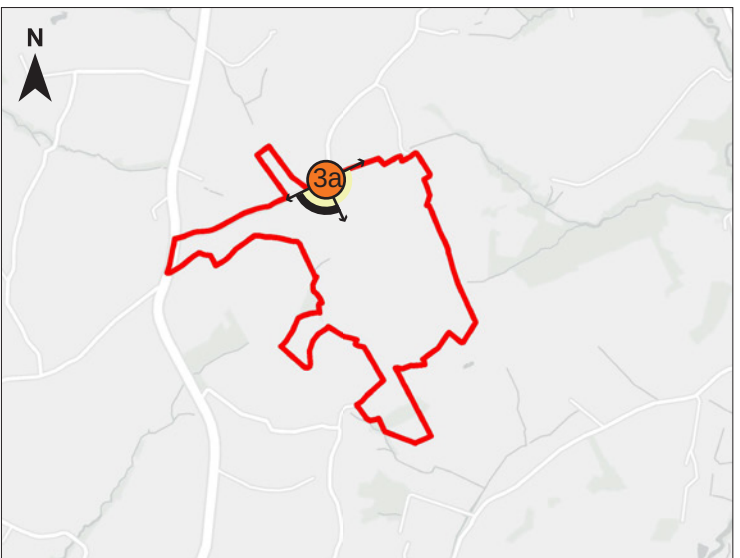
Figure L5: Photosheets Sheet 10 of 16



Client: **nationalgrid**

Viewpoint grid ref: E 241722 N 213584
Sheet Size: A1 Landscape
Photographs taken: 30.05.2024

Drawing Ref: 331201429_L5
Rev: P01
Date: 03.07.2025
Drawn: CC
Checked: RW



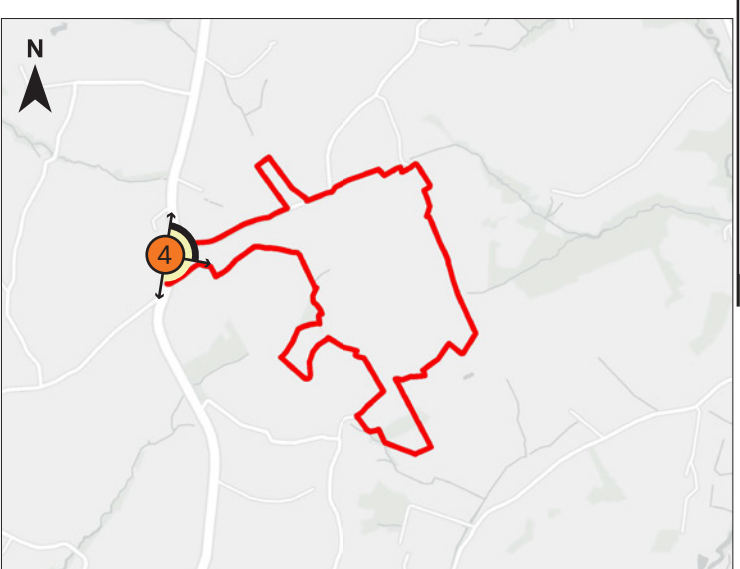


331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

Figure L5: Photosheets Sheet 11 of 16

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.



Photograph continued on previous sheet



View Location 4

Sheet 2 of 2

331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

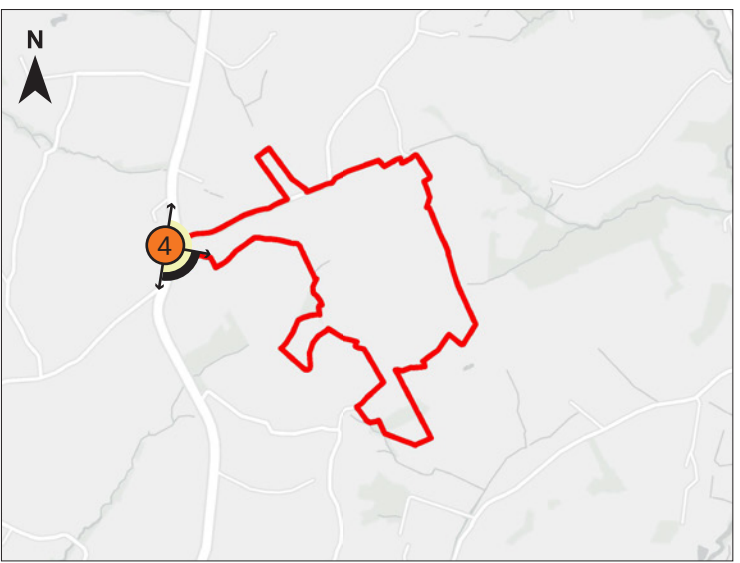
Figure L5: Photosheets Sheet 12 of 16



Client: **nationalgrid**

Viewpoint grid ref: E 241176 N 213386
Sheet Size: A1 Landscape
Photographs taken: 30.05.2024

Drawing Ref: 331201429_L5
Rev: P01
Date: 03.07.2025
Drawn: CC
Checked: RW





331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

Figure L5: Photosheets Sheet 13 of 16

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.



Client: 

Viewpoint grid ref: E 240579, N 213686

Sheet Size: A1 Landscape

Photographs taken: 30.05.2024

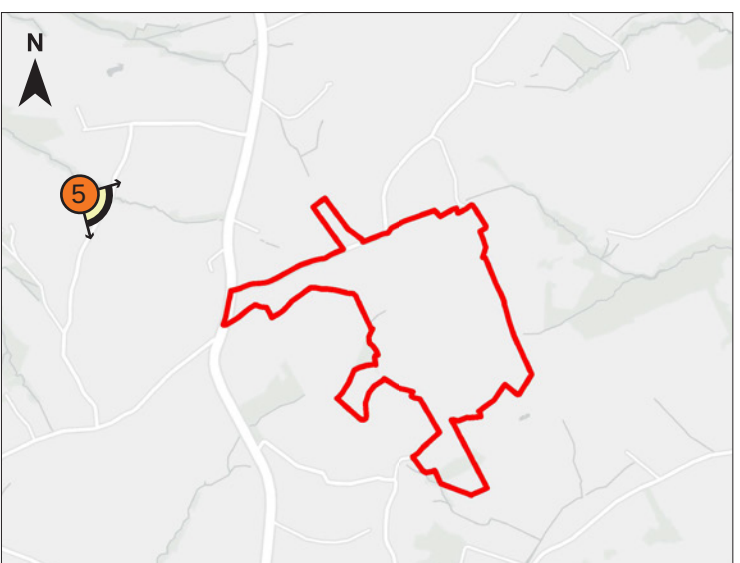
Drawing Ref: 331201429_L5

Rev: P01

Date: 03.07.2025

Drawn: CC

Checked: RW



Approximate extents of Application Site

Footpath 29/13/1

10
cm

20
cm

Photograph continued on following sheet

View Location 6

Sheet 1 of 2

331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

Figure L5: Photosheets Sheet 14 of 16

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

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Client: [nationalgrid](#)

Viewpoint grid ref: E 242130 N 214194

Sheet Size: A1 Landscape

Photographs taken: 30.05.2024

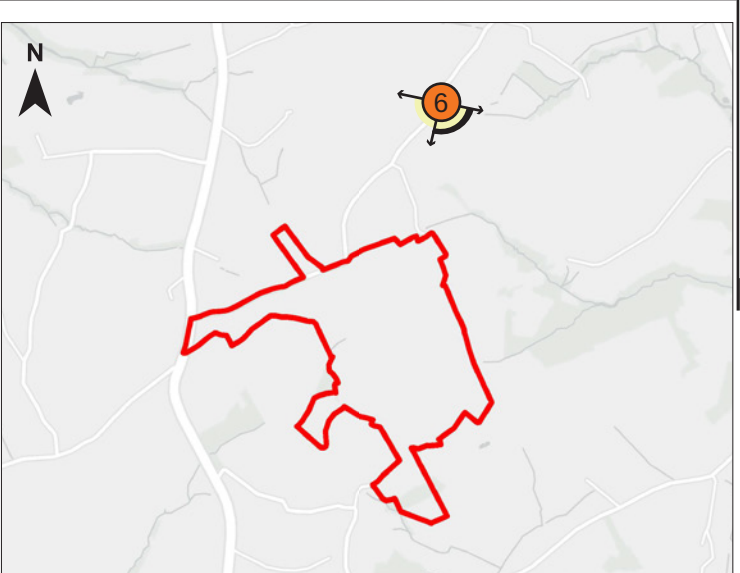
Drawing Ref: 331201429_L5

Rev: P01

Date: 03.07.2025

Drawn: CC

Checked: RW





View Location 6

Sheet 2 of 2

331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

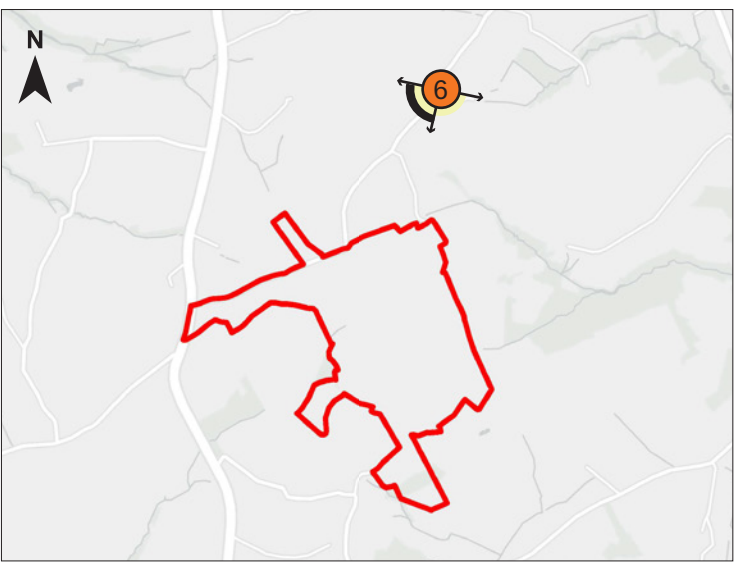
Figure L5: Photosheets Sheet 15 of 16



Client: **nationalgrid**

Viewpoint grid ref: E 242130 N 214194
Sheet Size: A1 Landscape
Photographs taken: 30.05.2024

Drawing Ref: 331201429_L5
Rev: P01
Date: 03.07.2025
Drawn: CC
Checked: RW





View Location 7

Sheet 1 of 1

331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

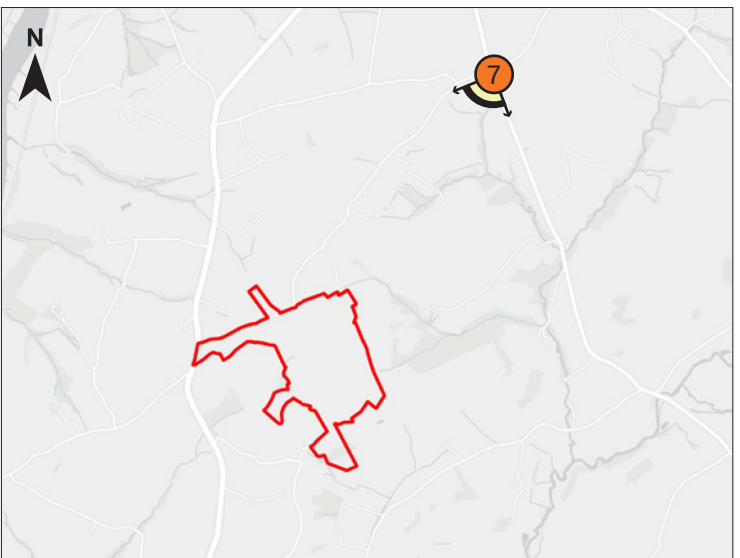
Figure L5: Photosheets Sheet 16 of 16



Client: **nationalgrid**

Viewpoint grid ref: E243008, N 215009
Sheet Size: A1 Landscape
Photographs taken: 30.05.2024

Drawing Ref: 331201429_L5
Rev: P01
Date: 03.07.2025
Drawn: CC
Checked: RW





View Location 1a
Baseline 1 of 2

331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

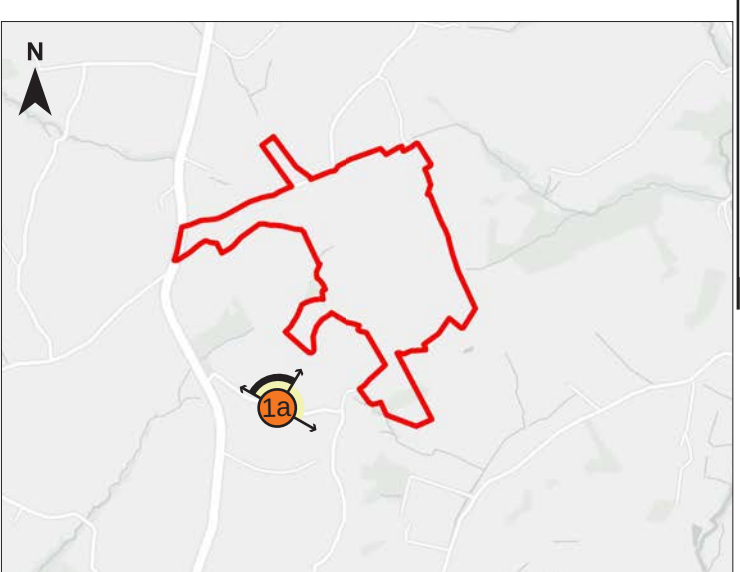
The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

Figure L6: Baseline Image - Sheet 1



Client: **nationalgrid**

Viewpoint grid ref:	E 241528, N212678	Drawing Ref:	331201429_L6
Sheet Size:	A1 Landscape	Rev:	P03
Photographs taken:	30.05.2024	Date:	05.11.2025
		Drawn:	MB
		Checked:	RW



Photograph continued on previous sheet



View Location 1a
Baseline 2 of 2

331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

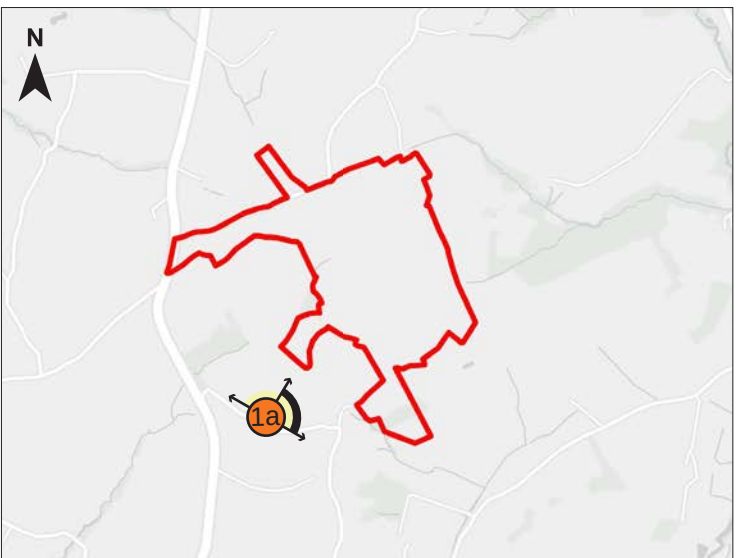
Figure L6: Baseline Image - Sheet 2



Client: **nationalgrid**

Viewpoint grid ref: E 241528, N212678
Sheet Size: A1 Landscape
Photographs taken: 30.05.2024

Drawing Ref: 331201429_L5
Rev: P02
Date: 21.10.2025
Drawn: MB
Checked: AC





View Location 1a
Wireline Yr15
1 of 2

331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

- LEGEND:
- Proposed Features: Visible
 - Proposed Features: Screened

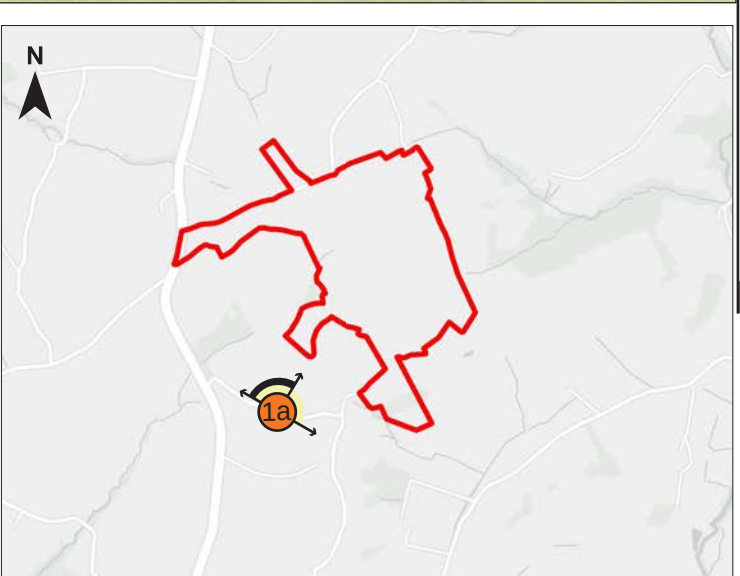
NOTE:
The 3D substation model utilized in these images is an example of a typical 400kW substation layout and is therefore considered to provide a reasonable representation of the Proposed Development for assessment purposes.



Client: [nationalgrid](#)

Figure L6: Wireline Yr 15 - Sheet 3

Viewpoint grid ref: E 241528, N212678
Sheet Size: A1 Landscape
Photographs taken: 30.05.2024
Drawing Ref: 331201429_L6
Rev: P03
Date: 05.11.2025
Drawn: MB
Checked: RW





Photograph continued on previous sheet

View Location 1a
Wireline Yr15
2 of 2

331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

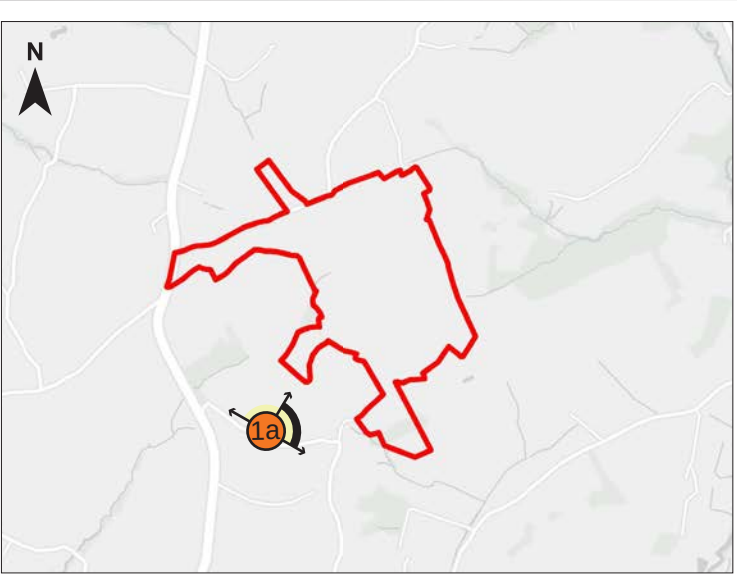
LEGEND:

- Proposed Features: Visible
- Proposed Features: Screened

NOTE:
The 3D substation model utilized in these images is an example of a typical 400kW substation layout and is therefore considered to provide a reasonable representation of the Proposed Development for assessment purposes.

Figure L6: Wireline Yr 15 - Sheet 4

Viewpoint grid ref: E 241528, N212678
Sheet Size: A1 Landscape
Photographs taken: 30.05.2024
Drawing Ref: 331201429_L5
Rev: P02
Date: 21.10.2025
Drawn: MB
Checked: AC





Photograph continued on following sheet

View Location 1a
Visualisation Yr1
1 of 2

331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

LEGEND:
as illustrated on Figure L7: Landscape Mitigation Strategy

- | | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
|  | - Proposed Substation: Visible |  | - Proposed Groundworks: Visible |
|  | - Proposed Towers and OHL: Visible | | |

NOTE:
The 3D substation model utilized in these images is an example of a typical 400kW substation layout and is therefore considered to provide a reasonable representation of the Proposed Development for assessment purposes.

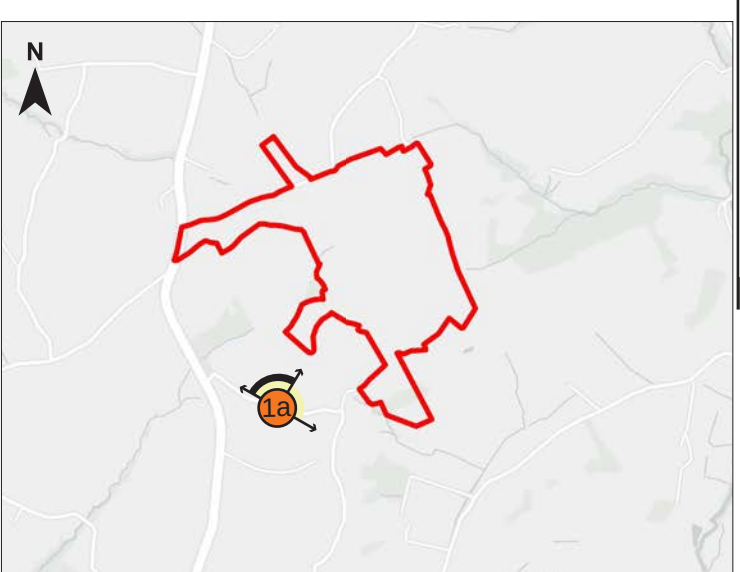


Client: [nationalgrid](#)

Figure L6: Visualisation Yr 1 - Sheet 5

Viewpoint grid ref: E 241528, N212678
Sheet Size: A1 Landscape
Photographs taken: 30.05.2024

Drawing Ref: 331201429_L6
Rev: P03
Date: 05.11.2025
Drawn: MB
Checked: RW



Photograph continued on previous sheet



View Location 1a
Visualisation Yr1
2 of 2

331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

LEGEND:
as illustrated on Figure L7: Landscape Mitigation Strategy

- | | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
|  | - Proposed Substation: Visible |  | - Proposed Groundworks: Visible |
|  | - Proposed Towers and OHL: Visible | | |

NOTE:
The 3D substation model utilized in these images is an example of a typical 400kW substation layout and is therefore considered to provide a reasonable representation of the Proposed Development for assessment purposes.



Client: **nationalgrid**

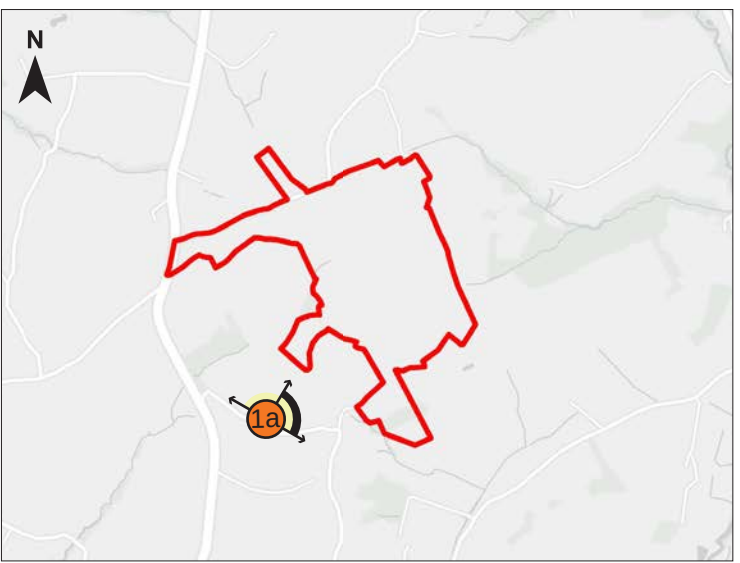
Figure L6: Visualisation Yr 1 - Sheet 6

Viewpoint grid ref: E 241528, N212678

Sheet Size: A1 Landscape

Photographs taken: 30.05.2024

Drawing Ref: 331201429_L5
Rev: P02
Date: 21.10.2025
Drawn: MB
Checked: AC





Photograph continued on following sheet

View Location 1a
Visualisation Yr15
1 of 2

331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

LEGEND:
as illustrated on Figure L7: Landscape Mitigation Strategy

- | | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
|  | - Proposed Substation: Visible |  | - Proposed Groundworks: Visible |
|  | - Proposed Towers and OHL: Visible |  | - Proposed Mitigation: Visible |

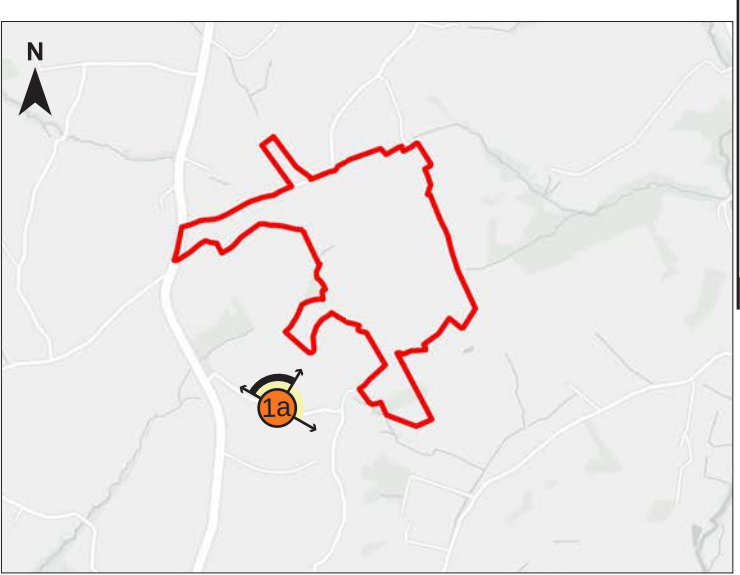
NOTE:
The 3D substation model utilized in these images is an example of a typical 400kW substation layout and is therefore considered to provide a reasonable representation of the Proposed Development for assessment purposes.



Client: [nationalgrid](#)

Figure L6: Visualisation Yr 15 - Sheet 7

Viewpoint grid ref:	E 241528, N212678	Drawing Ref:	331201429_L6
Sheet Size:	A1 Landscape	Rev:	P03
Photographs taken:	30.05.2024	Date:	05.11.2025
		Drawn:	MB
		Checked:	RW



Photograph continued on previous sheet



View Location 1a
Visualisation Yr15
2 of 2

331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

LEGEND:
as illustrated on Figure L7: Landscape Mitigation Strategy

- | | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
|  | - Proposed Substation: Visible |  | - Proposed Groundworks: Visible |
|  | - Proposed Towers and OHL: Visible |  | - Proposed Mitigation: Visible |

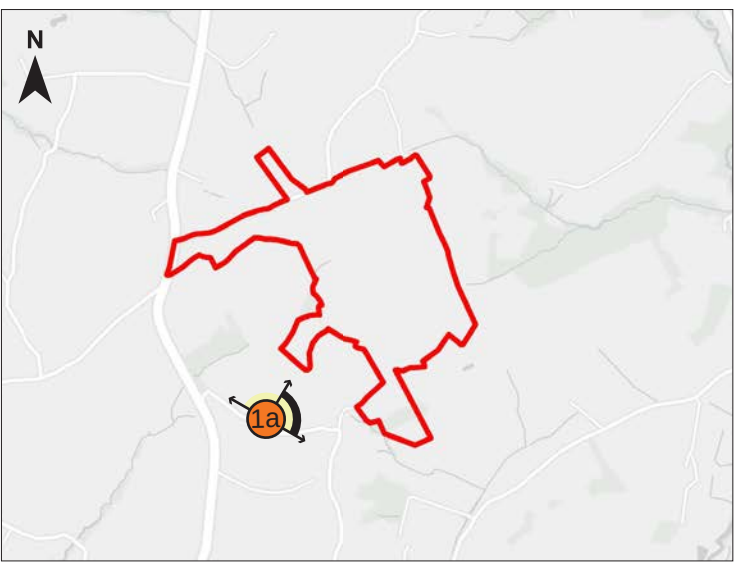
NOTE:
The 3D substation model utilized in these images is an example of a typical 400kW substation layout and is therefore considered to provide a reasonable representation of the Proposed Development for assessment purposes.

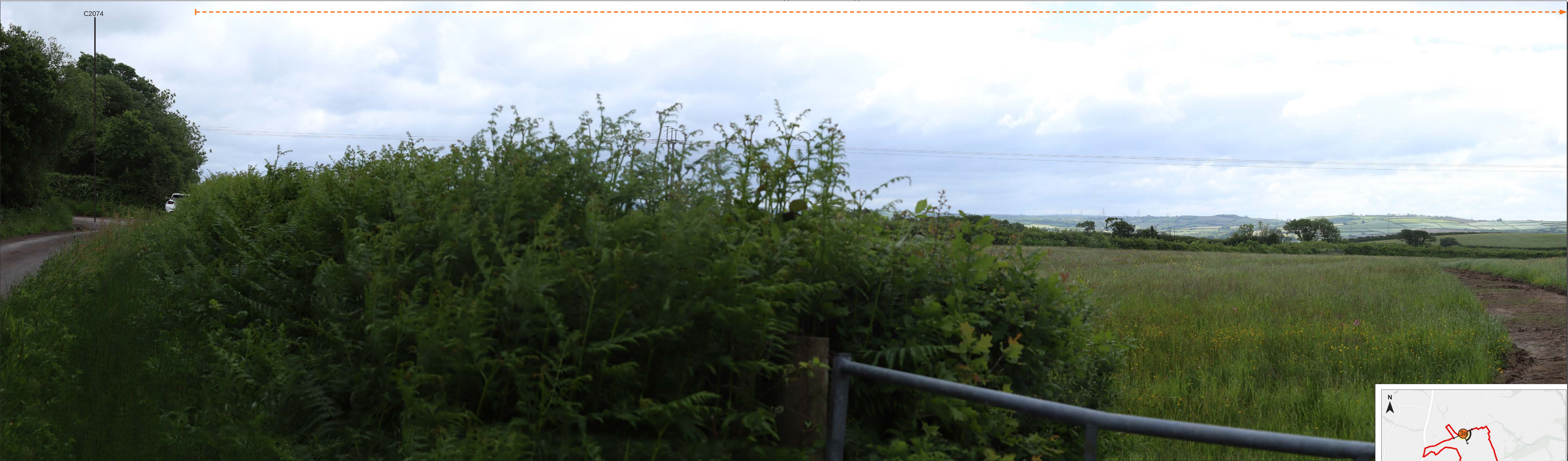


Client: **nationalgrid**

Figure L6: Visualisation Yr 15 - Sheet 8

Viewpoint grid ref:	E 241528, N212678	Drawing Ref:	331201429_L5
Sheet Size:	A1 Landscape	Rev:	P02
Photographs taken:	30.05.2024	Date:	21.10.2025
		Drawn:	MB
		Checked:	AC





View Location 3a
Baseline 1 of 2

331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

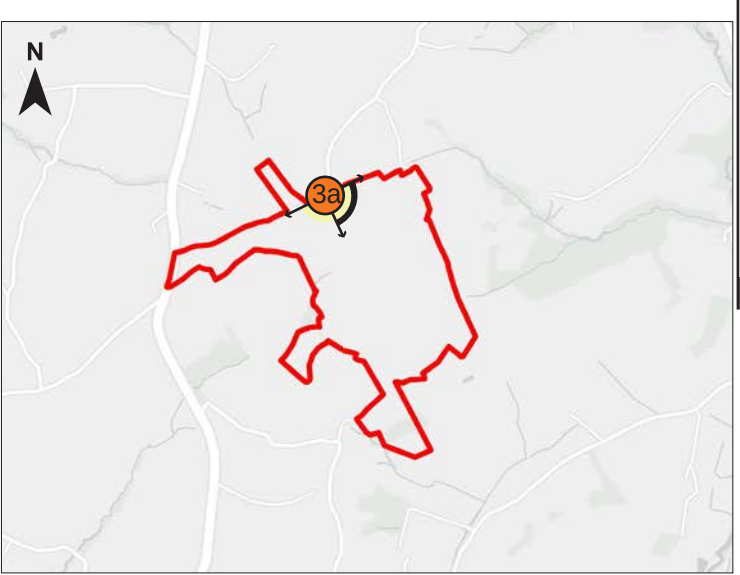
The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

Figure L6: Baseline Image - Sheet 9



Client: [nationalgrid](#)

Viewpoint grid ref:	E 241722 N 213584	Drawing Ref:	331201429_L6
Sheet Size:	A1 Landscape	Rev:	P03
Photographs taken:	30.05.2024	Date:	05.11.2025
		Drawn:	MB
		Checked:	RW





View Location 3a
Baseline 2 of 2

331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

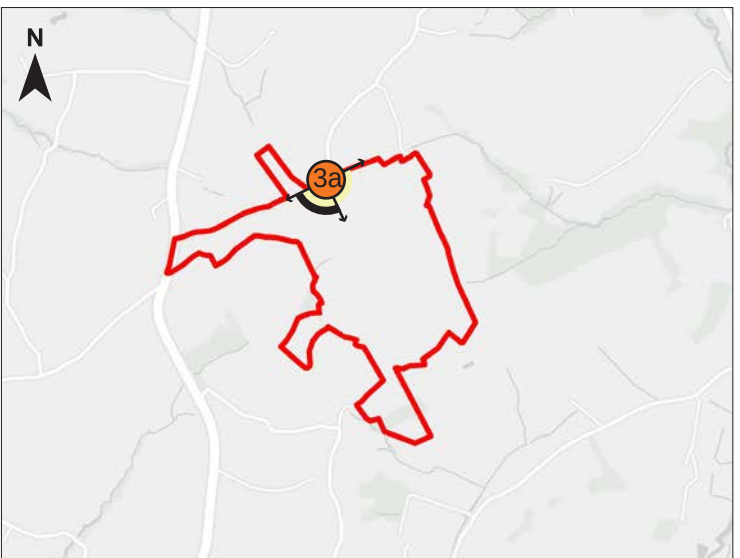
Figure L6: Baseline Image - Sheet 10



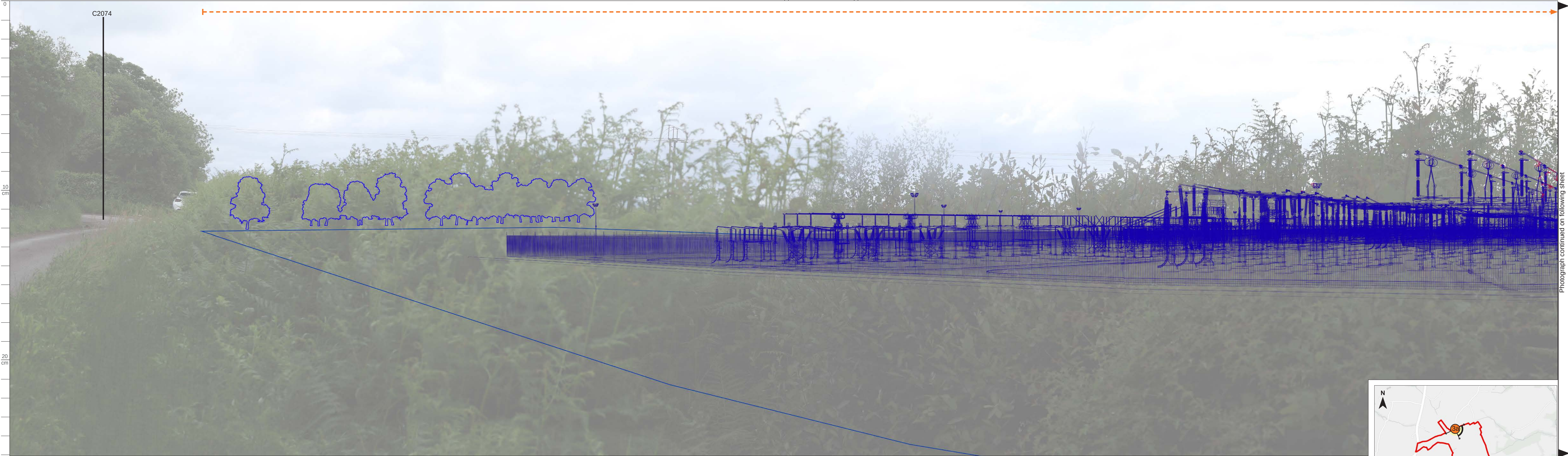
Client: **nationalgrid**

Viewpoint grid ref: E 241722 N 213584
Sheet Size: A1 Landscape
Photographs taken: 30.05.2024

Drawing Ref: 331201429_L5
Rev: P02
Date: 21.10.2025
Drawn: MB
Checked: AC



C2074



Photograph continued on following sheet

View Location 3a
Wireline Yr15
1 of 2

331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

LEGEND:

- Proposed Features: Visible
- Proposed Features: Screened

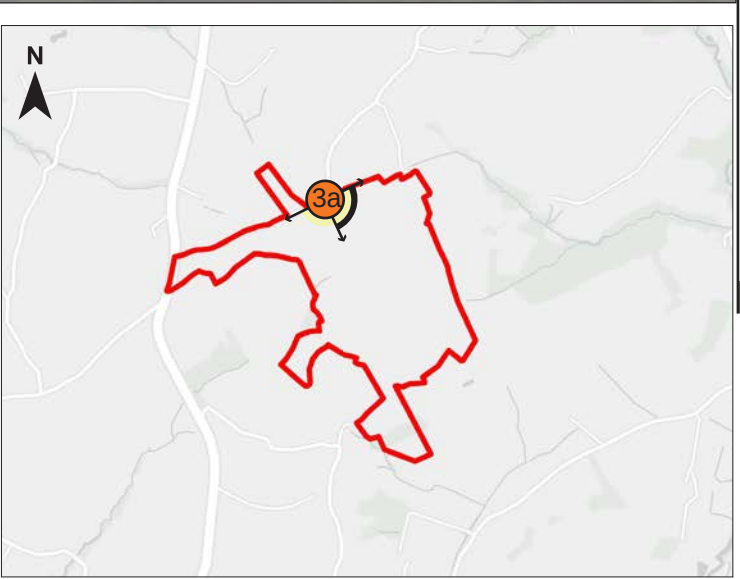
NOTE:
The 3D substation model utilized in these images is an example of a typical 400kW substation layout and is therefore considered to provide a reasonable representation of the Proposed Development for assessment purposes.



Client: **nationalgrid**

Figure L6: Wireline Yr 15 - Sheet 11

Viewpoint grid ref: E 241722 N 213584
Drawing Ref: 331201429_L6
Rev: P03
Date: 05.11.2025
Photographs taken: 30.05.2024
Checked: MB
RW





View Location 3a
Wireline Yr15
2 of 2

331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

LEGEND:

- Proposed Features: Visible
- Proposed Features: Screened

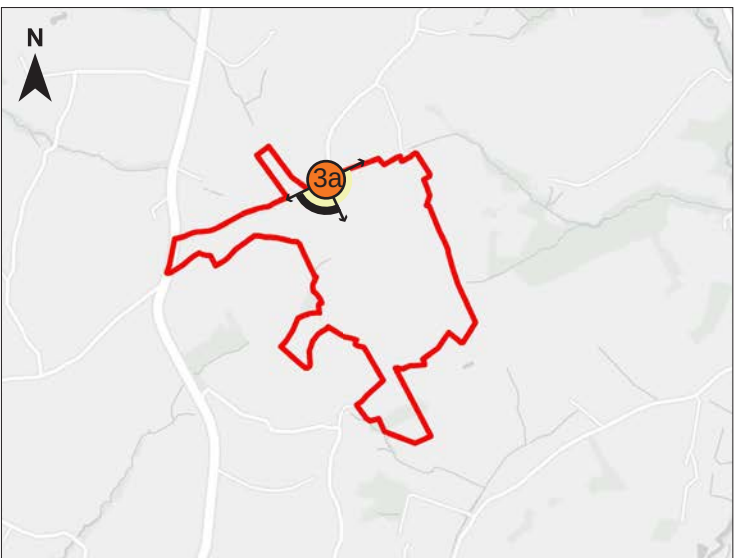
NOTE:
The 3D substation model utilized in these images is an example of a typical 400kW substation layout and is therefore considered to provide a reasonable representation of the Proposed Development for assessment purposes.



Client: **nationalgrid**

Figure L6: Wireline Yr 15 - Sheet 12

Viewpoint grid ref: E 241722 N 213584
Sheet Size: A1 Landscape
Photographs taken: 30.05.2024
Drawing Ref: 331201429_L5
Rev: P02
Date: 21.10.2025
Drawn: MB
Checked: AC



C2074



10
cm

20
cm

Photograph continued on following sheet

View Location 3a
Visualisation Yr1 & Yr15
1 of 2

331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

LEGEND:
as illustrated on Figure L7: Landscape Mitigation Strategy

- Proposed Substation: Visible
- Proposed Towers and OHL: Visible

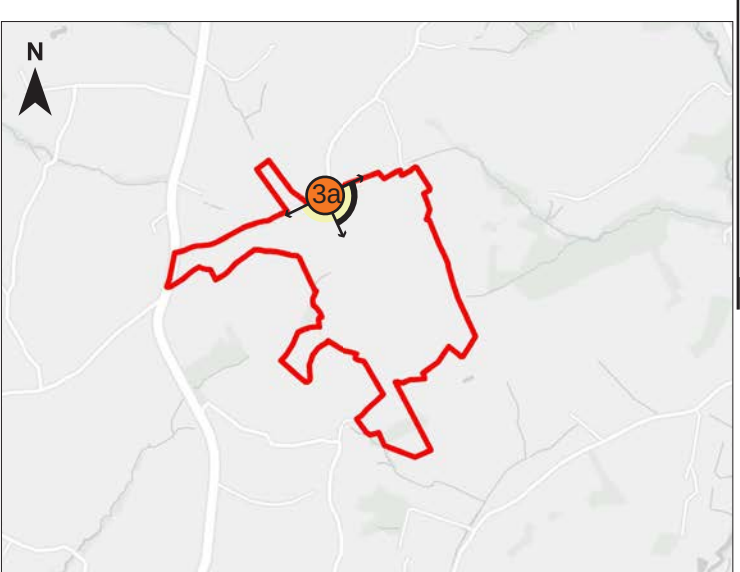
NOTE:
The 3D substation model utilized in these images is an example of a typical 400kW substation layout and is therefore considered to provide a reasonable representation of the Proposed Development for assessment purposes.



Client: **nationalgrid**

Figure L6: Visualisation Yr1 & Yr 15 - Sheet 13

Viewpoint grid ref:	E 241722 N 213584	Drawing Ref:	331201429_L6
Sheet Size:	A1 Landscape	Rev:	P03
Photographs taken:	30.05.2024	Date:	05.11.2025
		Drawn:	MB
		Checked:	RW





View Location 3a
Visualisation Yr1 & Yr15
2 of 2

331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

LEGEND:
as illustrated on Figure L7: Landscape Mitigation Strategy

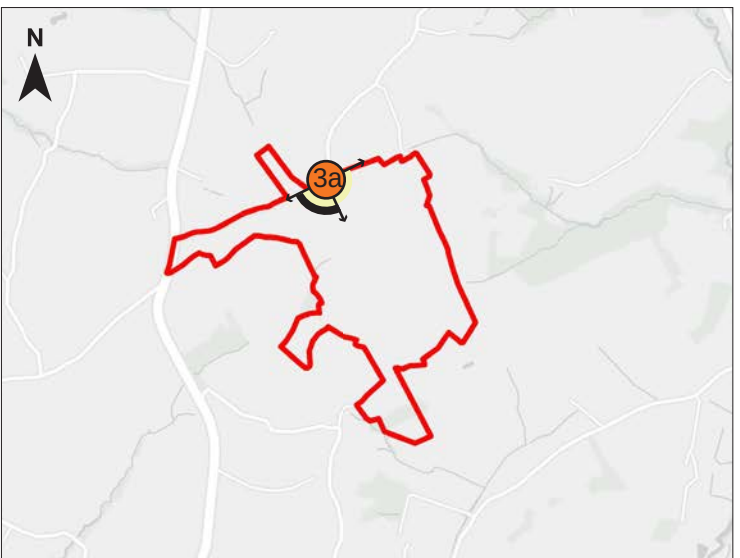
-  - Proposed Substation: Visible
-  - Proposed Towers and OHL: Visible

NOTE:
The 3D substation model utilized in these images is an example of a typical 400kW substation layout and is therefore considered to provide a reasonable representation of the Proposed Development for assessment purposes.

Figure L6: Visualisation Yr1 & Yr 15 - Sheet 14



Viewpoint grid ref: E 241722 N 213584
Sheet Size: A1 Landscape
Photographs taken: 30.05.2024
Drawing Ref: 331201429_L5
Rev: P02
Date: 21.10.2025
Drawn: MB
Checked: AC





View Location 5

Baseline 1 of 1

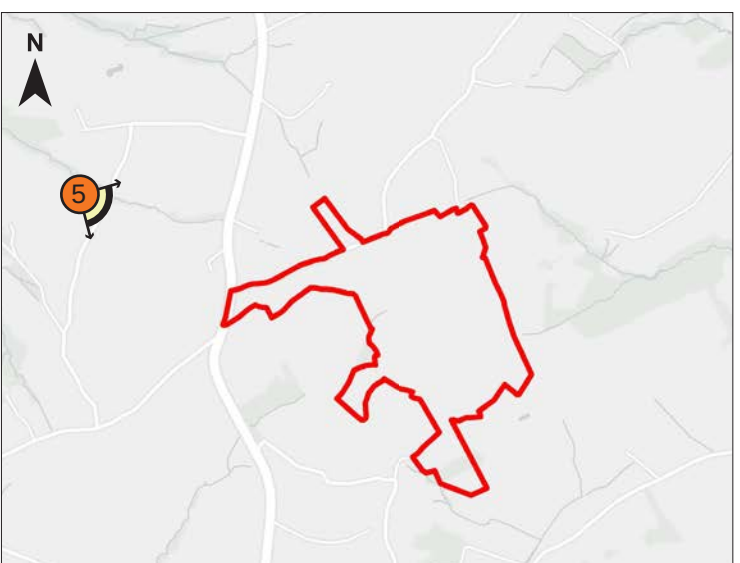
331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

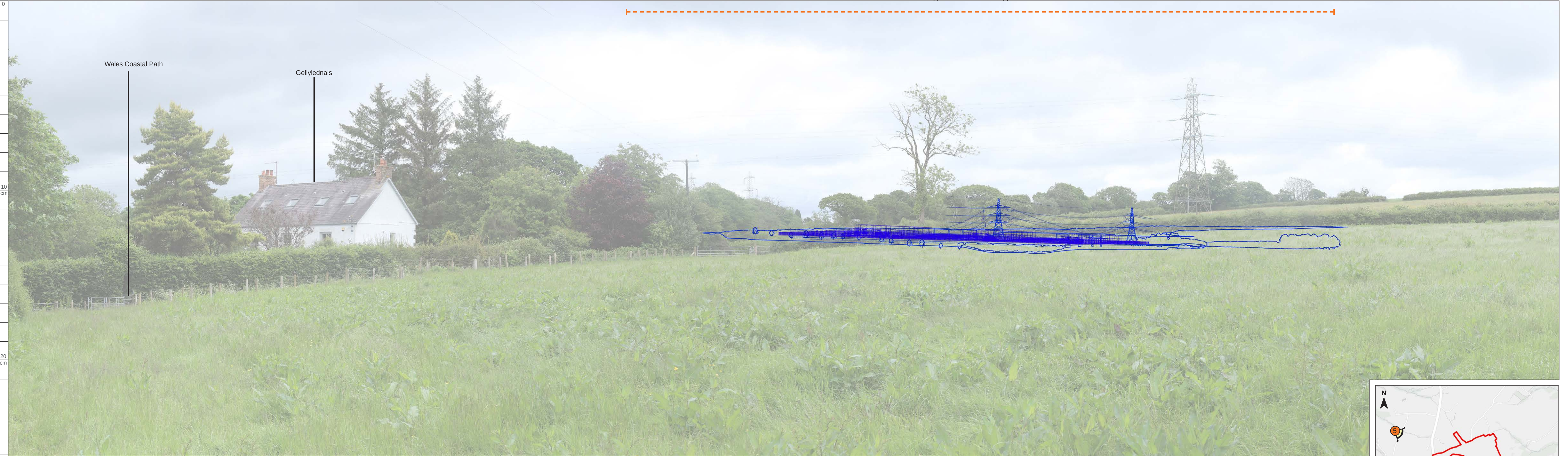
NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

Figure L6: Baseline Image - Sheet 15

	Client: nationalgrid	Viewpoint grid ref: E 240579, N 213686	Drawing Ref: 331201429_L6
		Sheet Size: A1 Landscape	Rev: P03
		Photographs taken: 30.05.2024	Date: 05.11.2025
			Drawn: MB
			Checked: RW





331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

- LEGEND:
- Proposed Features: Visible
 - Proposed Features: Screened

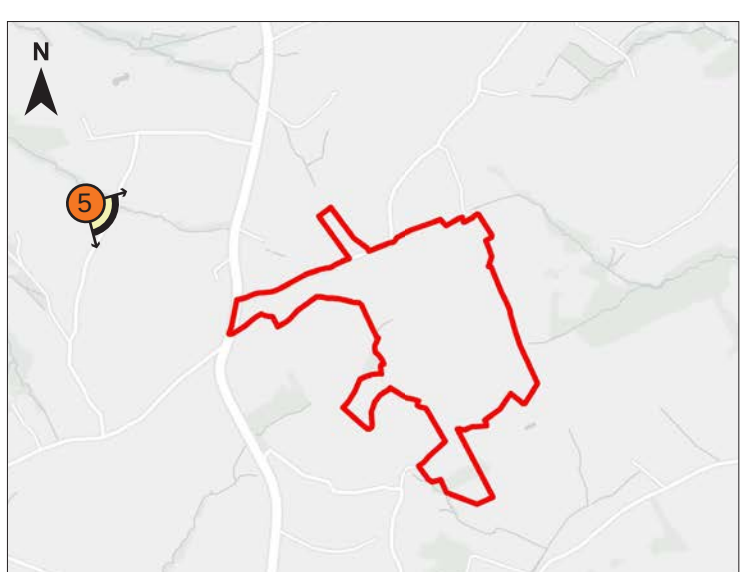
NOTE:
The 3D substation model utilized in these images is an example of a typical 400kW substation layout and is therefore considered to provide a reasonable representation of the Proposed Development for assessment purposes.



Client: [nationalgrid](#)

Figure L6: Wireline Yr 15 - Sheet 16

Viewpoint grid ref: E 240579, N 213686
Drawing Ref: 331201429_L6
Sheet Size: A1 Landscape
Photographs taken: 30.05.2024
Rev: P03
Date: 05.11.2025
Drawn: MB
Checked: RW





View Location 5
Visualisation Yr1 & Yr15
1 of 1

331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

LEGEND:
as illustrated on Figure L7: Landscape Mitigation Strategy

-  - Proposed Substation: Visible
-  - Proposed Towers and OHL: Visible

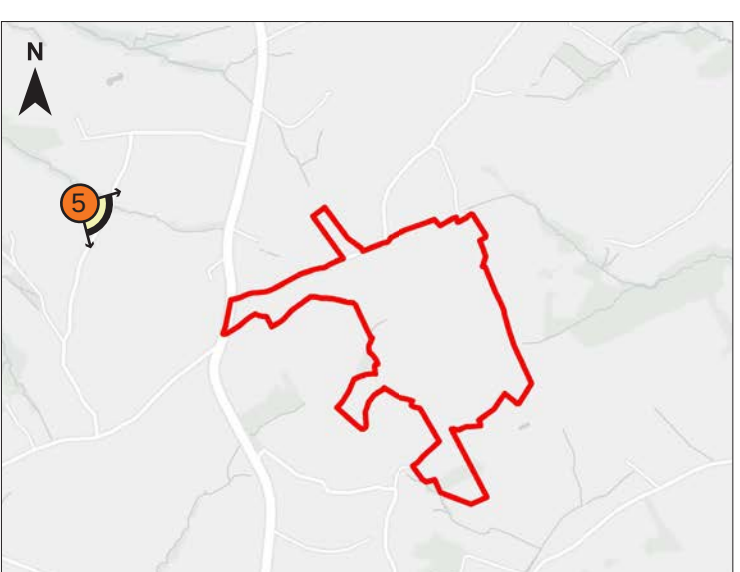
NOTE:
The 3D substation model utilized in these images is an example of a typical 400kW substation layout and is therefore considered to provide a reasonable representation of the Proposed Development for assessment purposes.



Client: [nationalgrid](#)

Figure L6: Visualisation Yr1 & Yr 15 - Sheet 17

Viewpoint grid ref: E 240579, N 213686
Sheet Size: A1 Landscape
Photographs taken: 30.05.2024
Drawing Ref: 331201429_L6
Rev: P03
Date: 05.11.2025
Drawn: MB
Checked: RW





View Location 7
Baseline 1 of 1

331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

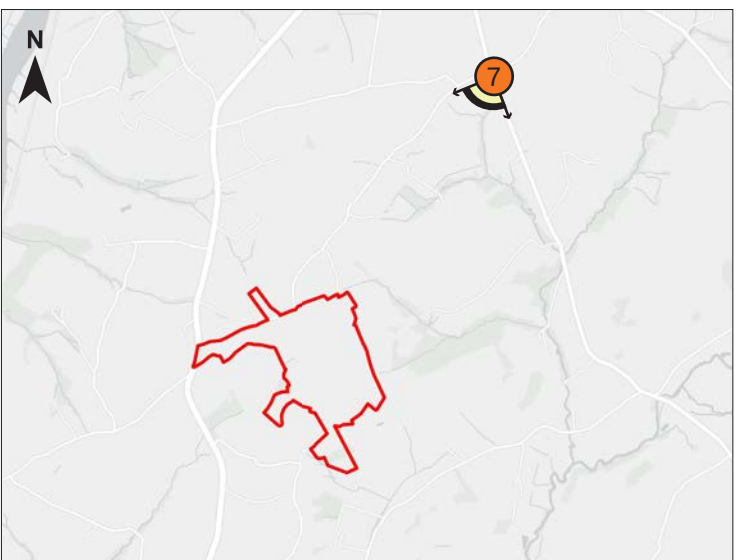
The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

Figure L6: Baseline Image - Sheet 18



Client: **nationalgrid**

Viewpoint grid ref:	E243008, N 215009	Drawing Ref:	331201429_L6
Sheet Size:	A1 Landscape	Rev:	P03
Photographs taken:	30.05.2024	Date:	05.11.2025
		Drawn:	MB
		Checked:	RW



Danybank Farm



View Location 7
Wireline Yr15
1 of 1

331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

LEGEND:

- Proposed Features: Visible
- Proposed Features: Screened

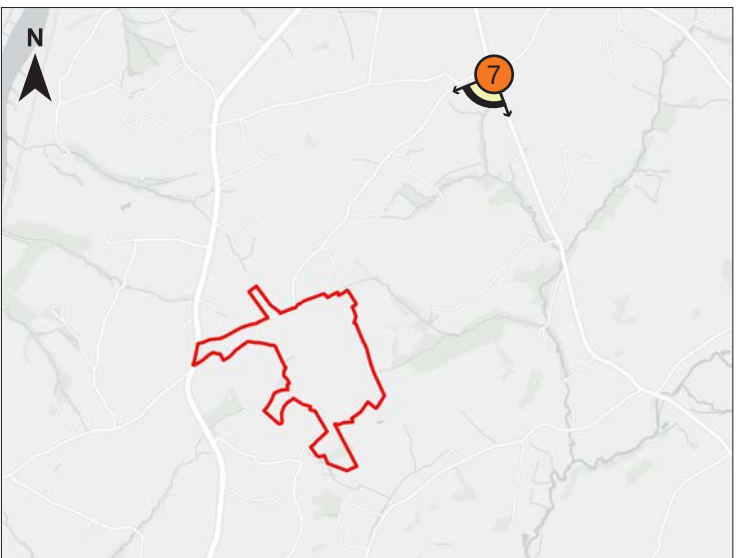
NOTE:
The 3D substation model utilized in these images is an example of a typical 400kW substation layout and is therefore considered to provide a reasonable representation of the Proposed Development for assessment purposes.



Client: **nationalgrid**

Figure L6: Wireline Yr15 - Sheet 19

Viewpoint grid ref: E243008, N 215009
Drawing Ref: 331201429_L6
Rev: P03
Date: 05.11.2025
Photographs taken: 30.05.2024
Checked: MB
RW





View Location 7
Visualisation Yr1
1 of 1

331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

LEGEND:
as illustrated on Figure L7: Landscape Mitigation Strategy

- | | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
|  | - Proposed Substation: Visible |  | - Proposed Groundworks: Visible |
|  | - Proposed Towers and OHL: Visible | | |

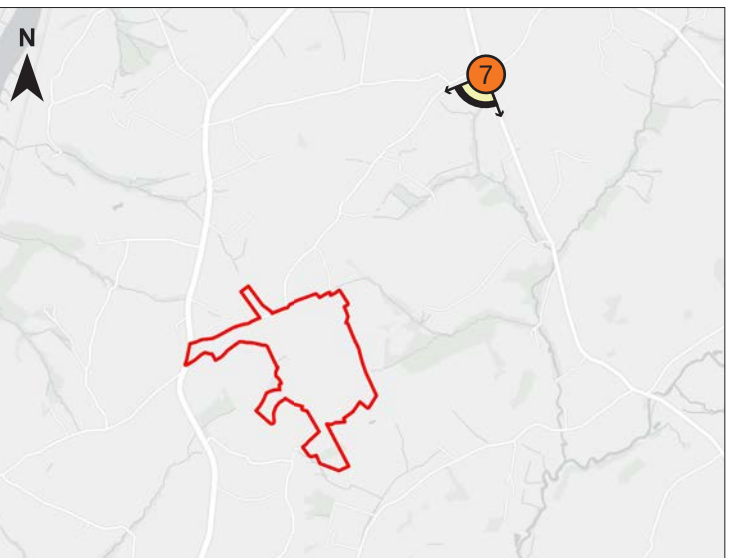
NOTE:
The 3D substation model utilized in these images is an example of a typical 400kW substation layout and is therefore considered to provide a reasonable representation of the Proposed Development for assessment purposes.



Client: **nationalgrid**

Figure L6: Visualisation Yr 1 - Sheet 20

Viewpoint grid ref:	E243008, N 215009	Drawing Ref:	331201429_L6
Sheet Size:	A1 Landscape	Rev:	P03
Photographs taken:	30.05.2024	Date:	05.11.2025
		Drawn:	MB
		Checked:	RW





View Location 7
Visualisation Yr 15
1 of 1

331201429 - Llandyfaelog Substation

NOTE: All photographs have been taken using a Canon EOS 6D Mk II full-frame digital camera using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens.

The image here is representative of a 90 degree panorama presented at a width of 820mm with an image sizing of 96%. Panoramas may have been cropped but have not been manipulated beyond basic image processing.

LEGEND:
as illustrated on Figure L7: Landscape Mitigation Strategy

- | | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
|  | - Proposed Substation: Visible |  | - Proposed Groundworks: Visible |
|  | - Proposed Towers and OHL: Visible |  | - Proposed Mitigation: Visible |

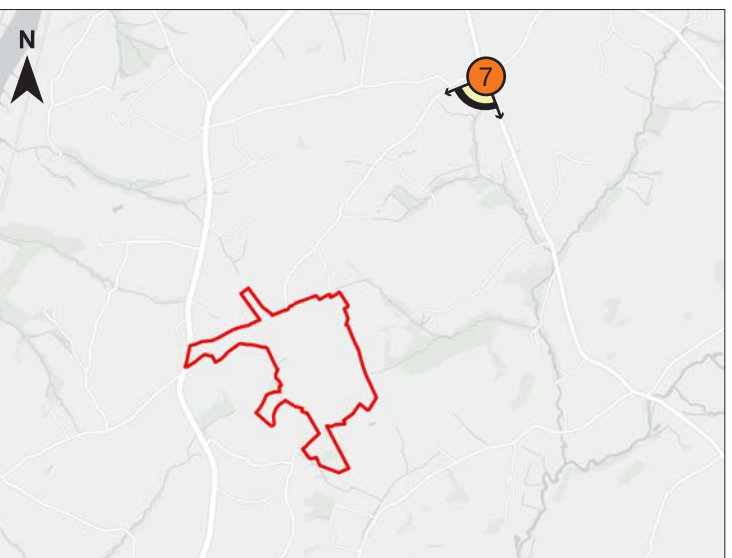
NOTE:
The 3D substation model utilized in these images is an example of a typical 400kW substation layout and is therefore considered to provide a reasonable representation of the Proposed Development for assessment purposes.



Client: **nationalgrid**

Figure L6: Visualisation Yr 15 - Sheet 21

Viewpoint grid ref:	E243008, N 215009	Drawing Ref:	331201429_L6
Sheet Size:	A1 Landscape	Rev:	P03
Photographs taken:	30.05.2024	Date:	05.11.2025
		Drawn:	MB
		Checked:	RW

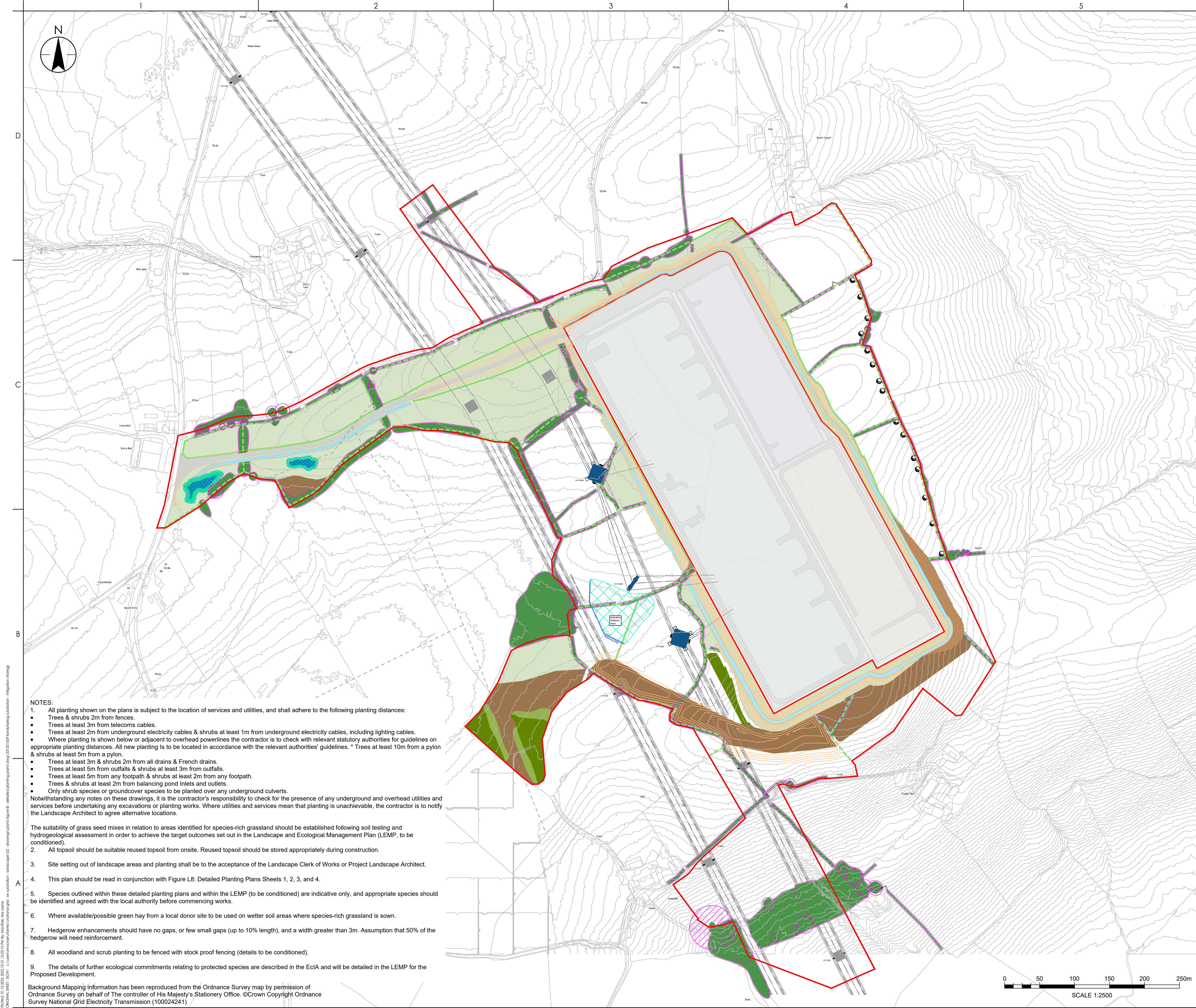




LEGEND

- Red Line Boundary
- Proposed Specimen Tree
- Existing Hedgerow to be Enhanced (see notes for requirements)
- Existing Vegetation (With Root Protection Area)
- Proposed Native Mixed Hedgerow
- Proposed Woodland
- Proposed Woodland Edge
- Proposed Scrub
- Proposed Species-rich Grassland
- Proposed Marginal Planting
- Proposed Aquatic Planting
- Proposed Swales
- Proposed Access Track
- Overhead HV Lines
- Overhead HV Cables
- Proposed Pylon/Tower Locations
- Existing Pylon Locations
- Existing Major Contours
- Proposed Major Contours
- Indicative Wetland Area

- Enhancement/reinforcement of existing hedgerow where required to strengthen local green infrastructure and increase ecological value. Potential to diversify species.
- Native species hedgerow along northern edge of proposed access road (potentially along southern edge but would be defined by swale) to replace hedgerow lost during construction. There is also potential for hedgerow trees to be added, however these would require to be taken only as far as the high-voltage overhead lines easement.
- Species rich grassland to provide potential biodiversity net gain and improve visual amenity.
- Woodland with understory planting to provide screening from residential properties and increase opportunities for habitat connections.
- Provision of scrub planting in strategic locations to provide visual depth and potential biodiversity gains across the Site.
- Opportunities for wetland creation in tandem with drainage requirements, providing biodiversity enhancement and visual amenity.
- Opportunity to over deepen swale to create biodiversity enhancement
- Linear individual scattered tree belt to break up visibility of the Proposed Development from distant north-easterly views. Location of individual trees is indicative; actual location of trees to be confirmed following design information supplied by NGED/GCC
- Landscape earthworks along south-eastern perimeter of the substation compound set at 3m high (reduced height below OHL for safety purposes) with a 1:3 gradient slope, planted with native scrub and maintained to a height of 5m to provide additional height and visual screening in views from the southeast



NOTES:

- All planting shown on the plans is subject to the location of services and utilities, and shall adhere to the following planting distances:
 - Trees & shrubs 2m from fences.
 - Trees at least 3m from telecoms cables.
 - Trees at least 2m from underground electricity cables & shrubs at least 1m from underground electricity cables, including lighting cables.
 - Where planting is shown below or adjacent to overhead powerlines the contractor is to check with relevant statutory authorities for guidelines on appropriate planting distances. All new planting is to be located in accordance with the relevant authorities' guidelines. * Trees at least 10m from a pylon & shrubs at least 5m from a pylon.
 - Trees at least 3m & shrubs 2m from all drains & French drains.
 - Trees at least 5m from outfalls & shrubs at least 3m from outfalls.
 - Trees at least 5m from any footpath & shrubs at least 2m from any footpath.
 - Trees & shrubs at least 2m from balancing pond inlets and outlets.
 - Only shrub species or groundcover species to be planted over any underground culverts.
- Notwithstanding any notes on these drawings, it is the contractor's responsibility to check for the presence of any underground and overhead utilities and services before undertaking any excavations or planting works. Where utilities and services mean that planting is unachievable, the contractor is to notify the Landscape Architect to agree alternative locations.
- The suitability of grass seed mixes in relation to areas identified for species-rich grassland should be established following soil testing and hydrogeological assessment in order to achieve the target outcomes set out in the Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP, to be conditioned).
- All topsoil should be suitable reused topsoil from onsite. Reused topsoil should be stored appropriately during construction.
- Site setting out of landscape areas and planting shall be to the acceptance of the Landscape Clerk of Works or Project Landscape Architect.
- This plan should be read in conjunction with Figure L8: Detailed Planting Plans Sheets 1, 2, 3, and 4.
- Species outlined within these detailed planting plans and within the LEMP (to be conditioned) are indicative only, and appropriate species should be identified and agreed with the local authority before commencing works.
- Where available/possible green hay from a local donor site to be used on wetter soil areas where species-rich grassland is sown.
- Hedgerow enhancements should have no gaps, or few small gaps (up to 10% length), and a width greater than 3m. Assumption that 50% of the hedgerow will need reinforcement.
- All woodland and scrub planting to be fenced with stock proof fencing (details to be conditioned).
- The details of further ecological commitments relating to protected species are described in the EcIA and will be detailed in the LEMP for the Proposed Development.

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Notes

UTILITIES NOTE: The position of any existing public or private sewers, utility services, plant or apparatus shown on this drawing is believed to be correct, but no warranty to this is expressed or implied. Other such plant or apparatus may also be present but not shown. The Contractor is therefore advised to undertake their own investigation where the presence of any existing sewers, services, plant or apparatus may affect their operations.

LEGEND

- Red Line Boundary
- Proposed Specimen Tree
- Existing Hedgerow to be Enhanced (see notes for requirements)
- Existing Vegetation (With Root Protection Area)
- Proposed Native Mixed Hedgerow
- Proposed Woodland
- Proposed Woodland Edge
- Proposed Scrub
- Proposed Species-rich Grassland
- Proposed Marginal Planting
- Proposed Aquatic Planting
- Proposed Swales
- Proposed Access Track
- Overhead HV Lines
- Overhead HV Cables
- Proposed Pylon/Tower Locations
- Existing Pylon Locations
- Existing Major Contours
- Proposed Major Contours

P02 COMMENTS ADDRESSED	IM	RW	2025.10.24
P01 FIRST ISSUE	MB	AC	2025.09.23
Issued/Revision	By	Appd	YYYY.MM.DD

	MB	RW	HM	2025.10.27
	Dwn.	Dsgn.	Chkd.	YYYY.MM.DD

Issue Status

S3 - FOR REVIEW
AND COMMENT

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Client/Project Logo

nationalgrid

Client/Project

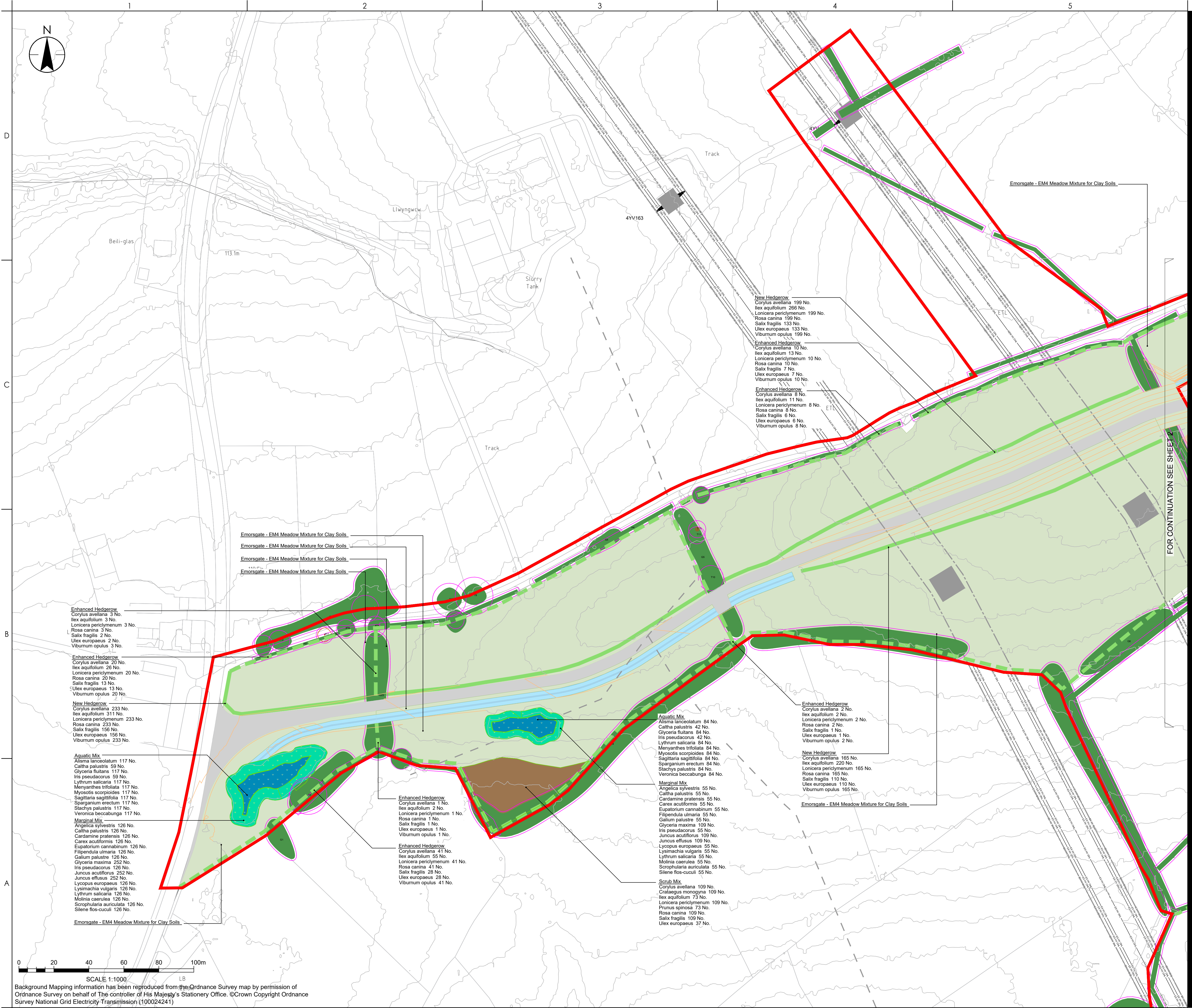
National Grid

Llandyfaelog Substation

Title

Figure L8 - Detail Planting Plans
Overview Sheet

Project No. 331201429	A1 Scale 1:2500
Revision P02	Drawing No. 331201429_3001



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LEGEND

Red Line Boundary

Proposed Specimen Tree
(see notes for requirements)

Existing Hedgerow to be Enhanced
(see notes for requirements)

Existing Vegetation (With Root Protection Area)

Proposed Native Mixed Hedgerow

Proposed Woodland

Proposed Woodland Edge

Proposed Scrub

Proposed Species-rich Grassland

Proposed Marginal Planting

Proposed Aquatic Planting

Proposed Swales

Access Track

Overhead HV Lines

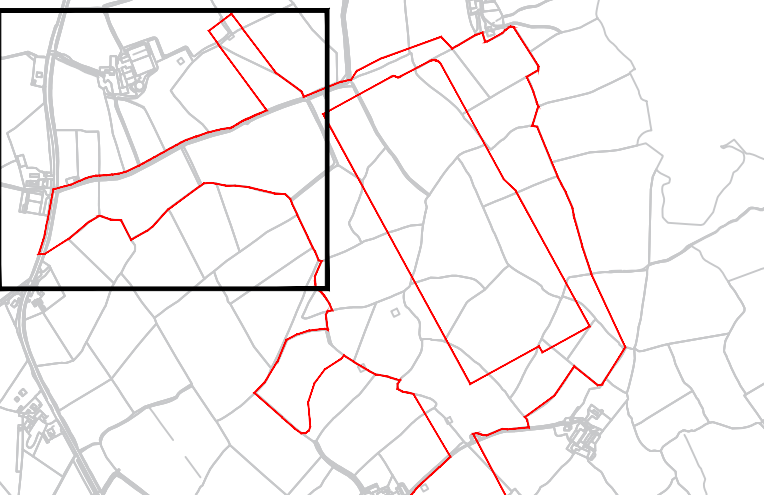
Overhead HV Cables

Existing Pylon Locations

Proposed Pylon/Tower Locations

Existing Major Contours

Proposed Major Contours



P02 COMMENTS ADDRESSED		IM	RW	2025.10.24
P01 FIRST ISSUE		MB	AC	2025.09.23
Issued/Revision		By	Appd	YYYY.MM.DD
		MB	RW	AC
				2025.10.27
		Dwn.	Dsgn.	Chkd.
				YYYY.MM.DD

Issue Status

S3 - FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

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Client/Project Logo



Client/Project

National Grid

Llandyfaelog Substation

Title

Figure L8 - Detail Planting Plans Sheet 1

Project No.	331201429	A1 Scale	1:1000
Revision	P01	Drawing No.	331201429_3002

Revised: 31.10.2025 10:51:31 12:53:51 PM By: Macdonald, Sio-Jayne
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132.9m

Enhanced Hedgerow
Corylus avellana 8 No.
Ilex aquifolium 11 No.
Lonicera periclymenum 8 No.
Rosa canina 8 No.
Salix fragilis 8 No.
Ulex europaeus 6 No.
Viburnum opulus 8 No.
New Hedgerow
Corylus avellana 76 No.
Ilex aquifolium 101 No.
Lonicera periclymenum 76 No.
Rosa canina 76 No.
Salix fragilis 51 No.
Ulex europaeus 51 No.
Viburnum opulus 76 No.

Emorsgate - EM4 Meadow Mixture for Clay Soils

Enhanced Hedgerow
Corylus avellana 8 No.
Ilex aquifolium 11 No.
Lonicera periclymenum 8 No.
Rosa canina 8 No.
Salix fragilis 8 No.
Ulex europaeus 6 No.
Viburnum opulus 8 No.

New Hedgerow
Corylus avellana 12 No.
Ilex aquifolium 16 No.
Lonicera periclymenum 12 No.
Rosa canina 12 No.
Salix fragilis 8 No.
Ulex europaeus 8 No.
Viburnum opulus 12 No.

Enhanced Hedgerow
Corylus avellana 5 No.
Ilex aquifolium 6 No.
Lonicera periclymenum 5 No.
Rosa canina 5 No.
Salix fragilis 3 No.
Ulex europaeus 3 No.
Viburnum opulus 5 No.

Enhanced Hedgerow
Corylus avellana 37 No.
Ilex aquifolium 49 No.
Lonicera periclymenum 37 No.
Rosa canina 37 No.
Salix fragilis 25 No.
Ulex europaeus 25 No.
Viburnum opulus 37 No.

Enhanced Hedgerow
Corylus avellana 7 No.
Ilex aquifolium 10 No.
Lonicera periclymenum 7 No.
Rosa canina 7 No.
Salix fragilis 5 No.
Ulex europaeus 5 No.
Viburnum opulus 7 No.

Acer campestre 2 No.
8-10cm

Fagus sylvatica 1 No.
8-10cm

Sorbus aucuparia 2 No.
8-10cm

Enhanced Hedgerow
Corylus avellana 6 No.
Ilex aquifolium 8 No.
Lonicera periclymenum 6 No.
Rosa canina 6 No.
Salix fragilis 4 No.
Ulex europaeus 4 No.
Viburnum opulus 6 No.

Fagus sylvatica 2 No.
8-10cm

Alnus glutinosa 1 No.
8-10cm

Emorsgate - EM4 Meadow Mixture for Clay Soils

Emorsgate - EM4 Meadow Mixture for Clay Soils

Acer campestre 1 No.
8-10cm

Enhanced Hedgerow
Corylus avellana 5 No.
Ilex aquifolium 6 No.
Lonicera periclymenum 5 No.
Rosa canina 5 No.
Salix fragilis 3 No.
Ulex europaeus 3 No.
Viburnum opulus 5 No.

Sorbus aucuparia 2 No.
8-10cm

Acer campestre 1 No.
8-10cm

New Hedgerow
Corylus avellana 268 No.
Ilex aquifolium 358 No.
Lonicera periclymenum 268 No.
Rosa canina 268 No.
Salix fragilis 179 No.
Ulex europaeus 173 No.
Viburnum opulus 268 No.

Alnus glutinosa 1 No.
8-10cm

Fagus sylvatica 1 No.
8-10cm

Scrub Mix
Corylus avellana 48 No.
Crataegus monogyna 48 No.
Ilex aquifolium 32 No.
Lonicera periclymenum 48 No.
Prunus spinosa 32 No.
Rosa canina 48 No.
Salix fragilis 48 No.
Ulex europaeus 16 No.

Alnus glutinosa 1 No.
8-10cm

FOR CONTINUATION SEE SHEET 3

0 20 40 60 80 100m

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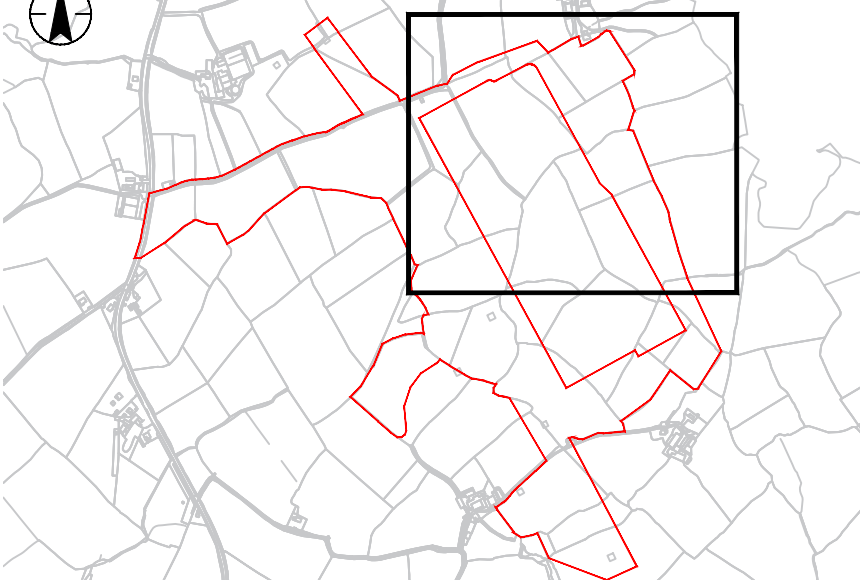
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LEGEND

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- Proposed Specimen Tree
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- Existing Vegetation (With Root Protection Area)
- Proposed Native Mixed Hedgerow
- Proposed Woodland
- Proposed Woodland Edge
- Proposed Scrub
- Proposed Species-rich Grassland
- Proposed Marginal Planting
- Proposed Aquatic Planting
- Proposed Swales
- Access Track
- Overhead HV Lines
- Overhead HV Cables
- Existing Pylon Locations
- Proposed Pylon/Tower Locations
- Existing Major Contours
- Proposed Major Contours



P02	COMMENTS ADDRESSED	IM	RW	2025.10.24
P01	FIRST ISSUE	MB	AC	2025.09.23
Issued/Revision		By	Appd	YYYY.MM.DD
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Figure L8 - Detail Planting Plans Sheet 2

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Revision P01 Drawing No.

331201429_3003

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1

2

Planting Schedule - Sheet 2

Individual Trees

Species	Girth	Height	Specification	No. of Plants
Acer campestre	8-10cm	250-300cm	Standard: 4 brks: 2x: RB: Clear Stem 175-200cm	4
Alnus glutinosa	8-10cm	250-300cm	Standard: 3 brks: 2x: RB: Clear Stem 175-200cm	3
Fagus sylvatica	8-10cm	250-300cm	Standard: 3 brks: 2x: RB: Clear Stem 175-200cm	4
Sorbus aucuparia	8-10cm	250-300cm	Standard: 3 brks: 2x: RB: Clear Stem 175-200cm	4
Total :15				

Scrub Mix

Species	Height	Density	Specification	%	No. of Plants
Corylus avellana	80-100cm	1.5Ctr	1+2: Transplant - seed raised: Branched: 4 brks: B	15%	48
Crataegus monogyna	80-100cm	1.5Ctr	1+2: Transplant - seed raised: B	15%	48
Ilex aquifolium	80-100cm	1.5Ctr	Leader with Laterals: C	10%	32
Lonicera periclymenum	60-80cm	1.5Ctr	Caned: Several Shoots: 2 brks: C	15%	48
Prunus spinosa	80-100cm	1.5Ctr	1+2: Transplant - seed raised: Branched: 3 brks: B	10%	32
Rosa canina	60-80cm	1.5Ctr	1+1: Transplant - seed raised: Branched: 3 brks: B	15%	48
Salix fragilis	80-100cm	1.5Ctr	0/1: Cutting: B	15%	48
Ulex europaeus	20-30cm	1.5Ctr	Bushy: 3 brks: C	5%	16
Total :100%				Total :320	

New Hedgerow								
Species	Specification	Height	Density	%	No. of Plants	Length		
Corylus avellana	1+1: Transplant - seed raised: Branched: 2 brks: B	40-60cm	0.4Ctr Double Staggered at 0.4m offset	15%	501	100m		
Ilex aquifolium	Leader with Laterals: C	40-60cm	0.4Ctr Double Staggered at 0.4m offset	20%	669	133m		
Lonicera periclymenum	Caned: Several Shoots: 2 brks: C	60-80cm	0.4Ctr Double Staggered at 0.4m offset	15%	501	100m		
Rosa canina	1+1: Transplant - seed raised: Branched: 3 brks: B	60-80cm	0.4Ctr Double Staggered at 0.4m offset	15%	501	100m		
Salix fragilis	0/1: Cutting: B	80-100cm	0.4Ctr Double Staggered at 0.4m offset	10%	335	67m		
Ulex europaeus	Bushy: 3 brks: C	20-30cm	0.4Ctr Double Staggered at 0.4m offset	10%	335	67m		
Viburnum opulus	1+2: Transplant - seed raised: Branched: 3 brks: B	80-100cm	0.4Ctr Double Staggered at 0.4m offset	15%	501	100m		
				Total :100%	Total :3343	Total :66		

Enhanced Hedgerow							
Species	Specification	Height	Density	%	No. of Plants	Length	
Corylus avellana	1+1: Transplant - seed raised: Branched: 2 brks: B	40-60cm	0.4/m	15%	92	218m	
Ilex aquifolium	Leader with Laterals: C	40-60cm	0.4/m	20%	123	292m	
Lonicera periclymenum	Caned: Several Shoots: 2 brks: C	60-80cm	0.4/m	15%	92	218m	
Rosa canina	1+1: Transplant - seed raised: Branched: 3 brks: B	60-80cm	0.4/m	15%	92	218m	
Salix fragilis	0/1: Cutting: B	80-100cm	0.4/m	10%	64	147m	
Ulex europaeus	Bushy: 3 brks: C	20-30cm	0.4/m	10%	64	147m	
Viburnum opulus	1+2: Transplant - seed raised: Branched: 3 brks: B	80-100cm	0.4/m	15%	92	218m	
					Total :619	Total :1458m	

EM4 Meadow Mixture for Clay Soils		
Species	%	Area
Achillea millefolium	1%	288m²
Agrimonia eupatoria	0.4%	117m²
Agrostis capillaris	6%	1727m²
Alopecurus pratensis	1.6%	461m²
Anthoxanthum odoratum	0.8%	231m²
Betonica officinalis	1.2%	346m²
Centaurea nigra	2.4%	691m²
Cynosurus cristatus	36%	10361m²
Festuca ovina	4%	1151m²
Festuca rubra	16%	4603m²
Galium verum	0.8%	231m²
Geranium pratense	1%	288m²
Knautia arvensis	0.4%	117m²
Leontodon hispidus	0.2%	56m²
Leucanthemum vulgare	1.6%	461m²
Medicago lupulina	0.6%	172m²
Phleum bertolonii	8%	2303m²
Plantago lanceolata	2%	577m²
Poa pratensis	6%	1727m²
Primula veris	0.8%	231m²
Prunella vulgaris	2%	577m²
Ranunculus acris	2%	577m²
Ranunculus bulbosus	0.6%	172m²
Rhinanthus minor	0.6%	172m²
Rumex acetosa	0.8%	231m²
Schedonorus arundinaceus	1.6%	461m²
Silaum silaus	0.2%	56m²
Silene flos-cuculi	0.6%	172m²
Taraxacum officinale	0.4%	117m²
Vicia cracca	0.4%	117m²
Total :100%		Total :28791m²



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P01 FIRST ISSUE	MB	AC	2025.09.23
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Figure L8 - Detail Planting Plans Planting Schedule For Sheet 2

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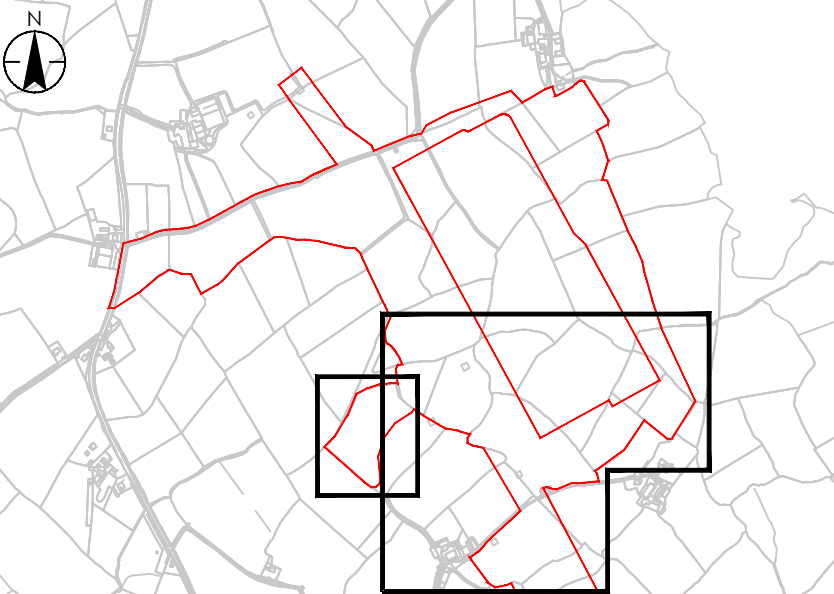
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Figure L8 - Detail Planting Plans Sheet 3

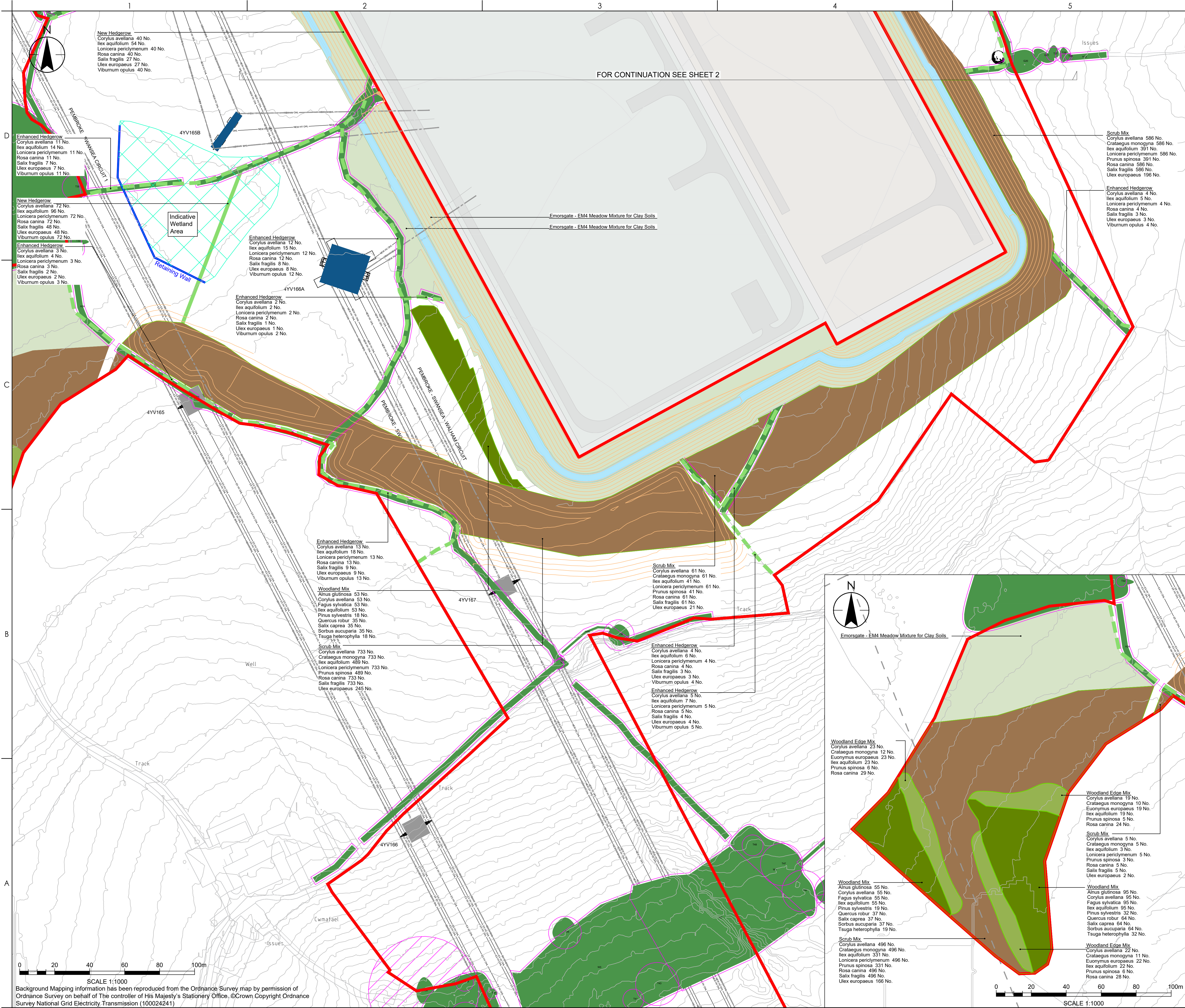
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LEGEND

- 
- | | |
|---|--|
|  | Red Line Boundary |
|  | Existing Hedgerow to be Enhanced
(see notes for requirements) |
|  | Existing Vegetation (With Root Protection Area) |
|  | Proposed Native Mixed Hedgerow |
|  | Proposed Woodland |
|  | Proposed Woodland Edge |
|  | Proposed Scrub |
|  | Proposed Species-rich Grassland |
|  | Proposed Swales |
|  | Overhead HV Lines |
|  | Overhead HV Cables |
|  | Existing Pylon Locations |
|  | Proposed Pylon/Tower Locations |
|  | Existing Major Contours |
|  | Proposed Major Contours |

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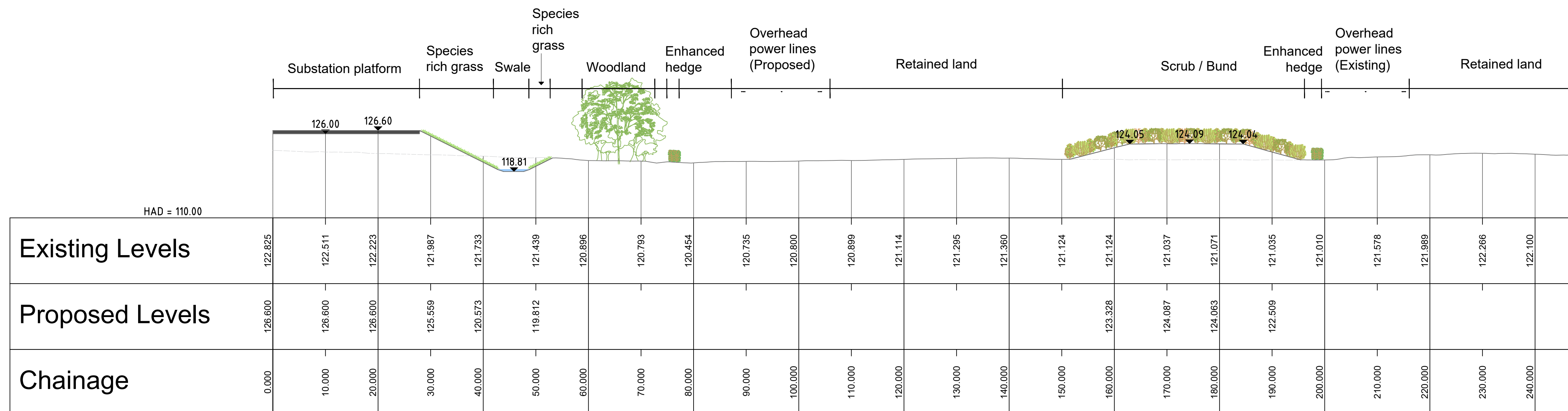
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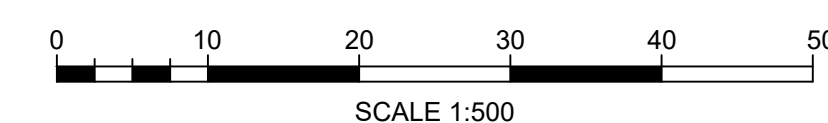
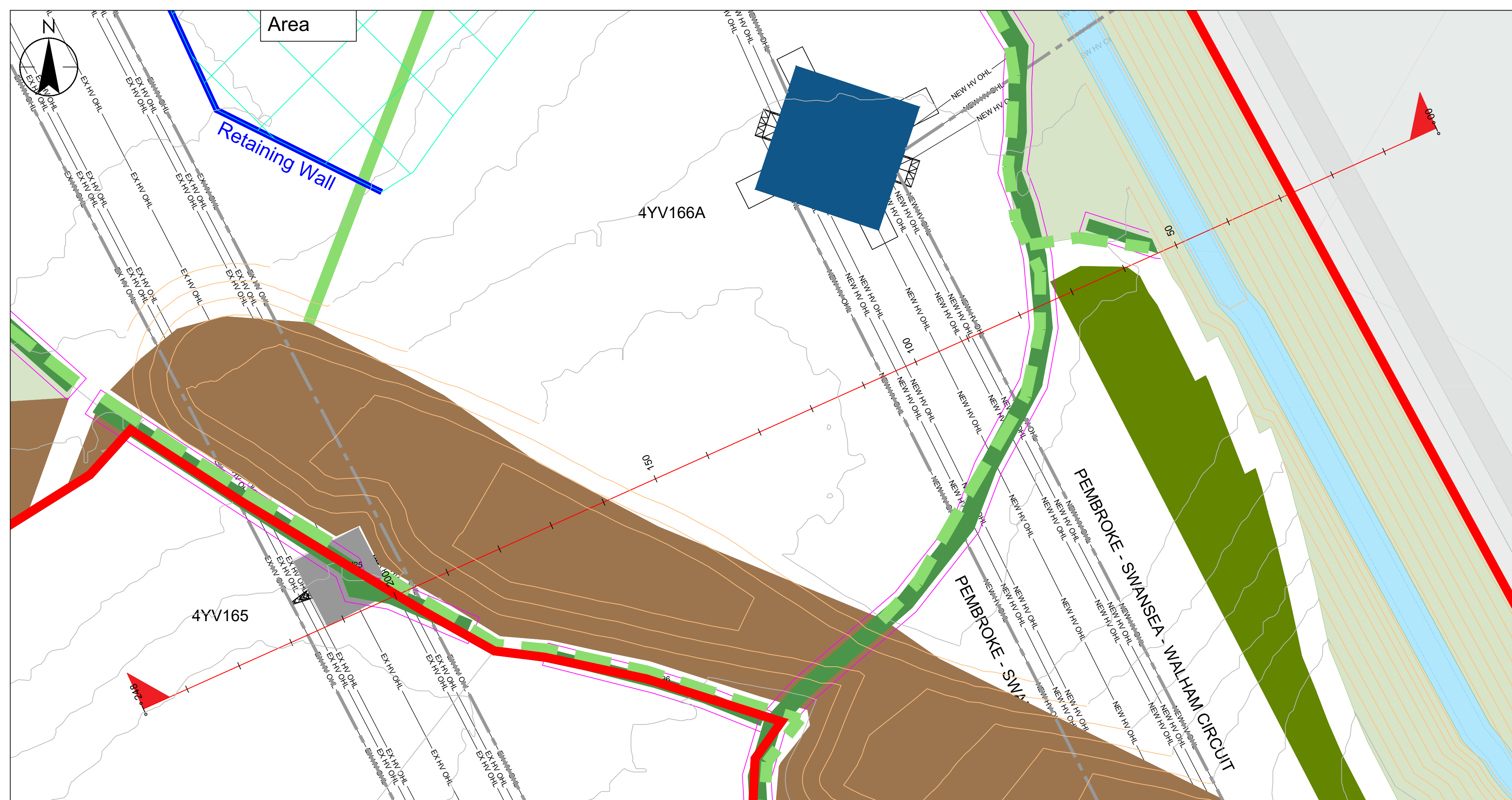
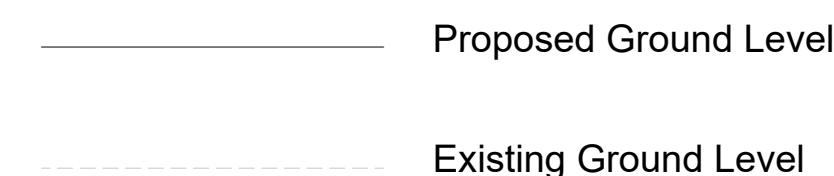
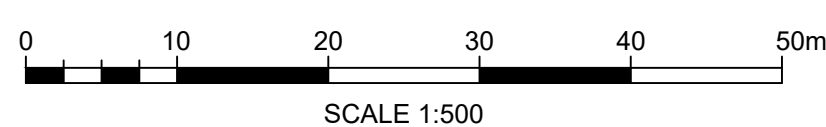
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Figure L8 - Detail Planting Plans
Cross Section

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Appendix B Landscape and Visual Appraisal (LVA) Methodology

On behalf of **National Grid**
nationalgrid

Project Ref: 331201429 | Rev: Final | Date: October 2025

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Document Control Sheet

Project Name: Llandyfaelog Substation

Project Ref: 331201429

Report Title: **Appendix B:** Landscape and Visual Appraisal (LVA) Methodology

Date: 03.10.25

	Name	Position	Signature	Date
Prepared by:	Ross White	Senior Landscape Architect		30.09.25
Reviewed by:	Andy Chester	Senior Associate Landscape Architect		30.09.25
Approved by:	Lucy Bankhead	Framework Manager		30.09.25
For and on behalf of Stantec UK Limited				

Revision	Date	Description	Prepared	Reviewed	Approved

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1 Introduction

1.1 Definition of Landscape

1.1.1 **Landscape** was defined at the European Landscape Convention (Florence, 2000): “*The landscape is part of the land, as perceived by local people or visitors, which evolves through time as a result of being acted upon by natural forces and human beings.*” ([The European Landscape Convention - Council of Europe Landscape Convention \(coe.int\)](#))

1.1.2 **Landscape** was also defined by Swanwick and Land Use Consultants, 2002:2, as follows:

“Landscape is about the relationship between people and place. It provides the setting for our day-to-day lives. The term does not mean just special or designated landscapes, and it does not only apply to the countryside. Landscape can mean a small patch of urban wasteland as much as a mountain range, and an urban park as much as an expanse of lowland plain. It results from the way that different components of our environment – both natural (the influences of geology, soils, climate, flora and fauna) and cultural (the historical and current impact of land use, settlement, enclosure and other human interventions) – interact together and are perceived by us. People’s perceptions turn land into the concept of landscape.”

1.2 Professional Standards and Guidance

1.2.1 The Landscape and Visual Appraisal (LVA) has been carried out by a senior member of the landscape team and reviewed by a Chartered member of the Landscape Institute (LI) at Stantec UK Limited (Stantec), a Registered Practice of the LI and a corporate member of the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA).

1.2.2 Stantec’s methodology for LVA is based on professional experience of landscape assessment and the **Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment** (Landscape Institute / Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment, 3rd Edition, 2013). In addition, the LVA methodology considers the principles set out in the following Landscape Institute technical notes and guidance:

- LI Technical Information Note 08/2015: **Landscape Character Assessment** (LI, February 2016) https://landscapewpstorage01.blob.core.windows.net/www-landscapeinstitute-org/2016/01/Landscape-Character-Assessment-TIN-08_15-20160216.pdf;
- LI Technical Guidance Note 02/21: **Assessing Landscape Value Outside National Designations** (LI, February 2021) <https://landscapewpstorage01.blob.core.windows.net/www-landscapeinstitute-org/2021/05/tgn-02-21-assessing-landscape-value-outside-national-designations.pdf>; and
- LI Technical Guidance Note 06/19 **Visual Representation of development proposals** (LI, September 2019) https://landscapewpstorage01.blob.core.windows.net/www-landscapeinstitute-org/2019/09/LI_TGN-06-19_Visual_Representation.pdf and the supporting Technical Information Notes: TIN 07/19 Visual Representation Glossary, TIN 08/19 Camera Auto Settings, and TIN 09/19 Earth Curvature.

1.3 Approach to the Appraisal

1.3.1 The **Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment**, (Landscape Institute / Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment, 3rd Edition, 2013) (**GLVIA3**) notes in paragraph 2.23, page 21, that the appraisal of landscape or townscape and visual effects aims to be as objective as possible; however, professional judgements are required to be made:

'Professional judgement is a very important part of LVIA. Whilst there is some scope for quantitative measurement of some relatively objective matters, for example the number of trees lost to construction... much of the assessment must rely on qualitative judgements, for example about what effect the introduction of a new development of land use change may have on visual amenity, or about the significance of change in the character in the landscape and whether it is positive or negative.'

- 1.3.2 In accordance with guidance, the LVA considers the effects on landscape, including landscape character and features (landscape receptors), and people's views / visual amenity (visual receptors) as separate assessment components. The LVA identifies and assesses the negative and positive effects (type of effects) arising from the Proposed Development on these receptors.
- 1.3.3 The appraisal of landscape and visual effects makes comparison with the **baseline year of 2025**, and the appraisal periods comprise: i) during the enabling and construction period; and ii) at operation (on completion of the development) and 15 years following (once proposed landscape mitigation is assumed to have established to provide its function). Baseline conditions for the site are unlikely to change materially as the plant and activity at the Site will remain operational.

2 Scope of Assessment

2.1 Potential Landscape and Visual Effects

2.1.1 Potential Landscape and visual effects arising from the Proposed Development are those upon the following receptors:

- a. Landscape features;
- b. Landscape character; and
- c. People's views and visual amenity.

2.1.2 The LVA considers the effects on Landscape (including Landscape character and features) and people's views / visual amenity as separate assessment components.

2.2 Study Area

2.2.1 The **initial study area** for the LVA was based upon, and informed by, a computer-generated **Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV)** initially prepared for **up to 5km** from the site, and which establishes the theoretical 'worst-case' extent to which the Proposed Development would be visible. In reality, other built form and features, such as street trees, would provide additional filtering or reduction of views.

2.2.2 Professional experience of other assessments and site appraisals for this type of development has shown that notable effects on Landscape and visual receptors would not typically be experienced beyond **3km** from the site. This is the result of the existing surrounding context such as intervening landform, vegetation, and in this instance, existing electrical infrastructure.

2.2.3 ZTV analysis has been undertaken for the Proposed Development which considers built form and vegetation. This is referred to as a Digital Surface Model (DSM) ZTV. Further detail on the methodology for the ZTV analysis is set out in **Section 4.1** below. The analysis shows the increased visibility of the additional towers and OHL in addition to the theoretical visibility potentially experienced as a result of the substation elements. Figure L4a illustrates that the proposed towers would result in wider visibility of electrical infrastructure than is currently experienced. Figure L4b illustrates that the substation elements would be visible largely to the northeast, southeast and southwest.

2.2.4 Therefore, the **study area** for the LVA extends to **3km radius** from the Site. The spatial scope, together with a review of potential visual receptors, guided the selection of view locations that are included within the visual impact assessment for the LVA.

2.3 Selection of Landscape Receptors for Landscape Effects Assessment

2.3.1 Landscape receptors assessed in the LVA are set out in **Section 3** of the LVA. Landscape receptors typically include the following:

- National Landscape Character Areas;
- Regional and local Landscape character areas (including LANDMAP in Wales);
- Long Distance Walking Routes (LDWR) Public Rights of Way (PRoW), and National Cycle Network (NCN) routes;
- Character and Landscape Features of the Site including:
 - Character of the Site;

- Green Infrastructure provision;
- Landform;
- Existing vegetation including tree, woodland and hedgerows;
- Field pattern / field boundaries; and
- Existing infrastructure.

2.4 Selection of Visual Receptors for Visual Effects Assessment

Key Views

- 2.4.1 Key Views are those strategic views, panoramas or contained views which are identified as being important views across the landscape; these being views from parks and other public spaces that take in important or defining landmark features within townscapes or landscapes, and which help to define key characteristics of that townscape or landscape location.
- 2.4.2 Key Views may be protected and designated through local planning policy; for example, London View Management Framework 2012 (<https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/planning/implementing-london-plan/supplementary-planning-guidance/london-view-management>), or Bristol City Council's Supplementary Planning Document 1: Tall Buildings, 2005 (<https://www.bristol.gov.uk/documents/20182/34520/SPD1%20-%20tallbuildings.pdf/2a44c0d4-fb3b-4da3-ae6e-c1bf96999481>).
- 2.4.3 Where there are no published Key Views, a local planning authority may identify local Key Views relevant to a Site or Proposed Development through the planning application consultation process; for example, views of landmarks within an historic town core which is visible in long distance views from outside of the town / city or which is a notable local landmark in the urban area. Where this occurs, the nature and source of the Key View is set out in the LVA.

Visual Receptors and View Locations

- 2.4.4 Visual receptors are always people and their views at particular places will for example comprise people using public rights of way, public open spaces, public realm areas or other outdoor recreational facilities; people who may be visiting, living or working within the study area; and people travelling by roads and rail.
- 2.4.5 View locations for the purpose of the LVA, which are selected to represent typical visual receptor's views (i.e. to be characteristic, or be representative examples of people's views), and which are likely to be subject to visual effects of a Proposed Development, are generally agreed with the local planning authority through the planning application consultation process.
- 2.4.6 The selected view locations will typically include one, some, or all of the following types of views, from publicly accessible locations:
- **Representative views** (for example representing views of users of a particular footpath);
 - **Specific views** (for example a Key View, or an important view from a specific visitor attraction);
 - **Illustrative views** (chosen to demonstrate a particular effect/specific issue); and
 - **Sequential views** (for example, transient views which occur when travelling along key routes or designated Scenic Routes).

- 2.4.7 The view locations and visual receptors selected for the visual assessment, are set out in **Section 5** of the LVA. **Figure L4a and 4b: Zone of Theoretical Visibility** within **Appendix A: Figures** shows the location of the visual receptors considered within the LVA.

3 Methodology and Definitions

3.1 Baseline Data Collection and Review

Desktop Study

- 3.1.1 The initial step in LVA, is to establish the baseline landscape and visual conditions. Background data is collected and reviewed to establish the baseline landscape and landscape character receptors and potential visual receptors. The data may include: the nature of the topography, landscape planning designations and published sources of landscape character.
- 3.1.2 Typical information sources include:
- Ordnance Survey OpenData for mapping.
 - 1:25,000 OS Explorer, for example via Bing Maps, for a general map overview of the Site and surrounding area, as well as to review the Public Rights of Way network (bridleways, footpaths, byways, other routes), including names and locations of Long-Distance Route or National Trails, and for Open Access Land area locations and boundaries.
 - Google Earth Pro for aerial photography and Google Street View.
 - [MAGIC \(defra.gov.uk\)](https://magic.defra.gov.uk/) for an initial review of statutory and non-statutory designations.
 - <https://www.sustrans.org.uk/> for routes on the National Cycle Network.
 - Future Wales: The National Plan 2040 [Future Wales: the national plan 2040 | GOV.WALES](#)
 - Planning Policy Wales (Edition 12, February 2024) [Planning Policy Wales - Edition 12](#)
 - Historic Wales [Historic Wales \(arcgis.com\)](https://historicwales.arcgis.com/).
 - Local authority websites for Local Plans and Development Frameworks, including Area Action Plans if relevant;
 - [Natural Resources Wales / LANDMAP - the Welsh landscape baseline](#) for information on the spatial aspects of the Welsh landscape, typically used for LVIA;
 - Regional or local landscape character assessments and relevant supplementary design or planning guidance (SPD or SPG); and
 - Relevant Conservation Area appraisals.

Site Appraisal and Photographic Record

- 3.1.3 Where project timings make it possible, representative baseline photographs are taken during winter months to inform a 'worst-case' visual baseline. Given the project timing in this instance however, photography was undertaken during the summer months. This results in the assessor utilising their experience and professional judgement to understand the existing conditions and formulate an opinion on what winter visibility would likely be from the representative view locations.
- 3.1.4 The Site and surrounding area were visited to undertake a visual survey and collect the photographic record of the visual baseline to represent people's views from the selected locations; this was undertaken in June 2024. This exercise also enables the LVA assessor to:

- Determine the extent of visibility of existing built structures, vegetation and landform;
- Determine the visibility of the Proposed Development, utilising the results from the ZTV plan to guide the field work;
- Gain further understanding of the components which create the landscape character; and
- Carry out the appraisal of landscape and visual effects.

3.2 Appraisal Stages

- 3.2.1 A two-stage appraisal process was adopted for the LVA, in accordance with the Landscape Institute/Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment guidelines. Firstly, the sensitivity of receptors was appraised. Secondly the magnitude of effects likely to result from the Proposed Development was appraised.

3.3 Types of Effect - Definitions

- 3.3.1 The principal sources of change to landscape receptors and people's views and visual amenity, arise from the introduction of new built form, or changes to landscape character.
- 3.3.2 Changes may be **beneficial** or **adverse**; and some changes may initially be adverse, but over time gradually improve. Beneficial effects have a **positive influence** on the receptor (enhancement); alternatively, adverse effects have a **negative influence** on the receptor (degradation). It is possible that the type of effect may be judged to be **neutral**, for example: where the development proposals result in a change to the receptor, but that change, on balance, is considered to be in keeping with the receptor; such that the baseline situation is maintained and does not lead to either enhancement or degradation of that baseline.
- 3.3.3 Changes may also be **direct**, or **indirect**. Direct effects are those which result directly from the development; whereas indirect, or secondary, effects may arise as a consequential change resulting from the development, for example: changes to offsite and downstream vegetation, as a result of alterations to a drainage regime.

3.4 Methodology for the Appraisal of Landscape Effects

- 3.4.1 The appraisal of landscape effects considers how the Proposed Development would affect the landscape features or components of the environment (the 'landscape fabric', for example: topography, trees, woodland and hedgerows, field patterns, watercourses, and green infrastructure features including field boundary treatments), and the key characteristics which contribute to its distinctive character (the 'landscape character').
- 3.4.2 A methodical consideration of each effect upon each identified landscape receptor is undertaken in the LVA, in order to determine:
- a. the **sensitivity** of the landscape receptor; and
 - b. the **magnitude** of the landscape effect.

Sensitivity of Landscape Receptors

- 3.4.3 The assessment of **landscape receptor sensitivity** combines judgements on the **value** attributed to the landscape receptor and the '**susceptibility to change**' of the receptor to the specific type of development proposed.
- 3.4.4 For example, a landscape with consistent, intact and well-defined, distinctive attributes is generally considered to be of higher quality, value and sensitivity; than a landscape where the presence of inappropriate or discordant features are detractors within its inherent character.

Value of Landscape Receptors

- 3.4.5 Landscapes may be valued at community, local, national or international levels. Existing designations are taken as an initial indicator for value.
- 3.4.6 The value of landscapes or landscape receptors without designation are considered through reference to the factors set out in **Table 3.1**. This list is with reference to Table 1 within the Landscape Institutes **TGN 02/21: 'Assessing landscape value outside national designations'**.

Table 3.1: Other Factors Which May Influence Landscape Value

Attribute	Criteria
Landscape Quality / Condition	Intactness or physical condition of the urban environment or of the individual components which contribute to landscape character.
Distinctiveness / Sense of Place	Sense of identity related to aesthetic and perceptual qualities which create distinctiveness.
Rarity	Rarity of landscape character areas, types or features.
Representativeness	Particular characteristic/feature/element considered an important example.
Cultural Interest	The presence of archaeological, historic or cultural heritage interest which contributes positively to the landscape.
Natural Heritage	Landscape with clear evidence of ecological, geological, geomorphological or physiographic interest which contributes positively to the landscape
Recreation	Evidence that the landscape experience forms an important part of recreational activity, e.g. as established in guidebooks.
Functional	Landscape which performs a clearly identifiable and valuable function, particularly in the healthy functioning of the landscape
Perceptual (Scenic Quality)	General appeal of the landscape to the senses (primarily visual).
Perceptual (wildness and tranquillity)	Landscape with a strong perceptual value notably wildness, tranquillity and/or dark skies
Associations	Relevant associations with notable figures, such as writers or artists, or events in history that contribute to landscape value.

- 3.4.7 Where appropriate, key individual components of the landscape, including particular landscape features, notable aesthetic and perceptual qualities, are considered in the LVA in terms of importance in their own right; including whether or not they can realistically be replaced. They may also be judged on their contribution to the overall character and value of the wider landscape. For example, an ancient woodland may have high value in its own right, but also be important because it forms part of a vista which contributes positively to the landscape character.
- 3.4.8 An example of how value can be described at each end of the continuum of low to high is provided in **Table 3.2** for landscape receptors.

Table 3.2: Defining Landscape Value

Criteria Level	Description
High	An area possessing a particularly distinctive sense of place and character, and / or attributes which make a particular contribution to the landscape or townscape character. Indicators: • Designations and/or conservation interests: national/regional importance. Valued for its contribution. • Key characteristics and features: features which are dominant within the landscape and are fundamental to defining the distinct character of an area. Highly valued for its character. • Important characteristics and features recognised as forming intrinsic part of nationally and regionally designated landscapes. • Distinctive individual or rare features. Landscape character that has a clear sense of place. • Highly valued for its scenic quality. • Landscape in good condition: distinct landscape structure with strong pattern and some intact features. • Few detractors or uncharacteristic features present. • Contributes to a national landscape designation and / or a designated heritage asset / character area or settlement, or form part of the Green Infrastructure Network. • Valued for contribution to recreational activity and / or part of a long distance footpath. • Important cultural or historic associations.
Medium	An area with a clearly defined sense of place and character, and / or attributes which contribute to the landscape or landscape character. Indicators: • Designations and/or conservation interests: local or regional importance (e.g. Conservation Areas, Special Landscape Areas/Features) or may be undesignated • Key characteristics and features: regionally or locally important and notable features that are intact and contribute to the overall character of an area and / or provide some scenic quality. • Features protected by local policy. • Condition: landscape exhibits recognizable structure and characteristic patterns and in moderate condition. • Some detracting features present.
Low	An area with a weak sense of place or poorly defined character, and / or attributes which make a contribution to the landscape or landscape character. Indicators: • Undesignated. • Key characteristics and features: features that are uncharacteristic, disjointed or weak character and / or detract from the character of an area. • Condition: degraded structure with fragmented pattern and poor legibility of character. In poor condition. • Absence of distinctive individual or rare features. Character that has a poor sense of place, scenic qualities and / or cultural interest. • Contains a high level of discordant or detracting features with a strong influence on the landscape.

Susceptibility to Change – Landscape Receptors

- 3.4.9 The assessment of susceptibility of landscape receptors to change, which is anticipated to arise from the type of development, which is being proposed, is based upon the criteria in **Table 3.3**. Note that these are provided for guidance and are not intended to be absolute.

Table 3.3: Landscape Receptor Susceptibility to Change – Guidance Criteria

Criteria Level	Description
High	Little ability to accommodate the Proposed Development without undue consequences for the maintenance of the baseline landscape and/or the achievement of landscape planning policies and strategies.
Medium	Some ability to accommodate the Proposed Development without undue consequences for the maintenance of the baseline landscape and/or the achievement of landscape planning policies and strategies.
Low	Substantial ability to accommodate the Proposed Development without undue consequences for the maintenance of the baseline landscape and/or the achievement of landscape planning policies and strategies.

Sensitivity of Landscape Receptors

- 3.4.10 By judging the combination of the landscape receptor's value and susceptibility to change, and with reference to the following typical scales set out in **Table 3.4**, the LVA assessor makes an overall assessment of sensitivity of each landscape receptor.

Table 3.4: Scales of Landscape Receptor Sensitivity

Criteria Level	Description
High	An area possessing a particularly distinctive sense of place and character, and / or attributes which make a particular contribution to the landscape or landscape character, for example: • in good condition; • highly valued for its scenic quality; • highly valued for its landscape character; • an area with a low tolerance to change of the type proposed; • an area with high quality materials in the public realm; • cultural heritage features or walks with cultural associations; • valued for contribution to recreational activity; • important cultural or historic associations; • irreplaceable features or character; • part of a long distance footpath.
Medium	An area with a clearly defined sense of place and character, and / or attributes which contribute to the landscape or landscape character, such as: • in moderate condition; • some scenic quality valued at a local or regional level; • landscape character intact and valued at a local or regional level; • an area with partial tolerance to change of the type proposed; • may be undesignated landscape.
Low	An area with a weak sense of place or poorly defined character, and / or attributes which contribute to the landscape or landscape character, such as: • in poor condition; • no particular scenic qualities; • disjointed landscape character; • contains a high level of discordant features; • no cultural interest; • an area that is tolerant of substantial change of the type proposed; • undesignated landscape; • a degraded landscape; • strongly influenced by detracting land uses and buildings.

Magnitude of Landscape Effects

- 3.4.11 The **magnitude** of a landscape effect is assessed in terms of its **size or scale**, the **geographical extent** of the area influenced and its **duration** and **degree of reversibility**.
- 3.4.12 The size or scale of change is described on a scale of large to no change. In the landscape this relates to the loss of features or addition of elements in the landscape, which are likely to result from the Proposed Development which considers:
- a. The extent/proportion of landscape features that are lost or landscape elements added;
 - b. The contribution of features / elements to landscape character and the degree to which aesthetic/perceptual aspects are altered; and
 - c. Whether the effect is likely to change the key characteristics of the landscape, which are critical to its distinctive character.
- 3.4.13 The geographical area over which the effects would be felt are considered. For example, moderate loss of landscape features over a large geographical area or a major addition affecting a localised area. It is considered on a scale ranging from effects on the wider landscape to effects on a site level.
- 3.4.14 The duration and degree of reversibility is also considered as a factor contributing to the magnitude of effect. Duration is considered as:
- Short-term: Less than 1 year.
 - Medium-term: 1-5 years.
 - Long-term: More than 5 years.
- 3.4.15 Reversibility is a judgement about the prospects and practicality of the effect being reversed, typically, in a generation. Permanent effects are those which cannot be realistically reversed, whereas reversible effects can be wholly or largely reversed. e.g. development (such as wind turbines) with a limited life permission and high potential for removal and/or the land to be reinstated, or construction activities which are temporary. Partially reversible effects may also occur for example when the proposals would provide something similar to the baseline, or the introduction of elements which are representative of baseline features / characteristics.
- 3.4.16 The criteria in **Table 3.5** are used to determine the **magnitude of change** of landscape effects, based on the degree of change that will occur as a result of the Proposed Development and in relation to the **type of the effect**:

Table 3.5: Landscape Effects: Criteria for Magnitude of Change and Type of Effect

Criteria Level	Description
Major adverse landscape effect	The proposals will result in a total change in the key characteristics of landscape character; will introduce elements totally uncharacteristic to the attributes of the receiving landscape such as its massing, scale, pattern and features; and/or will destroy or permanently degrade the integrity of landscape character; or is in total conflict with established planning objectives for landscape and visual elements of regeneration and enhancement of the urban environment; and/or result in a substantial or total loss, or alteration of key features / characteristics.
Moderate adverse landscape effect	The proposals will result in a partial change in the key characteristics of landscape character; will introduce elements uncharacteristic to, out of scale or at odds with the attributes of the receiving landscape, such as its massing, scale, pattern and features; and/or will result in partial loss, or alteration of key features/ characteristics; or is in conflict with established planning objectives for landscape and visual elements of regeneration and enhancement of the urban environment.
Slight adverse landscape effect	The proposals will result in little change in the key characteristics of landscape character and will introduce elements that do not quite fit with the attributes of the receiving landscape such as its massing, scale, pattern and features; and/or will result in a minor loss or alteration of features / characteristics; and/or contribute to degrading the landscape character.
Negligible adverse landscape effect	The proposals will result in a just discernible change to landscape character / features / characteristics, which is not quite in keeping with the existing landscape and landscape character.
No change	The proposals will not cause any change to the landscape character / features / characteristics.
Neutral effect	As a result of the proposals, there will be a change to the landscape features / characteristics, but the change will be entirely in keeping with the existing landscape character or landscape features such that the existing character or features are maintained ; and that change does not cause degradation or enhancement of the character.
Negligible landscape benefit	The proposals will result in a just discernible improvement to the landscape character / features / characteristics, such as massing, scale, pattern or features.
Slight landscape benefit	The proposals will achieve a degree of fit with the landscape character / features / characteristics and provides some enhancement to the condition or character of the landscape.
Moderate landscape benefit	The proposals will achieve a good fit with the landscape character / features / characteristics, such as massing, scale, and pattern; or would noticeably improve the condition or character of the landscape and enhance characteristic features through the use of local materials; and/or support established planning objectives for landscape and visual elements of regeneration and enhancement of the urban environment.
Major landscape benefit	The proposals will totally accord with the landscape character / features / characteristics, including scale, pattern, massing; or would restore, recreate or permanently enhance the condition or character of the landscape and enhance characteristic features through the use of local materials; and/or delivers established planning objectives for landscape and visual elements of regeneration and enhancement of the urban environment.

3.5 Methodology for the Assessment of Effects on People's Views and Visual Amenity

- 3.5.1 The assessment of visual effects considers how the Proposed Development would affect people's views and their visual amenity.
- 3.5.2 A methodical consideration of each visual effect upon each identified visual receptor is undertaken in the LVA, to determine the:
- a. **sensitivity** of the visual receptor; and
 - b. **magnitude** of the visual effect.
- 3.5.3 The following terminology is used to describe the approximate distance between the visual receptor's location and the Proposed Development:
- Short distance: under 0.5km;
 - Medium distance: 0.5km – 2km;
 - Long distance: beyond 2km.
- 3.5.4 The type of view, and the number of viewers likely to experience the view, is described in LVA using the following terms. Definitions of these terms are set out in the **Glossary**, at the end of this document.
- Glimpsed (i.e. in passing) / Filtered / Oblique / Framed / Open Views; and
 - Few / Moderate / Many Viewers.
- 3.5.5 No private views or view locations are assessed in the LVA. However, where appropriate, view locations for the LVA will be selected from publicly accessible locations within or at the edge of main settlements, property groupings or other buildings, which are likely to be affected by the Proposed Development.

Sensitivity of Visual Receptors

- 3.5.6 The assessment of visual receptor **sensitivity** combines judgements on the **value** attributed to the visual receptor and the '**susceptibility to change**' of the visual receptor to the specific type of development proposed.

Value of People's Views

- 3.5.7 The value assigned to people's views will have regard to a number of factors, which may include:
- a. Recognition of the Key View, the view or view location through planning designations or heritage asset designations; and
 - b. The popularity of the viewpoint, its appearance in guidebooks, literature or art, on tourist maps, and/or the facilities provided to enable the enjoyment of the view.
- 3.5.8 The criteria used for the assessment of the value of views is summarised in **Table 3.6**. Note that these are provided for guidance and are not intended to be absolute.

Table 3.6: Value of Views – Guidance Criteria

Criteria Level	Description
High	Published or identified Key Views or views from landscapes or locations of national importance, or views from highly popular visitor attractions where the view forms an important part of the experience, or views with important cultural associations.
Medium	Published or identified Key Views or views from landscapes or locations of regional/district importance or views from moderately popular visitor attractions where the view forms part of the experience, or views with local cultural associations.
Low	Typical views from landscapes or locations with no designations, which are not particularly popular as a view location and with minimal or no cultural associations.

Visual Receptors' Susceptibility to Change

3.5.9 People's susceptibility to a change in their views is a function of:

- The **occupation or activity** of the viewer at a given location; and
- The **extent** to which a person's **attention or interest may therefore be focussed** on a particular view and the **visual amenity** experienced.

3.5.10 The typical range of visual receptors' susceptibility to change which is used for the LVA is set out in **Table 3.7**.

Table 3.7: Typical Range of Visual Receptors' Susceptibility to Change

Criteria Level	Description
High	- Residents; - People engaged in outdoor recreation, including users of public rights of way, whose attention is likely to be focussed on the visual environment of the landscape and on particular views; - Visitors to heritage assets, landmarks or other attractions where views of the surroundings are an important part of the experience; - Communities where Key Views contribute to the landscape setting enjoyed by residents; and - Travellers on scenic routes.
Medium	- Travellers on road, rail or other transport routes, where the view is moderately important to the quality of the journey; - People using local parks, open spaces, public realm, or walking on streets or local public rights of way, with moderate interest in their visual environment.
Low	- People engaged in outdoor sport or recreation, which does not involve appreciation of, or focus upon, views; - People at their place of work, where the landscape setting is not important to the quality of working life; and - Travellers, where the view is fleeting and incidental to the journey, for example on motorways or on high-speed railway lines.

Scale of Sensitivity of Visual Receptors

3.5.11 By judging the combination of the value of the view and the visual receptor's susceptibility to change, and with reference to the typical scales set out in **Table 3.8**, the LVA assessor makes an overall assessment of sensitivity of each visual receptor.

Table 3.8: Scales of Visual Receptor Sensitivity

Criteria Level	Description
High	The view is likely to a nationally or regionally important or protected view (Key View). The view or its composition may: • Include landmark features; • Have high amenity value; • Be of an attractive composition and contain features of notable visual interest; • Be enjoyed by a large number of recreational users and visitors; • Be experienced by residents; • Include views of important heritage assets, such as World Heritage Sites or Listed Buildings or Registered Historic Parks and Gardens; • By a publicised view in guidebooks; • Be a 'designed' view, such as a designed vista in an historic landscape.
Medium	The view is likely to be a locally designated view or may be undesignated but considered to be locally important. The view or its composition may: • Include some features of value or interest; • Be incidental or intentional to the viewer, with some amenity value; • Be of a generally attractive composition with little sign of neglect or degradation; • Provide views of heritage assets, but which are not best represented by the particular view; • Be from within local parks or open space, the public realm, streets or on local public rights of way.
Low	The view is likely to be undesignated. The view or its composition may also: • Not include any landmark features; • Have low amenity value; • Have few or no features which are visually attractive, and have a weak or poor composition with discordant or incongruous features that may contribute to a sense of degradation or poor quality; • Be incidental to the viewer, with little or no amenity value; • Be fleeting to a viewer in motion.

Type of Visual Effects in Rural Environments

- 3.5.12 Indicators of the **type** of visual effect in the rural environment include the dominance of new built form in the view and the effects of the new scale and mass in the view, how the visual composition will change, and whether there would be new skyline features or focal interest. Whether a visual effect in the rural environment is beneficial or adverse is a subjective judgement, and therefore to assist the LVA assessor in making their judgement of the type of visual effect, the LVA is based upon identified criteria, as follows.
- 3.5.13 The LVA considers that **beneficial** visual changes which would be likely to arise as a result of Proposed Development may include, but are not limited to, the following visual changes:
- Creation of a new focal points and landmarks within the view;
 - Respects the scale of the existing landscape;
 - Elements within the Site placed sensitively to avoid significant visual change where possible;

- Provision of new planting within the Site boundary where possible.
- 3.5.14 Visual changes which are considered to be **adverse**, may include, but are not limited to, the following factors:
- Amplification of existing adverse visual effects;
 - The addition of new elements within the view; at times from sensitive locations, albeit similar in nature to existing;
 - Loss of vegetation to provide for the various elements associated with the Proposed Development.
- 3.5.15 Professional experience has shown that, in most cases, Proposed Development in rural environments is likely to result in a combination of beneficial and adverse visual effects within the same view composition. Therefore, this LVA takes the approach of detailing the specific beneficial and adverse visual changes which are predicted to occur, in the Visual Effects Table; with a balanced view being taken by the LVA assessor to determine whether the overall type of effect is **adverse** or **beneficial**.

Magnitude of Visual Effects

- 3.5.16 The **magnitude** of a visual effect is assessed in terms of its **size or scale**, the **geographical extent** of the area influenced and its **duration** and **degree of reversibility**.
- 3.5.17 The size or scale of change is described on a scale of large to no change. This relates to the degree of contrast to, or integration with, the visual composition, which is likely to result from the Proposed Development; and is influenced by the relative time over which a view is experienced, and whether it is a full, partial or glimpsed view.
- 3.5.18 The geographical extent of change to views, considers the orientation of the Proposed Development in relation to the receptor, and the distance between the Proposed Development and the receptor. It is considered on a scale of large across a widespread area, to small across a local area.
- 3.5.19 The duration and degree of reversibility is also considered as a factor contributing to the magnitude of effect. Duration is considered as:
- Short-term: Less than 1 year.
 - Medium-term: 1-10 years.
 - Long-term: More than 10 years.
- 3.5.20 Reversibility is a judgement about the prospects and practicality of the effect being reversed, typically, in a generation. Permanent effects are those which cannot be realistically reversed, whereas reversible effects can be wholly or largely reversed. e.g. development (such as wind turbines) with a limited life permission and high potential for removal and/or the land to be reinstated, or construction activities which are temporary. Partially reversible effects may also occur for example when the proposals would provide something similar to the baseline, or the introduction of elements which are representative of baseline features / characteristics.
- 3.5.21 The typical criteria which are used to assess the type and magnitude of visual effects, based on the degree of change to the view or composition, are set out in **Table 3.9**.

Table 3.9: Visual Effects – Magnitude and Type of Change – Typical Criteria

Criteria Level	Description
Major adverse visual effect	The proposals will cause a dominant or complete change or contrast to the view, resulting from the loss or addition of features in the view and will substantially degrade the appreciation or composition of the view.
Moderate adverse visual effect	The proposals will cause a clearly noticeable change or contrast to the view, which would have some effect on the composition, resulting from the loss or addition of features in the view and will noticeably degrade the appreciation or composition of the view.
Slight adverse visual effect	The proposals will cause a perceptible change or contrast to the view, but which would not materially degrade the composition or the appreciation of the view.
Negligible adverse visual effect	The proposals will cause a barely perceptible change or contrast to the view, which would not degrade the composition or the appreciation of the view.
No change	The proposals will maintain the existing view and cause no change to that view.
Neutral	There will be a change to the composition of the view, but the change will be entirely in keeping with the existing features of the view and maintain the composition and quality of the existing baseline view and does not enhance or degrade the baseline view.
Negligible beneficial visual effect	The proposals will cause a barely perceptible change or contrast to the view, which would not enhance the composition or the appreciation of the view.
Slight beneficial visual effect	The proposals will cause a perceptible change or contrast to the view, but which would not materially enhance the composition or the appreciation of the view.
Moderate beneficial visual effect	The proposals will cause a clearly noticeable change or contrast to the view, which would have some effect on the composition, resulting from the loss or addition of features in the view and will noticeably enhance the appreciation or composition of the view.
Major beneficial visual effect	The proposals will cause a dominant or complete change or contrast to the view, resulting from the loss or addition of features in the view and will substantially alter enhance the appreciation or composition of the view.

Judgement on Level of Landscape and Visual Effects

- 3.5.22 The level of effect regarding landscape and visual receptors varies with the location, landscape, and type of proposed development.
- 3.5.23 The level of effect is a matter of professional judgment, which is informed by the combination of receptor sensitivity and the magnitude of effect as set out below in **Table 3.10**.

Table 3.10: Levels of Landscape and Visual Effects Matrix

	Magnitude of Effect					
		Major Effect	Moderate Effect	Slight Effect	Negligible Effect	No Change
Sensitivity	Very High Sensitivity*	Substantial	Substantial or Major to Substantial	Major	Moderate	No Change
	High Sensitivity	Substantial or Major to Substantial	Major	Moderate	Minor	No Change
	Medium Sensitivity	Major	Moderate	Minor	Negligible	No Change
	Low Sensitivity	Moderate	Minor	Minor	Negligible	No Change

*A 'Very High' level of sensitivity is only applicable to international landscape designations or views from those international landscape designations, i.e. World Heritage Sites that meet UNESCO criteria.

3.6 Definitions of Landscape and Visual Mitigation Measures

- 3.6.1 **Primary mitigation measures** are defined as those which have been developed through the iterative design process, and which have become integrated or **embedded into the scheme design**.
- 3.6.2 **Standard construction and operational management practices** are defined as those which would be required to be adopted for the avoidance of, and reduction of, adverse environmental effects as part of the standard construction process, such as the implementation of tree protection fencing around retained trees. These standard practices for construction are therefore **not** considered to form part of the embedded mitigation; and instead, are expected to be detailed in a Construction and Environmental Management Plan (CEMP), to be prepared at a relevant time.
- 3.6.3 Embedded (primary) mitigation measures are described within Section 5 of the LVA.
- 3.6.4 **Secondary, or further mitigation and enhancement** measures are those which would be proposed in order to address adverse effects which remain after the embedded (primary) mitigation has been incorporated into the scheme.
- 3.6.5 In cases where the maximum achievable mitigation within the Site boundaries has already been included in the embedded (primary) mitigation measures, there may be no further (secondary) landscape mitigation measures proposed in the LVA. This can occur where the Site is located within a dense urban environment, and it is considered that off-site further landscape mitigation would not be feasible and therefore could not provide certainty of further reduction of adverse effects.

4 Technical Methodologies

4.1 Zone of Theoretical Visibility

- 4.1.1 A ZTV analysis is a computer-generated tool to identify the 'theoretical' extent of visibility for the Proposed Development.
- 4.1.2 The ZTV shows theoretical visibility only and so it is important to fully understand that its accuracy is limited to the digital information that it has been based upon and the algorithm used in its calculation. It is stressed that the ZTV remains only as a tool in the landscape and visual impact assessment of the Proposed Development. A ZTV alone cannot indicate the potential visual effect, nor show the likely level of effect that the Proposed Development will have.
- 4.1.3 However, it does guide an appreciation of the potential and maximum visibility of the Proposed Development, that can then be used to focus the visual assessment process on those areas affected and avoids those areas which will not be affected.
- 4.1.4 A ZTV analysis was undertaken, based upon the final development parameters as presented on the Planning Application drawings. **Figure L4a** was produced by generating points set at 62m height for proposed pylons 4YV165A and 4YV166A, 18m height for tower 4YV165B, and 15.5m height for the gantries. Heights for existing pylons were set at 53m for 4YV164, 48m for 4YV165, 50m for 4YV167, and 59m for 4YV168. **Figure L4b** was produced by generating points set at 12m height for busbars, 8m height for the 132kV gantries, and 7m height for the control room.
- 4.1.5 The ZTV calculation is performed using ESRI ArcGIS Pro 3.4.3, under the Viewshed analysis tool via the 3D Analyst or Spatial Analyst ArcMap extensions. This is then saved to the ESRI Geodatabase of the Project.
- 4.1.6 The ZTV computer software processes landform data and other selected features influencing the extent of visibility, for example, woodland and settlements, in order to identify the theoretical extent of the area from which the Proposed Development is likely to be visible. For this ZTV analysis a Digital Surface Model (DSM) dataset was considered. A Digital Surface Model (DSM) ZTV includes heights of objects, such as principal areas of woodland and settlements as well as the terrain surface. Using the DSM allows for a more pragmatic approach to analysing where the potential and maximum visibility of the Proposed Development will occur, due to having a live screening effect from both the buildings and vegetation contained within the DSM. This ZTV is considered a realistic worst case, however important to note that other features, such as hedgerows or street trees, which have not been included are likely to provide additional filtering of views.
- 4.1.7 The viewer height of the ZTV was set at 1.6m above ground level. This is higher than the camera height recommended for photograph visualisations and compensates for potential inaccuracies in digital terrain data and to ensure that the 'worst case' is represented.

Limitations and Assumptions

- The ZTV analysis remains only as a tool in the landscape and visual impact assessment of the Project. A ZTV alone cannot indicate the potential visual effect, nor show the likely effects that the Proposed Development will have.
- Digital Terrain Modelling (DTM) to produce a ZTV has not been included in this appraisal as its 'bare earth' nature did not provide an accurate overview of actual visibility on the ground given the subtle variations in topography across the Site, and blanket visibility of the proposed towers in particular was not informative of actual conditions.

- DSM has been based on DataMap Wales DSM LIDAR data (1 metre resolution).
- The ZTV analysis has been clipped to a 3km area.

4.2 Viewpoint Photography

- 4.2.1 The requirements for baseline photography collation and presentation are included within Landscape Institute Visual Representation of Development Proposals Technical Guidance Note 06/19 (TGN 06/19) (Landscape Institute, 2019), and this has been considered.
- 4.2.2 Baseline photography was undertaken in June 2024. While it is acknowledged that summer photography does not present 'worst case' conditions visually, the author has used professional judgement to inform worst case scenarios with regards to conditions.

Equipment

- 4.2.3 A good quality camera and lens are essential to the production of photographs for landscape and visual assessment work.
- 4.2.4 High-resolution digital photographs were captured using a Canon EOS 6D Mark II Full Frame Digital SLR, using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM which is a fixed focal-length lens. The camera was fixed to a tripod (typically 1.65m above the ground), mounted on a Vanguard Alta Pro 263AP and utilized a Manfrotto MA 454 Micro Positioning Plate to remove parallax errors. Once stitched and cropped appropriately this method provides a more accurate method of producing panoramas.

Methodology

- 4.2.5 Consultation was sought with the local planning authority (LPA) on the location of the provisional view locations prior to the data capture, however no response was received.
- 4.2.6 At each location, the centre of the camera was positioned at a height of 1.6m above the ground to simulate average viewing height. Each view was taken with a lens that provides an approximate 40-degree field of view in landscape format. At each location the desired view angle was captured. Photography was captured on site with a 50% overlap between each individual shot to reduce distortion with image blending.

Presentation

- 4.2.7 All photography has been presented to showcase a 90° Horizontal Field of View (HFOV) x ~27° Vertical Field of View (VFOV) on an A1 length, A3 height sheet with an image size of 820mm x 250mm, in cylindrical projection.
- 4.2.8 Each photo sheet identifies key existing features visible in the view along the top of the image alongside the approximate extent of the Proposed Development that could be theoretically visible to aid interpretation by the reader.

4.3 Visualisations

- 4.3.1 The requirements for visualisations are included within Landscape Institute Visual Representation of Development Proposals Technical Guidance Note 06/19 (TGN 06/19) (Landscape Institute, 2019), and this has been considered.
- 4.3.2 The visualisations have been undertaken by Stantec, and visualisations prepared for four discrete locations which were judged to illustrate a broadly representative geographical spread. These were: VL1a, VL3a, VL5 and VL7.
- 4.3.3 For this project visualisations have been produced as follows:

- Type 3, massing image identifies the location of the proposals, the size and scale and degree of visibility. The methodology aligns with TGN 06/19 Type 3 Photo massing output.

4.3.4 Visualisations are presented on **Figure L6, Appendix A**.

Methodology

4.3.5 The production of visualisation includes the following tasks:

- Preparation of a base CAD file containing all view locations and reference elements (using aerial imagery), and creation of camera positions in 3DS Max for each view location.
- Lighting system (Daylight) set up in 3DS Max.
- Cameras are adjusted to best match each photographic panorama against imported reference elements.
- Lighting system adjusted to match shadows visible on each photographic panorama.
- Receipt of 3D design information added to 3DS Max Software.
- Each view is rendered as an image with the 3DS camera matched with a representative 3D model, at the same size, scale, resolution and aspect ratio as the digital photography.
- This gives a series of 3D rendered images ready for compositing with the photos of the existing baseline site.
- Non-visible areas of the rendered 3D model are masked in the image using Photoshop.
- High-resolution render processed for each view – producing a raster image (alpha separated).
- Final colour balancing/clean-ups carried out and image is exported from Photoshop.
- Images imported into InDesign using predefined drawing templates for each view location.
- Final heights for vegetation within the visualisations were set at: 10-11m for woodland and individual trees, and approximately 5m for scrub. This is broadly representative of 15 years growth, aside from scrub which would be maintained at 5m height on the landscape bund for safety / screening purposes.
- Massing of the elements within the Proposed Development were based on Drawings PDD-101256-LAY-050 – 059.

4.3.6 As recommended within TGN 06/19, **Table 4.1** below sets out the technical methodology checklist for Type 3 outputs.

Table 4.1 Technical Methodology Checklist – Type 3

Technical Methodology	Response
Methodology	Non-Verifiable
Photography	

Technical Methodology	Response
Method used to establish the camera location (e.g. handheld GPS/GNSS, GNSS/RTK, survey point, visual reference)	Visual Reference on site and on aerial imagery
Likely level of accuracy of location (m, cm etc.)	<1m
If lenses other than 50mm have been used, explain why a different lens is appropriate	50mm lens used on full frame DSLR camera
Written description of procedures for image capture and processing	No
If panoramas used: make and type of Pano head and equipment used to level head	Vanguard Alta Pro 263AP and a Manfrotto MA 454 Micro Positioning Plate
If working outside the UK, geographic co-ordinate system (GCS) used (e.g. WGS-84)	OSGB36
3D Model / Visualisation	
Source of topographic height data and its resolution	Combination LiDAR + OS Terrain 2m and 5m and Google Earth Pro
How have the model and the camera locations been placed in the software?	Based on Photograph GPS coordinates, Google Earth Pro, and aligned with features in the photograph
Elements in the view used as target points to check the horizontal alignment	Existing buildings, telegraph poles, pylons, gantries, Trees, and various fixed points
Elements in the view used as target points to check the vertical alignment	Existing buildings, telegraph poles, pylons, gantries, Trees, and various fixed points
3D Modelling / Rendering Software	Autodesk 3ds Max 2025
Any limitations in the overall methodology for preparation of the visualisations?	Photograph GPS coordinates are used as a guide as they are not accurate especially in elevation
Visualisation Type	Photomontage/Photowire - Type 3 TGN 06-19
Projection	Cylindrical
Enlargement factor for intended sheet size	100% @ A3
Date and time of captured photography	June 2024
Make and model of camera, and its sensor format	Canon EOS 6D Mark II Full Frame Digital SLR, using a Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM in landscape orientation
Make and focal length of the camera lens(es) used	50mm
Horizontal Field of View (HfOV) of photograph / visual	90°
Direction of View: bearing from North (0°) or Compass Direction	No
Camera location grid coordinates: eastings & northings to relevant accuracy; height of ground in metres Above Ordnance Datum (mAOD)	Grid coordinates included on each sheet
Distance to the nearest site boundary, or key development feature, as most appropriate	No
Height of the camera lens above ground level and, if above 1.65m or below 1.5m, why?	1.6m
Additional imagery	
Baseline photograph	Yes
A composite view generated by overlaying multiple layers of image data: the photograph, 3D model of terrain (LiDAR DTM) and / or 3D model of LiDAR	Yes

Technical Methodology	Response
DSM, 3D model of proposed development, 3D model of landscape mitigation. This can explain how the photomontage has been generated.	
A photograph of the tripod location to confirm the camera / tripod location	Yes

5 LVA Standard Glossary and Abbreviations

5.1 Glossary

5.1.1 Standard terms used in the LVA, and this Methodology document are set out in **Table 5.1**.

Table 5.1: LVA Glossary

Term	Standard Definition
Baseline Conditions	The environment as it appears (or would appear) at the Baseline year, prior to the implementation of the Proposed Development together with any known or foreseeable future changes that will take place before completion of the project.
Baseline Information	Collection of background information on the environmental setting of a Proposed Development.
Characteristics	Key features, or combinations of, which contribute to distinctive landscape or landscape character.
Committed Development	Development projects that are either under construction or which have valid planning permission/consents.
Conservation Area	Land awarded protection status for an area with defined heritage assets and historic environment.
Cumulative effects	Additional or combined changes caused by the Proposed Development in conjunction with other developments (associated with or separate to it), or actions that occurred in the past, present or are likely to occur in the foreseeable future.
Data Collection or Desktop Studies	The gathering and analysis of existing data from the public domain, scientific and commercial databases, and available project sources, in order to identify environmental constraints and opportunities.
Direct Effect	An effect that is directly attributable to the Proposed Development.
Development	Any proposal that results in a change to the landscape/townscape and/or visual environment.
Enhancement	Proposals that seek to improve the landscape or townscape resource and the visual composition and amenity of views, over and above the baseline conditions.
Heritage	The historic environment and including valued assets and qualities such as historic buildings and cultural traditions.

Key Characteristics	Features or components which are particularly important to the current character of the landscape or townscape, and which define an area's particular / distinctive sense of place.
Landscape	An area, as perceived by people, the character of which is the result of action and interaction of natural and/or human factors.
Landscape or Townscape Character	A distinct and recognisable pattern of features that occurs consistently in a particular type of landscape or townscape and which makes one landscape or townscape different from another. It reflects particular combinations of geology, landform, soils, vegetation, land use and human settlement, built form and layout, scale, mass and legibility. It creates the particular sense of place of different areas of the landscape or townscape.
Landscape or Townscape Elements	Proposed components of the landscape / townscape delivered as part of mitigation to avoid reduce or offset adverse environmental impacts of a project
Landscape or Townscape Effects	Effects on the landscape or townscape as a resource in its own right.
Landscape or Townscape Features	Components of the existing baseline condition which contribute to the overall character of the place, and urban environment. These are the 'townscape fabric', for example: scale and massing, urban grain, legibility, appearance, public realm and open spaces, and green infrastructure features including street trees.
Landscape or Townscape Quality (condition)	A measure of the physical state of the landscape or townscape. It may include the extent to which typical character is represented in the individual areas, the intactness of the landscape or townscape and the condition of individual features.
Landscape or Townscape Receptors	Defined aspects of the landscape or townscape resource that have the potential to be affected by a proposal.
Landscape or Townscape Value	The relative value that is attached to different landscapes or townscapes by society. A landscape or townscape may be valued by different stakeholders for a variety of reasons.
Listed Buildings	A building with historic, artistic, or architectural interest, which has been listed on the statutory list of buildings.
Magnitude	A term that combines judgements about the size and scale of the effect, the extent of the area over which it occurs, whether it is reversible, partially reversible, or irreversible and the length of its duration. It is presented in terms of being major, moderate, slight, or negligible. Magnitude is defined for LVA in Appendix B.
Mitigation Measures	Action taken to avoid reduce or offset adverse environmental impacts of a project.

Indirect Effects	Effects that result indirectly from the proposed project as a consequence of the direct effects, often occurring away from the site, or as a result of a sequence of interrelationships or a complex pathway. They may be separated by distance or in time from the source of the effects.
Receptor	Physical resource or user group that would experience an effect, either negative or positive from the Proposed Development.
Residual Effects	Effects that would remain following the implementation of the mitigation measures.
Sensitivity	A term applied to specific receptors, combining judgements of the susceptibility of the receptor to the specific type of change of development proposed and the value related to that receptor.
Scoping	Scoping is the process of determining what issues are to be addressed and setting out a methodology in which to address them in a structured manner appropriate to the plan or programme. Scoping is carried out in consultation with the appropriate bodies.
Significance	A measure of the importance or gravity of the environmental effect, defined by significance criteria specific to the environmental topic. This assessment considers the sensitivity of the receptor and the magnitude of change which is likely to occur in the receiving environment. The combined effect of these creates the significance level.
Study Area	Area surrounding and including the Proposed Development, where there is reasonable potential for environmental impacts arising from the Proposed Development. Study areas are defined for each topic of the EIA.
Susceptibility	The ability of a defined landscape or townscape or visual receptor to accommodate the specific Proposed Development without undue negative consequences.
Townscape	The landscape within the built-up area, including the buildings, the relationship between them, the different types of urban open spaces, including green spaces and the relationship between buildings and open spaces. Also defined as the character and composition of the built environment including the buildings and the relationships between them, the different types of urban open space, including green spaces, and the relationship between buildings and open spaces.
Views - Glimpsed	A view which is seen or perceived briefly or partially, for example when the viewer is moving.
Views - Filtered	A view which is partially obscured by another object, for example a view through a tree canopy.

Views - Oblique	A view which is not seen or experienced in a direct way or angle; for example a view which is at a different angle to the main direction of the viewer's travel and therefore requires the head to be turned to perceive the view and is not the main focus for that person.
Views - Framed	A view that is restricted and bordered by objects located at the sides of the view; for example a view along a street which is bordered at both sides by buildings.
Views - Open	A view with no restrictions, not closed or blocked or framed.
Visual Amenity	The overall pleasantness of the views people enjoy of their surroundings, which provides an attractive visual setting or backdrop for the enjoyment of activities of the people living, working, recreating, visiting, or travelling through an area.
Visual Effects	Effects on specific views and on the general visual amenity experienced by people.
Visual Receptor	Individuals and/or defined groups of people who have the potential to be affected by a proposal. Typically represented by a selected viewpoint location.
Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV)	A map, digitally produced, identifying areas of land within which a development is theoretically visible (worst-case).

5.2 Abbreviations

5.2.1 Standard abbreviations typically used in the LVA and this Methodology document may include the following:

- AIA – Arboricultural Impact Assessment
- AOD – Above Ordnance Datum
- AONB – Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
- BS – British Standard
- CA – Conservation Area
- CEMP - Construction Environmental Management Plan
- CTVEA – Cumulative Townscape and Visual Effects Assessment
- CROW Act – The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000
- DAS – Design and Access Statement

- EIA – Environmental Impact Assessment
- ES – Environmental Statement
- EU - European Union
- GI – Green Infrastructure
- GIS – Geographical Information Systems
- GLVIA3 – Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, Landscape Institute (3rd edition, 2012)
- IEMA - Institute of Environmental Management & Assessment
- LAP – Local Area for Play
- LCA – Landscape Character Area
- LCT – Landscape Character Type
- LDP – Local Development Plan
- LI – Landscape Institute
- LPA – Local Planning Authority
- LVA – Landscape and Visual Appraisal
- LWS – Local wildlife site
- MAGIC – English Government's online mapping tool
- NCA – National Character Area
- NNR – National Nature Reserve
- NPPF – National Planning Policy Framework
- NTS – Non-Technical Summary
- PROW - Public Rights of Way
- RHPG – Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest
- RSA – Regional Scenic Area
- SAC – Special Area of Conservation
- SAM – Scheduled Ancient Monument
- SLA – Special Landscape Area
- SPA – Special Protection Area
- SPG – Supplementary Planning Guidance

- SSSI – Site of Special Scientific Interest
- TCA – Townscape Character Area
- TPO – Tree Preservation Order
- ZTV – Zone of Theoretical Visibility

Embedded Mitigation Measures

Embedded Mitigation:	▪ Enhancement / reinforcement of a number of existing hedgerows across the Site to retain field boundary patterns in perpetuity where possible, enhance visual screening opportunities, and enhance the existing green infrastructure network; ▪ Proposed native hedgerow planting to introduce new habitat connections where hedgerows are lost to construction wherever possible and suitable; ▪ Proposed native hedgerow planting along the northern and southern cutting of the proposed access track to compensate for the loss of field boundary hedgerows, provide additional visual screening, and provide amenity value; ▪ Seeding areas with species rich grassland where land would no longer be viable for agricultural use to increase amenity and ecological value, with particular focus on purple moor grass and rush pasture; ▪ Planting of woodland blocks southeast and directly west of the substation compound to provide visual screening from nearby properties and enhance key characteristics of the local landscape character; ▪ Planting of individual trees to the east of the substation to break up views towards the substation from sensitive receptors at Bancycapel; ▪ Creation of SuDS ponds south of the proposed access road to provide amenity value and potentially increase Net Benefit for Biodiversity (NBB); ▪ Provision of a 3m landscape bund which effectively wraps around the south-eastern corner of the substation compound planted with scrub up to an additional 5m to provide screening in views from the property to the southeast and from the A484; and ▪ Scrub planting throughout the Proposed Development, including along and between the landscape bund, to aid visual screening, provide additional green network connections, and enhance NBB.
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BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE AND SIGNIFICANCE		
National Landscape Character Area, or Landscape Feature/ Designation	Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)	Value, Susceptibility to Change, OVERALL SENSITIVITY	Description of Change	Size / scale, Geographical Extent, Duration, Reversibility, OVERALL MAGNITUDE	Level and Direction of Effect
Landscape Designations					
Carmarthenshire Bay and Estuaries Special Landscape Area (SLA)	SLAs are a non-statutory designation applied by the local planning authority to define areas of high landscape importance within their administrative boundary. Landscapes designated as an SLA may be unique, exceptional or distinctive to the local authority area. Carmarthenshire Bay and Estuary SLA lies approximately 1.5km west of the Site. The SLA contains distinct landscapes which contribute to the creation of a high-quality landscape. These distinct landscapes are listed by Carmarthenshire Council as: “Coastal Hills: Marros-Pendine, Llanybri, Llansaint and Pembrey Coastal Hills; Coastal slopes: Marros to Wharley Point and St. Ishmael’s coastal slopes; Estuary slopes: the slopes above the estuaries, i.e. the slopes on either side of the Taf and Tywi rivers where they are within the estuary; River estuaries: the rivers channels, and associated mudflats at low tide; Coastal grazing marsh: West Marsh, East Marsh south of Laugharne, south of Kidwelly; Sandy beaches: Pendine and part of Cefn Sidan; Sand dunes: Pendine and part of Cefn Sidan; Salt marsh: This occurs in several areas within the estuaries, and near the coast e.g. Pembrey Saltings; Settlements: Pendine, Laugharne, Llandsteffan and Ferryside.”	Value of SLA: High Susceptibility to Change: High OVERALL SENSITIVITY: HIGH	During Construction: There would be no direct impacts on the SLA as a result of the Proposed Development. Any indirect effects which may arise during the construction phase of works, such as experiential aspects, would be minimal given the overall distance and intervening topography. The most likely elements of the Proposed Development to be experienced from the SLA would be the additional 400kV towers which are expected to be approximately 62m tall. However, these towers would not appear unusual given the existing towers and overhead lines (OHL) adjacent to the Site and which pass through the SLA itself to the west.	During Construction: Size/Scale: No Change Geographical Extent: N/A Duration/Reversibility: N/A OVERALL MAGNITUDE: No Change to any landscape characteristics related to the SLA.	No Change
			On Completion (Year 1): Following completion of the Proposed Development there would be no impact on the qualities or characteristics of the SLA as a result.	On Completion (Year 1): Size/Scale: No Change Geographical Extent: N/A Duration/Reversibility: N/A OVERALL MAGNITUDE: No Change.	No Change
			15 Years After Planting: There is not predicted to be any change from the impacts experienced upon completion of the Proposed Development by year 15.	15yrs After Planting: Size/Scale: No Change Geographical Extent: N/A Duration/Reversibility: N/A OVERALL MAGNITUDE: No Change.	No Change

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE AND SIGNIFICANCE		
National Landscape Character Area, or Landscape Feature/ Designation	Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)	Value, Susceptibility to Change, OVERALL SENSITIVITY	Description of Change	Size / scale, Geographical Extent, Duration, Reversibility, OVERALL MAGNITUDE	Level and Direction of Effect
National Landscape Character Areas (Published Sources)					
National Landscape Character Area (NLCA) 33: Gwendraeth Vales	The Site lies within the western extents of this NCLA, with relevant key characteristics such as: “Small valleys with minor streams cross the landscape, feeding the Gwendraeth, Lougher and Tywi Rivers; - Exposed land on the limestone and sandstone ridges; - Patchwork of medium sized pasture fields enclosed by thick hedges; - Linear settlements linked by a network of roads.” The NCLA is further described as “an area of rolling hills, ridges and minor valleys, comprising the area between the coastal and valley parts of the Tywi, the South Wales Valleys and the Black Mountain part of the Brecon Beacons. The countryside setting... (is a) complex network of small geometric fields surrounded by lush, high hedgerows and small copses. Seasonally waterlogged soils in the valleys support rushy grazing of poor agricultural quality while well drained coarse loamy and sandy soils across much of the character area are used for sheep and dairy pasture.” The majority of the Site lies within this NLCA, with only the northern tip of the Site lying within NLCA 45.	Value of NCA: Medium Susceptibility to Change: Medium OVERALL SENSITIVITY: MEDIUM	During Construction: The majority of the Proposed Development lies within this extensive NLCA, and it would represent a very small, localised change to part of it within its western extents. Short term construction activity would include: - Erection of up to two new 400kV towers circa 62m tall; - Substation comprising a number of vertical structures up to 15m high; - Control buildings; - A construction compound directly south of the exiting access road within existing agricultural land which would include plant and material storage areas, an assembly area, welfare compound and parking area, and a soil storage area; - An electrified security fence, typically 3.4m high; - An access road approximately 5.5m wide with adjacent hardstanding within which the substation equipment would be housed; - Planting of the mitigation proposals outlined in Section 6 of the LVIA; - Typical construction activity such as movement of tall plant, hoardings and task lighting. This would occur across a number of agricultural fields, resulting in a localised change to key characteristics associated with the NLCA such as medium sized pasture fields enclosed by thick hedges. This localised change would not however result in impacts across the wider NLCA and would therefore not intrinsically change its overall character.	During Construction: Size/Scale: Small Geographical Extent: Adjacent landscape level. Duration/Reversibility: Short term/Partially permanent/Partially reversible OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Slight	Minor adverse
			On Completion (Year 1): Following completion of the Proposed Development there is predicted to be a localised change to the existing baseline character of the NLCA as a result of the substation and its related components. This localised change would not permanently alter the key characteristics associated with the wider NLCA, and although some elements associated with it would be visible across the wider area, these elements would not appear unusual given the nature of the existing high voltage towers and OHL. The proposed mitigation planting would, at this stage, not be suitably established to provide screening capabilities.	On Completion (Year 1): Size/Scale: Small Geographical Extent: Adjacent landscape level. Duration/Reversibility: Medium to long term/Partially permanent/Partially reversible OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Slight	Minor adverse
			15 Years After Planting: Following successful establishment of the mitigation proposals outlined in Section 6 of the LVIA, the larger elements associated with the proposed development, i.e. the 400kV towers, OHL, and to a lesser extent the substation and associated buildings, would still be visible from some areas within the wider landscape, and would consequently have some experiential impacts on the characteristics of the NLCA. The mitigation proposals would however allow parts of the Proposed Development to integrate with the surrounding landscape to a degree and would provide additional biodiversity value to current baseline conditions.	15yrs After Planting: Size/Scale: Small Geographical Extent: Adjacent landscape level. Duration/Reversibility: Long term/Partially permanent/Partially reversible OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Negligible	Negligible adverse

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE AND SIGNIFICANCE		
National Landscape Character Area, or Landscape Feature/ Designation	Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)	Value, Susceptibility to Change, OVERALL SENSITIVITY	Description of Change	Size / scale, Geographical Extent, Duration, Reversibility, OVERALL MAGNITUDE	Level and Direction of Effect
National Landscape Character Area (NLCA) 45: Taf, Tywi and Gwendraeth Estuaries	This NLCA lies directly west of the Site, and includes the estuaries of all three rivers as they feed into Carmarthen Bay, broadly forming a star shape. The River Tywi is the central estuary of these three, and the relevant key characteristics are as follows: • <i>“Extensive sand dune systems – define the coastal edge, internationally important for biodiversity including much of southern Britain’s dune alder dominated woodland;</i> • <i>Extensive estuary marshes – grazed by livestock, including horses and ponies;</i> • <i>Rolling hills – between the estuaries, with pasture used for dairy and sheep farming;</i> • <i>Drainage and enclosure pattern – on coastal marshes fields are divided by drainage ditches or fences in a rectilinear pattern. Inland there are medium size irregular fields bounded by hedgerows, many of which are unmanaged;</i> • <i>Settlement pattern – scattered, usually linear and located along the coast, roads or watercourses;</i> • <i>Openness – open and exposed estuaries and coastline contrasting with the more intimate rolling pastures and woodlands of the river valleys.”</i> Only the very northern extents of the Site lie within this NLCA.	Value of NLCA: High Susceptibility to Change: Medium OVERALL SENSITIVITY: HIGH	During Construction: The area of the Site which lies within this NLCA is predominantly the area proposed to accommodate the access track and the construction compound during the construction phase of works. The short term construction of the access track, which would result in the movement of large vehicles and plant, and the introduction of the temporary construction compound, hoardings and task lighting, would result in the loss of field boundary hedgerow and agricultural land over a localised area within the NLCA, and would therefore not result in noticeable impacts overall on its key characteristics. The NLCA is largely concentrated around the estuaries of its associated rivers and valleys, and the Proposed Development, although incurring direct impacts, would not alter the character of those features in any noticeable way.	During Construction: Size/Scale: Very small Geographical Extent: Site level Duration/Reversibility: Short term/Partially permanent/Partially reversible OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Negligible	Minor adverse
			On Completion (Year 1): Following completion of the Proposed Development, in this case largely centred around the access track, there would be direct changes to the localised area within the NLCA. This would include the removal of roadside vegetation and field boundary treatments, and the introduction of a permanent access track to allow for maintenance etc. of the substation. The direct impacts associated with the Proposed Development would not incur any noticeable change overall on the NLCA, and its key characteristics would remain unaffected. The proposed mitigation planting would, at this stage, not be suitably established to provide the predicted screening capabilities.	On Completion: Size/Scale: Very small Geographical Extent: Site level Duration/Reversibility: Long term/Permanent OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Negligible	Minor adverse
			15 Years After Planting: At year 15, following the successful establishment of the mitigation proposals outlined in Section 6 of the LVIA, the access track would appear integrated into its surroundings, and would not be regarded as an unusual addition to the landscape. This would largely be the result of the proposals for hedgerows along the northern edge of the access track, which would be in keeping with the local vernacular, and would provide screening of views towards the track on the approach from the existing access track to the north. Impacts would therefore be reduced from the construction and year 1 phases of the works.	15yrs After Planting: Size/Scale: Very small Geographical Extent: Site level Duration/Reversibility: Long term/Permanent OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Negligible	Negligible adverse

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE AND SIGNIFICANCE		
National Landscape Character Area, or Landscape Feature/ Designation	Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)	Value, Susceptibility to Change, OVERALL SENSITIVITY	Description of Change	Size / scale, Geographical Extent, Duration, Reversibility, OVERALL MAGNITUDE	Level and Direction of Effect
Visual and Sensory Layer: CRMRTVS960 Middleton Hills (LANDMAP)	Key characteristics of CRMRTVS960 Middleton Hills which are applicable to the Site and surrounding area include: “Rolling hills between the Tywi Valley and the Gwendraeth Fach; - areas of woodland and fairly strong field boundaries on medium sized fields, with some hedgerow trees; - well settled with mainly scattered settlement. Value: Moderate. Overall, this is not considered to be an area of high scenic quality; Condition: Good. Generally, well managed improved agricultural land; Overall Evaluation: Moderate.” Elements labelled for conservation across this Layer include: - The semi-natural habitats associated with the landscape, for instance hedgerows, trees and woodlands. This Layer covers an extensive area from south of Bancycafel east as far as Llanarthne.	Value of Layer: Medium Susceptibility to Change: Medium OVERALL SENSITIVITY: MEDIUM	During Construction: The majority of the Proposed Development lies within this relatively extensive Visual and Sensory Layer, and it would represent a very small, localised change to part of it within its south-western extents. Short term construction activity would include: - Erection of up to two new 400kV towers circa 62m tall; - Substation comprising a number of vertical structures up to 15m high (gantry); - Control buildings; - A construction compound directly south of the exiting access road within existing agricultural land which would include plant and material storage areas, an assembly area, welfare compound and parking area, and a soil storage area; - An electrified security fence, typically 3.4m high; - Part of an access road approximately 5.5m wide with adjacent hardstanding within which the substation equipment would be housed; - Planting of the majority of mitigation proposals outlined in Section 6 of the LVIA; - Typical construction activity such as movement of tall plant, hoardings and task lighting. Overall, these changes would represent a barely noticeable change to the wider Layer, and impacts would remain localised within an area which already contains similar infrastructure, i.e. 400kV pylons and OHL.	During Construction: Size/Scale: Small Geographical Extent: Adjacent landscape level. Duration/Reversibility: Short term/Partially permanent/Partially reversible OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Slight	Minor adverse
			On Completion (Year 1): Following completion of the Proposed Development, impacts on the Visual and Sensory Layer would remain localised and direct. Overall however the footprint of the substation and related elements which lie within the Layer would be small in relation to its wider extents. The removal of the short-term elements associated with the construction phase would reduce impacts slightly during operation in the first year. The proposed mitigation planting would, at this stage, not be suitably established to provide fully effective screening capabilities, however the proposals would provide some level of screening for the residential properties to the southwest.	On Completion: Size/Scale: Small Geographical Extent: Adjacent landscape level. Duration/Reversibility: Long term/Partially permanent/Partially reversible. OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Negligible	Negligible adverse
			15 Years After Planting: By year 15 of operation, the material impacts on the character of the Visual and Sensory Layer would remain similar to those experienced at year one of operation, that being the introduction of the additional towers, substation, related maintenance building and other above ground components. The mitigation proposals outlined in Section 6 of the LVIA, including woodland, scrub, hedgerows with hedgerow trees and earthworks, once successfully established would provide some softening of these components in views from the surrounding area lessening impacts to a noticeable degree.	15yrs After Planting: Size/Scale: Small Geographical Extent: Adjacent landscape level. Duration/Reversibility: Long term/Partially permanent/Partially reversible OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Indistinct	Negligible adverse

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE AND SIGNIFICANCE		
National Landscape Character Area, or Landscape Feature/ Designation	Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)	Value, Susceptibility to Change, OVERALL SENSITIVITY	Description of Change	Size / scale, Geographical Extent, Duration, Reversibility, OVERALL MAGNITUDE	Level and Direction of Effect
Visual and Sensory Layer: CRMRTVS936 Llansaint Coastal Hills (LANDMAP)	Key characteristics of CRMRTVS936 Llansaint Coastal Hills which are applicable to the Site and surrounding area include: • <i>“Rolling hills overlooking the coast and the Tywi Estuary;</i> • <i>Dominated by improved agricultural land, some arable (maize);</i> • <i>Strong field boundaries, relatively few trees compared to other parts of the county creating a feeling of exposure, some trees are wind sculpted;</i> • <i>Scattered rural farms and fairly busy country roads.</i> • Value: <i>High. Views towards the coast and estuary in places, as well as the hill top settlement of Llansaint give the area a distinctive character;</i> • Condition: <i>Unassessed;</i> • Overall Evaluation: <i>High. An attractive rhythmically rolling rural landscape, little interrupts it other than the pylons.”</i> Elements labelled for conservation across this layer include: • Field boundaries and traditional buildings that are important within the landscape; • Coastal and estuary views; and • Conserve the appearance of Llansaint by keeping skylines uncluttered. This layer extends from west of Idole in the north to Kidwelly in the south, covering an extensive area that reaches west towards the banks of the River Tywi, and inland to Llandyfaelog.	Value of Layer: High Susceptibility to Change: Medium OVERALL SENSITIVITY: HIGH	During Construction: This Layer would effectively be impacted by the introduction of the proposed temporary construction compound and permanent access track which would provide access to the substation compound for maintenance purposes. The proposed access road would lie south of and parallel with the existing access track, with the temporary construction compound lying between the two. Construction activities would entail the following: • Removal of roadside vegetation and removal of field boundary treatments to provide adequate safe passage of vehicles; • Installation of the construction compound within land to the south of the proposed access track; • Potential area within fields to the north for OHL enabling works; • Construction of temporary hoarding and task lighting where required. The construction works would result in relatively small-scale, localised change within the Layer which would not noticeably alter the key characteristics associated with it. The impacts of construction would be temporary aside from the permanent addition of the access track which would be utilised for maintenance purposes during operation.	During Construction: Size/Scale: Very small Geographical Extent: Site level Duration/Reversibility: Short term/Partially permanent/Partially reversible OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Negligible	Negligible adverse
			On Completion: Following completion of the construction works and subsequent removal of temporary hoardings and large vehicles/plant, impacts would reduce. Any impacts would remain localised within the Site, with little discernible effect on the key characteristics of the wider Llansaint Coastal Hills Visual and Sensory Layer. The proposed mitigation planting would, at this stage, not be suitably established to provide effective screening capabilities, however the proposals would provide some level of screening for the residential properties to the southwest.	On Completion: Size/Scale: Very small Geographical Extent: Site level Duration/Reversibility: Long term/Permanent OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Negligible	Negligible adverse
			15 Years After Planting: The proposed access track would remain a permanent feature of the Site, however the mitigation proposals outlined in Section 6 of the LVIA would be well established and would retain properties associated with the Layers key characteristics while allowing the access track to integrate with its surroundings to a larger degree. The change would remain noticeable locally; however, it would be indiscernible across the wider Llansaint Coastal Hills Visual and Sensory Layer.	15yrs After Planting: Size/Scale: Very small Geographical Extent: Site level Duration/Reversibility: Long term/Permanent OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Negligible	Negligible adverse

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE AND SIGNIFICANCE		
National Landscape Character Area, or Landscape Feature/ Designation	Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)	Value, Susceptibility to Change, OVERALL SENSITIVITY	Description of Change	Size / scale, Geographical Extent, Duration, Reversibility, OVERALL MAGNITUDE	Level and Direction of Effect
Visual and Sensory Layer: CRMRTVS400 Gwendraeth Fach (LANDMAP)	Key characteristics of CRMRTVS400 Gwendraeth Fach which are applicable to the Site and surrounding area include: “A gentle shallow valley, scenically attractive and rural in character, where agriculture is the dominant land use, with some woodlands; - Sparsely settled away from the B roads that cross this valley rather than run along it, with small settlements on these roads e.g. Ponantwn; and - The southern side of the valley abuts the craggy limestone ridge with its quarries. Value: Moderate; Condition: Unassessed Overall Evaluation: Moderate. An attractive river valley agricultural landscape, not spoilt but not remarkable in any way, moderate towards high but considered to be of local importance rather than regional.” Elements labelled for conservation across this layer include: - The quiet nature of the area in contrast to the busier Gwendraeth Fawr; - Ensure the quiet qualities of this area are not adversely affected by the nearby quarrying operations; - Conserve field boundaries and traditional buildings and settlements; and - Enhance the woodlands in this area through appropriate management. This Layer extends from north of Kidwelly northeast as far as Gwendraeth Fach.	Value of Layer: Medium Susceptibility to Change: Medium OVERALL SENSITIVITY: MEDIUM	During Construction: This Layer lies directly east and south of the areas proposed for construction activity (the southern extents of the RLB lies within the Layer, however no construction activity would be undertaken within it, and therefore any effects would be indirect). Construction within the Site footprint would be visible from limited areas on the opposite valley side, but overall, there would be no direct effects, and any change would be highly localised within the wider landscape associated with this Layer.	During Construction: Size/Scale: Very small Geographical Extent: Site level Duration/Reversibility: Short term/Partially permanent/Partially reversible OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Negligible	Negligible adverse
			On Completion: Following completion, the introduction of the Proposed Development would incur a barely perceptible change to the characteristics associated with the Layer, with any change being experiential and indirect to a very small area within the wider Visual and Sensory Layer. Effects are predicted to be similar to those experienced during construction.	On Completion: Size/Scale: Very small Geographical Extent: Site level Duration/Reversibility: Long term/Permanent OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Negligible	Negligible adverse
			15 Years After Planting: Effects are predicted to remain negligible at year 15 as the mitigation proposals would not noticeably alter the experiential change incurred by the Proposed Development.	15yrs After Planting: Size/Scale: Very small Geographical Extent: Site level Duration/Reversibility: Long term/Permanent OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Negligible	Negligible adverse

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE AND SIGNIFICANCE		
National Landscape Character Area, or Landscape Feature/ Designation	Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)	Value, Susceptibility to Change, OVERALL SENSITIVITY	Description of Change	Size / scale, Geographical Extent, Duration, Reversibility, OVERALL MAGNITUDE	Level and Direction of Effect
Landscape Habitat Layer: CRMRTLH042 Llansaint North (LANDMAP)	Key characteristics of CRMRTLH042 Llansaint North which are applicable to the Site and surrounding area include: “A rolling landscape of improved agricultural land between Carmarthen and Kidwelly; - Steep slopes bordering the Twyi and Gwendraeth Estuaries; - Riparian habitat, occasional woodlands and field boundaries form the focus of biodiversity interest. Value: Moderate; Condition: Unassessed; Overall Evaluation: Moderate. Largely improved agricultural land with a low proportion of semi-natural habitat.” Management recommendations for this Layer include: - The Local Biodiversity Action Plan for Carmarthenshire should be consulted as it details actions to safeguard specific ecological receptors including habitats and species. This Habitat Layer comprises an extensive area from Carmarthen in the north to south of Kidwelly in the south, and from the banks of the River Tywi in the west to just west of Llanddarog in the east.	Value of Layer: Medium Susceptibility to Change: Medium OVERALL SENSITIVITY: MEDIUM	During Construction: The Site lies entirely within the Llansaint North Habitat Layer, with the Site footprint representing a very small area in comparison. All construction activity would be undertaken within this Layer, which includes: - Erection of up to two new 400kV towers circa 62m tall; - Substation comprising a number of vertical structures up to 15m high (gantry); - Control buildings; - A construction compound directly south of the exiting access road within existing agricultural land which would include plant and material storage areas, an assembly area, welfare compound and parking area, and a soil storage area; - An electrified security fence, typically 3.4m high; - Part of an access road approximately 5.5m wide with adjacent hardstanding within which the substation equipment would be housed; - Planting of the mitigation proposals outlined in Section 6 of the LVIA; - Typical construction activity such as movement of tall plant, hoardings and task lighting. The introduction of enabling and construction activity within the Site footprint would result in very localised impacts on some of the key characteristics such as field boundaries and agricultural land following the loss of these features, however these impacts would not be noticeably detrimental overall.	During Construction: Size/Scale: Very small Geographical Extent: Adjacent landscape level. Duration/Reversibility: Short term/Partially reversible/Partially permanent OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Negligible	Negligible adverse
			On Completion (Year 1): Upon completion of the Proposed Development, impacts would remain very localised within the wider footprint of the Llansaint North Habitat Layer, and the changes would remain indistinct overall. The removal of construction vehicles/compounds and temporary hoarding would reduce any impacts to Site level from adjacent landscape level; however the mitigation proposals would not yet be fully established.	On Completion (Year 1): Size/Scale: Very small Geographical Extent: Site level. Duration/Reversibility: Long term/Partially permanent/Partially reversible OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Negligible	Negligible adverse
			15 Years After Planting: Although the mitigation proposals are predicted to be successfully established by year 15 of operation, within the wider footprint of the Llansaint North Habitat Layer, on balance, impacts are predicted to remain the same as those experienced during year one overall.	15yrs After Planting: Size/Scale: Very small Geographical Extent: Site level. Duration/Reversibility: Long term/Partially permanent/Partially reversible OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Negligible	Negligible adverse

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE AND SIGNIFICANCE		
National Landscape Character Area, or Landscape Feature/ Designation	Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)	Value, Susceptibility to Change, OVERALL SENSITIVITY	Description of Change	Size / scale, Geographical Extent, Duration, Reversibility, OVERALL MAGNITUDE	Level and Direction of Effect
Historic Landscape Layer: CRMRTL39492 Llandyfaelog, Llangydeyrn (LANDMAP)	Key characteristics of CRMRTL39492 Llandyfaelog, Llangydeyrn which are applicable to the Site and surrounding area include: • <i>"A large area of medium and large irregular field enclosures;</i> • <i>Mainly dispersed farmsteads with the small, nucleated settlement of Llandyfaelog and a collection of cottages at Cloigyn.</i> • Value: Outstanding. This area is a very good example of a Carmarthenshire agricultural landscape and is a major contributor to the overall historic landscape; • Integrity: Outstanding. Landscape is complete with little modern development/intrusion to hinder the visibility of the overall landscape and its patterns; • Survival: Outstanding. Most landscape elements survive. • Condition: Outstanding. The majority of elements survive in very good condition. • Rarity: High. Although this type of landscape can be paralleled elsewhere in Carmarthenshire, it includes some elements of national importance and some rare components. It is a good example of a Carmarthenshire lowland agricultural landscape. • Overall: Outstanding. This area scores highly in all evaluation categories."	Value of Layer: High Susceptibility to Change: Medium OVERALL SENSITIVITY: HIGH	During Construction: The Site lies entirely within the Llandyfaelog, Llangydeyrn Historic Landscape Layer. The Layer is relatively extensive, stretching south of Llandyfaelog northeast towards Llanddarog in a narrow ribbon of land. Enabling and construction activity likely to take place within this layer includes: • Erection of up to two new 400kV towers circa 62m tall; • Substation comprising a number of vertical structures up to 15m high (gantry); • Control buildings; • A construction compound directly south of the exiting access road within existing agricultural land which would include plant and material storage areas, an assembly area, welfare compound and parking area, and a soil storage area; • An electrified security fence, typically 3.4m high; • Part of an access road approximately 5.5m wide with adjacent hardstanding within which the substation equipment would be housed; • Planting of the mitigation proposals outlined in Section 6 of the LVIA; • Typical construction activity such as movement of tall plant, hoardings and task lighting. Given that the Proposed Development would incur change over a relatively small, localised area within the wider Historic Landscape Layer, impacts are not predicted to result in substantial effects. Given the existing presence of 400kV towers and OHL, this would also lessen impacts to a degree, although a number of key characteristics such as field patterns, agricultural character with little modern intrusion would be affected in the short term.	During Construction: Size/Scale: Small Geographical Extent: Adjacent landscape level. Duration/Reversibility: Short term/Partially reversible/Partially permanent OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Negligible	Minor adverse
			On Completion (Year 1): Following completion of the Proposed Development, it would represent a localised change within the footprint of the wider Historic Landscape Layer which would be barely discernible. The additional elements associated with the substation would bring change to intrinsic key characteristics of the Layer; however overall impacts would be limited.	On Completion (Year 1): Size/Scale: Small Geographical Extent: Site level Duration/Reversibility: Long term/Partially reversible/Partially permanent. OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Negligible	Negligible adverse
			15 Years After Planting: Following successful establishment of the mitigation measures outlined in Section 6 of the LVIA, the Proposed Development would integrate further within the existing landscape, however the above-ground elements associated with the substation would remain at odds with the key characteristics associated with the Historic Landscape Layer. Overall however, these impacts would remain limited across the wider landscape.	15yrs After Planting: Size/Scale: Small Geographical Extent: Site level Duration/Reversibility: Long term/Partially reversible/Partially permanent. OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Negligible	Negligible adverse

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE AND SIGNIFICANCE		
National Landscape Character Area, or Landscape Feature/ Designation	Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)	Value, Susceptibility to Change, OVERALL SENSITIVITY	Description of Change	Size / scale, Geographical Extent, Duration, Reversibility, OVERALL MAGNITUDE	Level and Direction of Effect
Landscape Character of the Site, Green Infrastructure Network Contribution, and Landscape Features Within the Site					
Landscape Character of the Site	The Site largely comprises medium scale agricultural land bounded by a mixture of formal and informal hedgerows with hedgerow trees. This type of agricultural land is typical within the 3km study area, with settlement largely comprising scattered farmsteads with hamlets and villages such as Bancycafel, Idole and Llandyfaelog also present. This raised plateau affords occasional views across the surrounding generally open, largely unspoilt landscape which has a high degree of scenic quality. An access track (C2074) bounds the north of the Site, while the A484 bounds the Site's western extents. The Site lies on a plateau of high ground, falling relatively sharply to the south from approximately 120m AOD to 43m AOD on the valley floor, to the north more gently to approximately 113m AOD, towards the River Tywi some 1.5km west, and to the east where it meets the B4309. The rural character of the landscape is altered by the two sets of 400kV electricity pylons and OHL which pass through the western-central part of the Site broadly running north to south parallel with each other. In addition, timber low-voltage (132kV) trident wood poles and overhead cables pass through the northern part of the Site broadly west to east before turning north to pass west of Bwlch-Y-Gwynt Farm. Overall land within the Site is typically rural, however the existing electricity infrastructure, and to some degree the presence of the A484 combine to exert a man-made influence on its character.	Value of Local Landscape Character of the Site: Medium Susceptibility to Change: Medium OVERALL SENSITIVITY: MEDIUM	<u>During Construction:</u> Construction activity would bring a noticeable change to land within the Site and would alter its character from largely agricultural/rural to industrial. The existing influence of the electricity infrastructure would offset this change to a limited degree, as parts of the Proposed Development would not appear uncharacteristic, but would lead to an intensification, in particular the additional 400kV towers and OHL. The construction of the elements within the Site including: • The substation itself and its associated ancillary elements; • Control buildings; • A construction compound directly south of the exiting access road within existing agricultural land which would include plant and material storage areas, an assembly area, welfare compound and parking area, and a soil storage area; • Security fence up to 3.4m high; • Temporary hoardings; • Passive infra-red security lighting and closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras; • Metalled internal access road approximately 5.5m wide with adjacent hard standing; • Diesel generators for back up supply; • Construction compound within fields south of the access track; and • Widened access track to provide safe passage for construction vehicles. These elements would result in short term and long-term changes to the existing Site character.	<u>During Construction:</u> Size/Scale: Large Geographical Extent: Site level Duration/Reversibility: Short term/Partially reversible/Partially permanent OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Moderate, largely as a result of the existence of electricity infrastructure across the Site, and the overall partial change within the RLB.	Moderate adverse
			<u>On Completion (Year 1):</u> Following completion of the Proposed Development, the impacts on the character of land within the Site would remain given its partially permanent/permanent nature and intensification of infrastructure at this location. The cessation of construction activity including the movement of large vehicles/plant and removal of the construction compound, temporary hoarding and task lighting would reduce impacts slightly, however the mitigation proposals outlined in Section 6 of the LVIA would not be established at this point and would therefore only be partially effective in restoring lost character.	<u>On Completion (Year 1):</u> Size/Scale: Large Geographical Extent: Site level Duration/Reversibility: Long term/Partially permanent/Partially reversible OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Moderate	Moderate adverse
			<u>15 Years After Planting:</u> Following successful establishment of the proposed mitigation measures, the Proposed Development would have integrated within the landscape to some degree – in particular the establishment of new hedgerows, hedgerow trees, scrub and other field boundary treatments such as hedgerow enhancement would restore elements of the Site's previous character and would be complimented by additional screening afforded by the proposed woodland and earthworks. The introduction of the additional 400kV towers, earthworks and other above ground substation elements would however remain as a noticeable change.	<u>15yrs After Planting:</u> Size/Scale: Medium Geographical Extent: Site level Duration/Reversibility: Long term/Partially permanent/Partially reversible OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Slight	Minor adverse

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE AND SIGNIFICANCE		
National Landscape Character Area, or Landscape Feature/ Designation	Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)	Value, Susceptibility to Change, OVERALL SENSITIVITY	Description of Change	Size / scale, Geographical Extent, Duration, Reversibility, OVERALL MAGNITUDE	Level and Direction of Effect
Green Infrastructure Network – (function of the Site)	The Site performs a function of the green network through its well-connected field boundary treatments which are typical of the area. They appear to be relatively robust and generally provide good connections with the wider landscape and field boundaries. Hedgerows are however at times a monoculture, lacking in diversity which would increase ecological value. Given the land is either arable or pastoral however, in biodiversity terms it is not as diverse as areas of land in the vicinity; in particular land to the south of the western arm of the Site.	Value of Green Infrastructure Network: Medium Susceptibility to Change: Medium OVERALL SENSITIVITY: MEDIUM	During Construction: There is predicted to be loss of existing green infrastructure capability during the construction phase of the Proposed Development as hedgerows and hedgerow trees are removed to provide access for large vehicles and plant along the proposed access track and provide areas for construction of the substation and ancillary components. Field boundary treatments and existing agricultural land would be kept intact where practicable; however, there would be a partial loss of vegetation within the footprint of the Site to accommodate the Proposed Development.	During Construction: Size/Scale: Large Geographical Extent: Site level Duration/Reversibility: Long term/Permanent OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Moderate	Moderate adverse
			On Completion (Year 1): Following completion of the Proposed Development, the partial loss of field boundary treatments which perform the function of green infrastructure would remain, replaced by infrastructure associated with the substation. The mitigation proposals submitted as part of the landscape strategy for the Proposed Development would provide an element of the previous function associated with hedgerows and hedgerow trees along with new areas of scrub; however new planting would not be fully established at year one of operation and would therefore not provide fully for the loss.	On Completion (Year 1): Size/Scale: Large Geographical Extent: Site level Duration/Reversibility: Long term/Permanent OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Moderate	Moderate adverse
			15 Years After Planting: By year 15 of the Proposed Development, the mitigation proposals proposed within Section 6 of the LVIA are predicted to be successfully established, and would, to a degree, retain a similar function to the previous green infrastructure across the Site. The mitigation would not however fully replace the connections provided previously by the field boundary treatments, and therefore some level of adverse effect would remain.	15yrs After Planting: Size/Scale: Medium Geographical Extent: Site level Duration/Reversibility: Long term/Reversible OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Slight	Minor adverse

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE AND SIGNIFICANCE		
National Landscape Character Area, or Landscape Feature/ Designation	Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)	Value, Susceptibility to Change, OVERALL SENSITIVITY	Description of Change	Size / scale, Geographical Extent, Duration, Reversibility, OVERALL MAGNITUDE	Level and Direction of Effect
Long Distance Walking Routes, Public Rights of Way and National Cycle Networks	There are a number of PRoW across the study area, and the Wales Coast Path, which is a long-distance walking route, lies some 1km west of the Site. One PRoW passes through the Site's southern area which would be utilised for OHL construction enabling works, this being PRoW 29/14/2 which passes east to west along the connecting road between Cwmafael and Crugan Fach Farms. One National Cyle Network (NCN) Route lies within the study area (NCN Route 4) approximately 620m west of the proposed access road where it links with the Wales Coast Path.	Value of Public Rights of Way: High (NCN Route 4/Wales Coast Path)/Medium other PRoW. Susceptibility to Change: Medium OVERALL SENSITIVITY: High (NCN Route 4/Wales Coast Path)/Medium other PRoW.	During Construction: PRoW beyond the Site, Wales Coast Path long-distance footpath, and NCN 4 are not predicted to experience any direct effects as a result of the Proposed Development during the construction phase. PRoW 29/14/2, which lies within the southern extents of the Site, would experience short-term limited experiential effects during construction as a result of the movement of large vehicles etc.	During Construction: Size/Scale: Small Geographical Extent: Site level Duration/Reversibility: Brief/Reversible OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Negligible	Negligible adverse
			On Completion (Year 1): Following completion of the Proposed Development, and in particular the OHL construction enabling works which would temporarily affect the PRoW during the construction phase, no impacts are predicted on PRoW 29/14/2 or any of the remaining PRoW, or NCN Route 4/Wales Coast Path.	On Completion (Year 1): Size/Scale: No change Geographical Extent: N/A Duration/Reversibility: N/A OVERALL MAGNITUDE: No change	No Change
			15 Years After Planting: Effects at year 15 of operation are predicted to be the same as those experienced at year 1.	15yrs After Planting: Size/Scale: No change Geographical Extent: N/A Duration/Reversibility: N/A OVERALL MAGNITUDE: No change	No Change

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE AND SIGNIFICANCE		
National Landscape Character Area, or Landscape Feature/ Designation	Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)	Value, Susceptibility to Change, OVERALL SENSITIVITY	Description of Change	Size / scale, Geographical Extent, Duration, Reversibility, OVERALL MAGNITUDE	Level and Direction of Effect
Landscape features: Landform of the Site	In general, landform across the Site is relatively flat, falling gradually north to south between 130m AOD and 120m AOD before rising again slightly just north of Crugan Fach Farm to 130m AOD. Land falls sharply south of Crugan Fach Farm, creating a valley down to Gwendraeth Fach River. Elsewhere land is broadly undulating, creating valleys and dips characteristic of the area.	Value of Landscape Feature: Medium Susceptibility to Change: Medium OVERALL SENSITIVITY: MEDIUM	<u>During Construction:</u> Changes to landform to accommodate the Proposed Development would be broadly confined to earthworks and level changes during construction of the access track and the substation including areas of cut and fill. Groundworks in the form of a landscape bund are also proposed as part of the visual mitigation proposals directly southwest of the proposed substation to an approximate height of 3m, planted with scrub (up to 5m). This would be considered and designed to not appear obtrusive or uncharacteristic within the local landscape vernacular and would take cognisance of safety with regards to OHL where the bund height would reduce. Levels are unlikely to change around the areas for the proposed 400kV towers, and land would be returned to its previous condition as far as practicable following/during installation. Changes made to accommodate the access track and other hardstanding areas within the substation compound would however be permanent.	<u>During Construction:</u> Size/Scale: Medium Geographical Extent: Site level Duration/Reversibility: Long term/Permanent OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Moderate	Moderate adverse
			<u>On Completion (Year 1):</u> Following completion of the Proposed Development, the changes undertaken as part of the construction phase would remain, i.e. level changes to accommodate the access track and the hardstanding within the substation compound. As a result, the impacts would remain the same.	<u>On Completion (Year 1):</u> Size/Scale: Medium Geographical Extent: Site level Duration/Reversibility: Long term/Permanent OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Moderate	Moderate adverse
			<u>15 Years After Planting:</u> Impacts on landform by year 15 would remain the same as those experienced at construction and Year 1 given their permanent nature.	<u>15yrs After Planting:</u> Size/Scale: Medium Geographical Extent: Site level Duration/Reversibility: Long term/Permanent OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Moderate	Moderate adverse

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE AND SIGNIFICANCE		
National Landscape Character Area, or Landscape Feature/ Designation	Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)	Value, Susceptibility to Change, OVERALL SENSITIVITY	Description of Change	Size / scale, Geographical Extent, Duration, Reversibility, OVERALL MAGNITUDE	Level and Direction of Effect
Landscape features: Trees, woodland and hedgerows within the Site	Hedgerows and hedgerow trees are a feature across the Site, acting as field boundary treatments typically characteristic of the area. Where hedgerow trees are more prevalent, i.e. north and south of the existing access track near the junction with the A484, and adjacent to the existing 400kV pylons within the northern part of the Site, they form linear woodland. There are no individual trees within the agricultural fields, however there is a linear belt of woodland, approximately 65m wide, within the southernmost extents of the Site boundary which is earmarked for OHL construction enabling works. Hedgerows within the Site boundary are predominantly informal, and generally robust although gappy at times, however there are areas of more formal hedgerows throughout.	Value of Landscape Feature: Medium Susceptibility to Change: Medium OVERALL SENSITIVITY: Medium	<u>During Construction:</u> There would be a partial loss of field boundary treatments during the construction phase of works to accommodate the proposed access track and the substation compound. Stantec undertook an Arboricultural Impact Assessment in January 2025 and identified the following: - Eight individual trees, four groups of trees, and four hedgerows would need to be removed in full in order to accommodate the Proposed Development. - Four groups of trees and ten hedgerows would be partially removed in order to accommodate the Proposed Development. There is predicted to be some loss of hedgerow trees, including linear woodland to provide for the proposed access track, as illustrated on Drawing PDD-101256-LAY-053.	<u>During Construction:</u> Size/Scale: Large Geographical Extent: Site level Duration/Reversibility: Medium term/Partially permanent/Partially reversible OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Moderate as a result of partial loss.	Moderate adverse
			<u>On Completion (Year 1):</u> Following completion of the Proposed Development, the mitigation proposals outlined in Section 6 of the LVIA prescribe replacement of lost hedgerows and woodland where possible and pertaining to local vernacular. This would include: - New hedgerow along the northern boundary of the proposed access road; - New hedgerow along the western edge of the substation site; - Woodland planting to the southwest of the Site to provide future screening opportunities; - Planting of individual trees along the eastern edge of the Site extents to break up views towards the Proposed Development from the east; - New scrub planting around the southern extents of the Site to provide green infrastructure connections and increased NBB. Although these proposed mitigation measures would be planted to replace lost vegetation, at year one of operation they would not be adequately established and therefore would not perform the function for which they were intended. Consequently, the impacts on trees, hedgerows and woodland within the Site experienced during construction largely remain.	<u>On Completion (Year 1):</u> Size/Scale: Large Geographical Extent: Site level Duration/Reversibility: Medium term/Partially permanent/Partially reversible OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Moderate	Moderate adverse
			<u>15 Years After Planting:</u> Following successful establishment of the mitigation measures proposed for the Site, including new planting and enhancement of existing hedgerows, these measures would go some way towards reducing the overall effects of the Proposed Development on these features. The proposed hedgerows and individual trees along with the woodland areas would provide strong green infrastructure connections across the Site, and would, to some degree, allow the substation compound to integrate within its wider surroundings.	<u>15yrs After Planting:</u> Size/Scale: Medium Geographical Extent: Site level Duration/Reversibility: Long term/Partially permanent/Partially reversible OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Slight	Minor adverse

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE AND SIGNIFICANCE		
National Landscape Character Area, or Landscape Feature/ Designation	Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)	Value, Susceptibility to Change, OVERALL SENSITIVITY	Description of Change	Size / scale, Geographical Extent, Duration, Reversibility, OVERALL MAGNITUDE	Level and Direction of Effect
Landscape features: Field Pattern / Field Boundaries	The field pattern within the Site boundary is generally characteristic of the area, that is medium to large sized, irregular patterned, predominantly arable land. LANDMAP identified this pattern as “a good example of a Carmarthenshire lowland agricultural landscape”. Field boundaries, as discussed previously, are broadly made up of predominantly informal hedgerow with occasional hedgerow trees, well-formed generally although gappy in places, with the hedgerow trees at times forming narrow linear woodland. Occasionally the field boundaries are formed by scrub vegetation as opposed to hedgerows, although this appears less common overall.	Value of Landscape Feature: Medium Susceptibility to Change: Medium OVERALL SENSITIVITY: MEDIUM	<u>During Construction:</u> The construction of the substation compound and ancillary elements would result in loss of both field pattern and field boundaries as they are removed to be replaced by the Proposed Development. This would result in a substantial change overall to the field pattern and boundary treatments and would consequently alter the character and use of land within the Site boundaries. This would predominantly occur within the eastern area of the Site which would house the substation compound, and the linear stretch of land for the proposed access road, with other areas remaining largely unaffected.	<u>During Construction:</u> Size/Scale: Large Geographical Extent: Site level Duration/Reversibility: Long term/Partially permanent/Partially reversible OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Moderate	Moderate adverse
			<u>On Completion (Year 1):</u> The resulting loss of field boundary treatments and alterations to field pattern following the construction phase would remain during year one of operation. The inclusion of additional planting as part of the proposed mitigation measures would go some way to replacing lost features, however these would not be established and therefore the loss of character through impacts on field pattern and field boundaries would remain broadly similar to those experienced during the construction phase of works.	<u>On Completion (Year 1):</u> Size/Scale: Large Geographical Extent: Site level Duration/Reversibility: Long term/Partially permanent/Partially reversible OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Moderate	Moderate adverse
			<u>15 Years After Planting:</u> By year 15 of operation, the loss of field pattern would remain given the permanent footprint of the substation compound and proposed access road, however field boundary treatments, although not returned to baseline conditions, would provide a function similar or improved from current conditions as a result of the successful establishment of: - Hedgerow along the northern and southern edge of the proposed access road; - Enhancement of existing hedgerows where required, and which remained following the construction phase; - New hedgerow planting in strategic areas within the Site boundary to provide improved ecological networks where possible. Therefore, although the baseline field pattern would be permanently altered, impacts would reduce by year 15 as a result of successful implementation of the mitigation proposals.	<u>15yrs After Planting:</u> Size/Scale: Medium Geographical Extent: Site level Duration/Reversibility: Long term/Partially permanent/partially reversible OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Slight	Minor adverse

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE AND SIGNIFICANCE		
National Landscape Character Area, or Landscape Feature/ Designation	Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)	Value, Susceptibility to Change, OVERALL SENSITIVITY	Description of Change	Size / scale, Geographical Extent, Duration, Reversibility, OVERALL MAGNITUDE	Level and Direction of Effect
Existing Infrastructure	Existing infrastructure within the Site comprises six 400kV high voltage towers and associated OHL, and three trident wood poles 132kV low-voltage towers and associated OHL. The 400kV towers and OHL run broadly north to south through the Site, passing to the east of Llwyngwcw and Cwmafael farms, and to the west of Crugan Fach Farm. The 132kV towers and OHL enter the Site from the west, passing under the 400kV towers before turning northeast and eventually north between Llwyngwcw Farm and Bwlch Y Gwynt Farm.	Value of Landscape Feature: Low Susceptibility to Change: Low OVERALL SENSITIVITY: LOW	<u>During Construction:</u> During construction there are anticipated to be a number of minor changes across the Site in relation to the existing infrastructure. These include but are not limited to: - Relocation of one 132kV wood pole and associated OHL; - Up to two additional 400kV towers and a gantry to connect to the existing OHL to allow the diversion of existing lines into the new substation. Given the existing presence of electricity infrastructure across the Site, the changes which would be undertaken on these features during construction is not considered to result in notable impacts. The existing single-track lane and access gate(s) which passes along the Site's northern boundary would be utilised as access to the construction compound.	<u>During Construction:</u> Size/Scale: Moderate Geographical Extent: Site level Duration/Reversibility: Partially permanent/partially reversible change associated with the changes to the 400kV and 132kV pylons. OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Negligible	Negligible adverse
			<u>On Completion:</u> Permanent changes made as a result of the Proposed Development would remain during operation, and therefore the impacts would also remain. As a result, the magnitude of impact would remain the same as that experienced during construction.	<u>On Completion:</u> Size/Scale: Moderate Geographical Extent: Site level Duration/Reversibility: Partially permanent/partially reversible change associated with the changes to the 400kV and 132kV pylons. OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Negligible	Negligible adverse
			<u>15 Years After Planting:</u> As with operation in year one, the permanent changes brought about by the Proposed Development on existing infrastructure would remain at year 15, and therefore the magnitude of impact would remain negligible.	<u>15yrs After Planting:</u> Size/Scale: Moderate Geographical Extent: Site level Duration/Reversibility: Partially permanent/partially reversible change associated with the changes to the 400kV and 132kV pylons. OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Negligible	Negligible adverse

Embedded Mitigation Measures

Embedded Mitigation:	- Enhancement / reinforcement of a number of existing hedgerows across the Site to retain field boundary patterns in perpetuity where possible, enhance visual screening opportunities, and enhance the existing green infrastructure network; - Proposed native hedgerow planting to introduce new habitat connections where hedgerows are lost to construction wherever possible and suitable; - Proposed native hedgerow planting along the northern and southern cutting of the proposed access track to compensate for the loss of field boundary hedgerows, provide additional visual screening, and provide amenity value; - Seeding areas with species rich grassland where land would no longer be viable for agricultural use to increase amenity and ecological value, with particular focus on purple moor grass and rush pasture; - Planting of woodland blocks southeast and directly west of the substation compound to provide visual screening from nearby properties and enhance key characteristics of the local landscape character; - Planting of individual trees to the east of the substation to break up views towards the substation from sensitive receptors at Bancycapel; - Creation of SuDS ponds south of the proposed access road to provide amenity value and potentially increase Net Benefit for Biodiversity (NBB); - Provision of a 3m landscape bund which effectively wraps around the south-eastern corner of the substation compound planted with scrub up to an additional 5m to provide screening in views from the property to the southeast and from the A484; and - Scrub planting throughout the Proposed Development, including along and between the landscape bund, to aid visual screening, provide additional green network connections, and enhance NBB.
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Representative Views Assessment:

The representative views assessment considers people’s baseline views and visual amenity from selected locations.

Baseline Photos:

To aid the reader’s understanding, baseline photos are included as thumbnails at the foot of each visual receptor assessment sheet, with the full-size images within **Appendix A, Figure L5**.

Terminology for Visual Effect:			
Type of View:	Glimpsed, Filtered, Oblique, Framed, Open	Geographical Extent of Effect:	Widespread, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small
Number of Viewers:	Few, Moderate, Many	Duration:	Long-term, Medium-term, Short-term, Brief
Value of Views:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Reversibility:	Permanent / Partially Reversible / Reversible
Susceptibility to Change:	High, Medium, Low	Overall Magnitude of Effect:	Major, Moderate, Slight, Negligible, Neutral, No Change
Overall Sensitivity of Receptor:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Direction of Effect:	Adverse, Beneficial, Neutral
Size/Scale of Visual Effect:	Very Large, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small, No Change	Type of Effect:	Temporary, Permanent / Direct, Indirect
		Level of Effect:	Substantial, Major, Moderate, Minor, Negligible, No Change

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY				CHANGE AND SIGNIFICANCE		
Visual Receptor / View Location	National Landscape Character Area and Approx. Distance to Site Boundary	Description of Baseline View, Type and number of View and Visual Receptors	Value of Views, Susceptibility to Change: OVERALL SENSITIVITY	Description of Change to the View	Size / scale, Geographical Extent and Duration, Reversibility, OVERALL MAGNITUDE	Level and Direction of Effect
VL1: View from PRow 29/14/2 between Cwmafael and Crugan Fach farms	NLCA: 33: Gwendraeth Vales Distance: Adjacent to Site boundary (Short-distance)	Baseline Description, Type of View, Viewer and Number of Users: At this location views look south across the Gwendraeth Valley, and land dominated by agriculture, woodland and hedgerows. Existing electrical infrastructure is also prevalent within the view however, with high-voltage towers and overhead lines visually prominent given their proximity. Distant views as far as the Gower Peninsula are possible between areas of high ground in the middle-distance, although again these views are broken up by intervening overhead cables. The view therefore is relatively open, although largely foreshortened to the middle-distance by landform. These views are likely to be experienced by few receptors given that during field surveys assessors could not access the full length of the PRow and were forced to turn back.	Value of Views: Medium Susceptibility to Change: Medium OVERALL SENSITIVITY: MEDIUM	During Construction (All Phases): During construction all activity would be behind the view and landform which promotes views south across the valley at this location, therefore there is no visual change predicted.	During Construction: Size/Scale: N/A Geographical Extent: N/A Duration/Reversibility: N/A OVERALL MAGNITUDE: No change	No change
				On Completion: Following construction, the Proposed Development would be behind the view at this location; therefore, no visual change is predicted.	On Completion: Size/Scale: N/A Geographical Extent: N/A Duration/Reversibility: N/A OVERALL MAGNITUDE: No change	No change
				After 15 Years: The Proposed Development would be behind the view at this location; therefore, no visual change is predicted.	After 15 Years: Size/Scale: N/A Geographical Extent: N/A Duration/Reversibility: N/A OVERALL MAGNITUDE: No change	No change



Terminology for Visual Effect:						
Type of View:	Glimpsed, Filtered, Oblique, Framed, Open	Geographical Extent of Effect:	Widespread, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small			
Number of Viewers:	Few, Moderate, Many	Duration:	Long-term, Medium-term, Short-term, Brief			
Value of Views:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Reversibility:	Permanent / Partially Reversible / Reversible			
Susceptibility to Change:	High, Medium, Low	Overall Magnitude of Effect:	Major, Moderate, Slight, Negligible, Neutral, No Change			
Overall Sensitivity of Receptor:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Direction of Effect:	Adverse, Beneficial, Neutral			
Size/Scale of Visual Effect:	Very Large, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small, No Change	Type of Effect:	Temporary, Permanent / Direct, Indirect			
		Level of Effect:	Substantial, Major, Moderate, Minor, Negligible, No Change			

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY				CHANGE AND SIGNIFICANCE		
Visual Receptor / View Location	National Landscape Character Area and Approx. Distance to Site Boundary	Description of Baseline View, Type and number of View and Visual Receptors	Value of Views, Susceptibility to Change: OVERALL SENSITIVITY	Description of Change to the View	Size / scale, Geographical Extent and Duration, Reversibility, OVERALL MAGNITUDE	Level and Direction of Effect
VL1a: View from field gate near Lanfryn residence	NLCA: 33: Gwendraeth Vales Distance: 350m (Short-distance)	Baseline Description, Type of View, Viewer and Number of Users: This view looks broadly northeast across rolling agricultural land typical of the surrounding area and is broadly representative of the nearby property which would experience similar views. Existing electrical infrastructure dominates the skyline, with high-voltage pylons and overhead lines traversing the landscape north to south. The Lanfryn residence lies approximately 55m northwest of this location. Cwmafael Farm can be seen in the middle-distance. The view here is framed by the mature field boundary hedgerows on either side which results in focussed views across a landscape partially characterised by electricity infrastructure. Although this view illustrates visibility from the field gate south of the Lanfryn residence it is considered that views from the property would be similar in nature, and therefore this view has been used to illustrate and assess the potential visual changes for residents at Lanfryn.	Value of Views: Medium Susceptibility to Change: High OVERALL SENSITIVITY: HIGH	During Construction: There would be direct views towards the works including construction of the proposed substation, erection of the additional towers and OHL, and earthworks proposed as landscape and visual mitigation. Temporary fencing may reduce visibility of construction activity; however, the change would be clearly noticeable for nearby residents and would have a noticeable effect on its overall composition.	During Construction: Size/Scale: Medium Geographical Extent: Small Duration/Reversibility: Medium-term / Partially reversible OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Moderate	Major Adverse
		On Completion: Following completion of the Proposed Development, elements of the proposed substation, new towers and associated infrastructure, proposed earthworks and associated planting would result in a perceptible visual change at this location. The proposed earthworks and woodland block planting would provide some additional filtering of views towards the Proposed Development; however, the planting would not be fully established and would not effectively perform the screening function for which it was intended at this stage, therefore the change would remain similar to that experienced during construction.		On Completion: Size/Scale: Medium Geographical Extent: Small Duration/Reversibility: Long-term / Permanent OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Moderate	Major Adverse	
		After 15 Years: Once the proposed mitigation measures have established, in particular the proposed woodland block northeast of the view, and scrub planting atop the proposed landscape bund, views towards the elements within the substation compound would be partially screened. The change overall would remain perceptible for receptors of high sensitivity, particularly the additional towers and OHL, although given the existing presence of electrical infrastructure within the view their addition would not be entirely anomalous.		After 15 Years: Size/Scale: Small Geographical Extent: Small Duration/Reversibility: Long-term / Permanent OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Slight	Moderate Adverse	
						

Terminology for Visual Effect:					
Type of View:	Glimpsed, Filtered, Oblique, Framed, Open	Geographical Extent of Effect:	Widespread, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small		
Number of Viewers:	Few, Moderate, Many	Duration:	Long-term, Medium-term, Short-term, Brief		
Value of Views:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Reversibility:	Permanent / Partially Reversible / Reversible		
Susceptibility to Change:	High, Medium, Low	Overall Magnitude of Effect:	Major, Moderate, Slight, Negligible, Neutral, No Change		
Overall Sensitivity of Receptor:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Direction of Effect:	Adverse, Beneficial, Neutral		
Size/Scale of Visual Effect:	Very Large, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small, No Change	Type of Effect:	Temporary, Permanent / Direct, Indirect		
		Level of Effect:	Substantial, Major, Moderate, Minor, Negligible, No Change		

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY				CHANGE AND SIGNIFICANCE		
Visual Receptor / View Location	National Landscape Character Area and Approx. Distance to Site Boundary	Description of Baseline View, Type and number of View and Visual Receptors	Value of Views, Susceptibility to Change: OVERALL SENSITIVITY	Description of Change to the View	Size / scale, Geographical Extent and Duration, Reversibility, OVERALL MAGNITUDE	Level and Direction of Effect
VL2: View from PRow 29/14/2 through Pen y maes woodland	NLCA: 33: Gwendraeth Vales Distance: 190m (Short-distance)	Baseline Description, Type of View, Viewer and Number of Users: At this location looking west from the PRow, views are largely foreshortened by intervening landform. The location is approximately 250m southeast of Pen Y Maes Farm. Middle-distance southwest views are of agricultural land interspersed with woodland, hedgerows and individual trees. Where the skyline is not formed by these features it is formed by electrical pylons and overhead cables, with three towers visible within the view. The intervening landform results in a generally enclosed view, expected to be experienced by few users given the PRow does not connect further southwest near Crugan Fach.	Value of Views: Medium Susceptibility to Change: Medium OVERALL SENSITIVITY: MEDIUM	During Construction: Receptors would experience a partial, clearly noticeable change during the construction phase, which would be concentrated on the construction of elements within the southern part of the compound. This would include the construction of earthworks at the south-eastern corner of the compound and associated large plant, along with temporary and permanent fencing. This would result in a partial, clearly noticeable change in views west for receptors as they travel along the local PRow. Although electrical infrastructure is already within the view, the introduction of construction activity and the emerging substation elements would noticeably degrade the appreciation of the view.	During Construction: Size/Scale: Medium Geographical Extent: Small Duration/Reversibility: Medium-term / Partially reversible OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Moderate	Moderate Adverse
				On Completion: Following completion, the Proposed Development would cause a perceptible change for receptors, although views would generally be restricted to the southern part of the compound. This would result in a perceptible contrast to the predominant character of the baseline features which is agricultural land, moderately decreasing the appreciation of the view.	On Completion: Size/Scale: Small Geographical Extent: Small Duration/Reversibility: Long-term / Permanent OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Moderate	Moderate adverse
				After 15 Years: By year 15, views towards the elements within the Proposed Development would remain broadly similar to those experienced upon completion, although the proposed scrub planting to the southeast corner of the compound and additional tree planting on the eastern Site extents would 'soften' the view and would partially screen or filter visibility of some lower elements.	After 15 Years: Size/Scale: Small Geographical Extent: Small Duration/Reversibility: Long-term / Permanent OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Slight	Minor Adverse

Terminology for Visual Effect:					
Type of View:	Glimpsed, Filtered, Oblique, Framed, Open	Geographical Extent of Effect:	Widespread, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small		
Number of Viewers:	Few, Moderate, Many	Duration:	Long-term, Medium-term, Short-term, Brief		
Value of Views:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Reversibility:	Permanent / Partially Reversible / Reversible		
Susceptibility to Change:	High, Medium, Low	Overall Magnitude of Effect:	Major, Moderate, Slight, Negligible, Neutral, No Change		
Overall Sensitivity of Receptor:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Direction of Effect:	Adverse, Beneficial, Neutral		
Size/Scale of Visual Effect:	Very Large, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small, No Change	Type of Effect:	Temporary, Permanent / Direct, Indirect		
		Level of Effect:	Substantial, Major, Moderate, Minor, Negligible, No Change		

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY				CHANGE AND SIGNIFICANCE		
Visual Receptor / View Location	National Landscape Character Area and Approx. Distance to Site Boundary	Description of Baseline View, Type and number of View and Visual Receptors	Value of Views, Susceptibility to Change: OVERALL SENSITIVITY	Description of Change to the View	Size / scale, Geographical Extent and Duration, Reversibility, OVERALL MAGNITUDE	Level and Direction of Effect
VL3: View from field gate on the C2074 looking east	NLCA: 33: Gwendraeth Vales Distance: Adjacent to Site boundary (Short-distance)	Baseline Description, Type of View, Viewer and Number of Users: At this location views look east from a field gate situated along the C2074 approximately 280m west of Bwlch-y-Gwynt. The view is framed by mature field boundary vegetation on either side, particularly to the left as mature trees entirely screen views beyond. Views stretch east cross agricultural land, generally as far as the middle-distance, where informal field boundary hedgerows screen further visibility. Distant views towards higher ground to the east around Crwbin are possible but are not prominent within the overall view. Overhead lines are also visible, but do not generally detract from the available view. This view is experienced by few receptors, most likely residents of nearby properties and users of the C2074 travelling towards Bancycapel who would experience fleeting views as they pass the field gate opening.	Value of Views: Low Susceptibility to Change: Low OVERALL SENSITIVITY: LOW	During Construction: For receptors at this location, the introduction of construction activity would result in a noticeable change to views within a very focussed area through the field gate entrance, although it is likely tall plant, and other infrastructure would also be visible above the adjacent roadside hedgerows further west. Construction activity would be viewed obliquely, and mainly glimpsed, but where visible would result in the loss of agricultural land, replaced by drainage earthworks, temporary and permanent fencing, and substation elements.	During Construction: Size/Scale: Large Geographical Extent: Large Duration/Reversibility: Medium-term / Partially reversible OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Moderate	Minor adverse
		On Completion: Following completion, the change as a result of the Proposed Development would remain clearly noticeable; however other than direct views through the field gate, visibility of the substation elements would be confined to glimpses above the roadside hedgerows. Reinforcement planting is proposed along these hedgerows in addition to new hedgerow planting at the field gate; however, this would not yet be fully established and would not effectively perform the screening function for which it was intended at this stage.		On Completion: Size/Scale: Medium Geographical Extent: Small Duration/Reversibility: Long-term / Permanent OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Moderate	Minor adverse	
		After 15 Years: By year 15 the proposed hedgerow planting across the field gate would provide an established connection with existing vegetation and would subsequently provide reasonable screening in views towards the Proposed Development. Taller elements within the compound would remain visible above the hedgerows, resulting in a perceptible change, however this would be glimpses, and would only partially alter the appreciation of the view.		After 15 Years: Size/Scale: Very small Geographical Extent: Small Duration/Reversibility: Long-term / Permanent OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Negligible	Negligible adverse	
						

Terminology for Visual Effect:					
Type of View:	Glimpsed, Filtered, Oblique, Framed, Open	Geographical Extent of Effect:	Widespread, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small		
Number of Viewers:	Few, Moderate, Many	Duration:	Long-term, Medium-term, Short-term, Brief		
Value of Views:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Reversibility:	Permanent / Partially Reversible / Reversible		
Susceptibility to Change:	High, Medium, Low	Overall Magnitude of Effect:	Major, Moderate, Slight, Negligible, Neutral, No Change		
Overall Sensitivity of Receptor:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Direction of Effect:	Adverse, Beneficial, Neutral		
Size/Scale of Visual Effect:	Very Large, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small, No Change	Type of Effect:	Temporary, Permanent / Direct, Indirect		
		Level of Effect:	Substantial, Major, Moderate, Minor, Negligible, No Change		

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY				CHANGE AND SIGNIFICANCE		
Visual Receptor / View Location	National Landscape Character Area and Approx. Distance to Site Boundary	Description of Baseline View, Type and number of View and Visual Receptors	Value of Views, Susceptibility to Change: OVERALL SENSITIVITY	Description of Change to the View	Size / scale, Geographical Extent and Duration, Reversibility, OVERALL MAGNITUDE	Level and Direction of Effect
VL3a: View from field gate on the C2074 looking south	NLCA: 45: Taf, Tywi and Gwendraeth Estuaries Distance: Adjacent to Site boundary (Short-distance)	Baseline Description, Type of View, Viewer and Number of Users: This view looks south from a field gate along the C2074 across rolling agricultural land. Wider visibility is contained by mature unformal hedgerows either side of the field gate, however relatively distant central views remain possible. An access track leads into the field to the foreground which appears unmanaged, with rising ground delineated by field boundary hedgerows provides middle-distance views, partially screening views beyond. Land south of the valley is typically rural, characterised by agricultural fields and field boundary vegetation. High and low-voltage electricity pylons and overhead cables are however a distracting and noticeable feature, traversing land both north to south and east to west. The view is experienced by few receptors, most likely residents of nearby properties and users of the C2074 travelling towards Bancycapel who would experience fleeting views as they pass the field gate opening.	Value of Views: Medium Susceptibility to Change: Low OVERALL SENSITIVITY: MEDIUM	During Construction: Views towards construction activity would be focussed south within the parameters of the field gate, however given the proximity of the works it is likely wider visibility of large plant and activity would also be visible above the adjacent hedgerows. This would result in a complete change in views, although these would be experienced obliquely and glimpsed for road users on the C2074. As mentioned however there is potential for wider oblique views to be experienced as users travel east along the single-track lane, widening the geographical extent.	During Construction: Size/Scale: Large Geographical Extent: Medium Duration/Reversibility: Medium-term / Partially reversible OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Major	Major adverse
		On Completion: Following completion, the elements within the western part of the substation compound, and to a lesser extent the proposed infrastructure, would remain clearly visible for receptors at this location, however the removal of temporary fencing and other temporary features would reduce the magnitude of visual change to some degree. The new hedgerow planting proposed along the field gate entrance would not yet be fully established and would not effectively perform the screening function for which it was intended at this stage.		On Completion: Size/Scale: Large Geographical Extent: Medium Duration/Reversibility: Long-term / Permanent OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Major	Major adverse	
		After 15 Years: At year 15 the proposed hedgerow planting across the field gate would provide an established connection with existing vegetation and would subsequently provide reasonable screening in views towards the Proposed Development. Taller elements within the substation compound would likely remain visible given the proximity of the view, however these views would be glimpsed above the hedgerow line and would only partially alter the appreciation of the view.		After 15 Years: Size/Scale: Small Geographical Extent: Medium Duration/Reversibility: Long-term / Permanent OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Slight	Minor adverse	
						

Terminology for Visual Effect:					
Type of View:	Glimpsed, Filtered, Oblique, Framed, Open	Geographical Extent of Effect:	Widespread, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small		
Number of Viewers:	Few, Moderate, Many	Duration:	Long-term, Medium-term, Short-term, Brief		
Value of Views:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Reversibility:	Permanent / Partially Reversible / Reversible		
Susceptibility to Change:	High, Medium, Low	Overall Magnitude of Effect:	Major, Moderate, Slight, Negligible, Neutral, No Change		
Overall Sensitivity of Receptor:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Direction of Effect:	Adverse, Beneficial, Neutral		
Size/Scale of Visual Effect:	Very Large, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small, No Change	Type of Effect:	Temporary, Permanent / Direct, Indirect		
		Level of Effect:	Substantial, Major, Moderate, Minor, Negligible, No Change		

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY				CHANGE AND SIGNIFICANCE		
Visual Receptor / View Location	National Landscape Character Area and Approx. Distance to Site Boundary	Description of Baseline View, Type and number of View and Visual Receptors	Value of Views, Susceptibility to Change: OVERALL SENSITIVITY	Description of Change to the View	Size / scale, Geographical Extent and Duration, Reversibility, OVERALL MAGNITUDE	Level and Direction of Effect
VL4: View from A484 adjacent to Llwyncelyn Farm	NLCA: 45: Taf, Tywi and Gwendraeth Estuaries Distance: 10m (Short-distance)	Baseline Description, Type of View, Viewer and Number of Users: This view looks east across the A484 carriageway adjacent to Llwyncelyn Farn. Aside from the A484 carriageway to the foreground, the view is dominated by filed boundary vegetation, largely informal/unmanaged, consisting predominantly of hedgerow along the roadside with mature hedgerow trees along the C2074 and further east. Although these trees generally form the skyline, electrical infrastructure is also present, and noticeable as it crosses the view. Overhead lines are also present by way of the telecommunications pole at the C2074 junction. The view is representative of nearby residents of the farm, and to a lesser degree road users of the A484 who would experience oblique and fleeting views in this direction. It should be noted that the front elevation of the farm and primary views face east, although slightly further north of this location.	Value of Views: Medium Susceptibility to Change: High OVERALL SENSITIVITY: HIGH	During Construction: At this location construction of the proposed access road would incur the most noticeable change given its proximity; however, the removal of hedgerow to facilitate the access road would open up views towards the construction activity within the wider footprint of the Site, including the proposed substation compound and construction compound. Where hedgerows are proposed to be retained / strengthened within the adjacent fields, this would retain screening properties, and therefore these wider views would be contained to some degree. Primary views from the farmhouse would be oblique given they are further north, however activity around the proposed access road entrance would be a clearly noticeable change for residents. The existing presence of road infrastructure reduces the magnitude of visual change given that the composition would not completely change.	During Construction: Size/Scale: Medium Geographical Extent: Medium Duration/Reversibility: Short-term / Partially reversible OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Moderate	Major adverse
		On Completion: Following completion, the proposed access road would remain a clearly noticeable change for receptors, however the access road would be in keeping with the existing road infrastructure within the view. The completed substation elements would also represent a clearly noticeable change; however, views would be screened by intervening hedgerows and hedgerow trees to some extent. New planting proposed would not yet be fully established and would not effectively perform the screening function for which it was intended at this stage.		On Completion: Size/Scale: Medium Geographical Extent: Medium Duration/Reversibility: Long-term / Permanent OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Moderate	Major adverse	
		After 15 Years: By year 15 it is expected that the established mitigation proposals would provide some additional screening at this location, including the new hedgerow to the north and south of the access road, and the enhanced hedgerows between the view and the proposed substation elements. The change would remain noticeable given its proximity; however, the composition and appreciation of the view would not be notably materially degraded.		After 15 Years: Size/Scale: Medium Geographical Extent: Small Duration/Reversibility: Long-term / Permanent OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Slight	Moderate adverse	
						

Terminology for Visual Effect:					
Type of View:	Glimpsed, Filtered, Oblique, Framed, Open	Geographical Extent of Effect:	Widespread, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small		
Number of Viewers:	Few, Moderate, Many	Duration:	Long-term, Medium-term, Short-term, Brief		
Value of Views:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Reversibility:	Permanent / Partially Reversible / Reversible		
Susceptibility to Change:	High, Medium, Low	Overall Magnitude of Effect:	Major, Moderate, Slight, Negligible, Neutral, No Change		
Overall Sensitivity of Receptor:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Direction of Effect:	Adverse, Beneficial, Neutral		
Size/Scale of Visual Effect:	Very Large, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small, No Change	Type of Effect:	Temporary, Permanent / Direct, Indirect		
		Level of Effect:	Substantial, Major, Moderate, Minor, Negligible, No Change		

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY				CHANGE AND SIGNIFICANCE		
Visual Receptor / View Location	National Landscape Character Area and Approx. Distance to Site Boundary	Description of Baseline View, Type and number of View and Visual Receptors	Value of Views, Susceptibility to Change: OVERALL SENSITIVITY	Description of Change to the View	Size / scale, Geographical Extent and Duration, Reversibility, OVERALL MAGNITUDE	Level and Direction of Effect
VL5: View from Wales Coastal Path near Gellylednais Farm	NLCA: 45: Taf, Tywi and Gwendraeth Estuaries Distance: 690m (Medium-distance)	Baseline Description, Type of View, Viewer and Number of Users: This view looks east from the Wales Coastal Path approximately 80m southeast of Gellylednais Farm. The foreground view comprises an agricultural field leading to field boundary hedgerow and steadily rising land beyond. The view is largely rural, however high-voltage pylons and overhead cables are detracting features, particularly within central views. Low-voltage pylons are also present but less noticeable within dense vegetation around Gellylednais Farm. The view is located along a national trail and is likely to be experienced by a moderate number of highly sensitive users who are expected to be focussed to some degree on their surroundings.	Value of Views: Medium Susceptibility to Change: High OVERALL SENSITIVITY: HIGH	During Construction: During construction there would be no views of activity as a result of intervening existing landform and vegetation.	During Construction: Size/Scale: N/A Geographical Extent: N/A Duration/Reversibility: N/A OVERALL MAGNITUDE: No change	No change
		On Completion: Following completion, there would no visibility of the Proposed Development at this location as a result of intervening existing landform and vegetation.		On Completion: Size/Scale: N/A Geographical Extent: N/A Duration/Reversibility: N/A OVERALL MAGNITUDE: No change	No change	
		After 15 Years: By year 15 changes in the view brought about by the Proposed Development are predicted to remain the same as those experienced during construction and at Year 1 of operation, i.e. no change.		After 15 Years: Size/Scale: N/A Geographical Extent: N/A Duration/Reversibility: N/A OVERALL MAGNITUDE: No change	No change	



Terminology for Visual Effect:					
Type of View:	Glimpsed, Filtered, Oblique, Framed, Open	Geographical Extent of Effect:	Widespread, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small		
Number of Viewers:	Few, Moderate, Many	Duration:	Long-term, Medium-term, Short-term, Brief		
Value of Views:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Reversibility:	Permanent / Partially Reversible / Reversible		
Susceptibility to Change:	High, Medium, Low	Overall Magnitude of Effect:	Major, Moderate, Slight, Negligible, Neutral, No Change		
Overall Sensitivity of Receptor:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Direction of Effect:	Adverse, Beneficial, Neutral		
Size/Scale of Visual Effect:	Very Large, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small, No Change	Type of Effect:	Temporary, Permanent / Direct, Indirect		
		Level of Effect:	Substantial, Major, Moderate, Minor, Negligible, No Change		

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY				CHANGE AND SIGNIFICANCE		
Visual Receptor / View Location	National Landscape Character Area and Approx. Distance to Site Boundary	Description of Baseline View, Type and number of View and Visual Receptors	Value of Views, Susceptibility to Change: OVERALL SENSITIVITY	Description of Change to the View	Size / scale, Geographical Extent and Duration, Reversibility, OVERALL MAGNITUDE	Level and Direction of Effect
VL6: View from PRow 29/13/1 and Fforest-isaf Farm	NLCA: 33: Gwendraeth Vales Distance: 740m (Medium-distance)	Baseline Description, Type of View, Viewer and Number of Users: At this view location, taken along the PRow and access road approximately 120m west of the Fforest-isaf Farm residency, views looking south are screened by the intervening field boundary hedgerow.	Value of Views: Low Susceptibility to Change: Medium OVERALL SENSITIVITY: MEDIUM	<u>During Construction:</u> No change is predicted at this location given the intervening vegetation along the access road to the farm.	<u>During Construction:</u> Size/Scale: N/A Geographical Extent: N/A Duration/Reversibility: N/A OVERALL MAGNITUDE: No change	No change
		<u>On Completion:</u> No change is predicted at this location given the intervening vegetation along the access road to the farm.		<u>On Completion:</u> Size/Scale: N/A Geographical Extent: N/A Duration/Reversibility: N/A OVERALL MAGNITUDE: No change	No change	
		<u>After 15 Years:</u> No change is predicted at this location given the intervening vegetation along the access road to the farm.		<u>After 15 Years:</u> Size/Scale: N/A Geographical Extent: N/A Duration/Reversibility: N/A OVERALL MAGNITUDE: No change	No change	
						

Terminology for Visual Effect:					
Type of View:	Glimpsed, Filtered, Oblique, Framed, Open	Geographical Extent of Effect:	Widespread, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small		
Number of Viewers:	Few, Moderate, Many	Duration:	Long-term, Medium-term, Short-term, Brief		
Value of Views:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Reversibility:	Permanent / Partially Reversible / Reversible		
Susceptibility to Change:	High, Medium, Low	Overall Magnitude of Effect:	Major, Moderate, Slight, Negligible, Neutral, No Change		
Overall Sensitivity of Receptor:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Direction of Effect:	Adverse, Beneficial, Neutral		
Size/Scale of Visual Effect:	Very Large, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small, No Change	Type of Effect:	Temporary, Permanent / Direct, Indirect		
		Level of Effect:	Substantial, Major, Moderate, Minor, Negligible, No Change		

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY				CHANGE AND SIGNIFICANCE		
Visual Receptor / View Location	National Landscape Character Area and Approx. Distance to Site Boundary	Description of Baseline View, Type and number of View and Visual Receptors	Value of Views, Susceptibility to Change: OVERALL SENSITIVITY	Description of Change to the View	Size / scale, Geographical Extent and Duration, Reversibility, OVERALL MAGNITUDE	Level and Direction of Effect
VL7: View from B4309 near Danybank Farm	NLCA: 33: Gwendraeth Vales Distance: 1.68km (Medium-distance)	Baseline Description, Type of View, Viewer and Number of Users: This view looks southwest from the southern extents of Bancycafel, approximately 1100m north of Danybank Farm. The view is relatively open, however intervening field boundary vegetation within middle-distance views heavily filters distant visibility. Land also rises gently to the north, further screening views beyond. Where more distant views can be obtained as a result of higher ground, high-voltage pylons and overhead lines are the most prominent feature. This view is representative of road users along the B4309 travelling south from Bancycafel, and broadly representative of residents within nearby farms and individual properties. It is therefore expected to be experienced by a moderate number of receptors.	Value of Views: Medium Susceptibility to Change: High OVERALL SENSITIVITY: HIGH	During Construction: At this location there would be distant glimpses of construction activity within the southern part of the substation compound, however this would be barely perceptible as it would be partially screened by intervening vegetation and landform. The most noticeable element within the view would be the construction of the proposed additional pylons, but these would not appear unusual given the pylons already present within the view.	During Construction: Size/Scale: Very small Geographical Extent: Very small Duration/Reversibility: Long-term / Permanent (Pylons) OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Slight	Moderate adverse
		On Completion: Following completion, visibility of the southern elements within the substation would remain, and the proposed pylons would be visible at distance. Although the reduction in the movement of tall plant and general construction activity would lessen the distractive elements, overall it would remain a perceptible change.		On Completion: Size/Scale: Very small Geographical Extent: Very small Duration/Reversibility: Long-term / Permanent (Pylons) OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Slight	Moderate adverse	
		After 15 Years: By year 15 the proposed mitigation measures; in particular the individual trees along the eastern extents of the Site, would act to break up views of the substation and the associated elements. Given the height of the proposed pylons these would remain visible, however they would be viewed in the context of existing pylons and would therefore not appear unusual.		After 15 Years: Size/Scale: Very small Geographical Extent: Very small Duration/Reversibility: Long-term / Permanent (Pylons) OVERALL MAGNITUDE: Negligible	Minor adverse	
						

Terminology for Visual Effect:						
Type of View:	Glimpsed, Filtered, Oblique, Framed, Open	Geographical Extent of Effect:	Widespread, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small			
Number of Viewers:	Few, Moderate, Many	Duration:	Long-term, Medium-term, Short-term, Brief			
Value of Views:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Reversibility:	Permanent / Partially Reversible / Reversible			
Susceptibility to Change:	High, Medium, Low	Overall Magnitude of Effect:	Major, Moderate, Slight, Negligible, Neutral, No Change			
Overall Sensitivity of Receptor:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Direction of Effect:	Adverse, Beneficial, Neutral			
Size/Scale of Visual Effect:	Very Large, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small, No Change	Type of Effect:	Temporary, Permanent / Direct, Indirect			
		Level of Effect:	Substantial, Major, Moderate, Minor, Negligible, No Change			