

**The Great Grid Upgrade**

Chesterfield to Willington

# Preliminary Environmental Information Report

Volume 3: Appendix 6B Landscape Character Baseline and Assessment

March 2026

nationalgrid

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# 6B. Landscape Character Baseline and Assessment

## 6B.1 Introduction

6B.1.1 This appendix presents the landscape character baseline and identifies landscape receptors likely to be affected by the Chesterfield to Willington Project ('the Project').

6B.1.2 This appendix is supported by the following figures in **Volume 2** and appendices in **Volume 3**:

- **Figure 6.1 Landscape and Visual Study Area;**
- **Figure 6.2 National Landscape Character Areas;**
- **Figure 6.3 County/District Level Landscape Character Units;**
- **Figure 6.4 Landform and Drainage;**
- **Figure 6.5 Landscape Features and Designations;**
- **Figure 6.6 Screened ZTV Overhead Line;**
- **Figure 6.7 Screened ZTV Overhead Line – Residential Receptors;**
- **Figure 6.8 Screened ZTV Overhead Line – Recreational Receptors;**
- **Figure 6.9 Screened ZTV Chesterfield New-Build 400kV Substation and Construction Compounds;**
- **Figure 6.10 Screened ZTV Public Rights of Way;**
- **Appendix 6A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Methodology;**
- **Appendix 6C Visual Baseline and Assessment;** and
- **Appendix 6D Visualisations and ZTV Methodology.**

6B.1.3 The assessment is based on the proposed route alignment in **Chapter 4 Description of the Project**.

6B.1.4 The structure of this appendix presents the landscape character baseline, informed by site visits, review of Ordnance Survey (OS) data, aerial mapping and other data (a complete list of sources can be found in section 6.5 of **Chapter 6 Landscape and Visual** under 'Data Collection' subheading).

6B.1.5 The baseline is followed by a preliminary assessment of the Project's effects on landscape character in accordance with the methodology presented in **Appendix 6A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Methodology**. The sections below provide detailed descriptions of the landscape character baseline and assessment, whilst **Chapter 6 Landscape and Visual** contains a summary of the landscape character baseline and assessment with reference to route sections.

## 6B.2 Landscape Character Baseline

- 6B.2.1 Landscape characteristics are the features and elements that together influence character, quality, and the sense of place of an area. They occur at a range of scales from national to local level, and each provides increasing detail, enabling a clear understanding of a place's distinctive character and its relationship with landscape context.
- 6B.2.2 Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, Third Edition (GLVIA3) (Ref 6B.18) states that the landscape baseline should describe the existing landscape character and condition, encompassing both the physical components (such as individual elements, aesthetics, features, land cover, and pattern) and the perceptual or experiential aspects (including scale, tranquillity, enclosure, and sense of place) that together define the character of an area.
- 6B.2.3 Designations provide additional emphasis and recognition of landscape components that contribute to the overall value and sensitivity of the landscape.
- 6B.2.4 Landscape character baseline and landscape character effects have been compiled hierarchically, progressing from national to local scale of Landscape Character Assessments, as follows:
- To provide further context to the assessment at a national scale, the relevant National Character Areas (NCA) as defined by Natural England (Ref 6B.1) are included in this appendix. This is to ensure that the potential for significant effects at a wider level than the district level is understood, given the length of the route and geographical coverage of the Project.
  - Regional Landscape Character Assessments, such as the East Midlands Regional Landscape Character Assessment (EMRLCA) (Ref 6B.2), provide an intermediate understanding of regional character and patterns. Although the identified Landscape Types have been included in the baseline sections, the effects on these have not been assessed as the assessment is focused on more detailed characteristics of the landscape included within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire (Ref 6B.3).
  - Landscape Character Units (LCU) defined by Local Landscape Character Assessments, describing the distinct combinations of elements that make one landscape different from another. The local landscape characteristic is based on the following Landscape Character Assessments:
    - The Landscape Character of Derbyshire (Ref 6B.3);
    - Greater Nottingham Landscape Character Assessment (Ref 6B.4);
    - Planning for Landscape Change: Supplementary Planning Guidance to the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Structure Plan 1996–2011 (Ref 6B.8); and
    - North West Leicestershire Settlement Fringe Assessment (Ref 6B.10).
- 6B.2.5 Statutory and non-statutory landscape designations have been assessed, whilst historic and ecological designations informed the consideration of landscape value associated with assessed Landscape Character Units.

## National Level – NCA Profiles

- 6B.2.6 Natural England has identified NCAs (Ref 6B.1), described within NCA Profiles, with each representing an area of distinct and recognisable character at a national scale. Defined by character rather than administrative boundaries, the borders of these areas follow natural lines in the landscape, providing a framework for assessment and future planning.
- 6B.2.7 The baseline characteristic presented in **Table 6B.1**, below, includes key characteristics of NCAs that overlap with the Study Area of the Project as shown in **Figure 6.2 National Landscape Character Areas**

**Table 6B.1: NCA profiles**

NCA Profile	Key Landscape Characteristics
<p>NCA 38: Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a broad, expansive, undulating region dissected by small streams with steep valley slopes;</li> <li>• several major rivers flow through the rural and urban areas of the NCA, generally from west to east in broad valleys;</li> <li>• cultural industrial heritage, particularly around coal mining, steel making and other heavy industry evidenced by elements such as mills, mining villages, canals, and old railway lines;</li> <li>• industrial heritage is also enhanced and mirrored by the presence of several country houses and estates built and established by wealthy industrialists, which, combined with local ancient monuments, provide focal points and recreational opportunities;</li> <li>• extensive network of former railway lines, canal towpaths and other multi-user trails such as the Trans Pennine Trail and Ebor Way can be found across the NCA;</li> <li>• nucleation due to extensive urbanisation is evident in settlement patterns, with major cities such as Leeds and Sheffield within the NCA. There is continued development pressure, and urban sprawl is present; and</li> <li>• fragmented and mixed landscape of pre-industrial pockets, clusters of recently created semi-natural vegetation, urban sprawl, dilapidated and derelict remains, and stretches of farmed open country.</li> </ul>
<p>NCA 30: Southern Magnesian Limestone</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• rolling elevated plateau with valleys cutting through the landscape creating dramatic and steep gorges in places, particularly where valleys have been created by rivers or watercourses;</li> <li>• rich, fertile soil has created a landscape of intensively farmed arable land of predominantly large-scale fields bounded by hedges, largely consisting of hawthorn;</li> <li>• small scale fragmented semi-natural habitats including calcareous grassland, limestone scrub and wetland habitats;</li> <li>• broad, panoramic views, in most directions but particularly over the lowlands to the south. Views are occasionally foreshortened by shelter belts, coverts and plantation woodlands;</li> <li>• a semi wooded farmland landscape with tree cover derived from parklands, game coverts and coppiced woodlands;</li> <li>• the longstanding importance of the area for settlement and transport can be seen through archaeological evidence and prehistoric sites;</li> <li>• additional cultural heritage driven by significant numbers of abbeys, country houses and estates with designed gardens;</li> </ul>

NCA Profile	Key Landscape Characteristics
NCA 50: Derbyshire Peak Fringe and Lower Derwent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• evidence of local industrial influences, such as former mines, restored spoil heaps, power lines and transport routes; and</li> <li>• the A1, a prominent feature and vital element of transport infrastructure, influences an otherwise rural countryside.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• known as the ‘Gateway to the Peaks’, this NCA is a transitional landscape exclusive to Derbyshire comprising rolling upland summits linking the Peak District National Park to the formerly mined Derbyshire Coal Measures;</li> <li>• the landform elevation lies between 100 m and 300 m and consists of numerous ridges bisected by impressive river valleys;</li> <li>• a predominantly dispersed nucleated pattern with small towns and villages such as Wirksworth, Brassington and Bradbourne, focused around areas of historic industry, with scattered and isolated farmsteads across the rest of the NCA;</li> <li>• there are elements of urban fringe in the north from the expansion of Chesterfield, and in the south there is a similar pattern stemming from Derby. Whilst Belper has expanded with modern residential developments creating a much more nucleated settlement, agricultural land dominates with pastoral land use;</li> <li>• the sloped nature of landform resulted in the typically medium sized irregular fields, though there are more geometrically shaped fields on the higher ground;</li> <li>• field boundaries are usually dry-stone walls on the higher ground. In contrast, on the lower ground the irregular fields are typically bounded by a mixture of dry-stone walls and mixed species hedgerows;</li> <li>• the summits and fields have occasional solitary or hedgerow trees, and occasional small plantations of scrubby woodland;</li> <li>• there are large swathes of grassland, heath, and moorland habitat across the region, particularly in the more elevated regions, whilst the steep river valley sides house prominent expanses of ancient semi-natural broadleaved woodland with ancient woodland also present;</li> <li>• the river valleys are a central factor of the character for the area, most notable are the Ecclesbourne, the Amber and the Derwent. The Derwent Valley is of particular note as it extends through the heart of the region;</li> <li>• there is evidence of prehistoric settlement towards the western fringes, whilst elsewhere evidence of an extensive Roman pottery industry can be found, and examples of medieval ridge and furrow are also present; and</li> <li>• disused railway tracks and waterside paths provide the region with a high number of recreational routes for cycling and walking, whilst the rivers and summits are assets for many other outdoor pursuits such as kayaking or climbing.</li> </ul>

NCA Profile	Key Landscape Characteristics
NCA 69: Trent Valley Washlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• narrow, lowlands landscape comprised predominantly of floodplains, gravel terraces, and rivers, defined at the extents by more elevated landforms;</li> <li>• a mixed landscape of agricultural practices, urban areas, major infrastructure, and mineral extraction;</li> <li>• combined pastoral and arable farming, with the former being common on floodplain grasslands whilst the latter is typically found on free-draining soils of river terraces;</li> <li>• agricultural boundaries vary with thicker, more established hedgerows present around pastures and lower, small hedgerows with occasional trees edging arable fields;</li> <li>• limited tree cover across the area, though dense concentrations scattered across the region present the impression of a well-timbered landscape;</li> <li>• willows, poplars and other riparian trees form a key component, following the winding rivers and waterways and providing a higher-level visual guide as to the routes of watercourses;</li> <li>• meandering rivers, and associated floodplains, coupled with an extensive canal network strongly define the area, contributing to the region's character, providing key recreational assets, and an important diversity of wetland habitats;</li> <li>• settlement pattern is typically dispersed nucleated and has been largely driven by the risk of flooding in the lands around the rivers, limiting villages to gravel terraces or the elevated regions at the edges of floodplains;</li> <li>• the region has a strong history as a transport and communication corridor thanks to the canals and waterways and continues to be a distinguishing feature today with major roads, railway and power lines found throughout; and</li> <li>• a notable feature of the region is the remnants of power stations, typically denoted by large cooling towers, though many of these are decommissioned and are to be demolished in time.</li> <li>• evidence of settlement and activity with archaeological interest and historic buildings throughout, particularly at river crossings. Like nearby regions, there is also significant history and evidence of early Christian influence; and</li> <li>• several gravel pits both active and restored are present along the River Trent Valley.</li> </ul>
NCA 70: Melbourne Parklands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• broad, gently rolling landscape, consisting of a series of plateaus dissected by narrow-sided, north flowing river valleys;</li> <li>• generally, sparsely populated with a dispersed pattern of settlement of country houses and estate farmsteads. Historic towns, such as Melbourne, are denser and more nucleated in nature, but are in the minority across the NCA;</li> </ul>

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**NCA Profile****Key Landscape Characteristics**

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- predominantly agricultural land use with very few semi-natural habitats, particularly in the flatter regions, with steeper slopes given over to a mixture of arable and pastoral farming;
- in the flatter, more extensively farmed areas, boundaries are formed from low hedgerows and scattered or isolated trees;
- slopes and heavier soils where farming is less intense, more substantial hedgerows with a higher quantity of hedgerow trees are frequent, and some land is retained as permanent pasture;
- trees and woodland are well represented throughout and enhance the presence of terrestrial corridors. The combination of scattered, mature boundary trees and blocks of woodland contribute to an estate character that is present across the region;
- blocks of trees that occur are typically estate plantations, tree belts, or small coverts, though denser, wooded areas of predominantly alder and willow can be found along watercourses;
- 25 per cent of the NCA is within the National Forest and is subject to large scale woodland planting;
- hedgerows reflect the fields they abound with earlier enclosures containing a good variety of species, including but not limited to, the later, parliamentary enclosures, which are predominantly hawthorn and are commonly more formally managed and flail cut;
- a network of north-flowing river valleys that feed the River Trent to the north and the River Soar to the east. Two of these valleys, at Foremark and Staunton Harold, have been utilised to create reservoirs to provide a water supply to the wider East Midlands region;
- significant Christian and Viking archaeology and heritage value, particularly around ecclesiastical centres at Repton and Breedon-on-the-Hill;
- diverse and varied field pattern, which reflects the history and evolution of enclosure within the area. Fields within lower lying valleys consist of small to medium-sized irregular field patterns, whilst around villages, small-scale, semi-regular patterned fields can be found, with evidence of selion strips visible. Atop the plateaus, fields are more regular and geometric in shape and increase to a medium to large scale; and
- overall, the landscape is characterised by a medium scale, defined by field patterns and tree cover.

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NCA 68:  
Needwood and  
South Derbyshire  
Claylands

- a rolling plateau landform slopes from the edge of the Peak District in the north towards the Trent Valley in the south. The plateau is dissected by several river systems such as the Blithe, the Trent and the River Dove;

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**NCA Profile****Key Landscape Characteristics**

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- largely rural landscape of rolling countryside with a predominantly agricultural focus and typically small to medium scale fields bounded by hedgerows and hedgerow trees;
  - some large scale, rectilinear fields can be found on the broader plains towards Needwood Forest, whilst more irregular field patterns are found towards the west;
  - primarily grassland pastoral fields for livestock, though dairy and cereal farming are also present in the region, particularly in the areas north and south of the River Dove, where better-quality soils are found;
  - scattered and dispersed clusters of ancient and semi-ancient woodlands, combined with parklands and the presence of boundary trees, create an overall wooded character to the region;
  - larger blocks of woodland are present in Needwood Forest, and as the area is captured within the plans for The National Forest initiative, there are patches of new woodland creation;
  - habitats tend to be those associated with pasture though some examples of water meadows feature along the courses of the three river valleys;
  - there are internationally important examples of rare habitats within the NCA in the form of Chartley Moss (a basin mire) and pasture fields (an inland salt marsh);
  - the NCA has a strong heritage and historical richness demonstrated by the presence of several country houses, Tutbury Castle, the Derwent Valley Mills, medieval settlements, and evidence of ridge and furrow, which all create a rich tapestry of cultural heritage;
  - pattern of settlement is generally dispersed, especially throughout the higher pastoral farmlands along the edges of the Peak District. Older villages and crossroad settlements are found along valley edges and on higher ground;
  - the fringes of Burton-upon-Trent and the City of Derby extend into the eastern edge of the NCA and urban sprawl from the expansion of these is present; and
  - a number of major transport networks can be found in the NCA, including the West Coast Main Line and the Derby to Stoke railways and the A50, A51, A38 and A52 all influence the region.
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## Regional level – Regional Landscape Character Assessments

- 6B.2.8 At the regional level, Natural England has published the EMRLCA (Ref 6B.2). This assessment provides a strategic context and framework at the county and district level, identifying regional Landscape Character Types (LCTs) defined by broad, distinctive qualities that may occur in different localities throughout the region. The Project falls entirely within the geographical extent of the EMRLCA. It traverses several of the LCTs identified, and the key attributes of these are listed below in **Table 6B.2**.

**Table 6B.2: LCTs**

EMRLCA LCTs	Key Landscape Characteristics
3a: Floodplain Valleys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a landscape of wide, flat valley floodplains, meandering river channels, and canalised watercourses, surrounded by rising landforms of adjacent regions;</li> <li>• whilst land use is mixed, there is a predominance of pastoral farming, especially on riverside meadows within the floodplains. Arable and cropping have historically been present on drier gravel terraces, although there is an increasing shift in this direction;</li> <li>• field pattern is made up of regular, medium to large scale fields typically defined by hedgerows or post and wire fencing though some open areas exist;</li> <li>• overall woodland cover is low, though the presence of riparian habitat, waterside trees, hedgerow trees, and woodland cover on elevated riverside bluffs contributes to the perception of a well treed landscape;</li> <li>• settlement is generally absent, especially within the floodplains, though there are nucleated towns and villages focused on historically strategic river crossings; and</li> <li>• there is significant restoration of sand and gravel extraction sites to open water, often with wooded surrounds creating new character across many areas.</li> </ul>
3b: Sandland Farmlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a unique rolling landscape of undulating hills and ridges rising above the surrounding lowlands and river valleys. The flat, low-lying nature of adjacent landscapes results in wide panoramic and open views;</li> <li>• land use is typically arable farming on the improved land, with some small areas of permanent pasture too, whilst there is also still evidence of coal mining and associated architecture, which contrasts with the generally rural feel of the area;</li> <li>• pattern of intensively managed regular fields associated with 18th and 19th century enclosure creates a geometric patchwork of ditched and hedged fields and associated roads;</li> <li>• tree cover and habitat of interest are generally low, though areas of reclamation with woodland, wetland and scrub would provide ecologically rich environments over time. Some plantations and shelterbelts of broadleaved woodland exist, and a singular area of ancient woodland is evident on Barrow Hills; and</li> <li>• settlement has been present in the region for some time, and dispersed nucleated villages and clusters of farmsteads occupy elevated locations above the floodplains.</li> </ul>

EMRLCA LCTs	Key Landscape Characteristics
4a: Unwooded Vales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an extensive, softly undulating, low-lying landscape where low hills and ridges hold visual prominence amongst an area of foreshortened views with a sense of visual containment due to surrounding landform;</li> <li>• typically characterised by regular, medium to large scale hedged fields of mixed agriculture, with wide areas of permanent pasture and productive arable farming, though increasing areas of the former are being ploughed and reverted to arable cropping;</li> <li>• rivers and streams are an important feature of the landscape, and a complex drainage pattern of watercourses flows across the landscape;</li> <li>• there is limited woodland cover, with limited scattered woodlands, shelterbelts, hedgerow trees and riparian or riverside trees holding greater visual significance and habitat value as a result;</li> <li>• a dispersed nucleated pattern of settlements, typically centred on a significant structural feature such as a church or at a road junction or crossroads, with scattered villages and hamlets linked by winding roads; and</li> <li>• the roads and watercourses combine to provide the landscape with a subtle grain, though this is interrupted by the presence of numerous ‘cross routes’.</li> </ul>
5a: Village Farmlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an undulating landscape falling away from the neighbouring uplands featuring steep incised valleys in the more elevated areas and softer, shallower valleys with gravel terraces and alluvial flats at the edges of rivers and streams;</li> <li>• land use is mixed agricultural with a predominance of permanent pasture or arable cropping throughout with occasional localised variations;</li> <li>• the landscape demonstrates a patchwork of fields of various scales and shapes with smaller pasture often around villages, whilst hedgerows and hedgerow trees typically form boundaries between fields. There is evident ridge and furrow in places signifying historic land management;</li> <li>• there are extensive areas of new planting associated with The National Forest, which contribute to the tree cover of the region which otherwise stems from small to moderately sized broadleaved woodlands, several of which are classified as ancient, and copses found on the sloped hillsides;</li> <li>• a dispersed, nucleated settlement pattern is present with newer build up often clustered around more historic focal features such as churches; and</li> <li>• whilst not a prominent feature, there are some significant parklands associated with large country houses and estates, such as Locko Park and Elvaston Castle.</li> </ul>

EMRLCA LCTs	Key Landscape Characteristics
5b: Wooded Village Farmlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a distinctive dip and scarp topography which creates a varied topography of rolling hills, steep sided valleys and gently undulating flats;</li> <li>• mixed land use with rich, easily improved soils resulting in a landscape of arable cropping, whilst verdant floodplains are used for cattle grazing and pasture;</li> <li>• despite agricultural improvement and intensive farming, the historic character is relatively intact, with field patterns more irregular and varied in scale;</li> <li>• hedgerows typically form the boundaries of fields and are evocative of medieval land management, although there is evidence of decline in proximity to urban areas;</li> <li>• limited remnants of semi-natural vegetation remain, with broadleaved woodland being the most prominent habitat and a key component of the landscape;</li> <li>• generally, woodlands are small to medium-sized, but the wide distribution of ancient woodlands on hilltops and ridges alongside the parkland and estate copses and coverts creates a well-wooded landscape further enhanced by willow-lined streams and hedgerow trees; and</li> <li>• dispersed, scattered settlement pattern of traditional farms and small villages connected by winding rural lanes, with country houses exerting strong, localised influences on the landscape.</li> </ul>
6d: Limestone Farmlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a distinctive steep west-facing scarp slope with deeply incised valleys and gorges and a pronounced rolling and undulating dip slope landscape falling away to the east. The elevated scarp provides long distance views across the neighbouring landscapes;</li> <li>• productive, fertile soils have led to a landscape that is predominantly intensive arable farmland with a regular, geometric pattern of large scale. Fields are typically bounded by hedges;</li> <li>• the landscape has a well wooded character, with the small to large woodlands and belts of trees. Many of the larger patches are ancient in nature, though conifer replanting and reclamation planting of former quarries and mines are also present;</li> <li>• scattered farmsteads and country houses intersperse nucleated settlements, of either small rural villages and farms or larger industrial towns where the age of settlements can usually be distinguished by building materials; and</li> <li>• significant evidence of historical mining operations, with localised evidence of continued quarrying activity.</li> </ul>

EMRLCA LCTs	Key Landscape Characteristics
9a: Settled Coalfield Farmlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a rolling landform of low hills and ridges with shallow valleys, though localised variations occur reflecting the differing characteristics of the underlying coal measures;</li> <li>• land use demonstrates primarily an agricultural focus, with mixed farming predominating. Field pattern is a mosaic of mixed size fields from small through to large, usually bound by hedgerows;</li> <li>• significant evidence of industrial and exploitative history with remnant mine sites, pits and coal/clay working areas alongside disused railway lines, canals and tramways;</li> <li>• small broad-leaved woodlands, copses, linear tree belts, scattered throughout the region alongside relict ancient semi-natural woodlands and extensive plantation woodlands on former mining sites, create strong areas of tree cover, though the overall coverage remains low;</li> <li>• settlements, comprising small towns, villages, hamlets and scattered isolated farmsteads, are linked by a network of winding lanes; and</li> <li>• there is a strong cultural identity and archaeological interest associated with the region's history of coal mining, and some villages show clear markers of expansion and ribbon development that relate to this history of industry.</li> </ul>
10c: Wooded Slopes and Valleys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• undulating valley landscape of moderate to steep slopes with low-lying gently undulating valley bottoms housing a network of streams rising to moorland and gritstone edges;</li> <li>• land use is predominantly a combination of woodland and agriculture. Farming tends to be permanent pasture, commonly in valley basins, with a small to medium, irregular field pattern;</li> <li>• boundaries are often bound by a mix of hedgerows or dry-stone walls, with the latter usually bounding more regular shaped fields;</li> <li>• well wooded character with densely scattered blocks of woodlands and ancient woodlands, particularly on steeper slopes. Additional support and habitat interest stemming from semi-improved and acid grasslands, widespread bracken and gorse, as well as parklands and plantation woodlands on valley slopes; and</li> <li>• dispersed settlement pattern with localised clusters of farmsteads and isolated properties, such as historic halls and estates, scattered throughout.</li> </ul>
11a: Open Moors and Inbye Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an open, expansive moorland plateau with outcroppings of gritstone, steep sided cloughs and rolling moorland slopes;</li> <li>• wide, panoramic views across the open moors create a sense of remoteness;</li> </ul>

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**EMRLCA LCTs****Key Landscape Characteristics**

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- land use is primarily recreational. Some pastoral sheep grazing is present, as is enclosed agricultural land on lower moorland slopes;
  - tree cover is an uncommon characteristic, though some cloughs and slopes house sheltered blocks of woodland, though few are ancient. Some coniferous plantations and shelterbelts are evident and sometimes extend up onto the moorlands from the lower lying valleys; and
  - unsettled and wild character with evidence of build up being scattered isolated farmsteads, lone cabins, and occasional winding tracks and roads.
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## Local Level – County and District Landscape Character Assessments

### Introduction

- 6B.2.9 Local Landscape Character Assessments help to understand and value their local landscapes by identifying distinct features and characteristics. Produced at the county and district levels, they provide detailed information that complements broader assessments at national or regional levels; therefore, the description of Landscape Character Units has been used to formulate the baseline for assessing landscape effects.
- 6B.2.10 Most of the Study Area is covered by The Landscape Character of Derbyshire assessment (Ref 6B.3) published by Derbyshire County Council. The Study Area falls primarily within the administrative boundary of Derbyshire County Council, and marginally within the administrative boundaries of Nottinghamshire County Council in the east, and both Staffordshire County Council and North West Leicestershire District Council to the south. These authorities have produced their own Landscape Character Assessments, which identify Landscape Character Units, providing a more detailed understanding of the landscape at the county and district level. **Table 6B.3** lists relevant local Landscape Character Assessments produced by the county or district councils.

**Table 6B.3: Local Landscape Character Assessments**

Administrative Authority	Landscape Character Assessments
Derbyshire County Council	The Landscape Character of Derbyshire (Ref 6B.3).
Nottinghamshire County Council	Greater Nottingham Landscape Character Assessment (Ref 6B.4) and Greater Nottingham Landscape Character Assessment (Ashfield Part) (Ref 6B.6).
Staffordshire County Council	Planning for Landscape Change: Supplementary Planning Guidance to the Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Structure Plan 1996 – 2011 (Ref 6B.8).
North West Leicestershire District Council	North West Leicestershire Settlement Fringe Assessment Appendix A: Landscape Character Summaries (Ref 6B.11).

### The Landscape Character of Derbyshire

- 6B.2.11 The Landscape Character of Derbyshire (Ref 6B.3) provides a high-level assessment of the 10 Character Areas, identified as falling wholly or partially within the administrative boundary of Derbyshire County Council. The Character Areas have been subdivided into 39 LCTs, which are broad tracts of landscape characterised by similar qualities and a unity of character. The LCTs identify key features which combine to create landscape character.
- 6B.2.12 **Table 6B.4** below lists the Character Areas and identifies the associated LCTs within those areas, which fall within the Study Area of the Project.

**Table 6B.4: Character Areas and LCTs**

<b>Character Areas</b>	<b>LCTs</b>
Character Area 30: Southern Magnesian Limestone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Limestone Farmlands.</li></ul>
Character Area 38: Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Coalfield Estatelands;</li><li>• Coalfield Village Farmlands;</li><li>• Estate Farmlands;</li><li>• Plateau Estate Farmlands;</li><li>• Riverside Meadows; and</li><li>• Wooded Farmlands.</li></ul>
Character Area 50: Derbyshire Peak Fringe and Lower Derwent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enclosed Moors and Heaths;</li><li>• Gritstone Heaths and Commons;</li><li>• Riverside Meadows;</li><li>• Wooded Farmlands; and</li><li>• Wooded Slopes and Valleys.</li></ul>
Character Area 68: Needwood and South Derbyshire Claylands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Estate Farmlands;</li><li>• Riverside Meadows;</li><li>• Sandstone Slopes and Heaths; and</li><li>• Settled Farmlands.</li></ul>
Character Area 69: Trent Valley Washlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lowland Village Farmlands;</li><li>• Riverside Meadows; and</li><li>• Wet Pasture Meadows.</li></ul>
Character Area 70: Melbourne Parklands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Estate Farmlands;</li><li>• Riverside Meadows;</li><li>• Sandstone Slopes and Heaths; and</li><li>• Wooded Estatelands.</li></ul>

6B.2.13 **Table 6B.5** below presents the key qualities of Character Areas (CA) located within the Study Area of the Project, as detailed within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire.

**Table 6B.5: Character Areas**

Derbyshire CA	Key Landscape Characteristics
Character Area 30: Southern Magnesian Limestone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a distinctive magnesian limestone outcropping and escarpment, along with an elevated, gently rolling plateau that falls towards the east dissected by narrow, steep sided gorges;</li> <li>• the plateau is dominated by intensive cereal cropping, whilst the gorges have minimal farming activities and retain many of their original habitats;</li> <li>• field patterns across the landscape are mixed with some small irregular fields around village cores, whilst later years would see enclosures and subsequent field patterns becoming more regular and of larger scale;</li> <li>• the remnant ancient woodlands are important ecological and habitat features; however, many have been replanted with coniferous trees;</li> <li>• there are patches of unimproved wet grassland and magnesian limestone that can support a very species-rich flora, including some unique species found nowhere else in the country; and</li> <li>• settlement is dispersed with scattered farmsteads, estates and country houses throughout the area, with Hardwick Hall being most notable.</li> </ul>
Character Area 38: Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, and Yorkshire Coalfield	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the landscape is broadly undulating, though the underlying geology creates localised differences in the magnitude of the ridges and valleys found across the region, and there is a general rise in the ground at the north western edge of the Character Area;</li> <li>• both arable and pastoral farming are found across the landscape, with some areas seasonally waterlogged providing suitable grounds for dairy farming, whilst the more free-draining soils prove suitable for arable cropping;</li> <li>• the patchwork and mosaic of field patterns is varied, representing a diverse history of enclosure. Similarly, a history of widespread industrialisation has altered the landscape and created a fragmented pattern;</li> <li>• ancient and semi-natural woodlands occur across the whole region, though some are isolated relic patches. Broadleaved woodland is also present on steeper slopes or valley bottoms where agricultural practices have been difficult to establish;</li> <li>• the decline of mining industry in the region has left derelict remains across the landscape. Watercourses and wetlands are frequent in restored landscape areas; and</li> <li>• nucleated settlements, expanded since the 19th century, with some villages amalgamated into larger urban conurbations and historic patterns are rapidly being overlain by modern developments and industry.</li> </ul>

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**Derbyshire CA****Key Landscape Characteristics**

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Character Area 50:  
Derbyshire Peak  
Fringe and Lower  
Derwent

- a unique transitional landscape linking the surrounding areas. The landscape is distinctly undulating, though it steadily rises from east to west as it shifts from the Derbyshire Coalfields to the foothills of the Peak District. River valleys, particularly those associated with the Derwent, the Amber and the Ecclesbourne are central to the character of the region;
- predominant land use is pastoral. Where the topography and soil quality allow, there is mixed farming and the presence of arable fields;
- field pattern is typically irregular in varying size and enclosed by mature hedgerows with mature trees, whilst at higher elevations, a more regular field pattern is enclosed by stone walls;
- woodland and tree cover is well represented throughout the region with extensive ancient semi-natural broadleaved woodland occupying valley slopes, whilst scattered woodlands exist elsewhere. Mature hedgerows with established trees such as mature oaks also enhance the wooded feel of the region; and
- settlement pattern is a mixture of nucleated villages in valley bottoms and small hamlets or farmsteads on hillsides along with generally dispersed and scattered farms throughout. Significant settlement is present around Chesterfield in the north and Derby in the south and urban sprawl is occurring whilst other settlements such as Belper, have also expanded in size with residential development.

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CA 68: Needwood  
and South  
Derbyshire  
Claylands

- the Needwood area lies exclusively within the boundary of Staffordshire, whilst the Claylands fall within Derbyshire and consist of a gently rolling lowland landscape;
  - farming has long been present across the region and typical land use is predominantly pastoral, with dairy farming and some arable fields present;
  - typically, small to medium sized fields north of the River Dove associated with the pastoral and dairy farming, with larger rectilinear fields for arable farming on the broad river floodplains;
  - generally, a wooded character, driven by scattered ancient and semi-ancient woods, parkland trees, hedgerow trees and new woodland creation within the National Forest;
  - settlement pattern is dispersed, with isolated farmsteads particularly at the fringes of the Peak District. Elsewhere, there are country houses scattered throughout and small nucleated settlements along valleys and crossroads; and
  - the River Dove divides the wider region into the two distinct areas of the Needwood in Staffordshire and Claylands in Derbyshire. Elsewhere other rivers systems dissect the landscape, notably the Trent and Blithe.
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**Derbyshire CA****Key Landscape Characteristics**

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## CA 69: Trent Valley Washlands

- a linear landscape of flat floodplains and gravel terraces bounded by higher ground at the edges. The low-lying landscape is distinctly narrow and typically follows the associated rivers, particularly the River Trent;
- mixed land use underpinned by the contrasting geology of the floodplains and gravel terraces. The former are predominantly grasslands used for pastoral grazing, and the latter used for arable crops;
- the contrast continues with the field pattern as the pastoral floodplains are smaller scale irregular fields subdivided by thick hedgerows, and the arable fields are larger in scale and typically divided by low hedgerows with scattered hedgerow trees;
- tree cover is limited, though small clusters of woodland and riparian trees along the watercourses create the sense of a well wooded landscape in places;
- settlement remains heavily influenced by risk of flooding with build-up largely confined to the gravel terraces and elevated ground around the edges of the plains. New development and larger settlements are emerging but remain located on the more elevated areas; and
- the watery character of the region is a strong feature with the extensive canal network further enhancing the character created by the rivers and watercourses. The historic importance of the rivers and canals and the major roads and railways that came later have created a landscape heavily used for transport and communication.

## CA 70: Melbourne Parklands

- an undulating landform of gently rolling lowlands and elevated plateaus with a broken ridge of hills in the east and south east and flatter areas around settlements;
  - land use is predominantly mixed farming driven by underlying geology, with a range of agriculture from pastoral and dairy farming to cereal cropping, and market gardening. There are several Registered Parks and Gardens or parkland estates throughout the area;
  - due to the varied practices the field pattern is a mosaic of larger, geometric, post-war arable fields on plateaus and smaller, irregular fields on valley sides or close to villages;
  - tree cover interest is present throughout thanks to large, landscaped parks, mixed woodlands, remnant orchards, hedgerows trees and new woodland planting from the National Forest leading to a generally well wooded character;
  - there is a mixture of large, nucleated villages and smaller, dispersed villages and farmsteads as well as country estates throughout the area. Expansion of settlements, particularly Melbourne and Castle Donington, has created commuter hubs and larger areas or urban build up; and
  - a generally tranquil area, though locations around East Midlands Airport, East Midlands Freeport, Donington Race Park, or major transport routes such as the A50, A42 and M1 can feel more significantly disturbed.
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6B.2.14 **Table 6B.6** below presents the key characteristics of LCTs found within the CA that cover the Study Area of the Project, as detailed within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire.

**Table 6B.6: Key Landscape Characteristics of Derbyshire LCTs**

LCTs	Key Landscape Characteristics
Coalfield Estatelands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• gently undulating landscape of low ridges and valleys;</li> <li>• predominantly pastoral farming dominated by dairy farming with occasional arable cropping where better-drained soils are found;</li> <li>• extensive areas of amenity and relic land;</li> <li>• medium-scale semi-regular field pattern for the most part, with large scale fields occurring in areas of restored sites such as Shipley and Butterley Park;</li> <li>• field enclosures defined by hedgerows, including isolated remnants of ancient enclosures near Riddings and Swanwick;</li> <li>• tree cover is prominent due to small and medium woodland plantations, tree belts and coverts. Alongside these, there are remnants of semi-ancient woodland, particularly around Shipley Park. Mature field and hedgerow trees also contribute to and enhance the wooded character; and</li> <li>• clusters of villages and a moderate scattering of farmsteads and estates created a historically dispersed settlement pattern, but the growth of towns such as Alfreton and Somercotes has subsumed the villages, creating larger urbanised areas.</li> </ul>
Coalfield Village Farmlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a landscape of low ridges and valleys resulting in a gently undulating landform;</li> <li>• predominantly pastoral farming with occasional fields of arable crops grown on free draining soils;</li> <li>• species-rich hedgerows and mature trees are present around fringes of villages where farming practices are less intense;</li> <li>• there is significant tree cover due to this landscape being a small-scale organic landscape with semi-natural woodlands, densely scattered trees along watercourses, mature trees and species-rich hedgerows;</li> <li>• the restorative woodlands at Williamthorpe and Grassmoor are larger in size and contrast with the small-scale landscape surrounding them;</li> <li>• an irregular pattern of small-scale fields around fringes of villages is present across the landscape. More regular, medium to large fields are also present, often where former common land has been divided and enclosed later; and</li> <li>• extensive network of minor roads criss-crosses the landscape, avoiding the poorly drained valleys, now truncated by modern roads such as M1, A38 and the A61.</li> </ul>

LCTs	Key Landscape Characteristics
Enclosed Moors and Heaths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• moorland summits and rolling uplands with undulations and valleys which become steeper and deeper as they fall off onto adjacent slopes;</li> <li>• thin layers of coarse, loamy soil over sandstone, often acidic;</li> <li>• predominantly pastoral land use focused on sheep and dairy cattle;</li> <li>• tree cover is inherently sparse due to land management. There are occasional trees within field boundaries or planted as shelterbelts around farmsteads;</li> <li>• woodlands and plantations are scarce, with occasional patchy, scrubby clumps which include species such as birch, rowan, and willow;</li> <li>• land pattern is typically of regular medium sized fields bounded by dry-stone walls and mixed species hedgerows; and</li> <li>• a mixture of straight roads with wide, even verges, whilst around earlier enclosures, the roads curve around ownership boundaries and have irregular verges.</li> </ul>
Estate Farmlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• broad, rolling lowland plateau dissected by minor river valleys subject to seasonal waterlogs and flooding;</li> <li>• open landscape with long range views from elevations over the surrounding low-lying landscapes;</li> <li>• mixed farming land use dominated by intensive arable crop farming with areas of improved permanent pasture;</li> <li>• small to medium scale, regular and semi-regular fields bounded by mixed species hedgerows with scattered hedgerow trees;</li> <li>• localised estate woodland blocks, scattered hedgerow trees, including oak and ash, and dense watercourse trees along streams and river valleys; and</li> <li>• dispersed farmsteads and country houses are scattered throughout the area.</li> </ul>
Gritstone Heaths and Commons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• undulating landscape of hill summits and steep slopes;</li> <li>• regular, geometric, pattern of small to medium fields enclosed by a mixture of dry-stone wall and hedgerows;</li> <li>• tree cover is varied across the landscape with patches of plantation woodland, shelterbelts, and more wooded areas on the slopes. Solitary or scattered trees can be found along some field boundaries;</li> <li>• thinner soils on slopes tends toward acidic, and loamy free-draining soil. In places where clayey, poorly draining soil are present, ditches are used to improve drainage;</li> <li>• soil quality and landform create a predominantly pastoral farming with occasional arable farming where conditions allow; and</li> <li>• there are widespread swathes of bracken and patches of grassland and gorse with gentler slopes of arable and grassland offering little floristic interest.</li> </ul>

LCTs	Key Landscape Characteristics
Limestone Farmlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>gently rolling and undulating upland plateau with steep sided escarpment at western edge by Bolsover;</li> <li>long distance, panoramic views over the plateau and across lowlands to the west;</li> <li>large regularly shaped fields, used almost exclusively for arable farming, dominate the landscape, though historic small irregular fields, used as permanent pasture, are a feature in places;</li> <li>regular fields are bounded by hedgerows, though some historic fields are bounded by dry-stone walls;</li> <li>large and medium scale estate woodlands as well as smaller plantations create a wooded landscape enhanced by amenity trees around villages and farmsteads; and</li> <li>nucleated settlement pattern of small villages and modern developments interspersed with scattered farmsteads and country houses.</li> </ul>
Lowland Village Farmlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>gently rolling, almost flat, lowland with river terraces and broad floodplains;</li> <li>mixed-use farming land use, with arable crop farming alongside improved grassland pasture;</li> <li>pattern of medium to large, regular, and semi-regular shaped fields typically bounded by hawthorn hedgerows with scattered trees;</li> <li>smaller fields have patches of ridge and furrow;</li> <li>woodland is largely absent, though tree presence exists through scattered copses, localised parkland trees, watercourse trees, and small estate plantations close to Elvaston;</li> <li>distinctive pollarded willows form a visual feature within the landscape; and</li> <li>nucleated settlements are often found on slopes and gravel river terraces, interspersed with scattered dispersed farmsteads.</li> </ul>
Plateau Estate Farmlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>gently undulating plateau with areas of steeper ground and escarpments to the adjacent Coal Measures;</li> <li>higher elevation than the surrounding landscapes provides long distance views over the surrounding low-lying land;</li> <li>traditionally mixed farming, with a gradual shift towards cropping and arable practices due to gentle topography and improvements in farming methods;</li> <li>boundaries are typically hedgerows with sparsely scattered trees, including mature oaks, which are prominent visuals amongst the boundaries;</li> <li>diverse enclosure patterns, large regular fields and relict parkland around Risley and Locko Park, where there is also a large area of unenclosed land. On summits and elsewhere, there are medium, regular, and semi-regular field patterns;</li> </ul>

LCTs	Key Landscape Characteristics
Riverside Meadows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• woodlands comprise many small plantations, isolated ancient semi-natural woods, scattered hedgerow trees and ornamental parkland tree belts; and</li> <li>• estate farmlands and country houses represent an inherently dispersed settlement pattern.</li> </ul>
Sandstone Slopes and Heaths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• flat, broad floodplains with meandering rivers and streams subject to seasonal waterlogging;</li> <li>• land use is predominantly permanent pasture alongside areas of wetland, rushes, and unimproved grassland;</li> <li>• regular shaped fields bounded by hawthorn hedges;</li> <li>• tree cover predominantly formed by dense trees alongside watercourses with secondary woodlands along embankments, scattered hedgerow trees and ditch vegetation;</li> <li>• network of lanes run alongside or cross floodplains on elevated ridges with bridges crossing and spanning rivers or streams;</li> <li>• strong association with transport routes from the rivers and canals that link to historic mills; and</li> <li>• generally uninhabited with sparsely dispersed and isolated farmsteads.</li> </ul>
Settled Farmlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• undulating landscape of moderate to steep slopes and valleys;</li> <li>• mixed farming where gentler slopes are present, with steeper slopes used almost exclusively on steeper gradients;</li> <li>• mosaic of small to medium size fields of regular and sub-regular forms bounded by mixed species hedgerows and road verges with heathy associations on the steeper slopes;</li> <li>• prominent woodland and tree cover defined by hedgerow trees, patches of woodland and linear woods, scrub, and parkland trees; and</li> <li>• sparsely settled landscape with dispersed farmsteads and roadside estate cottages.</li> </ul>
Settled Farmlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• gently undulating and rolling landscape with localised steep slopes and minor stream valleys that are seasonally waterlogged;</li> <li>• mixed farming land use, with areas of permanent pasture, grass leys and localised arable cropping;</li> <li>• mosaic of small to medium scale, semi-regular and strip fields enclosed and bounded by hedgerows and occasional dry-stone walls;</li> <li>• extensive and widespread presence of ridge and furrow.</li> <li>• views foreshortened by scattered hedgerow trees, small woodland copses, and dense watercourse trees; and</li> <li>• a dense network of winding lanes with irregular verges crosses throughout the area and links the scattered nucleated villages and dispersed farms and cottages.</li> </ul>

LCTs	Key Landscape Characteristics
Wet Pasture Meadows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• low-lying, generally flat landscape of irregularly shaped basins, framed by low hills and slopes;</li> <li>• mixed farming land use with an increasing shift towards arable and crop farming;</li> <li>• waterlogging is common, though water level is increasingly being controlled by ditches and field drainage;</li> <li>• patches of unimproved grassland rush pasture persist, though intensification of farming has diminished wetland habitats;</li> <li>• mosaic of medium to large geometric fields typically bounded by hawthorn hedgerows with scattered hedgerow trees;</li> <li>• tree cover is sparse and not a prominent feature of the landscape, though pollarded willows are a distinctive visual feature. Scattered trees are present amongst hedgerows and alongside ditches and streams; and</li> <li>• generally, a widely dispersed settlement pattern with scattered farmsteads, though urban expansion from the edge of Derby is impacting the landscape.</li> </ul>
Wooded Estatelands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• broad, gently undulating and rolling landform with minor ridges;</li> <li>• predominantly mixed farming land use though extensive areas of parkland are found throughout the area;</li> <li>• parkland and pastoral land are typically located on steeper slopes or where heavy soils are present;</li> <li>• much of the pasture has been improved, and cropping can be found where soils are free draining;</li> <li>• generally medium to large size, regularly shaped fields;</li> <li>• fields typically are bounded and enclosed by hawthorn hedgerows with numerous hedgerow trees scattered throughout;</li> <li>• a well-wooded landscape with interlocking plantation woodlands and dense lines of watercourse trees, which restrict views across the landscape; and</li> <li>• extensive parkland trees including ornamental specimens, tree groups and avenues.</li> </ul>
Wooded Farmlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• undulating plateau landform with gentle slopes;</li> <li>• predominantly pasture farming with occasional arable crop farming;</li> <li>• small to medium irregular and strip fields enclosed by mixed, species rich hedgerows;</li> <li>• scattered ancient woodlands and locally dense hedgerow trees enhanced by dense tree cover along streams and watercourses; and</li> <li>• dispersed, scattered farmsteads and wayside cottages connected by curving lanes with irregular verges.</li> </ul>
Wooded Slopes and Valleys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• undulating upland landform rising to moorland with moderate to steep slopes alongside stream valleys;</li> </ul>

LCTs	Key Landscape Characteristics
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• predominantly pasture for sheep and cattle or permanent grassland of bracken and gorse. Sporadic and occasional arable fields can be found on better-drained soils;</li> <li>• irregular field pattern of small-scale fields bounded and enclosed by mixed-species hedgerows, whilst dry-stone walls define a more regular field pattern;</li> <li>• densely scattered small to medium ancient woodlands and secondary woodlands on steeper slopes or alongside stream valleys, supported by densely scattered hedgerow trees;</li> <li>• a dense network of winding lanes with irregular verges and rocky banks, sunken on sloping ground, crosses the landscape; and</li> <li>• dispersed farmsteads and clusters of cottages are occasionally scattered throughout.</li> </ul>

## Planting Management Guidelines (Derbyshire)

6B.2.15 The Derbyshire Landscape Character Assessment also includes a series of management guidelines that are relevant to the identified LCTs and provide detailed information on planting management guidelines and objectives. **Table 6B.7** includes a series of guidelines related to the LCTs that are likely to be directly affected by the Project, to inform potential mitigation considerations.

**Table 6B.7: Landscape management guidelines**

Directly affected LCTs	Landscape Management Guidelines
Coalfield Estatelands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reconnect scattered woodlands and hedgerows and improve tree groups occurring within or around rural settlements and lone farmsteads;</li> <li>• renew and protect ornamental plantations and individual parkland trees;</li> <li>• improve the visual and ecological connectivity of river corridors through management, natural regeneration, and the planting of riparian trees; and</li> <li>• promote linked extensions to ancient woodland by natural regeneration and planting, focusing on locally occurring native species.</li> </ul>
Coalfield Village Farmlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reestablish physical links between scattered woodlands and hedgerows;</li> <li>• promote small scale woodland planting and encourage management of scrub and secondary woodlands with links to existing habitats;</li> <li>• conservation and management of mature/veteran hedgerow trees and hedgerows through natural selection and planting; and</li> <li>• improve the visual and ecological resilience of river corridors.</li> </ul>

Directly affected LCTs	Landscape Management Guidelines
Enclosed Moors and Heaths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• enhance localised amenity tree groups within and around rural settlements and isolated farmsteads; and</li> <li>• maintain open landscape character.</li> </ul>
Estate Farmlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• promote medium to large scale woodland planting;</li> <li>• enhance and conserve existing tree groups associated with rural settlements and isolated farmsteads; and</li> <li>• establish links between isolated woodlands and hedgerows.</li> </ul>
Gritstone Heaths and Commons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ensure use of indigenous species of shrubs and trees;</li> <li>• conserve and enhance tree groups within and around rural settlements and isolated farmsteads;</li> <li>• removal of coniferous plantation woodlands; and</li> <li>• maintain open character of landscape and manage balance between new woodland planting and areas of nature conservation value.</li> </ul>
Limestone Farmlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• implement and improve large scale woodland planting to promote occasional large plantation of trees;</li> <li>• protect and restore ancient woodland sites using locally occurring native species;</li> <li>• reestablish connections between isolated and scattered woodlands and hedgerows; and</li> <li>• enhance and conserve tree groups in and around rural settlements and isolated farmsteads.</li> </ul>
Lowland Village Farmlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• develop widespread interconnecting woodland without conflicting defining features of the landscape (e.g. ridge and furrow);</li> <li>• ensure use of indigenous tree and shrub species, including large long-lived species;</li> <li>• improve existing groupings of trees within and surrounding rural settlements and lone farm holdings; and</li> <li>• encourage pollarding to maintain traditional character of riparian landscape.</li> </ul>
Plateau Estate Farmlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• implement small scale woodland planting and improve tree groups in and around rural settlements and isolated farmsteads;</li> <li>• conserve and manage mature and veteran trees within hedgerows and manage and enhance hedgerows and hedgerows trees through planting selection and natural regeneration;</li> <li>• reconnect isolated woodlands and hedgerows; and</li> <li>• renew ornamental plantation and individual parklands trees.</li> </ul>
Riverside Meadows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• maintain balance between new planting and areas of biodiversity interest and nature conservation value;</li> <li>• utilise locally occurring native tree and shrub species, including large, long-lived species; and</li> </ul>

Directly affected LCTs	Landscape Management Guidelines
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>planting and regeneration of riparian trees to enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors.</li> </ul>
Sandstone Slopes and Heaths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ensure planting is native tree and shrub species and a proportion of species are large, long-lived species; and</li> <li>maintain a balance of new woodland planting and retention of areas with nature conservation value.</li> </ul>
Settled Farmlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>management and enhancement of mature/veteran hedgerows trees and hedgerows through selection and natural regeneration;</li> <li>ensure use of indigenous tree and shrub species, including a proportion of large, long-lived species;</li> <li>enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors with planting or riparian trees; and</li> <li>ensure new woodland cover does not conflict with defining features of the landscape (e.g. ridge and furrow).</li> </ul>
Wet Pasture Meadows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>transformation from unwooded character with the introduction of wet woodlands and riparian trees enhancing visual and ecological continuity of river corridors;</li> <li>promote continued practice of pollarding to maintain traditional riparian character of the landscape; and</li> <li>ensure new planting utilises native shrubs and trees whilst balancing development of new woodland against retention of areas of nature conservation value.</li> </ul>
Wooded Estatelands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National Forest strategy and guidance to be formative part of management plan for the landscape;</li> <li>enhance physical links between scattered and isolated woodlands and hedgerows through natural regeneration and planting of indigenous and locally occurring native species;</li> <li>protect and renew ornamental plantations and individual parkland trees;</li> <li>conservation and management of mature/veteran trees, and hedgerows through natural selection and planting; and</li> <li>enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors through regeneration and management of riparian woodlands.</li> </ul>
Wooded Farmlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>natural regeneration and enhancement of riparian planting to improve visual and ecological strength of river corridors;</li> <li>management of hedgerows and hedgerow trees through selection and natural regeneration or planting;</li> <li>use of indigenous tree and shrub species; and</li> <li>restore, conserve and connect ancient woodlands, isolated woodlands and hedgerows.</li> </ul>

Directly affected LCTs	Landscape Management Guidelines
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Wooded Slopes and Valleys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• removal of coniferous plantation woodlands;</li> <li>• conservation, restoration, and connection of ancient woodlands with locally occurring native species;</li> <li>• promote management of secondary woodlands and scrub to link with existing habitats and woodlands;</li> <li>• management and enhancement of mature/veteran hedgerows trees and reconnect isolated woodlands and hedgerows; and</li> <li>• enhance visual and ecological continuity of river corridors.</li> </ul>
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## Greater Nottingham Landscape Character Assessment

- 6B.2.16 The north eastern section of the Study Area falls within the Ashfield District Council area. Whilst there is no specific Landscape Character Assessment published for Ashfield District Council, the Greater Nottingham Landscape Character Assessment (Ref 6B.4) and the Drawings (Ref 6B.5) include landscape characterisation for the area of Ashfield District Council.
- 6B.2.17 The Greater Nottingham Landscape Character Assessment (Ref 6B.6), and Addendum Statement referring to the Review of the Nottinghamshire County Council Landscape Character Assessment for Ashfield District Council (Ref 6B.7), identify Regional Character Areas (ReCA) and Draft Policy Zones (DPZs).
- 6B.2.18 **Table 6B.8** denotes the terminology used for Landscape Character Units found within the Greater Nottingham Landscape Character Assessment (Ref 6B.4) and its associated maps (Ref 6B.5).

**Table 6B.8: ReCAs and DPZs**

ReCAs	DPZs
Magnesian Limestone Ridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ML21 Brierley Forest Park; and</li> <li>• ML22 Sutton and Teversal Plateau.</li> </ul>
Nottinghamshire Coalfields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NC05 Kirkby Coalfield Farmlands/Kirkby Vales;</li> <li>• NC06 Fulwood Restored Works;</li> <li>• NC07 Stanley and Silverhill; and</li> <li>• NC08 River Medan Valley.</li> </ul>

- 6B.2.19 The landscape characteristics of ReCAs, identified within the Greater Nottingham Landscape Character Assessment, are presented in **Table 6B.9** below.

**Table 6B.9: Characteristics for ReCAs**

ReCAs	Key Landscape Characteristics
Magnesian Limestone Ridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• narrow rolling landform with gentler slopes to the east and steeper irregular scarp to the west, formed by the presence of small streams and watercourses;</li><li>• land use is a mosaic of regular, medium to large scale fields predominantly used for intensive arable farming, whilst smaller semi-regular fields are evident around fringes of smaller settlements;</li><li>• hedgerows are the primary field boundary, though on higher elevations, stone walls are commonly used;</li><li>• tree cover is mixed with areas of lower lying land having greater density of woodland, coverts, parkland and tree belts, whereas ridges and higher ground are more open and lacking significant coverage; and</li><li>• scattered settlement pattern overall with dispersed estates, farmsteads and small rural villages, whilst there are also larger nucleated mining settlements and suburban development around older settlement centres.</li></ul>
Nottinghamshire Coalfields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• undulating landform comprising small hills and ridges with a more subdued profile to the south and a broad valley around the River Erewash;</li><li>• varied and mixed land use with some agriculture alongside urban areas, remnant and derelict land, as well as restored land;</li><li>• field pattern is a combination of small pastoral farms and permanent pasture in wetter areas and more regular arable fields where farmland has been restored;</li><li>• tree cover is somewhat present, mostly through restored and establishing woodland, or through linear woodlands alongside watercourses; and</li><li>• significant linear settlement along main, interconnecting roads whilst smaller nucleated settlements are dispersed throughout the more rural areas. Larger settlements and urban sprawl exert a strong influence alongside remnant industrial landmarks and relics.</li></ul>

6B.2.20 **Table 6B.10** The following expands upon the qualities of the ReCAs in the previous table above and identifies the key qualities and characteristics, as detailed in the Supplementary Planning Guidance document, for the LCTs that fall wholly or partially within the Study Area of the Project, within the administrative boundaries of Ashfield District Council.

**Table 6B.10: Characteristics of DPZs**

<b>DPZ</b>	<b>Key Landscape Characteristics</b>
NC05: Kirkby Coalfield Farmlands/Kirkby Vales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• the area has a strongly undulating landform;</li><li>• a semi-rural character; urban elements are prominent surrounding the area and influence the local landscape;</li><li>• field sizes are medium to large and geometrically shaped with predominantly a modern, modified pattern;</li><li>• hedgerows commonly border the fields and are generally well maintained, although some are fragmented or have been lost through field size expansion;</li><li>• woodland is typically linear and follows the base of slopes, watercourses and a dismantled railway;</li><li>• enclosed views on low ground between hills with extensive panoramic views from upper slopes to the south east;</li><li>• industrial buildings and retail village along the A38 corridor are prominent features in views north;</li><li>• infrequent individual farms within the character area often on the slopes or high ground; and</li><li>• major roads are prominent, M1 at the western edge and A38 to the north.</li></ul>
NC06: Fulwood Restored Works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• a relatively small, enclosed area of undulating land, steeply sloping in places and rising to a broad plateau of partly restored land;</li><li>• the DPZ largely comprises an area of former industry and landfill site;</li><li>• it has an urban fringe character and is influenced by adjoining development;</li><li>• land use is a mixture of rough grassland, farmland, vacant and derelict land and young plantation woodland;</li><li>• field pattern is mostly disrupted by former industrial use although pockets of older field pattern are evident at the outer edges where fields sweep down and across the slopes, forming a distinctive feature;</li><li>• field boundaries are predominantly mature hedgerows with infrequent hedgerow trees;</li><li>• woodland is typically young plantations on restored land and focused on the perimeters;</li><li>• no significant areas of built development in the DPZ although surrounding buildings are prominent in most views; and</li><li>• industrial development to the south west is prominent in views from adjacent slopes.</li></ul>

**DPZ****Key Landscape Characteristics**

## NC07: Stanley and Silverhill

- strongly undulating landform consisting of steep valleys and prominent elevated ridges and hills;
- predominantly agricultural land use with pasture and grazing often at the base of slopes alongside watercourses;
- field pattern of semi-regular, medium-large scale, typically bounded by hedgerows;
- tree cover is prominent with extensive woodland on steep slopes and around Hardwick Hall, alongside plantation woodland, shelterbelts, and individual parkland or field trees;
- settlement pattern is dispersed with scattered farmsteads and cottages throughout. Some smaller nucleated settlements are found within valleys;
- Hardwick Hall is a prominent landmark and feature with views over the surrounding landscape; and
- Silverhill, an elevated recreational area, has extensive panoramic views over the surrounding area.

## NC08: River Meden Valley

- gently sloping valley landscape formed around the River Meden and other localised watercourses;
- mixed land use of both arable and pastoral farming with a generally large scale, irregular field pattern bounded by a mix of hedgerows and fences;
- tree cover is variable, with scattered small woodlands and more prominent linear features alongside watercourses or along valley ridgelines;
- settlements and built form are sparse in the northern region, restricted to lower valley slopes, whereas frequency and density increase in the southern extents; and
- roads are typically narrow country lanes enclosed by field boundaries, but B roads do cross the area and can increase the feel of urbanisation.

## ML21: Brierley Forest Park

- man-made mound landform with 'engineered' slopes of a constant, even gradient;
- land use is primarily recreational following restoration, with occasional remnant fields marked by hedgerow boundaries;
- extensive tree cover throughout, predominantly broadleaf species, though most planting is immature at present;
- views are enclosed and foreshortened by woodlands for the most part, though panoramic views are found at the top of the former colliery mound; and
- settlement across the region is minimal, though the character area is enclosed by the urban areas of Sutton in Ashfield, Huthwaite and Stanton Hill.

DPZ	Key Landscape Characteristics
ML22: Sutton and Teversal Plateau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• gently rolling landform that gradually rises to a broad plateau with wide open views;</li> <li>• land use is predominantly arable agricultural use with a large-scale, regular field pattern, with hawthorn hedgerows and hedgerow trees forming the majority of field boundaries;</li> <li>• woodland and tree cover are interspersed and scattered. Plantations, shelterbelts, and small copses of woodland provide most interest, with support from hedgerow trees and isolated field trees;</li> <li>• the outer extent of Hardwick Hall parkland and woodland is within the extents of this character area;</li> <li>• settlement is sparse and dispersed, comprising isolated farmsteads and cottages with Teversal being the most notable settlement; and</li> <li>• urban and built-up form is infrequent and screened by mature trees, though there is a noticeable presence of overhead cables between ridges and hills.</li> </ul>

## Staffordshire County Council Landscape Character Assessment

- 6B.2.21 Landscape character for Staffordshire County Council has been characterised within Planning for Landscape Change: Supplementary Planning Guidance to the Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Structure Plan 1996-2011 (Ref 6B.8) and its Appendix 1: Maps and Plans (Ref 6B.9). This Landscape Character Assessment identifies the ReCAs found within Staffordshire and describes their overall character. It then breaks down the regional areas into a series of LCTs, representing a particular combination of landscape elements and land uses. As the ReCAs have been derived from maps generated by the former Countryside Commission and English Nature, this report focuses on the more detailed level of LCTs.
- 6B.2.22 **Table 6B.11** denotes the identified ReCAs and LCTs that fall within the boundary of the Study Area found within the Staffordshire Supplementary Planning Guidance (Ref 6B.8) and its associated maps illustrated within Appendix 1 (Ref 6B.9).

**Table 6B.11: Staffordshire ReCAs and LCTs**

ReCAs	LCTs
Needwood Claylands	Settled Plateau Farmland Slopes
Trent Valley Washlands	Riparian Alluvial Lowlands

- 6B.2.23 **Table 6B.12** lists the key qualities and characteristics of ReCAs within the Study Area for the Project as described within the Supplementary Planning Guidance (Ref 6B.8) document.

**Table 6B.12: Characteristics of Staffordshire ReCAs**

ReCAs	Key Landscape Characteristics
Needwood Claylands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a rolling plateau landform dissected by river valleys and streams. Slopes are generally soft and gradual with steeper slopes located around the river valleys;</li> <li>• mixed farming land use with a greater proportion, approximately two-thirds, of which is grassland pasture, whilst the remaining third is predominantly used for cereal crops and oilseed rape;</li> <li>• regular geometric field pattern is prevalent throughout with the scale varying though medium-large scale is more common. Most fields are bounded by hedgerows, with scattered trees;</li> <li>• tree cover comes primarily from conifer plantations, shelter breaks, and parkland trees, though there is an extensive ancient woodland to the north on the scarp slope above the River Dove; and</li> <li>• settlement pattern is dispersed with scattered farmsteads and cottages throughout. The valleys often contain small, nucleated hamlets or villages focused on historic woodlands and foresting locations.</li> </ul>
Trent Valley Washlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• only a small area of this ReCA falls within Staffordshire County Council’s boundary and as such the council’s document does not include characteristic for this ReCA.</li> </ul>

6B.2.24 **Table 6B.13** below expands upon the qualities of the ReCAs in **Table 6B.12** above and identifies the key qualities and characteristics, as detailed in the Staffordshire Supplementary Planning Guidance (Ref 6B.8) and its associated maps illustrated within Appendix 1 (Ref 6B.9), which cover LCTs of Staffordshire County Council wholly or partially within the Study Area of the Project.

**Table 6B.13: Characteristics of Staffordshire LCTs**

LCTs	Key Landscape Characteristics
Riparian Alluvial Lowlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a flat lowland riverine landscape of soft valleys and open floodplains;</li> <li>• predominantly pastoral farming found across the floodplains gives way to areas of arable cropping where there are elevated patches of land;</li> <li>• field pattern is typically large-scale and with boundaries formed typically by hedgerows with occasional hedgerow trees;</li> <li>• a network of watercourses dissects the landscape from rivers and canals to streams and water channels;</li> <li>• waterside planting, such as willow, alder, and poplar, provides most of the tree cover, whilst a few woodlands, none of ancient origin, are scattered throughout; and</li> <li>• settlements are typically adjacent to floodplains. Canals are strong features where present and linear or nucleated settlements are often a dominating landscape feature.</li> </ul>

LCTs	Key Landscape Characteristics
Settled Plateau Farmland Slopes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sloped, rolling landscape connecting the settled plateau farmlands and the lowland surroundings;</li> <li>• visibility from the elevated slopes creates expansive, open panoramic views out to the lowlands, whilst views across the landscape can be foreshortened by vegetation;</li> <li>• predominantly pastoral farming land use;</li> <li>• traditionally small-medium scale land pattern, though agricultural intensification is creating a shift towards medium-large scale patterns;</li> <li>• boundaries are typically hedgerows with scattered trees, though there is a decline in maintenance with wire fences and gappy hedges becoming more common;</li> <li>• tree cover is good across the landscape, with a blend of small mixed-species woodlands and large areas of ancient woodland on the upper slopes; and</li> <li>• clusters of nucleated settlements, often within valleys, are a strong historic feature. Urban fringe and ribbon development have increased, and there is a continued development pressure across the area.</li> </ul>

## North West Leicestershire Landscape Character Assessment

- 6B.2.25 Whilst North West Leicestershire District Council currently does not have an up-to-date Landscape Character Assessment covering the entire district boundary, the adopted Local Plan 2011-2031 refers to the North Leicestershire Settlement Fringe Assessment (Ref 6B.10) accompanied by Appendix A: Landscape Character Summaries (Ref 6B.11). This appendix summarises various Landscape Character Assessments that are relevant to North West Leicestershire. The most detailed level of assessment refers to County Character Areas, illustrated in Appendix A Maps 1 to 5 (Ref 6B.12).
- 6B.2.26 **Table 6B.14** below identifies the key qualities and characteristics, as detailed in the Settlement Fringe Assessment Appendix A (Ref 6B.11), for the County Character Areas of North West Leicestershire District Council wholly or partially within the Study Area of the Project. As County Character Areas present a more detailed analysis of the existing landscape, they have been considered for inclusion in the assessment.

**Table 6B.14: Characteristics of County Character Areas**

County Character Areas	Key Landscape Characteristics
Langley Lowlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an undulating lowland landform dissected by a network of minor watercourses;</li> <li>• field pattern is typically small to medium, with mixed land use;</li> <li>• tree cover is a key characteristic of the area with an array of small game coverts alongside larger blocks of ancient woodland, and the bordering Charnwood Forest provides a tree-clothed backdrop;</li> </ul>

County Character Areas	Key Landscape Characteristics
Trent Valley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Breedon Hill limestone outcrop is a noticeable feature visible as far away as Derby;</li> <li>• scattered villages and settlements throughout the area are connected by narrow, winding roads. The A42 and M42 bisect the area and are noticeably intrusive; and</li> <li>• commercial activity is typically small scale, though several major features can be audibly and visually intrusive, such as East Midlands Airport, and Donington Park motor racing circuit.</li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a flat open floodplain landform bounded by the River Trent to the north and west, and by the River Soar to the east;</li> <li>• predominantly agricultural with a tendency towards pastoral land use;</li> <li>• hawthorn hedgerows bound fields, though the quality of management is varied;</li> <li>• tree cover and woodland presence are minimal and sporadic. Willow alongside watercourses, localised parkland trees and occasional small copses provide some vegetation;</li> <li>• a network of man-made lakes, pools and drainage ditches alongside streams creates a latticework of water features;</li> <li>• heavily influenced by industry, especially power generation and gravel extraction;</li> <li>• borderline wirescape is present, with the area around Ratcliffe on Soar criss-crossed by power lines; and</li> <li>• busy arterial roads such as A6, M1 and A50 exert a strong influence on the landscape.</li> </ul>

## Landscape Designations

### Peak District National Park

6B.2.27 The key qualities of Peak District National Park are included in Peak District National Park Management Plan (Ref 6B.21), and these are included below:

- beautiful views created by contrasting landscapes and dramatic geology;
- internationally important and locally distinctive wildlife and habitats;
- undeveloped places of tranquillity and dark night skies within reach of millions;
- landscapes that tell a story of thousands of years of people, farming and industry;
- characteristic settlements with strong communities and traditions;
- an inspiring space for escape, adventure, discovery and quiet reflection; and
- vital benefits for millions of people that flow beyond the landscape boundary.

## Amber Valley Special Landscape Area (SLA)

### Amber Valley Borough Local Plan (adopted 2006)

6B.2.28 The Amber Valley Special Landscape Area (SLA) has been designated as a local landscape area within the Amber Valley Borough Local Plan, adopted on 12 April 2006 (Ref 6B.17). As the new Local Plan is currently under consultation, the policies outlined in this Local Plan have been saved for an initial period of three years and would be retained for an extended period until the revised Local Plan is adopted.

6B.2.29 The adopted Local Plan (2006) highlights that:

*'Special Landscape Areas are the areas of finest Derbyshire landscape outside the Peak District National Park. Special planning policies have been applied in these areas since 1985, to preserve and enhance their character.'*

6B.2.30 This Local Plan highlights further that there is a:

*'particular pressure for tourism development in the Special Landscape Areas and there is a need to balance carefully the economic benefits of such development, with the need to protect the quality of the environment.'*

6B.2.31 This Local Plan does not highlight specific key qualities of the Amber Valley SLA but refers to the Landscape Character Assessment for Derbyshire as a tool to inform criteria-based policies. It also highlights the need to ensure that all development proposals are designed in a way that complements the particular character of the landscape in which they are located and recognises the need to provide more detailed guidance on how the design of new development proposals can complement landscape character.

6B.2.32 The key characteristics of ReCA's Landscape Character Areas and relevant LCTs that fall within the Study Area are described in the Greater Nottingham Landscape Character Assessment (Ref 6B.6).

### Amber Valley Borough Local Plan 2022-2040 (Draft)

6B.2.33 The Draft Local Plan (Ref 6B.16) is currently undergoing examination. It includes limited information regarding the Amber Valley SLA restricted to the identification of Strategic Objective No. 7:

*'To protect and enhance the environmental quality and local distinctiveness of spaces and places in the Borough in relation to landscapes and heritage, including, but not limited to, the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site and the Special Landscape Area.'*

6B.2.34 The policy mapping linked to this Local Plan, however, does not show the extent of the Amber Valley SLA. The Draft Local Plan does not include the policy relating to the Amber Valley SLA beyond Strategic Objective No. 7, as referred to above.

6B.2.35 The Amber Valley SLA lies entirely within the Derbyshire Peak Fringe and Lower Derwent (Character Area 50) as identified in the Derbyshire Landscape Character Assessment (Ref 6B.14). Whilst this CA does not identify special qualities of the Amber Valley SLA, the key qualities of the Derbyshire Peak Fringe and Lower Derwent Landscape (Character Area 50) are listed below:

- transitional landscape between the Derbyshire Coalfield in the east, the Needwood and South Derbyshire Claylands to the south and the Peak District National Park to the north west;
- distinctly undulating landform as it rises from east to west forming the foothills to the Peak District National Park;
- landscape character is strongly defined by three rivers Ecclesbourne, Amber and Derwent and their valleys with notable steep valley sides;
- land use has remained predominantly pastoral with mixed stock rearing and rough grazing, with some mixed farming with occasional arable fields, where topography allows;
- woodlands are well represented throughout, with extensive ancient semi-natural woodland occupying steep valley sides and smaller woodlands elsewhere;
- species rich hedgerows with hedgerow trees are prevalent in the east, although in the most elevated areas towards the Peak District National Park, these give way to dry-stone walls;
- settlement pattern is predominantly dispersed with many scattered and isolated farmsteads;
- expansion of Chesterfield introduced more urban fringe activities such as 'horsiculture' into an otherwise agricultural landscape;
- ancient semi natural broadleaved woodland is a prominent characteristic of the Wooded Slopes and Valleys LCT;
- nucleated villages are combined with a dispersed pattern with scattered farmsteads and small hamlets nestled into the hillsides;
- localised evidence of former mining and quarrying; and
- cultural associations are strongly linked to the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site (WHS).

6B.2.36 Apart from the above-mentioned Derbyshire Landscape Character Assessment (2000) (Ref 6B.14), the Areas of Multiple Environmental Sensitivity (Ref 6B.13) identifies broad areas of environmental sensitivity.

6B.2.37 The report provides an analysis of individual sensitivities, which were brought together into 'Areas of Multiple Environmental Sensitivity' and further subdivided into 'primary' and 'secondary' significance. Areas of Primary Sensitivity have been identified, where a Landscape Character Unit was recorded as significant for all three individual datasets, while areas of Secondary Sensitivity were recorded as significant for two of the individual datasets. The report provides a conclusion that:

*'The most sensitive areas, those classified as primary significance, are mainly associated with the Peak Fringe and Lower Derwent NCA.'*

6B.2.38 This document defines the areas of highest sensitivity as follows:

*'In general terms, those landscapes of highest sensitivity to change will be areas where the landscape remains intact both visually and structurally, have strong historic and cultural identity, and contain many widespread semi-natural habitats with associated linkages appropriate to the character of the area.'*

- 6B.2.39 The Amber Valley Borough Council Landscape Sensitivity Study (October 2016) (Ref 6B.15) report included an assessment of landscape sensitivity only around the settlements in the Borough and therefore provides limited information on landscape sensitivity across the Borough.

## 6B.3 Landscape Character Assessment

- 6B.3.1 This section identifies the potential landscape effects that could occur because of the construction and operation associated with the Project. The preliminary assessment is presented with reference to the six sections as described in **Chapter 4 Description of the Project**.
- 6B.3.2 The preliminary assessment takes into account the design embedded, good practice measures, as set out within section 6.6 Design Embedded and Good Practice Mitigation Measures in **Chapter 6 Landscape and Visual**.
- 6B.3.3 The preliminary assessment draws upon the baseline information included within NCA Profiles to represent landscape character at the national level and local Landscape Character Assessments for the relevant district, and if not available, county Landscape Character Assessments.
- 6B.3.4 Where Landscape Character Units (e.g. Landscape Character Areas, or LCTs) have been scoped out from the assessment, justification is provided based on the distance, existing screening, and indirect nature of effects.
- 6B.3.5 A proportionate, tiered approach in line with guidance set out in GLVIA3 (Ref 6B.18) has been applied to the Landscape Character Assessment. The preliminary assessment refers to landscape effects on NCAs within the 5 km extent of the Study Area, to provide a broad contextual understanding of effects at the wider-scale of the character context.
- 6B.3.6 The preliminary assessment of effects refers to Landscape Character Units identified at district and, if not available, at the county level, such as Landscape Character Areas and their composite parts (LCTs), reflecting a finer, more detailed and focused assessment, providing a better understanding of localised land use effects. The Landscape Character Assessment is also focused on the effects on Landscape Character Units that have the potential to be significantly affected, which coincides with Landscape Character Units that are likely to be affected directly.
- 6B.3.7 In accordance with GLVIA3, the assessment is based on the landscape and visual assessment methodology outlined in **Appendix 6A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Methodology**.
- 6B.3.8 The potential extent of the assessment, landscape receptors, and Study Area were determined through the EIA Scoping process. **Table 6.2** and **Table 6.3** in **Chapter 6 Landscape and Visual** contains Planning Inspectorate and stakeholder Scoping Opinion comments and National Grid's responses.

### Construction

- 6B.3.9 Construction phase effects on landscape character would occur as a result of the construction activities within the draft Order Limits. As set out in **Chapter 4 Description of Project**, it is estimated that the construction phase would take approximately three years in total (2029 to 2031). This assessment assumes that construction work would be undertaken in phases, and therefore that potential

landscape effects would be medium-term, in line with the methodology outlined in **Appendix 6A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Methodology**.

- 6B.3.10 Effects occurring during the construction phase would be generally reversible, although the overhead line and associated infrastructure would remain into operation. The landscape would be partially restored to baseline conditions, as some effects may be long-lasting, such as the felling of trees, the removal of hedgerows or the addition of permanent structures, such as the introduced pylons. The detailed information about construction is included in **Chapter 4 Description of Project**.
- 6B.3.11 The potential effects that could result from the construction of the overhead line relate to physical and perceptible effects on landscape character and/or the setting of designated landscapes from construction, including vegetation removal and the addition of new elements associated with construction such as compounds, soil storage areas, access roads and tracks, plant (including mobile cranes), vehicles and personnel alongside the addition of permanent structures such as the overhead line and pylons.
- 6B.3.12 The key construction activities associated with the Project are listed below:
- vegetation clearance (specific assumptions regarding vegetation clearance are outlined in **Chapter 4 Description of Project**);
  - diversion and undergrounding of short sections of existing overhead lines to facilitate the construction of the Project;
  - construction of temporary construction compounds;
  - construction of haul roads;
  - movement of construction vehicles along construction routes and haul roads;
  - formation of earthworks to accommodate pylon construction areas and haul roads, where required;
  - provision of watercourse crossings (culverts/bridges);
  - diversion, removal, undergrounding or protection of existing third-party services;
  - temporary protection measures for under-sailing hazards (roads etc);
  - excavation and construction of pylon foundations;
  - delivery, assembly, and erection of pylons;
  - works associated with reinstatement, mitigation and enhancement planting;
  - conductor 'stringing' and commissioning of the overhead line;
  - removal of temporary infrastructure and reinstatement, including landscape works;
  - the potential need for lighting during construction if work extends into hours of darkness; and
  - works and modifications to third-party assets to facilitate the construction.

## Operation

- 6B.3.13 The key changes arising from the operation of the Project are set out fully in **Chapter 4 Description of Project**. Some of the key changes are listed below:
- a new 400 kV overhead line route, approximately 60 km in length, between a proposed new Chesterfield Substation and the existing Willington Substation;
  - at this stage of the design, pylons proposed for the Project are likely to range between 44.5 m to 66.0 m in height; and
  - the addition of the new Chesterfield Substation and connection to the existing Willington Substation.

## Scope of Landscape Assessment

- 6B.3.14 The Study Area, as agreed in the Scoping Report (Ref 6B.19), extends 5 km from the overhead line. A large proportion of the Study Area is covered by the Landscape Character Units described within The Derbyshire Landscape Character Assessment (Ref 6B.14) with some overlap with the Landscape Character Assessments published by other local authorities, where their boundaries fall within the 5 km Study Area. As identified in **Table 6.9** of the Scoping Opinion (Ref 6B.20), the landscape assessment presented below addresses the following items scoped in for the assessment:
- Peak District National Park;
  - Amber Valley SLA; and
  - Landscape character.
- 6B.3.15 Cumulative landscape effects are considered in **Chapter 17 Cumulative Effects** and will be considered further at the Environmental Statement stage.
- 6B.3.16 As the assessment focuses on identifying potentially significant effects on landscape character, an initial screening exercise has been conducted to identify the Landscape Character Units that are not expected to be significantly affected.
- 6B.3.17 The screening was informed by a desk-based assessment of Google Earth Pro and Google Street View, the preliminary Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) maps shown in **Figure 6.6 Screened ZTV Overhead Line** and ongoing work on visual assessment. The summary of Landscape Character Units scoped in/out has been presented in **Table 6B.15**.

**Table 6B.15: Summary of Landscape Character Units scoped in/out**

Landscape Character Units	Rationale for scoping in/out
<b>NCA's</b>	
Trent Valley Washlands; Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield; Derbyshire Peak Fringe and Lower Derwent; Melbourne Parklands; Needwood and South Derbyshire Claylands; and Southern Magnesian Limestone.	<b>Scoped in</b> All NCA's within the 5 km Project Study Area have been included in the assessment to ensure that the strategic landscape context is comprehensively considered.
<b>The Derbyshire Landscape Character Assessment</b>	
<b>Character Area</b>	
Trent Valley Washlands Character Area 69	<b>Scoped in</b> This Character Area would be affected directly.
Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield Character Area 38	<b>Scoped in</b> This Character Area would be affected directly.
Derbyshire Peak Fringe and Lower Derwent Character Area 50	<b>Scoped in</b> This Character Area would be affected directly.
Melbourne Parklands Character Area 70	<b>Scoped out</b> Melbourne Parklands Character Area would not be directly affected, as it lies approximately 1.8 km to the south of the draft Order Limits at its nearest location and, as shown on the ZTVs ( <b>Figures 6.6 to 6.10</b> ), there is very limited intervisibility between the Project and this CA. The scenic qualities would be affected to a very limited extent as at this distance, there would be partial and distant views of the Project visible across a geographically small extent of the CA, with views frequently restricted by vegetation and undulating landform. At this distance, other perceptual qualities of landscape character would not be affected. Therefore, the effects on this CA have been scoped out from further assessment.
Needwood and South Derbyshire Claylands Character Area 68	<b>Scoped out</b> This Character Area lies, at its closest point, less than 1 km from the draft Order Limits, behind the existing division of the A50. The nearest areas to the Project are generally rural. The views from settlements are frequently restricted, similarly to the views from recreational receptors, by undulating topography and vegetation. As indicated on the ZTV, there is very little intervisibility between the Project

Landscape Character Units	Rationale for scoping in/out
Southern Magnesian Limestone Character Area 30	<p>and the CA, restricted to a small proportion of the CA to the south. The introduction of the overhead line would not fundamentally influence the character of the landscape within this CA. Therefore, the effects on this CA have been scoped out from further assessment.</p>
	<p><b>Scoped out</b></p> <p>The Southern Magnesian Limestone Character Area lies approximately 2 km from the draft Order Limits and is separated by intervening undulating landform and vegetation. Although some distant views may be available at elevated locations, visibility toward the Project would be partial and restricted in places by woodland, field boundary vegetation and landform, reducing views to glimpses. The ZTV indicated very limited intervisibility restricted to small patches of land in the south western part of the CA. The separating landscape between this CA includes localised concentration of the existing overhead lines and quarrying activity, further reducing visual sensitivity. Therefore, the effects on this CA have been scoped out from further assessment.</p>
<b>LCTs</b>	
Lowland Village Farmlands	<p><b>Scoped in</b></p> <p>This LCT would be affected directly.</p>
Wet Pasture Meadows	<p><b>Scoped in</b></p> <p>This LCT would be affected directly.</p>
Riverside Meadows	<p><b>Scoped in</b></p> <p>This LCT would be affected directly.</p>
Plateau Estate Farmlands	<p><b>Scoped in</b></p> <p>This LCT would be affected directly.</p>
Coalfield Estatelands	<p><b>Scoped in</b></p> <p>This LCT would be affected directly.</p>
Estate Farmlands	<p><b>Scoped in</b></p> <p>This LCT would be affected directly.</p>
Coalfield Village Farmlands	<p><b>Scoped in</b></p> <p>This LCT would be affected directly.</p>
Wooded Farmlands	<p><b>Scoped in</b></p> <p>This LCT would be affected directly.</p>
Gritstone Heaths and Commons	<p><b>Scoped in</b></p> <p>This LCT would be affected directly.</p>
Wooded Slopes and Valleys	<p><b>Scoped in</b></p>

Landscape Character Units	Rationale for scoping in/out
Sandstone Slopes and Heaths	<p>This LCT would be affected directly.</p> <p><b>Scoped out</b></p> <p>This LCT lies within Melbourne Parklands CA with justification for scoping out included above.</p>
Settled Farmlands	<p><b>Scoped out</b></p> <p>This LCT lies within Melbourne Parklands CA with justification for scoping out included above.</p>
<b>Staffordshire Landscape Character Assessment</b>	
Trent Valley Washlands ReCA	<p><b>Scoped out</b></p> <p>The Trent Valley Washlands ReCA would not be affected directly as it lies over 3 km south west of the draft Order Limits. The ZTV indicates limited and very restricted intervisibility between the Project and the ReCA area. The Project would be viewed against the backdrop of the existing landscape, combining agricultural landscape, some historic settlements, and vegetation associated with the River Trent, alongside existing infrastructure such as the A38 and overhead lines. At this distance, the change caused by the Project would have a very limited impact on this ReCA, with restricted change to the views limited to geographically small areas. Other perceptual qualities, such as tranquillity or wildness, would not be affected. Therefore, the effects on this ReCA have been scoped out from further assessment.</p>
Needwood Claylands ReCA	<p><b>Scoped out</b></p> <p>Needwood Claylands ReCA lies approximately 4 km from the draft Order Limits. This landscape is characterised by the presence of residential areas with development interspersed with agricultural land, the A38 corridor, and existing overhead lines, which form part of the existing visual baseline. These influences diminish landscape quality and receptor sensitivity. Any views possible would be fragmented and viewed in the context of a landscape strongly influenced by human activities and the backdrop of infrastructure. As the Project would result in barely perceptible change, the effects on this ReCA are excluded from further assessment.</p>

Landscape Character Units	Rationale for scoping in/out
<b>LCT</b>	
Settled Plateau Farmland Slopes	<p><b>Scoped out</b></p> <p>This LCT lies within the Needwood Claylands ReCA, with justification for scoping out included above.</p>
Riparian Alluvial Lowlands	<p><b>Scoped out</b></p> <p>This LCT lies within the Trent Valley Washlands ReCA, with justification for scoping out included above.</p>
<b>North West Leicestershire Fringe Assessment</b>	
Langley Lowlands County Character Area	<p><b>Scoped out</b></p> <p>Langley Lowlands County Character Area lies approximately 5 km from the draft Order Limits. At this distance, the ZTV shows very restricted visibility between the Project and Character Area. At this distance, there would only be a very limited change to the scenic qualities, with the proposed overhead line visible in the background against the backdrop of undulating landform vegetation, settlements, and infrastructure, such as the M1. Heavily restricted views would be available from a landscape that has already undergone considerable man-made transformation. Therefore, the effects on this Character Area have been scoped out from further assessment.</p>
Trent Valley County Character Area	<p><b>Scoped out</b></p> <p>The Trent Valley County Character Area lies approximately 3 km from the draft Order Limits. The ZTV indicates some intervisibility between the Project and restricted pockets of land within this Character Area. Given that this County Character Area would not be directly affected, combined with restricted visibility limited to localised areas, and screening of existing wetland vegetation within the Trent Valley, the change to scenic qualities would be very limited. The land gently rises southwards around Castle Donington, with contrasting areas shaped by industrial infrastructure and overhead lines. The North West Leicestershire assessment concludes that the landscape of the Trent Valley County Character Area is considered to have a reduced sensitivity due to the strong influence of existing development and infrastructure. Therefore, the effects on this Character Area have been scoped out from further assessment.</p>
<b>Greater Nottinghamshire Landscape Character Assessment</b>	
Magnesian Limestone Ridge ReCA	<p><b>Scoped out</b></p> <p>The Magnesian Limestone Ridge ReCA is located approximately 5 km from the draft Order Limits. The ZTV indicates fragmented areas of intervisibility within this</p>

Landscape Character Units	Rationale for scoping in/out
	<p>Character Area, with landscape features such as field orientation, patterns, and green infrastructure, alongside landform viewed obliquely at a distance of 5 km. The landscape of the Magnesian Limestone Ridge ReCA also features frequent views of the mining legacy, including pit villages and spoil heaps, some of which have been restored. The settlements frequently benefit from the enclosure provided, which is a combination of tree belts and landform, with occasionally available longer views from elevated locations. However, at this distance, the Project would be seen obliquely within panoramic views against the backdrop of agricultural fields, settlements, and woodlands. Therefore, the effects on this Character Area have been scoped out from further assessment.</p>
<p>Nottinghamshire Coalfields ReCA</p>	<p><b>Scoped out</b></p> <p>The Nottinghamshire Coalfields ReCA is not directly affected. The ZTV exhibits some intervisibility, especially in areas directly west of Silverhill Wood Country Park. However, at a distance of approximately 3.5 km from the draft Order Limits, the change to the scenic qualities would be very limited. Other perceptual qualities, such as tranquillity and wildness, would not be affected at this distance. In addition, the landscape of this ReCA underwent a significant transformation during industrialisation, with the widespread influence of historic industrial activity, leaving a legacy of linear cultural characteristics and varied restoration efforts combined with modern industrial land uses in places. Commercial and industrial development is frequent along key transport routes, with the M1 motorway running close to the western boundary and forming a notable landscape detractor, frequently featured within the views. Therefore, the effects on this Character Area have been scoped out from further assessment.</p>
<b>DPZ</b>	
<p>ML021 Brierley Forest Park</p>	<p><b>Scoped out</b></p> <p>This DPZ lies within the Magnesian Limestone Ridge ReCA, with justification for scoping out included above.</p>
<p>ML022 Sutton Plateau</p>	<p><b>Scoped out</b></p> <p>This DPZ lies within the Magnesian Limestone Ridge Washlands ReCA, with justification for scoping out included above.</p>
<p>NC07 Stanley and Silverhill</p>	<p><b>Scoped out</b></p> <p>This DPZ lies within the Magnesian Limestone Ridge ReCA, with justification for scoping out included above.</p>

## Effects on Landscape Designations

- 6B.3.18 The assessment of effects on Peak District National Park and Amber Valley SLA is presented below and summarised also in **Chapter 6 Landscape and Visual**.

### Peak District National Park

- 6B.3.19 The Project runs to the south east of the Peak District National Park. At the closest point, the Project is located approximately 8.5 km from the boundary of the National Park; however, most of this designated area is located at a distance exceeding 10 km as the Project extends south of Chesterfield.

### Landscape Effects

#### Construction

- 6B.3.20 During construction, there would be no direct effects on the Peak District National Park. The change to the landscape of the Peak District National Park would be indirect and limited to a potential change in scenic qualities beyond the boundaries of the National Park. Other special qualities, including tranquillity, would not be altered due to the distance from the Project. The Peak District National Park covers approximately 555 ha, and the potential change in the scenic qualities would affect restricted areas in the very south eastern part of the Peak District, due to the distance and strong landform undulation within the Peak District, which blocks the views frequently within and beyond the boundary of the designation. The scale of change to special qualities of the Peak District National Park landscape would be negligible alongside geographical extent (limited to views), resulting in a negligible magnitude of change. The sensitivity of the National Park is high due to the combined high value and high susceptibility of the designated area. High sensitivity combined with a negligible magnitude of change would result in minor adverse (**not significant**) effect, as this designation would not be affected directly and the change would be limited to long distance views from a restricted area of the National Park.

#### Year 0 (operation)

- 6B.3.21 During operation at year 0, the introduced overhead line and pylons would extend south of Derbyshire within the broad valleys of the Derbyshire Coalfield landscape. The overhead line would be seen in the long distance, within wider panoramic views, frequently in the context of other existing overhead lines. The scale of change would remain negligible alongside geographical extent (limited to views), resulting in a negligible magnitude of change. High sensitivity combined with a negligible magnitude of change would result in minor adverse (**not significant**) effects.

#### Year 15 (operation)

- 6B.3.22 At year 15, the mitigation planting is likely to provide a beneficial effect; however, the impact of maturing vegetation would not alter the identified magnitude of change at year 0 (negligible), due to the distance from the Project and limited effects on perceptual qualities. The minor adverse (**not significant**) effects would remain.

## Visual Effects

### Construction

- 6B.3.23 During construction, the effects on the National Park would be indirect and limited to the restricted areas in the very south eastern part of the Peak District National Park. The views available are likely to be partial due to the heavy undulation of the landform. Therefore, the open views towards the broad valleys south of Chesterfield would be very restricted in many locations, limiting views of construction. It is anticipated that the construction would move sequentially in phases, with views restricted predominantly to the works at the upper sections of pylons, occasionally including cranes. Construction and pylons would be largely seen in the context of mixed farmland and settlements alongside woodlands, rarely and to a small extent breaking the distant skyline. The change in views, alongside the geographical extent, would be of low scale and limited geographical extent, resulting in a low magnitude of change. The sensitivity of the National Park is high due to both a high value of the views and high susceptibility to change in the views. The high sensitivity combined with a low magnitude of change would result in moderate adverse **(not significant)** effects, as the change in views would be restricted to a small part of the National Park, seen within the limited range of the views directed to the south east.

### Year 0 (operation)

- 6B.3.24 During operation at year 0, the overhead line would introduce a linear corridor that would punctuate the landscape and views with pylons. The change in the views would be distant; therefore, the pylons would appear relatively small compared to the actual height within the background of the views. The pylons would rarely break the skyline and would be seen mainly in the background of farmland, settlements, existing woodlands, and existing overhead lines. The scale and geographical extent of change would remain low. The high sensitivity combined with a low magnitude of change would result in moderate adverse **(not significant)** effects, predominantly due to the diminishing nature of effects with the distance.

### Year 15 (operation)

- 6B.3.25 At year 15, although the mitigation planting is likely to provide some screening effects, due to the distance, the magnitude of change would remain low. The combined high sensitivity with a low magnitude of change would result in moderate adverse **(not significant)** effects, as mitigation planting would not provide a screening effect.

## Amber Valley SLA

### Overview

- 6B.3.26 The Project would run broadly parallel to the Amber Valley SLA, which extends along a similar north–south alignment. The distance between the two varies, being approximately 1.8 km north of Belper at its closest point, increasing to around 4 km near Crich, and reducing again to approximately 2 km near Milford at the southern end (see **Figure 6.5 Landscape Features and Designations**). As the Project would be located at a considerable distance from the Amber Valley SLA, the assessment focuses on the potential qualities that have the potential to be affected, including views, scenic quality, tranquillity and other perceptual qualities.

## Landscape Effects

### Construction

6B.3.27 During construction, there would be no direct effects on the Amber Valley SLA. The change to the Amber Valley SLA would be indirect and limited to medium-term changes in perceptual and cultural factors, as the change would take place within the adjacent landscape of the Coalfield Village Farmlands LCT. Potentially affected attributes include change to scenic qualities through time depth<sup>1</sup> and alteration to the views, through the introduction of large-scale construction; however, the change would be perceptible only within long distance views focused only on the construction of the upper sections of pylons. Other perceptual qualities, such as wildness or tranquillity, would not be affected due to the distance from the Project. The scale of change would be negligible alongside geographical extent (limited to views), resulting in a negligible magnitude of change. The sensitivity of the Amber Valley SLA is high due to both the high value of the designated area and its high susceptibility. The high sensitivity combined with a negligible magnitude of change would result in a minor adverse **(not significant)** effect, as this designation would not be affected directly.

### Year 0 (operation)

6B.3.28 During operation at year 0, the introduced overhead line and pylons would extend the perception of greater industrialisation within the adjacent landscape to the east. This change would be seen against the backdrop of settlement and other areas of restored landscape as a result of post mining and quarrying activity or settlements and current industrial land uses. The scale of change would remain negligible alongside geographical extent (limited to views), resulting in a negligible magnitude of change. The high sensitivity combined with a negligible magnitude of change would result in minor adverse **(not significant)** effects.

### Year 15 (operation)

6B.3.29 At year 15, the mitigation planting is likely to provide a beneficial effect; however, the maturing vegetation would not alter the magnitude of change from that identified at year 0 (negligible), due to the distance from the Project and limited effects on perceptual qualities. The minor adverse **(not significant)** effects would remain.

## Visual Effects

### Construction

6B.3.30 During construction, the effects on the Amber Valley SLA would be indirect and confined to specific areas where views of the upper sections of pylons, and temporary glimpses of crane tops, would be visible from:

- east of Ambergate (elevated land between Springfield Farm and Midshires Way);
- Chevinside (including Midshires Way Long Distance Path); and
- small area west of Whitewells Road.

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<sup>1</sup> Time depth can be defined as a 'change' to the historical pattern of settlements and enclosure.

6B.3.31 The change in the views would be of low scale and geographical extent. This is due to the distance, but also the variation in the landform that would provide screening to some sections of the route in combination with vegetation. The sensitivity of the Amber Valley SLA is high due to both a high value of the views and high susceptibility to change in the views. Overall, the magnitude of change would be low due to the limited geographical extent of intervisibility and scale of change in the views. The high sensitivity combined with a low magnitude of change would result in moderate adverse (**not significant**) effects. Although the landscape of this designation is of high sensitivity, appreciable distance and intervening landform would limit the scale and extent of the change to views, as views of construction would be distant and restricted to a very small area, resulting in **not significant** effects.

Year 0 (operation)

6B.3.32 During operation at year 0, the overhead line would introduce vertical features that are likely to become visible at approximately 1.8 km, based on ZTVs. At this distance, only the middle to upper sections of pylons would be visible from a restricted number of residential receptors and would be seen as an altering feature within the long-distance views. However, the overhead line would be viewed against the backdrop of restored settlements and restored landscape at locations associated with post mining and quarrying activities, as well as current industrial land uses. Locally, the overhead line would be viewed in the context of existing lower voltage overhead lines, resulting in a localised increase of wirescape. The scale and geographical extent of change would remain low. The high sensitivity combined with a low magnitude of change would result in moderate adverse (**not significant**) effects, predominantly due to the diminishing effects with the distance.

Year 15 (operation)

6B.3.33 At year 15, although the mitigation planting is likely to provide some screening effects, due to the distance, the magnitude of change would remain low. The high sensitivity combined with a low magnitude of change would result in moderate adverse (**not significant**) effects, due to the expected low magnitude of change combined with likely screening effects provided by mitigation planting.

## Landscape Effects on NCAs

6B.3.34 The assessment of effects on the NCAs is included in **Table 6B.16** to **Table 6B.21**.

**Table 6B.16: Summary of effects on Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield NCA**

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**Landscape effects: Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield NCA Profile**

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**Sensitivity**

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**Value:** The Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield NCA covers an extensive area of well-settled, lowland landscape underpinned by industrial legacy, and reclaimed rural land use. This undulating terrain which stretches between Derby and Chesterfield is interspersed with remnant colliery infrastructure, landscape restoration, farmland, woodlands, and new urban development. The NCA contains no statutory landscape designations, but elements of heritage and ecological value contribute to the character. Sites such as Belper Parks Local Nature Reserve (LNR) and Hammersmith Meadows LNR support key habitats and species, enhancing biodiversity. Heritage designations are dispersed across the NCA. Examples include the Grade I listed Church of All Saints, Dale Abbey Scheduled Monument, a Grade II listed Registered Park and Garden and conservation areas. Recreational value is high due to the extensive scale of the NCA, with access to open space, canal towpaths, Public Right of Way (PRoW) networks and National Cycle Routes (NCRs), including NCR 67. Landscape condition is highly variable, ranging from well-managed farmland and restored green spaces to developed land with urban expansion and legacy industrial neglect. Scenic value is generally low to moderate, with expansive views often affected by urban infrastructure and settlement edges, though visual interest is enhanced by woodland and restoration initiatives. Perceptual qualities are mixed; tranquillity and wildness are limited due to the existing transport infrastructure, such as the M1, A38 and other existing overhead lines, with localised concentration around Chesterfield Substation. Distinctive historic and cultural features of mining legacy include mining settlements, surviving pit buildings, and spoil landscapes, which form unique attributes of character despite limited formal designation. Overall, the value of this NCA is medium.

**Susceptibility:** All Project effects would be direct. A low-lying, but heavily undulating landscape contributes to a lower susceptibility to the Project and a degree of visual resilience. Urban areas alongside existing infrastructure, such as the M1, reduce tranquillity, increase visual disturbance and create some movement segregation. Thus, the susceptibility of perceptual qualities of landscape, including scenic qualities, tranquillity and wildness, is reduced. Agricultural land use of medium scale, interspersed with woodlands, provides some enclosure, which lowers the susceptibility. The NCA encompasses a range of green infrastructure, ecological and heritage designations, and green corridors that provide key habitats, thereby increasing localised susceptibility. The well-settled, post-industrial landscape, shaped by colliery infrastructure, restoration schemes, and widespread development areas, has reduced perceived remoteness and therefore susceptibility. The NCA's industrial legacy, urban influences and existing high concentrations of landscape detractors reduce overall susceptibility of the landscape, despite areas of higher ecological and heritage value, contributing overall to medium susceptibility.

Sensitivity: Combined medium value and medium susceptibility would result in medium sensitivity.

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**Magnitude**

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**Construction:** The Project would span approximately 28 km across the NCA, representing approximately a quarter of the NCA length, equating to a small to medium geographical extent. The works would comprise the construction of pylons and an overhead line, and the undergrounding

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## Landscape effects: Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield NCA Profile

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and diversion of existing distribution network operator (DNO) 132 kV overhead lines and pylons which would take place near Ockbrook, Alfreton, Tibshelf and Temple Normanton. The Project would avoid key areas of landscape sensitivity, although the Project would cross several field boundaries, resulting in loss of hedgerows and hedgerow trees and localised loss of woodland, such as within Alfreton Golf Club. During construction, several haul routes would be constructed alongside temporary working areas to facilitate the construction of the pylon bases, pylons and an overhead line. The defined construction area would create a temporary, albeit medium-term construction corridor width of up to 200 m through the NCA. A number of construction compounds would be located in discreet locations close to the construction corridor.

The construction of concrete bases for pylons would involve the excavation of topsoil and subsoil, foundation construction, and installation of pylons sectionally using plant equipment. Following pylon construction, there would be activities associated with overhead line stringing. Construction vehicles would utilise temporary haul roads and existing roads. Construction and access provision would require the removal of some hedgerow trees and hedgerows. These would be replanted where possible. There may be some medium-term disturbance to the use of PRoWs that cross draft Order Limits and cycle routes, including NCR 67. Construction would introduce uncharacteristic activities and move sequentially across a medium extent of the NCA. The overall magnitude of change for the NCA is expected to be medium.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** The Project would introduce new components of energy infrastructure within the former coalfield landscape, comprising overhead line with a large number of pylons. Sections of existing lower voltage infrastructure, including 132 kV overhead lines, would be undergrounded at Ockbrook, Alfreton, Tibshelf and Temple Normanton, alongside 33 kV overhead line between Denby and Morley, and this work is anticipated to yield a modest landscape and visual benefit through the removal of visual clutter and the rationalisation of infrastructure in four separate locations. Vegetation loss would be apparent, and mitigation planting would not be well established. The resultant change at year 0 would be permanent, linear, and covering a small to medium geographical extent within an area that contains notable signs of former industrialisation. The magnitude of change would reduce to low.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** The Project would introduce a permanent linear feature of small to medium geographical extent within the scale of the NCA. Mitigation planting has the potential to largely restore baseline vegetation, although the landscape pattern would be altered locally, and the addition of overhead line and pylons would permanently alter landscape locally. The magnitude of change would remain low.

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### Significance

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**Construction:** Combined medium sensitivity with medium magnitude of change would result in moderate adverse (**not significant**) effects, as the coalfield landscape is characterised by existing urban influences, infrastructure, and industrial legacy, creating considerable capacity to accommodate further change without materially altering its overall character or key qualities.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** Combined medium sensitivity with a low magnitude of change would result in minor adverse (**not significant**) effects.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** Combined medium sensitivity with a low magnitude of change would result in minor adverse (**not significant**) effects.

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**Table 6B.17: Summary of effects on Southern Magnesian Limestone NCA**

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**Landscape effects: Southern Magnesian Limestone NCA Profile**

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**Sensitivity**

**Value:** The Southern Magnesian Limestone NCA comprises a narrow and elevated landscape ridge of extensive scale. The NCA comprise open arable farmland, limestone grassland, river valleys and parkland. The Nidderdale National Landscape designation lies 80 km north of the proposed Project within the NCA. High ecological value is demonstrated through extensive designations, including Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), Special Protection Areas, and LNRs, as well as calcareous grassland habitats and geological exposures that demonstrate landscape rarity. Some sites are particularly extensive in scale. WHS, listed buildings, scheduled monuments, conservation areas and Registered Parks and Gardens represent heritage assets. Scenic value is reinforced by dramatic topography, with opportunities for scenic, long, open views from ridges, and the unified vernacular use of magnesian limestone in construction. Perceptual qualities vary, with substantial rural and tranquil character value in some areas, and localised suburban development, disruption from existing road infrastructure corridors, especially in the northern areas (A1, M18) and existing overhead line infrastructure. The coherence of the heritage and ecological landscape, with nationally and internationally significant features such as Bolsover Castle and Hardwick Hall, reinforce historic/cultural value. A well-connected network of PRoWs supports recreation, offering access to cycle routes of national importance, such as NCR 6 and 674. Overall, the value of this NCA is high.

**Susceptibility:** Effects would be indirect as the Project would not pass through the Southern Magnesian Limestone NCA profile. The landscape composition formed by narrow, elevated ridges with steep escarpments and valleys offers frequent long views and dramatic topographic contrast, resulting in high susceptibility of scenic qualities to the Project. Although the susceptibility of the agricultural landscape is medium to the Project, locally there are areas of ecological designations with habitats, such as calcareous grasslands, which are of higher susceptibility to the Project. The presence of frequent woodlands and tree belts locally increases the susceptibility to the Project in combination with an undulating landform. The landscape scale is mixed, comprising small to medium field parcels, smaller rural settlements, and some suburban areas, resulting in lower susceptibility to the Project. Scenic and perceptual qualities are of higher susceptibility due to the frequent availability of scenic panoramic views. Other perceptual qualities, such as a sense of wildness and tranquillity, are also more susceptible to the Project; however, they are moderated by the existing visual and auditory detractions from major roads and overhead line infrastructure. Overall susceptibility is assessed as medium.

**Sensitivity:** Combined high value and medium susceptibility would result in a high sensitivity.

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**Magnitude**

**Construction:** The Project does not pass through the Southern Magnesian Limestone NCA profile. The boundary of this NCA is located approximately 2.5 km east of the draft Order Limits; as such, there would be no direct effects on this NCA. The uncharacteristic construction activities, movement of construction machinery and sequential progress of construction within the adjacent landscape would be visually

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## Landscape effects: Southern Magnesian Limestone NCA Profile

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perceptible from some localised areas, albeit the intervening landscape and vegetation would reduce intervisibility in some areas. The visual effects would be localised and set against a backdrop of existing overhead lines. The overall magnitude of change for the NCA would be low due to the distance and resulting restricted intervisibility and limited potential to affect other perceptual aspects of the landscape, such as tranquillity.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** The proposed route alignment would be wholly located outside of the NCA. The residual change would leave the overhead line and pylons within the adjacent NCA. Effects would be permanent, linear, and covering a small to medium geographical extent of the neighbouring NCA, which already contains notable signs of manmade influences, that would affect perceptual qualities of this NCA to a very limited extent. Overall, the magnitude of change would be negligible.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** The Project would introduce a permanent linear feature of small to medium geographical extent into the adjacent NCA. Mitigation planting would have a limited impact on the landscape of the Southern Magnesian Limestone NCA, albeit reinstatement may have some localised visual benefits. The magnitude of change would remain negligible.

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## Significance

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**Construction:** Combined high sensitivity with low magnitude of change would result in moderate adverse (**not significant**) effects. This is due to a substantial change to the scenic qualities in the views available from elevated locations within the NCA but seen in the context of existing overhead lines and the backdrop of agricultural landform.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** Combined high sensitivity with a negligible magnitude of change would result in minor adverse (**not significant**) effects.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** Combined high sensitivity with a negligible magnitude of change would result in minor adverse (**not significant**) effects.

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**Table 6B.18: Summary of effects on Derbyshire Peak Fringe and Lower Derwent NCA**

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**Landscape effects: Derbyshire Peak Fringe and Lower Derwent NCA Profile**

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**Sensitivity**

**Value:** The Derbyshire Peak Fringe and Lower Derwent NCA is a varied and distinctive landscape, characterised by wooded valleys, pastoral farmland, and prominent river corridors. High scenic value is derived from dramatic topography and landscape features of the Derwent Valley with long views possible from ridgelines across agricultural field enclosures with hedge and stone wall boundaries. The NCA contains no statutory landscape designations. In terms of ecological rarity, the landscape has a medium value. Example sites include Crich Chase SSSI and Handley Wood ancient woodland. Heritage and cultural assets underpin the NCA's national significance. The presence of the Derwent Valley Mills WHS and conservation area centres such as Cromford and Belper, enhance visual and cultural interest with intact industrial heritage. Other designations include scheduled monuments, listed buildings and Registered Parks and Gardens. Recreation is supported through an extensive network of PRoW and National Cycle Routes, including NCR 68, 547 and 54. While areas close to transport corridors (A38) experience some noise intrusion, the broader landscape remains tranquil and rural. Existing overhead line infrastructure is part of the visual baseline, albeit at relatively limited levels. Wind turbines are also present on the western slopes above Ambergate. The wooded slopes and narrow valleys offer strong visual enclosure and intimacy, while elevated ridges provide contrast and openness. Overall, the value of this NCA is high.

**Susceptibility:** All Project effects would be direct. Elevated ridges and steep valleys align with higher susceptibility of landscape to the Project. Woodland cover, including some areas of ancient woodland, supports visual resilience and enclosure. Landscape scale is variable, with both enclosed valleys and open farmland. Small and medium scale field patterns are widespread, and this structure increases susceptibility to the Project. Distinctive elements with heightened susceptibility include the internationally important Derwent Valley Mills WHS. The susceptibility of perceptual aspects is generally high due to predominantly higher tranquillity and frequently available scenic views. Despite the presence of some existing infrastructure, the locally present ecological and heritage designations underpin the higher susceptibility. Strong enclosure in lower valleys and openness from elevated ridges create scenic qualities that are of higher susceptibility to the Project, with only limited landscape detractors, including isolated turbines and the A38. Overall susceptibility is assessed to be high.

Sensitivity: Combined high value and high susceptibility would result in a high sensitivity.

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**Magnitude**

**Construction:** The Project would span approximately 15 km across the NCA, corresponding to a small geographical extent within the scale of the NCA. The works would comprise the construction of pylons and an overhead line. The Project would avoid key areas of landscape sensitivity, although there would be some localised loss of vegetation along field boundaries and access points to accommodate visibility splays. Construction routes would be required, such as at Horsley Conservation Area. Key sources of change would be the temporary construction of haul roads and working areas to facilitate the construction of the pylon bases, pylons and an overhead line. The defined

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## Landscape effects: Derbyshire Peak Fringe and Lower Derwent NCA Profile

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construction area would create a temporary, albeit medium-term construction corridor width of up to 200 m through the NCA. One construction compound would be located in a discreet location close to the construction corridor. The construction of concrete bases for pylons would involve excavating topsoil and subsoil, constructing foundations, and installing pylons sectionally using plant equipment. Following pylon construction, there would be activities associated with overhead line stringing. Construction vehicles would utilise temporary haul roads and existing roads. Construction and access provision would require the removal of some hedgerow trees and hedgerows. These would be replanted where possible. There may be some short-term disturbance to the use of PRowS. Construction would introduce uncharacteristic activities and move sequentially across a small extent of the NCA. The overall magnitude of change for the NCA would be medium.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** The Project would introduce new energy components to the landscape. This would include the overhead line and a considerable number of pylons. Vegetation loss would be apparent, and mitigation planting would not be well established. The resultant change at year 0 would be permanent, linear, and covering a small geographical extent. Magnitude of change would reduce to low.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** The Project would introduce a permanent linear feature of medium geographical extent. Mitigation planting could provide a degree of landscape integration. However, the magnitude of change would remain low.

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### Significance

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**Construction:** Combined high sensitivity with medium magnitude of change would result in major adverse (**significant**) effects.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** Combined high sensitivity with a low magnitude of change would result in moderate adverse (**significant**) effects. The Project would introduce substantial change across a low extent of the NCA.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** Combined high sensitivity with a low magnitude of change would result in moderate adverse (**significant**) effects. The effects would remain, as mitigation planting would have a beneficial effect, but the addition of pylons would still constitute a substantial change in the landscape.

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**Table 6B.19: Summary of effects on Trent Valley Washlands NCA**

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**Landscape effects: Trent Valley Washlands NCA Profile**

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**Sensitivity**

**Value:** The Trent Valley Washlands NCA is characterised by a flat, open topography with wide river valleys and a network of watercourses, including the River Trent, River Soar, and River Derwent. This NCA is predominantly rural, comprising a mix of arable and pastoral farming, interspersed with transitional suburban areas of Derby, smaller settlements, transport infrastructure and industrial development. This NCA contains no statutory landscape designations. Ecological value is affirmed by the presence of sites such as the Attenborough Gravel Pits SSSI and the River Mease SAC, which support water-related habitat and important ecological networks for wildlife movement. Example heritage designations include the Trent and Mersey Canal Conservation Area and Elvaston Castle Registered Park and Garden. Landscape perceptual qualities vary, with more tranquil areas found in more rural and undeveloped areas. Existing major transport infrastructure, including the M1, the Midland Main Line railway, and the Derby suburban edge, reduces perceptual qualities. These existing features detract from the sense of remoteness and introduce noise, visual intrusion and urban character. A good network of PRowWs, and access to the NCN routes, including NCR 6, NCR 66 and NCR 67, adds to the landscape value. Rivers, canals and inland watercourses further support recreational and ecological value. Existing overhead lines are frequently present, with areas of greater concentration close to Willington, Derby South and Spondon. In summary, the Trent Valley Washlands NCA comprises a landscape of ecological and heritage value, with pockets of tranquillity and medium recreational value shaped by its riverine environment. Overall, the value of this NCA is medium.

**Susceptibility:** All Project effects would be direct. The Trent Valley Washlands have flat, open topography and wide river corridors, attributes which align with a medium susceptibility to the Project. Expansive views, notably along the rivers, with limited enclosure, increase the susceptibility of scenic qualities. Land use is transitional, comprising mixed agriculture, predominantly small settlements with localised industrial development, resulting in medium susceptibility. Existing energy infrastructure, including overhead lines, reduces the susceptibility to the Project. Frequent woodlands and tree belts provide a considerable degree of enclosure within the relatively flat landscape of the River Trent, resulting in medium susceptibility. While parts of the NCA exhibit tranquillity and ecological interest, as demonstrated by the presence of designations such as SSSIs and SACs, these areas exist within a landscape of frequent existing infrastructure detractors, including roads, rail, and overhead line, reducing susceptibility. Thus, the landscape has some valued features but also includes areas of degraded character and limited wildness. Overall, the susceptibility to the Project is medium.

**Sensitivity:** Combined medium value and medium susceptibility would result in medium sensitivity.

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**Magnitude**

**Construction:** The Project would span approximately 18 km across the NCA, resulting in a medium geographical extent within the scale of the NCA. The works would comprise the construction of pylons and overhead line, and the undergrounding and diversion of existing DNO 132 kV overhead lines and pylons between Twyford and the existing Willington Substation. The Project would avoid key areas of landscape

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## Landscape effects: Trent Valley Washlands NCA Profile

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sensitivity, although there would be some loss of woodland near the existing Willington Substation. Key sources of change would be the temporary construction of haul roads and working areas to facilitate the construction of the pylon bases, pylons and overhead line. The construction area would occupy a corridor of 200 m in width throughout the NCA, with occasionally a wider corridor, such as near the existing Willington Substation, in the medium-term. A number of construction compounds would be located in discreet locations close to the construction corridor. The construction of concrete bases for pylons would involve excavating topsoil and subsoil, laying foundations, and installing pylons sectionally using plant equipment. Following pylon construction, activities associated with overhead line stringing would be undertaken. Construction vehicles would utilise temporary haul roads and existing roads. Construction and access provision would require the removal of some hedgerow trees and hedgerows. These would be reinstated where possible. There may be some short-term disturbance to the users of PRowS and cycle routes, including NCR 6. The overall magnitude of change for the NCA would be medium.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** The completed Project would introduce new components of energy infrastructure within the landscape of the NCA. This would include overhead line and approximately 57 pylons. Sections of existing lower voltage overhead lines would be undergrounded between Twyford and the existing Willington Substation, and this work is anticipated to yield a modest landscape and visual benefit through the removal of visual clutter and the rationalisation of infrastructure. At year 0, vegetation loss would be apparent, and mitigation planting would not be well established. The resultant change at year 0 would be permanent, linear, and covering a medium geographical extent within an NCA containing locally a considerable level of the existing overhead infrastructure. The magnitude of change would reduce to low.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** The Project would introduce a permanent linear infrastructure feature of medium geographical extent. Mitigation planting would have limited impact, albeit reinstatement may have some localised visual benefits. The magnitude of change would remain low.

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## Significance

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**Construction:** Combined medium sensitivity with medium magnitude of change would result in moderate adverse (**significant**) effects, as the Project would occupy a considerable part of the NCA.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** Combined medium sensitivity with a low magnitude of change would result in minor adverse (**not significant**) effects.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** Combined medium sensitivity with a low magnitude of change would result in minor adverse (**not significant**) effects.

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**Table 6B.20: Summary of effects on Needwood and South Derbyshire Claylands NCA**

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**Landscape effects: Needwood and South Derbyshire Claylands NCA Profile**

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**Sensitivity**

**Value:** The Needwood and South Derbyshire Claylands NCA is a gently undulating lowland landscape, characterised by mixed farming, scattered woodlands and historic parklands, transitioning between rural farmland and urban influences, particularly near Derby and Burton-upon-Trent. This NCA contains no statutory landscape designations. Ecological designations in the region include SSSI, SAC, and Ramsar, along with areas of the National Forest and various National Nature Reserves (NNRs) and LNRs, that collectively contribute to ecological and biodiversity value. There are a variety of heritage designations, ranging from listed buildings, conservation areas, such as Derby Conservation Area, the Grade I listed Cathedral Church of All Saints, and the Grade II Registered Park and Garden at Derby Arboretum. The Derwent Valley Mills WHS designation encompasses areas north of Derby, within the far eastern extent of the NCA. The landscape of this NCA offers good recreational value through PRoW networks and access to 68 and 549. These features provide access to recreation, rural tranquillity, but also features of culture, nature and heritage interest, increasing landscape value. Wider landscape areas comprise traditional field patterns enclosed by hedgerows and interspersed with woodland blocks, which retain rural character. However, they are frequently fragmented and in decline due to arable intensification. Perceptual qualities vary with pockets of relative tranquillity, particularly in the Needwood area and around Sudbury. Distinctive features such as parkland estates and mature hedgerow networks contribute to the distinct landscape characteristics. However, this is compromised in places by existing infrastructure and landscape detractors, such as the A38 corridor and proximity to urban centres. Overall, the value of this NCA is medium.

**Susceptibility:** Effects would be indirect as the Project would not pass through the Needwood and South Derbyshire Claylands NCA profile. The landscape of Needwood and South Derbyshire Claylands NCA comprises undulating topography with a high degree of enclosure provided by thick mature hedgerows and hedgerow trees. This landscape structure enhances resilience and reduces the susceptibility of scenic quality in comparison to more open landscapes. Pockets of higher ecological landscape value are reinforced by the presence of ecological designations, including SSSI, SAC, Ramsar, NNRs, and LNRs. However, much of the landscape is characterised by more commonplace or agricultural landscapes of fragmented condition due to arable intensification, and generally of medium value. The susceptibility of perceptual quality varies, with areas of notable tranquillity, balanced and compromised near major roads such as the A38 and at urban edges. Historic assets, including the Derwent Valley Mills WHS and parkland estates, increase the susceptibility of this NCA to the Project. The presence of infrastructure within a rural landscape of commonplace character lowers the susceptibility to the Project. Overall, the susceptibility is assessed as at a medium level.

**Sensitivity:** Combined medium value and medium susceptibility would result in a medium sensitivity.

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## Landscape effects: Needwood and South Derbyshire Claylands NCA Profile

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### Magnitude

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**Construction:** The NCA, at its closest, lies approximately 600 m to the north of the draft Order Limits, north of the existing Willington Substation, which already contains notable existing overhead line infrastructure. This NCA would therefore not be directly affected, as the rest of the NCA is located away from the Project. The NCA's relationship with the route corridor is restricted by limited proximity and the surrounding landscape and vegetation. The visual effects would be small and set against a landscape backdrop of existing overhead lines. The overall magnitude of change for the NCA would be low.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** The Project would be wholly located outside of the NCA. The Project would introduce a new residual overhead line and pylon infrastructure into the adjacent NCA. Effects would be permanent, linear, and covering a medium geographical extent of the neighbouring NCA within a landscape that already contains existing visual landscape detractors. There would be a small change to tranquillity and sense of wildness within the localised area of the NCA. Overall, the magnitude of change would reduce to negligible.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** The Project would introduce a permanent linear feature of medium geographical extent into the adjacent NCA. Mitigation planting would have limited impact, albeit reinstatement may have some localised visual benefits. The magnitude of change would remain negligible.

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### Significance

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**Construction:** Combined medium sensitivity with low magnitude of change would result in minor adverse (**not significant**) effects.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** Combined medium sensitivity with negligible magnitude of change would result in minor adverse (**not significant**) effects.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** Combined medium sensitivity with negligible magnitude of change would result in minor adverse (**not significant**) effects.

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**Table 6B.21: Summary of effects on Melbourne Parklands NCA**

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**Landscape effects: Melbourne Parklands NCA Profile**

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**Sensitivity**

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**Value:** The Melbourne Parklands NCA (NCA 70) is a gently undulating rural landscape in south Derbyshire, characterised by mixed agricultural land use and areas of parkland. It has a coherent and intimate scale, defined by hedgerows, ancient woodland and tree belts, resulting in a higher value. The landscape has high scenic value, particularly where historic estates and topography combine with woodlands. There are no statutory landscape designations within this NCA; however, some ecological designations are present, including SSSI, NNR, two large blocks of ancient woodland, and areas of Priority Habitat, such as deciduous woodland, demonstrating the ecological coherence and functional habitat network value. Example heritage assets include the Grade I listed Church of St Michael and St Mary, and the nearby Grade I listed Melbourne Hall, which is a Registered Park and Garden, and is host to a suite of Grade I and Grade II listed buildings set within a historic garden. Perceptual qualities such as tranquillity are strongly articulated, especially within enclosed parklands and rural/agricultural areas, although locally diminished near existing infrastructure, particularly in the eastern extents close to the M1, A42, A453, and East Midlands Airport. There is also a sizeable commercial and distribution presence close to junction 24 (M1) at Castle Donington, which reduces the attributing landscape value. Recreational use is supported through an extensive PRoW network, including access to NCN trails, such as NCR 6 and 15. Overall, the value of this NCA is medium.

**Susceptibility:** Effects would be indirect as the Project would not pass through the Melbourne Parklands NCA profile. The gently undulating landform of the NCA includes some areas of elevated topography, for example Breedon Hill, resulting in medium susceptibility to the Project. Land use is transitional, dominated by a mixed agriculture of medium susceptibility, interspersed with historic parklands of higher susceptibility to the Project. Frequent woodlands, tree belts, and hedgerows provide visual enclosure and ecological connectivity. The NCA has an intimate and coherent scale with strong enclosure in some areas, providing some capacity for accommodating change. Heritage features strengthen the NCA's distinctiveness, with many small historical villages, resulting in higher susceptibility. Existing infrastructure, including overhead lines and major roads, reduces overall tranquillity, particularly in the eastern extents, lowering susceptibility to the Project. While the NCA retains some high value components, existing infrastructure and transitional land uses result in medium susceptibility overall.

**Sensitivity:** Combined medium value and medium susceptibility would result in medium sensitivity.

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**Magnitude**

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**Construction:** The Project does not pass through the Melbourne Parklands NCA. The NCA is located approximately 1.5 km at the closest point to the draft Order Limits. Near the existing Willington Substation, there is considerable presence of the existing overhead lines and pylons; therefore, any changes to scenic qualities would be viewed against the backdrop of the existing energy infrastructure. There would be no direct effects upon the NCA.

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## Landscape effects: Melbourne Parklands NCA Profile

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The uncharacteristic construction activities and sequential movement of construction may be visually perceptible from some localised elevated areas. However, at an approximate distance of over 1 km from the draft Order Limits, and considering the intervening landscape and vegetation, the change would be very limited and restricted to only some distant views from a limited range of locations within the NCA, with other perceptual qualities such as tranquillity and sense of wildness also affected to a very limited extent. The overall magnitude of impact would be low.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** Following the cessation of construction activity, the Project would be wholly located outside of this NCA. The residual change would leave the overhead line and pylons within the adjacent NCA. Effects would be permanent, linear, and cover a medium geographical extent of the neighbouring NCA within an area containing some existing visual landscape detractors. Overall, the magnitude of change would reduce to negligible.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** The Project would introduce a permanent linear feature of medium geographical extent into the adjacent NCA. Mitigation planting would have a very limited impact, albeit reinstatement may have some localised benefits. The magnitude of change would remain negligible.

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### Significance

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**Construction:** Combined medium sensitivity with low magnitude of change would result in minor adverse (**not significant**) effects.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** Combined medium sensitivity with a negligible magnitude of change would result in minor adverse (**not significant**) effects.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** Combined medium sensitivity with negligible magnitude of change would result in minor adverse (**not significant**) effects.

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## Landscape Effects on Landscape Character Units at District/County Level

- 6B.3.35 The section below considers the landscape effects at the local scale of district councils, but more frequently at the county level if district-level Landscape Character Assessments are not available. The assessment of Landscape Character Units is included in **Table 6B.22** to **Table 6B.24** below.

**Table 6B.22: Summary of effects on Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield Character Area 38**

**Landscape effects: Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield Character Area 38**

**Sensitivity**

**Value:** There are no statutory landscape designations within this Landscape Character Area. Ecological and historic designations include Local Wildlife Sites, ancient woodland, and scheduled monuments. Furthermore, there are several conservation areas within this Character Area, such as the Chesterfield Conservation Area. An extensive PRoW network supports high recreational value, as well as access to NCR 67 and 672. The Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield Character Area 38 is a vertical area extending from the southern extents of Sheffield to the north western extents of Derby. This Character Area comprises seven constituent LCTs. Whilst well settled, this Character Area contains no larger settlements and instead comprises smaller towns, villages and farmsteads. Outside settlements, swathes of agricultural land with heavier soils attract pastoral land use. Landscape condition is documented as variable, characterised by widespread industrialisation, which reduces value and alters the landscape's appearance. Some restored colliery sites and green infrastructure projects enhance the overall character, but areas remain degraded, with a fragmented ecological balance. Settlements are connected via a road network, including A-roads (A38, A610, A61, A617) and the M1 motorway. Several existing overhead lines cross this Character Area, adding to the presence of uncharacteristic features within this Character Area. Scenic value is derived from the juxtaposition of wooded ridgelines, restored wetlands, and distinctive settlement patterns; however, existing detractors reduce value. Perceptual qualities, including tranquillity and wildness, are impacted in this post-industrial landscape, which surrounds urban areas near existing roads and overhead infrastructure corridors. However, pockets of seclusion can still be found. Overall, the value of this Character Area is medium.

**Susceptibility:** All Project effects would be direct. The Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield Character Area 38 comprises a heavily undulating landscape of medium to large-scale landscapes with pockets of small-scale agricultural landscape near settlements. Frequent presence of woodlands, including plantations, provides a degree of enclosure. The land use is predominantly rural, with frequent settlements and a localised presence of industrial uses, which lowers the susceptibility to the Project. Settlements, frequently of mining villages of origin, are interspersed with agricultural land use and woodland areas, resulting in a varied and fragmented transitional landscape of lower susceptibility. Locally, ecological designations such as ancient woodlands and restored wetlands increase the susceptibility to the Project. Whilst the landscape is of some scenic quality, large areas of this Character Area have been transformed by industrialisation, with perceptual qualities such as tranquillity and wildness being diminished by the presence of major transport routes (A-roads and M1), overhead infrastructure corridors and urban fringe, which lowers the susceptibility. Localised landscape degradation is common, as well as areas of landscape restoration. Overall, this landscape character is of medium susceptibility.

**Sensitivity:** Combined medium value and medium susceptibility would result in medium sensitivity.

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## Landscape effects: Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield Character Area 38

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### Magnitude

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**Construction:** The Project would span approximately large extent of this Character Area and pass through four component LCTs at varying extents, resulting in a large geographical extent. The works would comprise the construction of pylons and an overhead line, alongside DNO 132 kV diversionary works, that would take place near Ockbrook, Alfreton, Tibshelf and Temple Normanton. The Project would avoid key areas of landscape sensitivity, although there would be some impact on the woodland areas. Key sources of change would be the temporary construction of haul roads and working areas to facilitate the construction of the pylon bases, pylons and overhead line. A number of construction compounds would be located discreetly within the draft Order Limits.

The construction of concrete bases for pylons would involve the excavation of topsoil and subsoil, the construction of foundations and the sectional installation of pylons, using plant equipment. Following pylon construction, there would be activities associated with overhead line stringing. Construction vehicles would utilise temporary haul roads and existing roads. Construction and access provision would require the removal of some hedgerow trees and hedgerows; these would be replanted where possible. There may be some short-term disturbance to the use of PRowS and cycle networks, including NCR 67. Construction would introduce uncharacteristic activities and move sequentially across a large extent of this Character Area. Construction would take place over the medium-term, with works taking place within the draft Order Limits. Overall, the magnitude of change would be high.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** The Project would introduce new components of energy infrastructure comprising an overhead line with associated pylons over a large extent of the Character Area. Sections of existing lower voltage infrastructure would be undergrounded at Ockbrook, Alfreton, Tibshelf and Temple Normanton, and this work is anticipated to yield a modest landscape and visual benefit through the removal of visual clutter and the rationalisation of infrastructure in four separate locations. Vegetation loss would be apparent while mitigation planting would not be well established. The resultant change at year 0 would be permanent, linear, and covering a large geographical extent within an area of existing overhead line infrastructure. The magnitude of change would reduce to medium.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** The Project would introduce a permanent linear feature of large geographical extent. Mitigation planting would provide a degree of landscape integration with reinstatement, having some localised benefits. The magnitude of change would remain medium.

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### Significance

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**Construction:** Combined medium sensitivity with a high magnitude of change would result in major adverse (**significant**) effects.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** Combined medium sensitivity with a medium magnitude of change would result in moderate adverse (**significant**) effects. The large extent of the Project would result in substantial change despite the post-industrial character of the coalfield landscape.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** Combined medium sensitivity with medium magnitude of change would result in moderate adverse (**significant**) effects. The effects would remain as identified at year 0, as mitigation planting would have a limited effect.

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**Table 6B.23: Summary of effects on Derbyshire Peak Fringe and Lower Derwent Character Area 50**

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**Landscape effects: Derbyshire Peak Fringe and Lower Derwent Character Area 50**

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**Sensitivity**

**Value:** The Derbyshire Peak Fringe and Lower Derwent Character Area 50 covers approximately 71 square kilometres and includes the Rivers Derwent, Amber and Ecclesbourne, formed within six component LCTs. The well-wooded pastoral and undulating landscape rises west towards Peak District, extending from the south western extents of Chesterfield in the north to the northern extents of Derby in the south. This Character Area encompasses significant industrial heritage, notably the Derwent Valley Mills WHS, which forms the central spine of an 18th and 19th-century industrial landscape, designated for high historical and technological value. This Character Area is also directly adjacent to the Peak District National Park to the north east. This Character Area contains no statutory landscape designations. Ecological designation examples include SSSIs and LNR, with many designations associated with river habitats. The area contains listed buildings such as the Grade I St. Alkmund's Church. Conservation areas include Coxbench and scheduled monuments, which reflect the industrial and cultural heritage found within the Character Area. The area maintains a well-preserved landscape quality with pastoral fields boundaries formed as hedgerows with large trees, characteristically transitioning to dry-stone walls in the elevated areas closer to the Peak District. Perceptual qualities are strong with combinations of wooded slopes, ridges, valleys and river systems. Historic mills and settlements, including the Derwent Valley Mills WHS, further enhance these qualities. These elements present regionally rare assets of cultural, scenic and historic landscape value. Noise and movement disturbance is generally low, except in localised key transport corridors and/or near the urban influence of Derby and Chesterfield, where the perceptual qualities are of locally lower value. The proposed route alignment lies in areas of existing overhead line infrastructure, at the same proximity to the Derwent Valley Mills WHS designation, which demonstrates a degree of resilience and infrastructure precedent. This Character Area offers high recreational value through an extensive PRow network, heritage trails, and riverside paths including access to NCR 54 and 672. Overall, the value of this Character Area is high.

**Susceptibility:** All Project effects would be direct. The agricultural land use, combined with strong landform undulation and the frequent presence of well-defined field boundaries comprising hedgerows and hedgerow trees, results in a higher susceptibility to the Project. The presence of mature and thick field boundary vegetation provides a degree of enclosure and, therefore, is of medium susceptibility to the Project. The landscape contains a range of features of strong perceptual qualities, resulting in higher tranquillity and cultural associations. While infrastructure, including roads and rail, exists, it is relatively limited beyond urban edges, meaning impacts to perceptual qualities are limited. The presence of ecological and heritage features locally increases the susceptibility. The scenic qualities across this Character Area, alongside tranquillity and a sense of wildness, are generally of higher susceptibility. Overall, the susceptibility of Derbyshire Peak Fringe and Lower Derwent Character Area 50 to the Project is high.

**Sensitivity:** Combined high value and high susceptibility would result in a high sensitivity.

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## Landscape effects: Derbyshire Peak Fringe and Lower Derwent Character Area 50

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### Magnitude

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**Construction:** The Project would span across a medium extent of the Character Area and would pass through three component LCTs at varying extents, resulting in a small geographical extent. The works would comprise the construction of pylons and an overhead line. The Project would avoid key areas of landscape sensitivity. Key sources of change would be the temporary construction of haul roads and working areas to facilitate the construction of the pylon bases, pylons and overhead line. The defined construction area would create a temporary, albeit medium-term construction corridor width of up to 200 m through this Character Area. A construction compound would be located in a discreet location close to the construction corridor.

The construction of concrete bases for pylons would involve the excavation of topsoil and subsoil, the construction of foundations and the sectional installation of pylons, using plant equipment. Following pylon construction, there would be activities associated with overhead line stringing. Construction vehicles would utilise temporary haul roads and existing roads. Construction and access provision would require the removal of some hedgerow trees and hedgerows. These would be replanted where possible. There may be some short-term disturbance to the use of PRoWs. Construction would introduce uncharacteristic activities and move sequentially across a small extent of this Character Area. Overall, the magnitude of change would be medium.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** The Project would introduce new energy components into the landscape. This would include an overhead line spanning across a small extent of the Character Area. Vegetation loss would be apparent, and mitigation planting would not provide a landscape integration effect at year 0. The resultant change at year 0 would be permanent, linear, and limited to a small geographical area of the Character Area. The magnitude of change would be reduced to low at year 0.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** The Project would introduce a permanent linear feature of small geographical extent. Mitigation planting would have a limited impact at year 15, albeit reinstatement may have some localised visual benefits. The magnitude of change would remain low.

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### Significance

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**Construction:** Combined high sensitivity with medium magnitude of change would result in major adverse (**significant**) effects.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** Combined high sensitivity with a low magnitude of change would result in moderate adverse (**not significant**) effects, as the Project would affect only a small part of this extensive and well-wooded landscape, where existing overhead line infrastructure and strong enclosure would limit the perception of change.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** Combined high sensitivity with a low magnitude of change would result in a moderate adverse (**not significant**) effect. The effects would remain as identified at year 0, as mitigation planting would have some localised effects, and the overhead line would remain a notable change within the local landscape character.

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**Table 6B.24: Summary of effects on Trent Valley Washlands Character Area 69**

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**Landscape effects: Trent Valley Washlands Character Area 69**

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**Sensitivity**

**Value:** The Trent Valley Washlands Character Area 69 forms a horizontal band wrapping around the southern extent of Derby, and following the trajectory of the River Trent, from Uttoxeter to Ockbrook. There are no statutory landscape designations, but some ecological designations, such as Sinfin Moor LNR, Chellaston Brickworks LNR and St Chad’s Water LNR, are present. Heritage designations include listed buildings, scheduled monuments, conservation areas, and non-statutory Registered Parks and Gardens, such as Swarkestone Old Hall. The rivers and adjacent areas, PRoW network and access to NCRs support recreation, resulting in a high recreational value. The area is generally low lying, with subtle undulation and rivers, smaller watercourses, including water management ditches, including the Trent and Mersey Canal, which is of recreational value. Tree and hedge boundaries, including some prominent tree species supported by the wetter soils, provide a widespread ecological network. This Character Area comprises three constituent LCTs. It is noted as a transitional landscape, intermixed with urban edges, agricultural land use, industrial and commercial areas, gravel and mineral extraction, transport routes, and remnants of decommissioned power station infrastructure, including cooling towers. Perceived wildness and tranquillity are impacted by these land uses, which subsequently lower their value. This Character Area is sparsely developed, with pockets of urban development, and under obvious development pressures due to its proximity to Derby. A local road network, A-roads and the M1 in the east connect settlement areas. The road network, particularly in the Derby area, is particularly dense in some areas. Existing power infrastructure, including power stations, overhead line corridors, and solar installations in agricultural fields, visually degrades landscape quality and scenic value and interrupts perceptual quality. Overall, the value of this Character Area is medium.

**Susceptibility:** All Project effects would be direct. The landscape of Trent Valley Washlands Character Area 69 is low lying and open in character in the vicinity of the River Trent corridor, but more enclosed in wider areas by layers of intervening vegetation and rising landform away from the valley. The agricultural landscape, characterised by relatively flat topography, frequent infrastructure, and occasional industrial uses, is generally of medium susceptibility to the Project. Trees and hedgerow boundaries provide a degree of resilience to the Project. The strong presence of existing infrastructure (roads, canals, overhead lines and solar farms) and the transitional, mixed character of land use (agriculture, industry, and mineral extraction) lowers the susceptibility to the Project and reduces perceptual tranquillity, sense of wildness and scenic qualities. Overall, the landscape susceptibility is medium.

**Sensitivity:** Combined medium value and medium susceptibility would result in medium sensitivity.

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**Magnitude**

**Construction:** The Project would span approximately half of this Character Area and pass through all three component LCTs, albeit at varying extents, resulting in a medium geographical extent. The works would comprise the construction of pylons and an overhead line, and the undergrounding and diversion of existing DNO 132 kV overhead lines and pylons, which would take place near Twyford. The Project

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## Landscape effects: Trent Valley Washlands Character Area 69

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would avoid key areas of landscape sensitivity. For a substantial extent of this Character Area, the Project would be located close to the existing road infrastructure and other existing overhead lines. During construction, there would be several DNO 132 kV diversionary works undertaken which would reduce wirescape impacts. Key sources of change would be the temporary construction of haul roads and working areas to facilitate the construction of the pylon bases, pylons and overhead line. The working areas would be required for the construction of pylons over the medium-term. Several construction compounds would be located in discreet locations close to the construction corridor. The construction of concrete bases for pylons would involve excavating topsoil and subsoil, constructing foundations, and installing pylons sectionally using plant equipment. Following pylon construction, there would be activities associated with overhead line stringing. Construction vehicles would utilise temporary haul roads and existing roads. For construction and access provision, limited vegetation loss is expected. There would be some localised loss of deciduous woodland, field boundary hedgerows and hedgerow trees. These would be replanted where possible. There may be some short-term disturbance to PRowS and cycle networks, including the NCR 6. Construction would introduce uncharacteristic activities and move sequentially across a medium extent of this Character Area. The overall magnitude of change for this Character Area would be high.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** The Project would introduce new components of energy infrastructure comprising an overhead line and a large number of pylons. Sections of existing lower voltage infrastructure would be undergrounded as part of the DNO 132 kV diversionary works near Twyford. Reduction in the presence of overground infrastructure is anticipated to yield a modest landscape and visual benefit through the removal of visual clutter and the rationalisation of infrastructure. Vegetation loss would be apparent, and mitigation planting would not be well established. The resultant change at year 0 would be permanent, linear, and covering a medium geographical extent of this Character Area. The overall magnitude of change would reduce to medium.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** The Project would introduce a permanent linear feature of medium geographical extent. Mitigation planting would have a limited impact, albeit reinstatement would provide a degree of landscape integration. The magnitude of change would remain medium.

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### Significance

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**Construction:** Combined medium sensitivity with a high magnitude of change would result in major adverse (**significant**) effects. **Operation (Year 0, Winter):** Combined medium sensitivity with a medium magnitude of change would result in moderate adverse (**significant**) effects. The addition of the overhead line would result in substantial alteration across the medium extent of this Character Area.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** Combined medium sensitivity with a medium magnitude of change would result in moderate adverse (**significant**) effects. The mitigation planting is likely to provide some localised effect, but the effects would remain.

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## 6B.4 Landscape Character Types

### Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield Character Area 38

**Table 6B.25: Summary of effects on Coalfield Village Farmlands LCT**

<b>Landscape effects: Coalfield Village Farmlands LCT</b>
<p><b>Sensitivity</b></p>
<p><b>Value:</b> The Coalfield Village Farmlands LCT comprises four separate parts that extend between Derby and Chesterfield. This LCT is characterised by a gently undulating landform with small to medium sized settlements, large swathes of agricultural land use, with pasture and arable fields, interspersed with small woodlands, hedgerows, watercourses, and golf courses. Parts of the LCT include settlement areas connected by local road networks and A-roads, with the M1 passing through the eastern part of the LCT. The presence of roads and the railway infrastructure influences landscape qualities, including perceptual qualities such as views and tranquillity. Increasing landform undulation combined with woodland, tree, and hedge boundaries break up the landscape, adding complexity and enclosure, together with opportunities for long views and more openness. There are no statutory landscape designations. This LCT has high ecological value, with ecological designations including the Hammersmith Meadows LNR, and Bluebank Pools LNR and Duckmanton Railway Cutting SSSI. The Bluebank Pools were formed when the River Rother was straightened to accommodate the construction of the Great Central Railway and provide habitat for some rare species. A range of heritage assets fall within the LCT, including conservation areas, listed buildings and scheduled monuments. The most prominent of these are the Grade I listed churches such as the Church of St Matthew, Church of St Clement and the Church of St Mary. There is an extensive PRoW network and access to local and key cycle routes resulting in high recreational value that support settlements and larger urban fringe areas. Existing overhead lines pass through the area with greater concentration around Chesterfield Substation, a known landscape detractor. Overall, the value of this LCT is medium.</p> <p><b>Susceptibility:</b> All Project effects would be direct. The landscape of Coalfield Village Farmlands is undulating and of varying complexity, therefore of medium susceptibility to the Project. Existing woodland and tree cover contribute to its resilience. The gentle topography, interspersed with hedgerows, watercourses, and woodland, provides a moderate degree of enclosure, contributing to lower susceptibility. The LCT is a large-scale landscape with fewer valuable features, made up of common elements, despite the presence of some ecologically and culturally valuable features, resulting in medium susceptibility. The presence of man-made features such as settlements, roads, railways, and overhead lines reduces perceptual qualities such as the sense of tranquillity and wildness. Frequent infrastructure (A-roads, M1, overhead lines) and former industrial sites decrease the susceptibility of the landscape. This landscape includes some features of heritage and ecological value of increased susceptibility. Overall, the susceptibility is assessed as medium.</p> <p><b>Sensitivity:</b> Combined medium value and medium susceptibility would result in medium sensitivity.</p>

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## Landscape effects: Coalfield Village Farmlands LCT

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### Magnitude

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**Construction:** The Project would pass from the south through the two largest parts of the LCT, terminating at the existing Willington Substation. In total, the proposed route alignment would pass through a medium extent of the LCT. The Project would cross into other LCTs along the corridor, representing a medium geographical extent. The construction would include pylons and an overhead line, and the undergrounding and diversion of existing DNO 132 kV and 33 kV overhead lines and pylons would take place near Alfreton, Tibshelf and Temple Normanton. The key sources of change would be the temporary construction of haul roads and working areas to facilitate the construction of the pylon bases, pylons and overhead line. A number of construction compounds would be located close to the construction corridor. The construction of concrete bases for pylons would involve the excavation of topsoil and subsoil, the construction of foundations and the sectional installation of pylons, using plant equipment. Following pylon construction, there would be activities associated with overhead line stringing. Construction vehicles would utilise temporary haul roads and existing roads. Construction and access provision would require the removal of some hedgerow trees and hedgerows, including woodland in areas such as the Great Northern Greenway, a Priority Habitat. Trees would be replanted where possible. There may be some short-term disturbance to the use of PRoWs and cycle trails. Construction would introduce uncharacteristic activities and move sequentially across a medium extent of the LCT. The magnitude of change would be medium.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** The Project would introduce new energy components to the landscape, comprising a large number of pylons. Sections of existing lower voltage infrastructure would be undergrounded at Alfreton, Tibshelf and Temple Normanton, and this work is anticipated to bring some landscape benefit through the removal of visual clutter and the rationalisation of infrastructure in three separate locations. Vegetation loss would be apparent, and mitigation planting would not be well established. The resultant change would be permanent, linear, and covering a medium geographical extent within an area of existing overhead infrastructure. Magnitude of change would reduce to low.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** The mitigation would provide some landscape integration benefit, primarily of functional or habitat connectivity benefit. The magnitude of change would remain as low.

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### Significance

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**Construction:** Combined medium sensitivity with medium magnitude of change would result in moderate adverse (**significant**) effects. This is due to a change involving the introduction of uncharacteristic features into an area of medium sensitivity.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** Combined medium sensitivity with a low magnitude of change would result in minor adverse (**not significant**) effects, as the Project would result in limited change to the landscape character of the LCT.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** Combined medium sensitivity with a low magnitude of change would result in minor adverse (**not significant**) effects.

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**Table 6B.26: Summary of effects on Estate Farmlands LCT**

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**Landscape effects: Estate Farmlands LCT**

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**Sensitivity**

**Value:** The Estate Farmlands LCT is generally rural in character. Occasional panoramic, scenic and long-distance views are afforded from elevated areas. Historic land uses, particularly coal mining and intensive arable practices, have had a detrimental impact on ecological integrity and landscape quality. However, ongoing estate-led land restoration, including the reestablishment of native woodland cover, diversification of field margins, and the creation of ecological corridors, is gradually increasing ecological value. Generally, the area is undeveloped, comprising small villages and hamlets, although there is an increasing urbanised development edge in the northern areas. A local road network serves the area, and the M1 motorway passes in a north–south direction, branching at the Heath Interchange (junction 29) with the A617 east–west, which are landscape detractors. The LCT includes no statutory landscape designations but includes ecological designations such as Duckmanton Railway Cutting SSSI. The LCT contains a collection of Grade II\* and II listed buildings and structures, and the Sutton Scarsdale Hall Scheduled Monument. There is a significant concentration of conservation areas to the north. A good network of PROWs and access to NCN results in medium recreational value. This LCT is largely agricultural and evolving from past industrialisation. Pockets of high tranquillity can be found, but increasing development, existing roads and overhead line infrastructure detract from perceptions of tranquillity and wildness. Overall, the value of this LCT is medium.

**Susceptibility:** The Estate Farmlands LCT has gently undulating landform with varying landscape quality, integrity and perceptual qualities, resulting in a medium susceptibility to the Project. Rolling landform offers some enclosure in combination with native woodland reestablishment and field margin diversification, which contribute positively to the LCT’s ecological and landscape resilience, particularly within agricultural contexts. While some areas of the LCT show elevated susceptibility due to open character and the presence of ecological and heritage features, such as ancient woodlands, Duckmanton Railway Cutting SSSI, and scheduled monuments like Sutton Scarsdale Hall, these designations are interspersed across a large landscape area. Existing road and overhead infrastructure, industrial land use and increased development demonstrate lower susceptibility and degraded landscape character. Agricultural land use, interspersed with settlements and urban fringe land uses, contributes to reduced susceptibility of perceptual qualities such as tranquillity and sense of wildness. Landform undulation adds complexity and resilience, as is demonstrated by the integration of the M1. Overall, the susceptibility is assessed as medium.

**Sensitivity:** Combined medium value and medium susceptibility would result in medium sensitivity.

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**Magnitude**

**Construction:** The Project would pass across a small extent within one of the three areas encompassed by this LCT. The works would comprise the construction of pylons and an overhead line, and the undergrounding and diversion of existing DNO overhead lines would take place near Tibshelf and Temple Normanton. The Project would avoid key areas of landscape sensitivity and is restricted to areas in the south.

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## Landscape effects: Estate Farmlands LCT

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The key sources of change in this section are the temporary construction of haul roads and working areas to facilitate the construction of pylon bases, pylons, and overhead line. The construction area would occupy a corridor of varying width, over a medium-term duration of construction. A few construction compounds would be located in discreet locations close to the construction corridor. The construction of concrete bases for pylons would involve the excavation of topsoil and subsoil, the construction of foundations and the sectional installation of pylons, using plant equipment. Following pylon construction, there would be activities associated with overhead line stringing. Construction vehicles would utilise temporary haul roads and existing roads. Construction and access provision would require the removal of some hedgerow trees and hedgerows, which would be replanted where possible. There may be some short-term disturbance to the use of PRoWs. Construction would introduce uncharacteristic activities and move sequentially across a small extent of the LCT. The magnitude of change would be medium.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** The Project would introduce new energy components to the landscape. This would include an overhead line and approximately 22 pylons. Sections of existing 132 kV overhead lines would be undergrounded at Tibshelf and Temple Normanton, and this work is anticipated to yield a modest landscape and visual benefit through the removal of visual clutter and the rationalisation of infrastructure in two separate locations. Vegetation loss would be apparent, whilst mitigation planting would not be well established. The resultant change would be permanent, linear, and covering a small geographical extent within an area of existing overhead infrastructure. Magnitude of change would reduce to low.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** The proposed mitigation planting would likely comprise field boundary reinstatement, providing primarily a functional or habitat benefit. Overall, the magnitude of change would be low.

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### Significance

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**Construction:** Combined medium sensitivity with medium magnitude of change would result in moderate adverse (**not significant**) effects as the construction would occupy a small proportion of the LCT.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** Combined medium sensitivity with low magnitude of change would result in minor adverse (**not significant**) effects.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** Combined medium sensitivity with a low magnitude of change would result in minor adverse (**not significant**) effects.

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**Table 6B.27: Summary of effects on Coalfield Estatelands LCT**

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**Landscape effects: Coalfield Estatelands LCT**

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**Sensitivity**

**Value:** The Coalfield Estatelands LCT is divided into three LCT areas. The areas are sparsely developed in the south, forming the agricultural context for some larger settlements. In general, the LCT is characterised by undulating terrain with a dominant pastoral land use, managed woodlands, tree-lined belts, and medium sized field enclosures bordered by hedgerows. The LCT is noted for its ecologically poor condition, owing to the impacts of legacy industrialisation. Northern areas contain existing industrial activity. There are no statutory landscape designations. The area contains Straws Bridge LNR, Pewit Carr LNR, Manor Floods LNR and Bagthorpe Meadows SSSI. Priority Habitat sites are frequent alongside three ancient woodland sites. Historic designations include Grade II and Grade II\* listed buildings, and scheduled monuments. There are also four conservation areas, the largest of which is Codnor Park. A small local road network services small settlement areas, including A-roads such as the A38 and A6007. The former Midland Railway line, now used as a heritage railway, operates close to Butterley. There is a good PRoW network with access to NCN routes. The mining landscape, despite its legacy, appears now as a sparsely developed agricultural area, with green and blue infrastructure assets and good recreational value. Overall, the value of this LCT is medium.

**Susceptibility:** All Project effects would be direct. The Coalfield Estatelands LCT is an undulating landscape of varying complexity. The LCT is sparsely developed in agricultural use, with pockets of seclusion and remnant legacy industrial use, which reduces susceptibility. Woodland and tree belts provide certain localised areas of increased enclosure, resulting in a medium susceptibility. There is considerable influence of man-made features across the LCT, including A-roads and overhead lines, which reduces susceptibility. Scenic qualities are generally of medium susceptibility, with some areas having low susceptibility due to degradation caused by former industrialisation, or a lack of distinctive landscape features. Perceptual qualities, including tranquillity and wildness, are typically of low susceptibility due to the existing detractors. Overall, the susceptibility of this LCT to the Project is medium.

**Sensitivity:** Combined medium value and medium susceptibility would result in medium sensitivity.

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**Magnitude**

**Construction:** The Project would span across a small area of this LCT and would be confined to the northern part of the LCT, corresponding to a localised small geographical extent. The works would comprise the construction of pylons and an overhead line. The Project would avoid key areas of landscape sensitivity, although there would be some impact on green infrastructure. Key sources of change would be the temporary construction of haul roads and working areas to facilitate the construction of the pylon bases, pylons and overhead line. The defined construction area would create a construction corridor for a medium-term duration. There would be one construction compound located in a discreet location close to the overhead line.

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## Landscape effects: Coalfield Estatelands LCT

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The construction of concrete bases for pylons would involve the excavation of topsoil and subsoil, the construction of foundations and the sectional installation of pylons, using plant equipment. Following pylon construction, there would be activities associated with overhead line stringing. Construction vehicles would utilise temporary haul roads and existing roads. Construction and access provision would require the removal of some hedgerow trees and hedgerows. There may be some short-term disturbance to the use of PRowS. Construction would introduce uncharacteristic activities and move sequentially across a small/negligible geographical extent. The overall magnitude of change would be low.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** The Project would introduce new components of energy infrastructure. This would include an overhead line and approximately nine pylons. Vegetation loss would be apparent, and mitigation planting would not be well established. The resultant change would be permanent, linear, and covering a small/negligible geographical extent within an area of the existing overhead infrastructure. The magnitude of change would reduce to negligible.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** The proposed mitigation planting would likely provide some landscape integration benefit, whilst providing functional or habitat connectivity benefit. The magnitude of change would remain negligible.

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### Significance

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**Construction:** Combined medium sensitivity with low magnitude of change would result in minor adverse (**not significant**) effects.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** Combined medium sensitivity with a negligible magnitude of change would result in minor adverse (**not significant**) effects.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** Combined medium sensitivity with a negligible magnitude of change would result in minor adverse (**not significant**) effects.

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## Derbyshire Peak Fringe and Lower Derwent Character Area 50

**Table 6B.28: Summary of effects on Wooded Farmlands LCT**

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### Landscape effects: Wooded Farmlands LCT

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#### Sensitivity

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**Value:** The Wooded Farmlands LCT comprises six separate linear areas. Gently undulating topography, interspersed by woodlands, characterise this landscape and both arable and permanent pasture agricultural land use. The area is predominantly rural, with scattered

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## Landscape effects: Wooded Farmlands LCT

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farmsteads and small villages, and contains no statutory landscape designations. Ecological designations include Oakerthorpe LNR and Ogston Reservoir SSSI. The area has ancient woodland and Priority Habitat sites, including Deciduous Woodland and Lowland Meadows sites, contributing to the LCT's biodiversity value. Heritage designations include Grade II and II\* listed buildings, the more prominent Grade I listed Church of St Matthew, and a scheduled monument at Castle Hill (Castle Hill camp). Part of the Derwent Valley Mills WHS covers one of the LCT areas.

Traditional farm buildings and occasional historic estates reflect the area's agricultural heritage and value. A good network of PRowS offers access for walking and recreation, combined with access to National Cycle Routes, resulting in medium recreational value. In general, the LCT is characterised by undulating and elevated terrain predominantly utilised for pastoral use. It is interspersed with managed woodlands and tree and hedge field boundaries, enclosing medium-sized fields, which contribute to a well-structured agricultural landscape. This LCT maintains predominantly rural and undeveloped character, with pockets of high but predominantly medium tranquillity. Overall, the value of this LCT is high.

**Susceptibility:** All Project effects would be direct. The Wooded Farmlands LCT has a gently undulating landform, small to medium scale field pattern, and structured vegetation that limit views, provide enclosure and contribute to medium susceptibility. The presence of ridge lines and localised raised landform increases susceptibility, as the potential for landscape integration in these areas is limited. The presence of woodlands and hedgerows supports visual containment and reduces the susceptibility in certain areas. The inherent complexity of the landscape does contribute to a degree of resilience. Sensitive heritage features, including the Derwent Valley Mills WHS, Castle Hill, and listed buildings, increase susceptibility to the Project by reinforcing cultural and perceptual value. Existing infrastructure, which mainly consists of local roads and some overhead lines, lowers the susceptibility in places. The area is predominantly agricultural, offering notable recreational value within a landscape largely devoid of landscape detractors. Perceptual qualities, such as tranquillity and wildness, are generally highly susceptible to the Project. Overall, the susceptibility is assessed as high.

**Sensitivity:** Combined high value and high susceptibility would result in high sensitivity.

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## Landscape effects: Wooded Farmlands LCT

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### Magnitude

**Construction:** The Project would span across a small extent of the LCT, confined to one LCT area, equating to a small geographical extent, with the remaining LCT areas unaffected. All areas of the Derwent Valley Mills WHS would be avoided. The works would comprise the construction of pylons and an overhead line. The key sources of change in this section are the temporary construction of haul roads and working areas to facilitate the construction of pylon bases, pylons, and overhead line. The construction corridor of varying width would alter the landscape over the medium-term. The construction of concrete bases for pylons would involve the excavation of topsoil and subsoil, followed by sectional construction. Cranes would be used to install the upper sections of pylons, followed by stringing activities. Construction vehicles would utilise temporary haul roads and existing roads. For construction and access provision, limited vegetation loss is expected within agricultural boundaries, which would comprise occasional trees and hedgerows. Construction would introduce uncharacteristic activities and move sequentially across a small extent of the LCT. The overall magnitude of change for the LCT would be low.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** The Project would introduce new energy components to the landscape. This would include an overhead line and approximately eight pylons. Vegetation loss would be apparent, and mitigation planting would not be well established. The resultant change at year 0 would be permanent, linear, and covering a small to medium geographical extent within an area of existing overhead infrastructure. Magnitude of change would be reduced to negligible.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** Proposed mitigation planting would provide limited Project integration at year 15. The magnitude of change would remain as negligible.

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### Significance

**Construction:** Combined high sensitivity with low magnitude of change would result in moderate adverse (**not significant**) effects. This is due to a small geographical extent caused by construction and small scale of change to landscape character.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** Combined high sensitivity with a negligible magnitude of change would result in minor adverse (**not significant**) effects.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** Combined high sensitivity with a negligible magnitude of change would result in minor adverse (**not significant**) effects.

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**Table 6B.29: Summary of effects on Wooded Slopes and Valleys LCT**

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**Landscape effects: Wooded Slopes and Valleys LCT**

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**Sensitivity**

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**Value:** The LCT comprises 10 component parts and is predominantly agricultural with a limited presence of settlements, except for a concentration close to Crich. The landform of this LCT is undulating, comprising elevated areas of moorland and valleys. Fields are irregular and enclosed by mixed hedgerows or dry-stone walls, providing enclosure to pastoral land use. Subsequent low levels of development correspond to a limited local road network, with some characteristic winding sunken lanes that add scenic value. The landscape is in largely intact condition, and there is a good PRoW network and access to the National Cycle Routes resulting in higher recreational value. There are no statutory landscape designations. There are a few ecological designations, including Allestree Park LNR at Burley Hill, Shining Cliff Woods SSSI and Crich Chase SSSI situated on the opposite side of the River Derwent. Heritage designations include an extensive area of Derwent Valley Mills WHS, a designation of international importance. Additionally, there is a range of listed buildings, including the Grade I listed Church of St Mary, conservation areas in settlements such as Horsley, Holbrook and Alderwasley, and scheduled monuments (Butterley Gangroad and Fritchley Tunnel), all contributing to high heritage value. Perceptual qualities such as tranquillity and a sense of wildness are of high value. Overall, the value of this LCT is high.

**Susceptibility:** All Project effects would be direct. The LCT is characterised by a complex, undulating and intact landform, contributing to higher susceptibility. The area exhibits enclosure with small to medium irregular fields, framed by hedgerows and distinct dry-stone walls, resulting in higher susceptibility. Limited road infrastructure, the presence of characteristic sunken lanes, and high tranquillity reflect high susceptibility to perceptual qualities. Distinct features within this LCT include landscape and ecological designations, alongside high value heritage features that increase the susceptibility to the Project. The LCT's high scenic value, intact condition, and limited development further contribute to higher susceptibility, with existing overhead lines lowering the susceptibility. Overall, the susceptibility of the LCT to the Project is high.

**Sensitivity:** Combined high value and high susceptibility would result in high sensitivity.

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**Magnitude**

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**Construction:** The Project would span across a small area within one of the LCT parts, with all other LCT areas unaffected. All areas of the Derwent Valley Mills WHS would be avoided by the proposed route alignment. The works would comprise the construction of pylons and an overhead line. The key sources of change in this section are the temporary construction of haul roads and working areas to facilitate the construction of pylon bases, pylons, and overhead line. The defined construction area would create a temporary, albeit medium-term construction corridor of varying width. There would be no construction compounds located within the LCT. The construction of concrete bases for pylons would involve the excavation of topsoil and subsoil, followed by sectional construction. Cranes would be used to install the upper sections of pylons, followed by stringing activities. Construction vehicles would utilise temporary haul roads and existing roads. For

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### Landscape effects: Wooded Slopes and Valleys LCT

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construction and access provision, limited vegetation loss is expected to agricultural boundaries comprising occasional trees and hedgerows, which would be replanted where possible. Construction would introduce uncharacteristic activities and move sequentially across a small geographical extent. The overall magnitude of change for the LCT would be medium.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** Following cessation of construction, no temporary construction influences would remain. The Project would introduce new energy components to the landscape. This would include the overhead line and approximately 18 pylons. Vegetation loss would be apparent, and mitigation planting would not be well established. The resultant change at year 0 would be permanent, linear, and covering a small geographical extent within an area that contains existing overhead infrastructure. Magnitude of change would reduce to low.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** Mitigation planting would likely provide limited landscape integration at year 15 with magnitude of change remaining low.

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### Significance

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**Construction:** Combined high sensitivity with medium magnitude of change would result in major adverse (**significant**) effects, albeit there would be a limited change to the landscape across a small area close to the existing overhead lines.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** Combined high sensitivity with a low magnitude of change would result in moderate adverse (**not significant**) effects, as only a small and localised part of the LCT would be affected, without altering key characteristics. The limited geographical extent, existing vegetation, and presence of existing infrastructure would reduce the direct effects but also change the perceptual qualities of the Project within the wider landscape.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** Combined high sensitivity with a low magnitude of change would result in moderate adverse (**not significant**) effects, as mitigation planting is likely to provide a limited level of landscape integration.

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### Table 6B.30: Summary of effects on Gritstone Heaths and Commons LCT

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#### Landscape effects: Gritstone Heaths and Commons LCT

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#### Sensitivity

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**Value:** The Gritstone Heaths and Commons LCT comprises four distinct areas. The southern part of the LCT is located between Morley Smithy and Little Eaton, and the remaining three areas surround Belper. The LCT covers a largely rural landscape comprising vernacular villages and small to medium agricultural pastures across areas of frequently elevated land. There are no statutory landscape designations. Statutory ecological designations are few and include the Morley Brick Pits SSSI. Heritage designations include the Derwent Valley Mills WHS, which covers an extensive 1266 ha swathe of land between Derby and Chesterfield. The asset contributes to high heritage and cultural

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## Landscape effects: Gritstone Heaths and Commons LCT

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value. Further heritage assets include listed buildings such as the Grade I listed Church of St Clement and the Belper and Milford conservation areas. There is good access to PRowWs, resulting in a moderate recreational value. In general, the LCT is rural with few detractors, as there is a limited presence of transport corridors and overhead lines. As panoramic views are frequent, this LCT has a high scenic value. Overall, the value of this LCT is high.

**Susceptibility:** All Project effects would be direct. The landform of this LCT has an undulating character, with frequent steep valleys, comprising small to medium field enclosures, providing landscape complexity and therefore higher susceptibility to the Project. Openness in elevated areas with reduced screening results in localised scenic qualities of higher susceptibility. Settlements are connected via a local road network and one A-road (A517) near Blackbrook. The Midland Main Line passes through the LCT within a tunnel close to Milford. This combined with the general absence of larger scale settlements contributes to a strong sense of tranquillity and wildness, resulting in higher susceptibility. Overhead lines are present but limited in extent, reducing susceptibility to the Project in certain locations. This LCT includes the Derwent Valley Mills WHS, increasing the susceptibility of the LCT to the Project. Overall, the susceptibility is assessed as high.

**Sensitivity:** Combined high value and high susceptibility would result in high sensitivity.

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### Magnitude

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**Construction:** The Project would span across a small extent of the LCT and would be confined to the southernmost part of this LCT, equating to a small geographical extent. The works would comprise the construction of pylons and an overhead line. The key sources of change within this section would be the temporary construction of haul roads and working areas to facilitate the construction of the pylon bases, pylons and overhead line. The construction corridor of varying width would be created. A construction compound would be located in a discreet location close to the construction corridor. The construction of concrete bases for pylons would involve the excavation of topsoil and subsoil, the construction of foundations and the sectional installation of pylons, using plant equipment. Following pylon construction, there would be activities associated with overhead line stringing. Construction vehicles would utilise temporary haul roads and existing roads. Construction and access provision would require the removal of some hedgerow trees and hedgerows, primarily in agricultural areas, that would be replanted where possible. There may be some short-term disturbance to the use of PRowWs. Construction would introduce uncharacteristic activities and move sequentially across a small extent of the LCT over a medium term duration. The magnitude of change would be low.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** Following cessation of construction, no temporary construction influences would remain. The Project would introduce new components of energy infrastructure into the landscape, including a short section of overhead lines and pylons. Vegetation loss would be apparent and mitigation planting would not be well established. The resultant change at year 0 would be permanent, linear, and covering a small geographical extent within an area of existing overhead infrastructure. Magnitude of change would reduce to negligible.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** Mitigation planting would provide a degree of landscape integration; however, the addition of the overhead line would remain a prominent addition to the landscape. The magnitude of change would remain negligible.

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## Landscape effects: Gritstone Heaths and Commons LCT

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### Significance

**Construction:** Combined high sensitivity with low magnitude of change would result in moderate adverse (**significant**) effects.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** Combined high sensitivity with negligible magnitude of change would result in minor adverse (**not significant**) effects, as the small-scale change would take place within the area of high sensitivity.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** Combined high sensitivity with negligible magnitude of change would result in minor adverse (**not significant**) effects, as the mitigation planting is likely to provide localised landscape integration.

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## Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield Character Area 38

**Table 6B.31: Summary of effects on Plateau Estate Farmlands LCT**

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## Landscape effects: Plateau Estate Farmlands LCT

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### Sensitivity

**Value:** The Plateau Estate Farmlands LCT is an undeveloped area comprising agricultural farmland, which transitions to the suburban edge of Oakwood in Derby. The LCT has just one single component area. Distant and scenic views are afforded from elevated areas over pastures with tree and hedge boundaries that have high scenic value, whilst providing a considerable degree of enclosure. In some areas, mixed farming systems have led to the removal of field boundaries to facilitate large scale farming, resulting in the erosion of field enclosures. Elsewhere, wider green infrastructure elements include small plantations and parkland trees reflecting legacy estate ownership, ancient semi-natural woodland, small woodland blocks and commercial forestry, resulting in higher value. The LCT has no statutory landscape designations. The non-statutory Grade II listed Locko Park Registered Park and Garden encompass a central area of the LCT, approximately 158 hectares, featuring a small group of Grade II and Grade II\* listed buildings. This LCT also contains some ecological designations such as SSSI and LNR. There are no Grade I designated heritage assets, but conservation areas are present at Ockbrook and Stanton-by-Dale. There is an extensive network of PRoWs and NCN routes, adding to the recreational value. This landscape is largely rural in character but is under pressure from the gradual expansion of settlements. Overall, the LCT has medium value.

**Susceptibility:** All Project effects would be direct. The landscape of Plateau Estate Farmlands LCT is a gently undulating landscape and of moderate complexity and intermittent tree cover, resulting in medium susceptibility to the Project. The predominantly medium scale landscape offers a degree of enclosure, though it is reduced in places due to agricultural intensification and field boundary loss, resulting in medium susceptibility to the Project. Scenic views are available from elevated areas, but are often focused on common landscapes, resulting in a

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## Landscape effects: Plateau Estate Farmlands LCT

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medium susceptibility of scenic qualities. Transport corridors are few, reducing the susceptibility of the perceptual qualities of the landscape locally. The M1 passes through the LCT in the west, the A6096 centrally, and the A608 in the east, close to Morley, reducing locally the susceptibility to the Project. The presence of other overhead lines further reduces the susceptibility of this LCT. Although parts of the LCT remain rural and undeveloped, there are visible pressures from nearby settlements and large-scale agricultural land use resulting in a medium susceptibility. Overall, the susceptibility is assessed as medium.

**Sensitivity:** Combined medium value and medium susceptibility would result in medium sensitivity.

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### Magnitude

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**Construction:** The Project would span across a small geographical extent of the LCT. The works would comprise the construction of pylons and an overhead line, and the undergrounding and diversion of existing DNO 132 kV overhead lines would take place near Ockbrook. The Project would avoid key areas of landscape sensitivity. The key sources of change in this section are the temporary construction of haul roads and working areas to facilitate the construction of pylon bases, pylons, and overhead line. The defined construction area would create a construction corridor of varying width, with construction compound located close to the Project.

The construction of concrete bases for pylons would involve the excavation of topsoil and subsoil, the construction of foundations and the sectional installation of pylons, using plant equipment. Following pylon construction, there would be activities associated with overhead line stringing. Construction vehicles would utilise temporary haul roads and existing roads. Construction and access provision would require the removal of some hedgerow trees and hedgerows, primarily in areas bordering the A6096/Derby Road, that would be replanted where possible. The use of PRowS crossing through the draft Order Limits would be disturbed over a medium-term duration of construction. Construction would introduce uncharacteristic activities and move sequentially across a small central extent of the LCT. Construction activities would result in temporary but notable visual and physical alterations to the landscape, that would alter the rural character of the LCT. The magnitude of change would be high.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** Post-construction, no temporary construction influences would remain. The Project would introduce new energy components to the landscape. This would include an overhead line and approximately 13 pylons. Sections of existing lower voltage infrastructure would be undergrounded at Ockbrook; this work is anticipated to yield a modest landscape and visual benefit through the removal of visual clutter and the rationalisation of infrastructure in this location. Vegetation loss would be apparent, and mitigation planting would not be well established. The resultant change would be permanent, linear, and covering a small to medium geographical extent within an area of existing overhead infrastructure. The magnitude of change would reduce to medium.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** The proposed mitigation planting primarily comprises boundary and significant tree reinstatement, primarily of functional or habitat connectivity benefit, offering limited visual screening, though it may contribute some localised visual mitigating benefits. The magnitude of change would remain medium.

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## Landscape effects: Plateau Estate Farmlands LCT

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### Significance

**Construction:** Combined medium sensitivity with a high magnitude of change would result in a major adverse (**significant**) effect.

Operation (Year 0, Winter): Combined medium sensitivity with a medium magnitude of change would result in a moderate adverse (**not significant**) effect, as the change in landscape would take place over a limited extent of the LCT.

Operation (Year 15, Summer): Combined medium sensitivity with a medium magnitude of change would result in a moderate adverse (**not significant**) effect, as mitigation planting is likely to provide a limited landscape integration effect.

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**Table 6B.32: Summary of effects on Lowland Village Farmlands LCT**

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## Landscape effects: Lowland Village Farmlands LCT

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### Sensitivity

**Value:** The Lowland Village Farmlands LCT forms a horizontal section of landscape that wraps around the southern and eastern extents of Derby, comprising seven fragmented areas. There are no statutory landscape designations, but ecological and historic designations contribute to landscape value. Landscape value is degraded by the influence of urbanity, existing roads, overhead line and electricity substation infrastructure, and including the redundant Willington Power Station cooling towers. Subsequent scenic qualities and perceptual qualities are reduced and assessed to be of medium value. The LCT is defined as a flat, lowland area that has long supported agricultural land use, a legacy that has led to some ecological degradation. Despite this, medium to large fields bordered by trees and hedgerows, supplemented by canals and open water, continue to provide valuable habitats, albeit woodlands are largely absent. The LCT includes two non-statutory Registered Parks and Gardens (Swarkestone Old Hall and Elvaston Castle). The Chellaston Brickworks LNR and Aston Brickyard Plantation LNR are legacy industry areas which now support woodland and flora habitat. Example sites of heritage value include the Grade I listed Church of All Saints, the Church of St Mary, and villages such as Twyford and Swarkestone, which are designated as conservation areas. Historic villages demonstrate vernacular material usage, which adds to scenic attributes and promotes a strong sense of place. The river corridors and PRowS, support recreation. Visually, the LCT is impacted by ongoing and legacy mineral extraction, transport and power station infrastructure detractors. Overall, landscape value of this LCT is medium.

**Susceptibility:** All Project effects would be direct. Lowland topography, predominantly agricultural land use, and limited woodland cover would result in limited enclosure, which increases the susceptibility of the LCT to the Project to medium. The LCT has a medium landscape scale with evidence of agricultural boundary erosion and field amalgamation, creating more open, albeit commonplace landscape components. The presence of existing mineral extraction, transport and power station infrastructure (Willington) are the main landscape

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## Landscape effects: Lowland Village Farmlands LCT

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detractors reducing the susceptibility of scenic qualities. The LCT would be directly affected by the proposed change. Overall, the susceptibility to change of this LCT is medium.

**Sensitivity:** Combined medium value and medium susceptibility would result in medium sensitivity.

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### Magnitude

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**Construction:** The Project would span across a medium extent of the LCT, confined to only three of the LCT's six distinct parts, with the remaining areas unaffected, corresponding to a medium geographical extent of change. The works would comprise the construction of pylons and an overhead line, and the undergrounding and diversion of existing DNO 132 kV overhead lines near Twyford. The Project would avoid key areas of landscape sensitivity. The key sources of change within this section would be the temporary construction of haul roads and working areas to facilitate the construction of the pylon bases, pylons and overhead line. The defined construction area would create a temporary, albeit medium-term construction corridor of varying width within the draft Order Limits. A number of construction compounds would be located in discreet locations close to the construction corridor.

The construction of concrete bases for pylons would involve the excavation of topsoil and subsoil, the construction of foundations and the sectional installation of pylons, using plant equipment. Following pylon construction, there would be activities associated with overhead line stringing. Construction vehicles would utilise temporary haul roads and existing roads. For construction and access provision, limited vegetation loss is expected; however, some impact is anticipated on areas of deciduous woodland, occasional trees, and hedgerows, as well as other habitats, which would be replanted where possible. Construction would introduce uncharacteristic activities and would occupy a medium extent of the LCT. In some localised areas, the scale of change may be perceived as high, and the overall magnitude of change for this LCT would be high.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** The Project would introduce new components of energy infrastructure. This would include overhead line spanning across the medium extent of the LCT. DNO 132 kV overhead line diversionary works would be undertaken near Twyford, and this work is anticipated to yield a modest landscape and visual benefit through the removal of visual clutter and the rationalisation of infrastructure. Vegetation loss would be apparent, and mitigation planting would not be well established. The resultant change at year 0 would be permanent, linear and would cover a medium geographical extent of the LCT. The magnitude of change would reduce to medium.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** The proposed mitigation planting would primarily comprise hedgerow and hedgerow tree reinstatement, primarily of functional or habitat connectivity benefit, at the local scale. The magnitude of change would remain medium.

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### Significance

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**Construction:** Combined medium sensitivity with high magnitude of change would result in major adverse (**significant**) effects. The extent of construction would result in a substantial change to the baseline characteristics within the LCT.

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### Landscape effects: Lowland Village Farmlands LCT

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**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** Combined medium sensitivity with a medium magnitude of change would result in moderate adverse (**significant**) effects, due to a large extent of the LCT being affected by the overhead line.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** Combined medium sensitivity with a medium magnitude of change would result in moderate adverse (**significant**) effects. Mitigation planting would provide some landscape integration, but the effects would remain.

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**Table 6B.33: Summary of effects on Riverside Meadows LCT**

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### Landscape effects: Riverside Meadows LCT

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#### Sensitivity

**Value:** The Riverside Meadows LCT is formed by three component parts and encompasses the riparian areas and floodplain of the River Derwent, transitioning from largely undeveloped areas to the western urban/industrial edge of Derby. The LCT's ecological components provide an important and diverse habitat profile. The LCT does not include statutory landscape designations. The Elvaston Castle, a Grade II Registered Park and Garden, lies partially within the LCT, covered also by Elvaston LNR located within this LCT. The LCT includes Conservation Areas, and the Church of All Saints (Grade I) lies west of the M1, dissecting the LCT. There are a few local roads adding to the undeveloped sense of place and contributing to perceptual qualities. Transport infrastructure, including motorways, the Derby Bypass and A-roads, all pass through the LCT, but are quite direct, crossing the LCT economically, thus minimising impacts on perceptual qualities, including tranquillity. The LCT's flat formation with component watercourses and pastoral medium to large fields are bordered by hedgerows and provide a medium level of enclosure. A small but well-connected network of PRoWs offers a medium-level recreational value. Gravel extraction is still present alongside restored pits, which have evolved into lakes surrounded by vegetation. These areas can be viewed from transport corridors and can offer some scenic value. Existing overhead line corridors have a strong presence in the area, combining with the commercial land use to form an industrial edge to the LCT. The continuation of mineral extraction processes and the presence of overhead line infrastructure compromise scenic qualities locally. Overall, the value of this LCT is medium.

**Susceptibility:** All Project effects would be direct. The LCT comprises a lowland riparian landscape containing rare water meadow habitats and occasional tree cover, including wetland vegetation. These features create a scenic, tranquil and historically undeveloped character, contributing to a higher susceptibility to change. However, this is contrasted by the presence of infrastructure, including extraction activity (current and legacy), transport corridors, a short section of the Midland Main Line railway and overhead lines, which reduce susceptibility in certain areas. The LCT forms part of a broader, larger-scale landscape with a generally uniform and regular topography, where commonplace features dominate, and valuable landscape elements are limited in extent. Perceptual tranquillity and sense of wildness do exist, but landscape detractors, which are part of the baseline, impact these qualities in certain areas. Overall, the susceptibility of the LCT is assessed as medium.

**Sensitivity:** Combined medium value and medium susceptibility would result in medium sensitivity.

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## Landscape effects: Riverside Meadows LCT

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### Magnitude

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**Construction:** The Project would span across a small extent of the LCT, corresponding to a small geographical extent. The works would comprise the construction of pylons and an overhead line. The Project would avoid key areas of landscape sensitivity, although there would be some localised impacts to green infrastructure. Key sources of change would be the temporary construction of haul roads and working areas to facilitate the construction of the pylon bases, pylons and overhead line. The defined construction area would create a temporary, albeit medium-term construction corridor of varying width. There would be no construction compounds located within this LCT. The construction of concrete bases for pylons would involve the excavation of topsoil and subsoil, the construction of foundations and the sectional installation of pylons, using plant equipment. Following pylon construction, there would be activities associated with overhead line stringing. Construction vehicles would utilise temporary haul roads and existing roads. Construction and access provision would require the removal of some hedgerow trees and hedgerows, as well as some trees bordering the River Derwent. The extent of loss would be minimised and replanted where possible. There may be some short-term disturbance to the use of PRoWs. Construction would introduce uncharacteristic visual and physical changes to the landscape during this period and move sequentially across a small extent of the LCT, temporarily altering the character of the LCT. Although works are localised, the introduction of tall structures, plant, and construction movement would result in a medium magnitude of change across the LCT during the construction phase, with more pronounced effects felt in areas close to the proposed route alignment. The magnitude of change would be medium.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** Following cessation of construction, no temporary construction influences would remain. The Project would introduce new energy components to the landscape. This would include the overhead line with associated pylons. Vegetation loss would be apparent, and mitigation planting would not be well established. The resultant change at year 0 would be permanent, linear, and covering a small geographical extent within an area of the existing overhead infrastructure. The magnitude of change would reduce to low.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** The proposed mitigation planting would primarily comprise boundary and significant tree reinstatement, primarily of functional or habitat connectivity benefit, offering limited visual screening, though it may contribute some localised visual mitigating benefits. The magnitude of change would remain low.

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### Significance

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**Construction:** Combined medium sensitivity with a medium magnitude of change would result in moderate adverse (**not significant**) effects, reflective of the small geographical extent, limited designations, and existing scenic detractions.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** Combined medium sensitivity with a low magnitude of change would result in a minor adverse (**not significant**) effect.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** Combined medium sensitivity with a low magnitude of change would remain a minor adverse (**not significant**) effect.

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**Table 6B.34: Summary of effects on Wet Pasture Meadows LCT**

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**Landscape effects: Wet Pasture Meadows LCT**

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**Sensitivity**

**Value:** The Wet Pasture Meadows LCT occupies the settlement edges and transitional area south of Derby, comprising three separate LCT areas. There are no statutory landscape or ecological designations. Heritage examples include the Grade II Trent and Mersey Canal Swarkestone Lock and Bridge. There is a good network of PRoWs of medium value, with access to NCR 6, which runs parallel to the canal. Further contributing elements include the canal for boating, walking and cycling. Despite the urban influence and proximity to Derby, and despite the presence of the A50, which passes just south of Chellaston, the area retains a secluded character, with medium or high perceptual tranquillity levels in places and a medium level of wildness. Scenic value is offered by panoramic views across the countryside and agricultural fields from more elevated locations. Overall, the value of this LCT is medium.

**Susceptibility:** This LCT would be directly affected. The LCT comprises predominantly agricultural land use formed within a flat area of minor topographical undulation and of lower susceptibility to the Project. The LCT has limited woodland cover, with agricultural fields bordered by tree and hedgerow networks, which provide some level of enclosure and result in medium susceptibility. The medium scale field pattern is of medium susceptibility. The open and commonplace agricultural land use does provide some pockets of seclusion and scenic quality, resulting in higher susceptibility. Localised areas with a strong sense of perceptual wildness and tranquillity offer higher susceptibility. Small brooks, water management ditches and the Trent and Mersey Canal are distinct features of the LCT that have higher susceptibility to the Project. Overall, the susceptibility would be medium.

**Sensitivity:** Combined medium value and medium susceptibility would result in medium sensitivity.

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**Magnitude**

**Construction:** The Project would span only across a very small extent of the Wet Pasture Meadows LCT and be confined to only one section of the LCT, which extends south east across the Derby Southern Bypass (A50) at Junction 3. Construction here would be limited to a section of overhead line only, and there would be no pylons located within the LCT. The Project would avoid key areas of landscape sensitivity, although there would be some localised impact on green infrastructure. The defined construction area would create a construction corridor of varying width over the medium-term. Construction would introduce uncharacteristic activities moving sequentially within a confined part of the LCT and beyond its boundaries. There would be no construction compounds located within this LCT. Following pylon construction in adjacent areas, activities associated with overhead line stringing would be undertaken. Construction vehicles would utilise temporary haul roads and existing roads. Construction and access provision would require the removal of some hedgerow trees and hedgerows to a limited extent. These would be replanted where possible. There may be some short-term disturbance to the use of PRoWs and NCR 6. Overall, the magnitude of the change would be medium.

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## Landscape effects: Wet Pasture Meadows LCT

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**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** The overhead line would be a notable addition to the local landscape character with evidence of vegetation removal. Mitigation planting would not provide landscape integration at year 0. The resultant change at year 0 would be permanent, linear, and confined to a small geographical extent of the LCT. The overall magnitude of change would reduce to low.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** The permanent presence of the overhead line across a small geographical extent of the LCT would remain. The mitigation planting would likely provide a degree of landscape integration. Magnitude of change would remain low.

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### Significance

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**Construction:** Combined medium sensitivity with medium magnitude of change would result in moderate adverse (**not significant**) effects due to a small geographical extent of change within the scale of LCT.

**Operation (Year 0, Winter):** Combined medium sensitivity with a low magnitude would result in minor adverse (**not significant**) effects.

**Operation (Year 15, Summer):** Combined medium sensitivity with a low magnitude would result in minor adverse (**not significant**) effects.

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**Table 6B.35: Summary of landscape character effects**

Receptor	Sensitivity	Magnitude			Significance		
		Construction	Year 0	Year 15	Construction	Year 0	Year 15
<b>Section 1: Chesterfield Substation to Tibshelf</b>							
NCA Profile: 30 Southern Magnesian Limestone	High	Low	Negligible	Negligible	Moderate adverse ( <b>not significant</b> )	Minor adverse ( <b>not significant</b> )	Minor adverse ( <b>not significant</b> )
NCA Profile: 38 Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield	Medium	Medium	Low	Low	Moderate adverse ( <b>not significant</b> ) effects	Minor adverse ( <b>not significant</b> )	Minor adverse ( <b>not significant</b> )
NCA Profile: 50 Derbyshire Peak Fringe and Lower Derwent	High	Medium	Low	Low	Major adverse ( <b>significant</b> )	Moderate adverse ( <b>significant</b> )	Moderate adverse ( <b>significant</b> )
Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield Character Area 38	Medium	High	Medium	Medium	Major adverse ( <b>significant</b> )	Moderate adverse ( <b>significant</b> )	Moderate adverse ( <b>significant</b> )
Coalfield Village Farmlands LCT	Medium	Medium	Low	Low	Moderate adverse ( <b>significant</b> )	Minor adverse ( <b>not significant</b> )	Minor adverse ( <b>not significant</b> )

Receptor	Sensitivity	Magnitude			Significance		
		Construction	Year 0	Year 15	Construction	Year 0	Year 15
Estate Farmlands LCT	Medium	Medium	Low	Low	Moderate adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)
<b>Section 2: Tibshelf to Ripley</b>							
NCA Profile: 30 Southern Magnesian Limestone	High	Low	Negligible	Negligible	Moderate adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)
NCA Profile: 38 Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield	Medium	Medium	Low	Low	Moderate adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)
NCA Profile: 50 Derbyshire Peak Fringe and Lower Derwent	High	Medium	Low	Low	Major adverse (significant)	Moderate adverse (significant)	Moderate adverse (significant)
Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield Character Area 38	Medium	High	Medium	Medium	Major adverse (significant)	Moderate adverse (significant)	Moderate adverse (significant)
Derbyshire Peak Fringe and Lower Derwent	High	Medium	Low	Low	Major adverse (significant)	Moderate adverse (not significant)	Moderate adverse (not significant)

Receptor	Sensitivity	Magnitude			Significance		
		Construction	Year 0	Year 15	Construction	Year 0	Year 15
Character Area 50							
Coalfield Village Farmlands LCT	Medium	Medium	Low	Low	Moderate adverse (significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)
Estate Farmlands LCT	Medium	Medium	Low	Low	Moderate adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)
Wooded Farmlands LCT	High	Low	Negligible	Negligible	Moderate adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)
Coalfield Estatelands LCT	Medium	Low	Negligible	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)
<b>Section 3: Ripley to Morley</b>							
NCA Profile: 38 Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield	Medium	Medium	Low	Low	Moderate adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)
NCA Profile: 50 Derbyshire Peak Fringe and Lower Derwent	High	Medium	Low	Low	Major adverse (significant)	Moderate adverse (significant)	Moderate adverse (significant)

Receptor	Sensitivity	Magnitude			Significance		
		Construction	Year 0	Year 15	Construction	Year 0	Year 15
Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield Character Area 38	Medium	High	Medium	Medium	Major adverse (significant)	Moderate adverse (significant)	Moderate adverse (significant)
Derbyshire Peak Fringe and Lower Derwent Character Area 50	High	Medium	Low	Low	Major adverse (significant)	Moderate adverse (not significant)	Moderate adverse (not significant)
Coalfield Village Farmlands LCT	Medium	Medium	Low	Low	Moderate adverse (significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)
Wooded Slopes and Valleys LCT	High	Medium	Low	Low	Major adverse (significant)	Moderate adverse (not significant)	Moderate adverse (not significant)
Gritstone Heaths and Commons LCT	High	Low	Negligible	Negligible	Moderate adverse (significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)
<b>Section 4: Morley to Ockbrook</b>							
NCA Profile: 69 Trent Valley Washlands	Medium	Medium	Low	Low	Moderate adverse (significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)

Receptor	Sensitivity	Magnitude			Significance		
		Construction	Year 0	Year 15	Construction	Year 0	Year 15
NCA Profile: 38 Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield	Medium	Medium	Low	Low	Moderate adverse ( <b>not significant</b> )	Minor adverse ( <b>not significant</b> )	Minor adverse ( <b>not significant</b> )
Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield Character Area 38	Medium	High	Medium	Medium	Major adverse ( <b>significant</b> )	Moderate adverse ( <b>significant</b> )	Moderate adverse ( <b>significant</b> )
Trent Valley Washlands Character Area 69	Medium	High	Medium	Medium	Major adverse ( <b>significant</b> )	Moderate adverse ( <b>significant</b> )	Moderate adverse ( <b>significant</b> )
Plateau Estate Farmlands LCT	Medium	High	Medium	Medium	Major adverse ( <b>significant</b> )	Moderate adverse ( <b>not significant</b> )	Moderate adverse ( <b>not significant</b> )
Coalfield Village Farmlands LCT	Medium	Medium	Low	Low	Moderate adverse ( <b>significant</b> )	Minor adverse ( <b>not significant</b> )	Minor adverse ( <b>not significant</b> )
Lowland Village Farmlands LCT	Medium	High	Medium	Medium	Major adverse ( <b>significant</b> )	Moderate adverse ( <b>significant</b> )	Moderate adverse ( <b>significant</b> )

### Section 5: Ockbrook to Aston-on-Trent

Receptor	Sensitivity	Magnitude			Significance		
		Construction	Year 0	Year 15	Construction	Year 0	Year 15
NCA Profile: 69 Trent Valley Washlands	Medium	Medium	Low	Low	Moderate adverse <b>(significant)</b>	Minor adverse <b>(not significant)</b>	Minor adverse <b>(not significant)</b>
NCA Profile: 38 Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield	Medium	Medium	Low	Low	Moderate adverse <b>(not significant)</b>	Minor adverse <b>(not significant)</b>	Minor adverse <b>(not significant)</b>
NCA Profile: 68 Needwood and South Derbyshire Claylands	Medium	Low	Negligible	Negligible	Minor adverse <b>(not significant)</b>	Minor adverse <b>(not significant)</b>	Minor adverse <b>(not significant)</b>
Trent Valley Washlands Character Area 69	Medium	High	Medium	Medium	Major adverse <b>(significant)</b>	Moderate adverse <b>(significant)</b>	Moderate adverse <b>(significant)</b>
Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield Character Area 38	Medium	High	Medium	Medium	Major adverse <b>(significant)</b>	Moderate adverse <b>(significant)</b>	Moderate adverse <b>(significant)</b>
Lowland Village Farmlands LCT	Medium	High	Medium	Medium	Major adverse <b>(significant)</b>	Moderate adverse <b>(significant)</b>	Moderate adverse <b>(significant)</b>

Receptor	Sensitivity	Magnitude			Significance		
		Construction	Year 0	Year 15	Construction	Year 0	Year 15
Riverside Meadows LCT	Medium	Medium	Low	Low	Moderate adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)
<b>Section 6: Aston-on-Trent to Willington Substation</b>							
NCA Profile: 69 Trent Valley Washlands	Medium	Medium	Low	Low	Moderate adverse (significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)
NCA Profile: 70. Melbourne Parklands	Medium	Low	Negligible	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)
NCA Profile: 68 Needwood and South Derbyshire Claylands	Medium	Low	Negligible	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)
Trent Valley Washlands Character Area 69	Medium	High	Medium	Medium	Major adverse (significant)	Moderate adverse (significant)	Moderate adverse (significant)
Lowland Village Farmlands LCT	Medium	High	Medium	Medium	Major adverse (significant)	Moderate adverse (significant)	Moderate adverse (significant)
Wet Pasture Meadows LCT	Medium	Medium	Low	Low	Moderate adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)

Receptor	Sensitivity	Magnitude			Significance		
		Construction	Year 0	Year 15	Construction	Year 0	Year 15
Riverside Meadows LCT	Medium	Medium	Low	Low	Moderate adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)
<b>Peak District National Park</b>							
Landscape receptors	High	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)
Visual receptors	High	Low	Low	Low	Moderate adverse (not significant)	Moderate adverse (not significant)	Moderate adverse (not significant)
<b>Amber Valley SLA</b>							
Landscape Receptors	High	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)	Minor adverse (not significant)
Visual receptors	High	Low	Low	Low	Moderate adverse (not significant)	Moderate adverse (not significant)	Moderate adverse (not significant)

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