



SUNNICA ENERGY FARM

Preliminary Environmental Information Report

Appendix 10E: Local Landscape Character Areas

Sunnica Ltd

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Quality information

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1 Local Landscape Character Areas

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 This appendix sets of the landscape characteristics and sensitivity of local landscape character areas (LLCA) which have been identified via fieldwork.

1.1.2 The appendix should be read in combination with Figure 10-10 of **Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual Amenity**, which illustrates the location and extent of the LLCA.

1.1.3 The LLCA sensitivity is assessed in accordance with the LVIA methodology, which combines judgements on landscape value and landscape susceptibility.

LLCA 1: Mildenhall Woods (LLCA 1)

1.1.4 With reference to Figure 10-10, LLCA 1 is located at the north-east edge of the study area. The Scheme is not located within LLCA 1.

LLCA 1 Key Characteristics

- a. Extensive area of mature predominantly coniferous plantation woodland;
- b. Gently rising land from west to east and from south to north
- c. Land managed for forestry;
- d. Large areas of felled and replanted woodland;
- e. Strong sense of enclosure
- f. Designated as open access land;
- g. Area divided by a number of linear roads and rights of way; and
- h. The Erinwell Lode drains the area towards the River Lark which lies just south of the LLCA.

Landscape Value

1.1.5 LLCA 1 is in a good condition and is being actively managed for forestry and biodiversity benefits. It is wholly designated as open access land, providing recreational access.

1.1.6 LLCA 1 is covered by a SSSI designation, and the large-scale nature of the woodland is a somewhat rare characteristic regionally, forming part of the wider Thetford Forest Park.

1.1.7 LLCA 1 is representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 85 Brecks.

1.1.8 LLCA 1 is assessed of being regional value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.9 LLCA 1 has extensive woodland cover and recreational access such that it would be highly susceptible to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

- 1.1.10 The combination of the regional value and high susceptibility results in a high sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 2: Mildenhall Airfield (LLCA 2)

1.1.11 With reference to Figure 10-10, LLCA 2 is located in the north-east part of the study area. The Scheme is not located within LLCA 2.

LLCA 2 Key Characteristics

- a. Broad flat and open airfield landscape;
- b. Large areas of open grassland and hard standing;
- c. Scattered large-scale hanger buildings; and
- d. Security fencing.

Landscape Value

1.1.12 LLCA 2 is in a fair condition but as a large scale engineered airfield is discordant from the surrounding landscape pattern of fields and smaller settlements. It is not representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 85 Brecks. LLCA 1 is assessed to be of limited value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.13 The LLCA is an open, flat and engineered landscape with no public access such that it would be of low susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.14 The combination of the limited value and low susceptibility results in a very low sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 3: Mildenhall (LLCA 3)

- 1.1.15 With reference to Figure 10-10 of **Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual Amenity**, LLCA 3 is in the northern part of the study area. The Scheme is not located within LLCA 3.

Key Characteristics

- a. Small market town with nucleated settlement pattern;
- b. Mildenhall Conservation Area in the south of the area includes large number of listed buildings;
- c. Broadly flat topography with slight elevation at town centre; and
- d. Varied context with River Lark to the south, Mildenhall woods to the east, and Mildenhall Airfield to the north.

Landscape Value

- 1.1.16 The LLCA is in a fair condition and has some sense of place associated with the historic marketplace in the town centre, and LLCA 3 is partly covered by a conservation area designation.
- 1.1.17 LLCA 3 is somewhat representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 85 Brecks. LLCA 3 is considered to be of regional value.

Landscape Susceptibility

- 1.1.18 The LLCA comprises an existing built up area which therefore has a low susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

- 1.1.19 The combination of the regional value and low susceptibility results in a medium sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 4: Barton Mills (LLCA 4)

1.1.20 With reference to Figure 10-10, LLCA 4 is located in the north-east part of the study area. The Scheme is not located within LLCA 4.

LLCA 4 Key Characteristics

- a. Linear village settlement pattern south of the River Lark;
- b. Flat low-lying topography;
- c. Tranquillity reduced by A11 to the south;
- d. Enclosed and vegetated character;
- e. Barton Mills Conservation Area; and
- f. Small number of listed buildings.

Landscape Value

1.1.21 LLCA 4 is in a fair condition and is largely designated as a conservation area. It is somewhat representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 85 Brecks. It is assessed to be of regional value due to the extent of the conservation area.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.22 The LLCA is a developed area, but is characterised as a rural village settlement such, that it is assessed of high susceptibility.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.23 The combination of the regional value and high susceptibility results in a high sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 5: West Row and Thistley Green (LLCA 5)

- 1.1.24 With reference to Figure 10-10 of **Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual Amenity**, LLCA 5 is located in the north-east part of the study area. The Scheme is not located within LLCA 5.

Key Characteristics

- a. Linear dispersed settlements of West Row and Thistley Green;
- b. Flat and low-lying topography;
- c. Limited vegetation and hedgerow cover;
- d. Fields and green space between roads and settlement create open character;
- e. Good provision of recreational public rights of way, including links to River Lark; and
- f. Small number of listed buildings.

Landscape Value

- 1.1.25 LLCA 5 is in a fair condition and has good recreational access and a rural character. It is somewhat representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 85 Brecks.
- 1.1.26 LLCA 5 is assessed as being of community value.

Landscape Susceptibility

- 1.1.27 LLCA 5 is a dispersed settlement pattern with generally flat landform and an open character, such that is of medium susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

- 1.1.28 The combination of the community value and medium susceptibility results in a low sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 6: West Row Fen (LLCA 6)

- 1.1.29 With reference to Figure 10-10 of **Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual Amenity**, LLCA 6 is located in the north-east part of the study area. The Scheme is not located within LLCA 6.

Key Characteristics

- a. Open arable landscape;
- b. Medium-scale geometric field pattern;
- c. Limited vegetation cover or hedgerows;
- d. Distinctive tree avenues along West Row Road and several field boundaries; and
- e. Flat low-lying topography.

Landscape Value

- 1.1.30 The LLCA is in a fair condition but has limited features of value and no recreational access. It is representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 85 Brecks. It is assessed to be of community value.

Landscape Susceptibility

- 1.1.31 The LLCA is an open, generally flat arable landscape with limited vegetation cover. LLCA 6 is assessed as being of low susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

- 1.1.32 The combination of the community value and low susceptibility results in a low sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 7: River Lark (LLCA 7)

1.1.33 With reference to Figure 10-10, LLCA 7 is located in the north-east part of the study area. The Scheme is not located within LLCA 7.

Key Characteristics

- a. Narrow, meandering river corridor;
- b. River is slightly lower-lying than surrounding landscape, whilst engineered embankments results in localised sections of raised landform;
- c. Small fields of pasture in contrast to surrounding arable or residential land uses;
- d. Vegetated river corridor to east but more open in character to the west; and
- e. Good recreational access.

Landscape Value

1.1.34 The LLCA is in a fair condition and has good recreational access. It is representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 85 Brecks. It is considered to be of regional value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.35 As the LLCA is a narrow river corridor with small-scale fields adjoining the river, it is of high susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.36 The combination of the regional value and high susceptibility results in a high sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 8: Worlington (LLCA 8)

1.1.37 With reference to Figure 10-10, LLCA 8 is located in the north-east part of the study area. The Scheme is not located in LLCA 8.

Key Characteristics

- a. Linear village settlement pattern, with buildings closely related to the road pattern;
- b. Generally small-scale fields or golf course on village edge forming the setting to the LLCA;
- c. Flat low-lying topography;
- d. Small number of listed buildings and a range of housing types and styles; and
- e. Vegetation around village provides some enclosure.

Landscape Value

1.1.38 The LLCA has a village character due to its scale and that the settlement pattern but is not covered by any designations. There are a range of building styles within the village, with contemporary development at the south-west edge of the LLCA, in proximity to Freckenham Road. The LLCA is somewhat representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 85 Brecks. The LLCA is assessed as being of local value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.39 As the LLCA is a settlement (i.e. developed) and with a degree of enclosure, it assessed as being of medium susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.40 The combination of the local value and medium susceptibility results in a medium sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 9: Six Acre Covert (LLCA 9)

1.1.41 With reference to Figure 10-10, LLCA 9 is located in the north-east part of the study area. The Scheme is not located in the LLCA.

Key Characteristics

- a. Mixed arable fields and broadleaved woodland with shelterbelts and some hedgerow cover;
- b. Low-lying and flat topography;
- c. Sense of enclosure;
- d. Tranquillity somewhat reduced by the A11; and
- e. Royal Worlington and Newmarket Golf Course.

Landscape Value

1.1.42 The LLCA is in a fair condition with some sense of enclosure due to the vegetation structure. There is limited PRow recreational access, although the golf course provides a recreational value. The LLCA is partly representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 85 Brecks. The LLCA is assessed as being of community value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.43 The LLCA is a mixed arable and well-vegetated landscape with a flat landform, balanced with the golf course which represents an engineered landscape and change from arable fields, such that the LLCA is assessed as low susceptibility.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.44 The combination of the community value and low susceptibility results in a low sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 10: Isleham (LLCA 10)

1.1.45 With reference to Figure 10-X, LLCA 10 is located in the north part of the study area. The Scheme is not located in LLCA 10.

Key Characteristics

- a. Small scale nucleated village settlement with buildings closely aligned to the road networks;
- b. Slightly elevated position in relation to the lower-lying Fens to the north;
- c. Limited vegetation cover around the southern edge of the village edge, resulting in an open character and inter-visibility with fields and buildings in Freckenham, including the church;
- d. In part covered by Isleham Conservation Area;
- e. Number of listed buildings, and remains of old priory to north of village;
- f. Range of building types, generally two storeys with more recent development along the southern edges of the village, including adjacent to the B1102 and at The Ark, a large scale church.

Landscape Value

1.1.46 The LLCA is in a good condition overall, although with a varied scenic quality to the buildings and it is designated as a conservation area in part. The LLCA is somewhat representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 46 The Fens. The LLCA is assessed as being of regional value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.47 As a village, the LLCA is already 'developed' but balanced with the nucleated settled pattern, the susceptibility is assessed as high.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.48 The combination of the regional value and high susceptibility results in a high sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 11: East Fen Farmland (LLCA 11)

1.1.49 With reference to Figure 10-10, LLCA 11 is located in the northern part of the study area. Sunnica East Site A is located across part of LLCA 11.

Key Characteristics

- a. Arable farmland with medium to large-scale field pattern extending either side of the B1102 (Station Road);
- b. Very gently undulating topography with more elevated land to the south of Isleham, adjacent to the dismantled railway and with lower-lying land to the north at Lee Brook;
- c. Very limited vegetation cover, or hedgerows in poor condition;
- d. Large-scale open landscape, occasional features and low level structures associated with pig farming; and
- e. Limited PRow and recreational access.

Landscape Value

1.1.50 The LLCA is in a fair to poor condition due to gappy or intermittent hedgerows. It has an open character resulting in a high inter-visibility with vegetated skylines (pine lines) or settlements. Limited recreational access and tranquillity is reduced by road networks. LCA 11 is representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 87 East Anglian Chalk. LLCA 11 is considered to be of community value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.51 The LLCA is an open, very gently undulating arable landscape with limited vegetation cover, such that the extent of features with the potential to be impacted is low. The LLCA is therefore assessed as being of low susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.52 The combination of the community value and low susceptibility results in a low sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 12: Freckenham (LLCA 12)

1.1.53 With reference to Figure 10-10, LLCA 12 is located in the northern part of the study area. The Scheme is not located in LLCA 12.

Key Characteristics

- a. Small scale nucleated village settlement;
- b. Gently undulating topography across the low-lying Lee Brook which flows through the village;
- c. Small-scale field patterns to village edge;
- d. Freckenham Conservation Area and a range of building styles;
- e. Number of listed buildings including the Church;
- f. Inter-visibility and associated with Isleham; and
- g. Mixed vegetation cover, more wooded to east of village and more open to west.

Landscape Value

1.1.54 The LLCA is in a good condition with a mixed vegetation cover around the village edge and it is designated as a conservation area. The LLCA is partly representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 87 East Anglian Chalk. It is considered to be of regional value due to the conservation area.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.55 The LLCA is a settlement (i.e. developed) but due to the settlement pattern, it is of high susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.56 The combination of the regional value and high susceptibility results in a high sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 13: Elms Farmland (LLCA 13)

1.1.57 With reference to Figure 10-10, the LLCA is located in the northern part of the study area. Sunnica East Site B is located across part of the LLCA.

Key Characteristics

- a. Medium to large-scale arable landscape;
- b. Very gently undulating topography;
- c. Tree shelterbelts and plantations of broadleaved and coniferous woodland including 'pine lines';
- d. Occasional hedgerows in field boundaries and along roads;
- e. Solar farm and mineral working sites;
- f. Tranquillity somewhat reduced by the A11; and
- g. Limited recreational access.

Landscape Value

1.1.58 The LLCA is in a fair condition with some recreational value via U6006 and vegetation cover. It is somewhat representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 85 The Brecks. It is considered to be of community value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.59 The LLCA has a very gently undulating topography, enclosure, a geometric pattern and 'engineered' character, as well as existing mineral workings. These are balanced with the extent of vegetation and characteristic pine lines. The susceptibility is assessed as medium.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.60 The combination of the community value and medium susceptibility results in a medium sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 14: River Kennett (LLCA 14)

1.1.61 With reference to Figure 10-10, the LLCA is located in the northern part of the LLCA. Part of Cable Route A crosses the LLCA.

Key Characteristics

- a. Open arable fields with limited vegetation cover;
- b. Narrow, sinuous River Kennet with riparian tree cover;
- c. Topography gently falling towards River Kennet;
- d. Small number of listed buildings and a scheduled monument; and
- e. Open character.

Landscape Value

1.1.62 The LLCA is in a fair condition with an open character across the fields and a well vegetated character adjacent to the River Kennett. It is somewhat representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 85 The Brecks. It is considered to be of community value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.63 The LLCA has a very gently undulating topography, some enclosure, and limited recreational access, balanced with the mature vegetation and the River Kennett, such that it is of high susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.64 The combination of the community value and high susceptibility results in a high sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 15: Red Lodge (LLCA 15)

1.1.65 With reference to Figure 10-10, LLCA 15 is located in the north-east part of the LLCA. The Scheme is not located in LLCA.

Key Characteristics

- a. Large nucleated village settlement which has seen large-scale recent residential-led development;
- b. Generally flat topography;
- c. Woodland and vegetation around settlement provide sense of enclosure;
- d. Red Lodge Heath and other recreational green space; and
- e. Tranquillity reduced by the A11.

Landscape Value

1.1.66 The LLCA is a built-up area which does not include heritage or built conservation designations nor associations but is covered by a SSSI. It is less representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 85 The Brecks. It is considered to be of community value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.67 The LLCA comprises a contemporary built-up area (i.e. developed) and has a low susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.68 The combination of the community value and low susceptibility results in a low sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 16: Herringswell Wooded Farmland (LLCA 16)

1.1.69 With reference to Figure 10-10, the LLCA is located at the eastern edge of the study area. The Scheme is not located in the LLCA.

Key Characteristics

- a. Arable farmland interspersed with broadleaved plantation woodland;
- b. Gently undulating landform;
- c. Sense of enclosure from extent of woodland and tree belts;
- d. Icknield Way long distance recreational trail;
- e. Several listed buildings and scheduled monuments; and
- f. Extensive SSSI designation.

Landscape Value

1.1.70 The LLCA is in a good condition a strong sense of enclosure and some valued recreational access. It is representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 85 The Brecks. It is considered to be of local value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.71 The LLCA has a gently undulating topography, woodland cover and enclosure, ecological designations and recreational access, such that it is of high susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.72 The combination of the local value and high susceptibility results in a medium sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 17: Soham Fen (LLCA 17)

1.1.73 With reference to Figure 10-10, the LLCA is located in the northern part of the LLCA. The Scheme is not located in the LLCA.

Key Characteristics

- a. Open arable landscape;
- b. Flat, low-lying topography draining to ditches in boundaries;
- c. Limited recreational access; and
- d. Localised vegetation cover.

Landscape Value

1.1.74 The LLCA is in a fair condition with an open character and limited recreation value. It is representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 46 The Fens. It is considered to be of regional value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.75 The LLCA comprises a flat open landscape, with limited key features and with limited recreational access, such that it is of low susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.76 The combination of the regional value and low susceptibility results in a medium sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 18: Fordham (LLCA 18)

1.1.77 With reference to Figure 10-10, LLCA 18 is located in the northern part of the study area. The Scheme is not located in LLCA 18.

Key Characteristics

- a. Generally linear village settlement pattern;
- b. Located on the River Snail;
- c. Topography falls gently from east to west towards the fens;
- d. Good footpath lines and recreational opportunities;
- e. Fordham Conservation Area; and
- f. Large number of listed buildings.

Landscape Value

1.1.78 The LLCA is a village settlement covered by a conservation area. It is somewhat representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 87 East Anglian Chalk. It is considered to be of regional value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.79 The LLCA has is a developed area, balanced with the conservation area and linear settlement pattern, such that it is of medium susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.80 The combination of the regional value and medium susceptibility results in a medium sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 19: Fordham Abbey and Nursery (LLCA 19)

1.1.81 With reference to Figure 10-10, LLCA 19 is located in the northern part of the study area. Part of Cable Route B is located across the LLCA.

Key Characteristics

- a. Mixed use landscape of Fordham Wood, Fordham Abbey, plant nurseries, road networks and agriculture;
- b. Lower-lying gently undulating topography south and west of Fordham;
- c. Tree and hedgerow cover provide some enclosure; and
- d. Recreational opportunities limited to Fordham Woods.

Landscape Value

1.1.82 The LLCA is in a fair condition and includes SSSI woodland and heritage association but limited recreational access. It is somewhat representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 87 East Anglian Chalk. It is considered to be of local value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.83 The LLCA has woodland cover and heritage assets, such that it is of medium susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.84 The combination of the local value and medium susceptibility results in a medium sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 20: Snailwell Industrial Estate (LLCA 20)

1.1.85 With reference to Figure 10-10, LLCA 20 is located in the central part of the LLCA. Part of Cable Route B is located across the LLCA

Key Characteristics

- a. Large-scale employment and industrial buildings;
- b. Gently undulating topography;
- c. Vegetation cover provides some enclosure;
- d. Road and rail infrastructure; and
- e. No recreational access.

Landscape Value

1.1.86 The LLCA comprises large-scale industrial and commercial land uses as well as arable fields and no recreational value. It is less representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 87 East Anglian Chalk. It is considered to be of community value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.87 The LLCA is characterised by infrastructure and industrial land uses, such that it is of low susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.88 The combination of the community value and low susceptibility results in a low sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 21: Snailwell (LLCA 21)

1.1.89 With reference to Figure 10-10, LLCA 21 is located in the central part of the study area. The Scheme is not located in the LLCA.

Key Characteristics

- a. Small village with nucleated settlement pattern;
- b. Undulating topography with settlement pattern in both low lying and more elevated position;
- c. Woodland and vegetation cover around part of the east side of village along with fields forming the immediate setting;
- d. Snailwell Conservation Area; and
- e. High number of listed buildings.

Landscape Value

1.1.90 The LLCA comprises the small scale village of Snailwell. It is representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 87 East Anglian Chalk. Due to the conservation area, it is considered to be of regional value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.91 The LLCA is a developed with some sense of enclosure, but its settlement pattern and undulating landform results in a high susceptibility.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.92 The combination of the regional value and high susceptibility results in a high sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 22: Chippenham Fen (LLCA 22)

1.1.93 With reference to Figure 10-10, the LLCA is located in the central part of the study area.

Key Characteristics

- a. Mixed wet woodland and wetland pastures;
- b. Undulating topography;
- c. National Nature Reserve; and
- d. Limited recreational access.

Landscape Value

1.1.94 The LLCA is not covered by any landscape designations but does in part comprise distinctive wetland and woodland habitats and is designated SSSI and NNR. The LLCA is representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 87 East Anglian Chalk and is considered to be of national value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.95 The LLCA is comprises a habitat mosaic and as such that is of high susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.96 The combination of the national value and high susceptibility results in a high sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 23A: Chippenham (LLCA 23A)

1.1.97 With reference to Figure 10-10, LLCA 23A is located centrally within the study area. The Scheme is not located in LLCA 23A.

Key Characteristics

- a. Small scale village with linear settlement pattern;
- b. Gently undulating topography;
- c. Tree and woodland cover around village and parkland provides enclosure;
- d. Chippenham Conservation Area;
- e. Large number of listed buildings; and
- f. Green space recreational opportunities.

Landscape Value

1.1.98 The LLCA comprises a distinct architectural style to the buildings, in combination with the conservation area and small scale linear settlement pattern. The LLCA is somewhat representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 87 East Anglian Chalk and is considered to be of regional value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.99 The LLCA is characterised by heritage assets, such that it is of high susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.100 The combination of the regional value and high susceptibility results in a high sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 23B: Chippenham Park (LLCA 23B)

1.1.101 With reference to Figure 10-10, LLCA 23B is located centrally within the study area. The Scheme is not located in LLCA 23B.

Key Characteristics

- a. Designed and designated garden;
- b. Gently undulating topography;
- c. Mature tree and woodland cover; and
- d. Public access

Landscape Value

1.1.102 The LLCA comprises designated parkland. It is somewhat representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 87 East Anglian Chalk. It is considered to be of regional value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.103 The LLCA is characterised by historic parkland, such that it is of high susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.104 The combination of the regional value and high susceptibility results in a high sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 24: Hundred Acre Plantation (LLCA 24)

1.1.105 With reference to Figure 10-10, LLCA 24 is located centrally within the study area. Sunnica West Site A, Sunnica West Site B and part of Cable Route B is located across the LLCA.

Key Characteristics

- a. Arable landscape interspersed with broadleaf and conifer woodland plantations;
- b. Medium-scale regular geometric field pattern;
- c. Gently undulating landform;
- d. Hedgerows and tree belts provide some enclosure, but a generally open landscape with inter-visibility in part from the opposite side of the A14;
- e. Historical association;
- f. Tranquillity somewhat disrupted by A14 and A11 and Chippenham Road; and
- g. Very limited recreational access.

Landscape Value

1.1.106 The LLCA is in a fair condition and comprises mixed agricultural and wooded land use, with very limited recreational access. It is representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 87 East Anglian Chalk. It is considered to be of community value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.107 The LLCA has a gently undulating landform, some enclosure, and limited recreational access, balanced with areas of vegetation cover and inter-visibility, such that it is of medium susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.108 The combination of the community value and medium susceptibility results in a medium sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 25: Kennett (LLCA 25)

1.1.109 With reference to Figure 10-10, LLCA 25 is located centrally within the study area. The Scheme is not located across LLCA 25.

Key Characteristics

- a. Gently valley of the River Kennett;
- b. Dispersed settlement of Kennett and railway station;
- c. Areas of broadleaf and coniferous woodland;
- d. Minerals workings site;
- e. Riparian vegetation along river;
- f. Inter-visibility with the A11; and
- g. Some recreational access.

Landscape Value

1.1.110 The LLCA is in a fair to poor condition with several current and former minerals working sites, and equestrian uses present. It is not covered by any designations. It is less representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 85 The Brecks. It is considered to be of community value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.111 The LLCA has a gentle valley landform and comprises a somewhat engineered landscape of former minerals sites with enclosure from woodland and tree belts, such that it is of low susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.112 The combination of the community value and low susceptibility results in a low sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 26: The Limekilns (LLCA 26)

1.1.113 With reference to Figure 10-10, the LLCA is located centrally in the study area. The Scheme is not located in the LLCA.

Key Characteristics

- a. Large-scale equestrian land uses;
- b. Land gently falls from south to north, within inter-visibility with the land to the north of the A14;
- c. Manicured landscape of neatly trimmed hedges and well-maintained grassland associated with horseculture;
- d. Linear tree belts;
- e. Strong cultural association with Newmarket and the Newmarket races;
- f. Permissive public access;
- g. Road and rail infrastructure;
- h. Tranquillity disrupted by A11, A14 and Waterhall Interchange; and
- i. Limited recreational access; and
- j. County Wildlife Site.

Landscape Value

1.1.114 The LLCA is in a good condition and comprises large-scale grassland and equestrian land uses. It is representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 87 East Anglian Chalk. It is considered to be of local value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.115 The LLCA is dominated by the equestrian land uses and has large-scale open grassland bordered by mature vegetation structures, such that the susceptibility is assessed as medium.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.116 The combination of the local value and medium susceptibility results in a medium sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 27: Newmarket Studs (LLCA 27)

1.1.117 With reference to Figure 10-10, the LLCA is located in the southern part of the study area. The Scheme is not located in the LLCA.

Key Characteristics

- a. Equestrian landscape of paddocks and studs interspersed with gallops and areas of broadleaf woodland;
- b. Undulating and elevated topography;
- c. Strong cultural association with Newmarket and the Newmarket races;
- d. Large areas of downland grassland; and
- e. Very limited recreational access.

Landscape Value

1.1.118 The LLCA is in a good and manicured condition. The LLCA is not covered by any landscape designations but has a strong cultural association with Newmarket. It is representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 87 East Anglian Chalk. It is considered to be of local value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.119 The LLCA comprises undulating topography, chalk downland, woodland and limited recreational access. It is of medium susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.120 The combination of the local value and medium susceptibility results in a medium sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 28: Kentford (LLCA 28)

1.1.121 With reference to Figure 10-10, the LLCA is located in the south-east part of study area. The Scheme is not located in the LLCA.

Key Characteristics

- a. Linear village settlement pattern;
- b. Undulating valley either side of the River Kennet;
- c. Several listed buildings;
- d. Tranquillity reduced by the A11; and
- e. Limited recreational opportunities.

Landscape Value

1.1.122 The LLCA is in a fair condition and comprises a built-up rural village. It is somewhat representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 87 East Anglian Chalk. It is considered to be of community value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.123 The LLCA is a built-up rural settlement such that it is of medium susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.124 The combination of the community value and medium susceptibility results in a medium sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 29: Moulton (LLCA 29)

1.1.125 With reference to Figure 10-10, the LLCA is located in the south-east part of study area. The Scheme is not located in the LLCA.

Key Characteristics

- a. Nucleated village settlement pattern;
- b. Valley setting alongside River Kennett;
- c. Steep valley sides;
- d. Moulton Conservation Area;
- e. Large number of listed buildings; and
- f. Good recreational links.

Landscape Value

1.1.126 The LLCA is in a good condition and comprises a built-up rural village. It is representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 87 East Anglian Chalk. It is considered to be of regional value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.127 The LLCA is a built-up rural settlement in a steep-sided valley context such that it is of high susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.128 The combination of the regional value and high susceptibility results in a high sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 30: Gazeley (LLCA 30)

1.1.129 With reference to Figure 10-10, the LLCA is located in the south-east part of study area. The Scheme is not located in the LLCA.

Key Characteristics

- a. Small nucleated village settlement pattern;
- b. Gently rolling, elevated topography;
- c. Tree belts around edge;
- d. Small-scale pattern to edge of village; and
- e. Several listed buildings.

Landscape Value

1.1.130 The LLCA is in a good condition and comprises a built-up rural village with small-scale fields to the village edge. It is representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 87 East Anglian Chalk. It is considered to be of community value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.131 The LLCA is a built-up rural settlement such that it is of medium susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.132 The combination of the community value and medium susceptibility; it results in a medium sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 31: Gazeley Downland (LLCA 31)

1.1.133 With reference to Figure 10-10, the LLCA is located in the south-east part of study area. The Scheme is not located in the LLCA

Key Characteristics

- a. Gently rolling chalk downland around River Kennet valley;
- b. Arable agricultural landscape interspersed with geometric woodland plantations and tree belts;
- c. Crossed by the Icknield Way long distance recreational trail;
- d. Tranquillity somewhat reduced by A14; and
- e. Good recreational access and public rights of way.

Landscape Value

1.1.134 The LLCA is in a fair condition and comprises elevated gently rolling chalk topography with some long distance scenic views. It is representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 87 East Anglian Chalk. It is considered to be of local value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.135 The LLCA comprises open arable fields across elevated and rolling landform, such that it is of medium susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.136 The combination of the local value and medium susceptibility results in a medium sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 32: Blockmoor Fen (LLCA 32)

1.1.137 With reference to Figure 10-10, the LLCA is located in the north-west part of the study area. The Scheme is not located in the LLCA.

Key Characteristics

- a. Low-lying open fenland landscape;
- b. Flat topography drained by a network of ditches;
- c. Dispersed settlement pattern;
- d. Limited vegetation cover; and
- e. Good network of public rights of way.

Landscape Value

1.1.138 The LLCA is an open arable and low-lying floodplain landscape but is not covered by any landscape designations. It is representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 46 The Fens. It is considered to be of community value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.139 The LLCA is a flat and open agricultural landscape such that it is of low susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.140 The combination of the community value and low susceptibility results in a low sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 33: Soham Mere (LLCA 33)

1.1.141 With reference to Figure 10-10, the LLCA is located in the north-west part of the study area. The Scheme is no located in the LLCA.

Key Characteristics

- a. Flat, low-lying landscape drained by a network of ditches;
- b. Open, arable fields;
- c. Limited vegetation cover;
- d. Solar farms;
- e. Very limited settlement; and
- f. Good recreational access across the south of the area.

Landscape Value

1.1.142 The LLCA is an open arable and low-lying floodplain landscape but is not covered by any landscape designations. It is representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 46 The Fens. It is considered to be of community value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.143 The LLCA is a flat and open agricultural landscape such that it is of low susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.144 The combination of the community value and low susceptibility results in a low sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 34: Soham (LLCA 34)

1.1.145 With reference to Figure 10-10, the LLCA is located in the north-west part of the study area. The Scheme is not located across the LLCA.

Key Characteristics

- a. Medium-sized town;
- b. Slightly elevated position in relation to surrounding lower-lying fens;
- c. Small-scale field pattern to town edge;
- d. Soham Conservation Area to town centre;
- e. Large number of listed buildings in conservation area; and
- f. Recreational common lands.

Landscape Value

1.1.146 The LLCA comprises a built up area which is partially covered by a conservation area designation. It is representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 46 The Fens. It is considered to be of regional value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.147 The LLCA comprises a built up area such that it has a low susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.148 The combination of the regional value and low susceptibility results in a medium sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 35: Wicken (LLCA 35)

1.1.149 With reference to Figure 10-10, the LLCA is located in the north-west part of the study area.

Key Characteristics

- a. Small nucleated village settlement pattern;
- b. Slightly elevated position in relation to surrounding lower-lying fens;
- c. Distinctive wetland and woodland habitats designated Wicken Fen National Nature Reserve;
- d. Wicken Conservation Area;
- e. Large number of listed buildings;
- f. Rothschild Way long distance recreational trail;
- g. Good recreational links and areas of open access land.

Landscape Value

1.1.150 The LLCA is not covered by a landscape designation but is in a good condition and includes a conservation area and nationally important nature conservation designation, as well as good recreational access. It is representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 46 The Fens. It is considered to be of national value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.151 The LLCA comprises distinctive habitats and nature conservation and heritage designations, such that it is of high susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.152 The national value in combination with the high susceptibility results in a high sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 36: Burwell Fen (LLCA 36)

1.1.153 With reference to Figure 10-10, LLCA 36 is located in the south-west part of the study area. Part of Cable Route B and the substation are located in LLCA 36.

Key Characteristics

- a. Low-lying open fenland landscape;
- b. Flat topography drained by a network of ditches and Lodes;
- c. Very limited vegetation cover;
- d. National Trust managed Adventurer's Fen;
- e. Large electrical substation and electrical infrastructure;
- f. High voltage electrical pylons a prominent feature; and
- g. Recreational public rights of way.

Landscape Value

1.1.154 The LLCA is an open arable and low-lying floodplain landscape but is not covered by any landscape designations. It is representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 46 The Fens and contains Lodes and recreational routes, balanced with extensive infrastructure. The LLCA is assessed as local value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.155 The LLCA is a flat and open agricultural landscape, with existing infrastructure, such that it is assessed as being of a low susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.156 The combination of the local value and low susceptibility results in a medium sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 37: Reach (LLCA 37)

1.1.157 With reference to Figure 10-10, LLCA 37 is located in the south-west part of the study area. The Scheme is not located in LLCA 37.

Key Characteristics

- a. Small nucleated village settlement pattern;
- b. Slightly elevated position in relation to surrounding lower-lying fens;
- c. Land drained towards Reach Lode;
- d. Tree cover around settlement;
- e. Small-scale fields around settlement edge;
- f. Reach Conservation Area;
- g. Large number of listed buildings within village; and
- h. Excellent public right of way links to surrounding areas.

Landscape Value

1.1.158 The LLCA is in a good condition and comprises a coherent scale and pattern of buildings with small-scale fields to the village edge. It is less representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 87 East Anglian Chalk. It is considered to be of local value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.159 The LLCA is a developed area, but with a defined settlement pattern, such that it is of high susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.160 The combination of the local value and high susceptibility results in a medium sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 38: Burwell (LLCA 38)

1.1.161 With reference to Figure 10-10, LLCA 38 is located in the south-west part of the study area. The Scheme is not within LLCA 38.

Key Characteristics

- a. Large village on the edge of the fens;
- b. Slightly elevated position in relation to lower-lying fens;
- c. Small-scale fields to western village edge, larger-scale to eastern edge;
- d. Several conservation areas;
- e. Large number of listed buildings;
- f. Remains of Burwell Castle to south; and
- g. Recreational access to fens.

Landscape Value

1.1.162 The LLCA is in a fair condition and comprises a built-up village which is partially covered by conservation areas. It is less representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 87 East Anglian Chalk. It is considered to be of regional value due to the Conservation Areas.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.163 The LLCA is a large settlement such that it is of low susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.164 The combination of the regional value and low susceptibility results in a medium sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 39: North Exning (LLCA 39)

1.1.165 With reference to Figure 10-10, LLCA 39 is located in the south-west of the study area. Part of Cable Route B crosses the LLCA.

Key Characteristics

- a. Arable landscape interspersed with mature hedgerows and tree belts;
- b. Undulating topography;
- c. Sense of enclosure created by vegetation cover;
- d. Horse studs;
- e. Several large solar farms;
- f. Cluster of listed buildings at Landwade; and
- g. Limited recreational access.

Landscape Value

1.1.166 The LLCA is in a good condition and comprises well-managed horse studs and some features of value. It is representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 87 East Anglian Chalk. It is considered to be of community value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.167 The LLCA is an undulating landscape in paddock or arable use and has enclosure from tree belts, such that it is of low susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.168 The combination of the community value and low susceptibility results in a low sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 40: Exning (LLCA 40)

1.1.169 With reference to Figure 10-10, LLCA 40 is located in the south-west part of the study area. The Scheme is not located in the LLCA.

Key Characteristics

- a. Village with nucleated settlement pattern;
- b. Gently undulating topography;
- c. Sense of enclosure from extent of tree and woodland cover around village edge;
- d. Separated from Newmarket by the A14;
- e. Exning Conservation Area; and
- f. Limited recreational links to surrounding areas.

Landscape Value

1.1.170 The LLCA is in a fair condition and comprises a built-up village which is partially covered by a conservation area. It is less representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 87 East Anglian Chalk. It is considered to be of regional value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.171 Whilst the LLCA is a built-up rural settlement, its nucleated settlement pattern results in a medium susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.172 The combination of the regional value and the medium susceptibility results in a medium sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 41: Newmarket (LLCA 41)

1.1.173 With reference to Figure 10-10, LLCA 41 is located across the southern part of the study area. The Scheme is not located in LLCA 41.

Key Characteristics

- a. Large historic market town;
- b. Strong historic and cultural links to horse racing;
- c. Low-lying position relevant to elevated chalk downland to south-east;
- d. Sparse vegetation around settlement edge;
- e. Extensive number of listed buildings across the town centre;
- f. Newmarket Conservation Area; and
- g. Stour Valley Path long distance recreational trail.

Landscape Value

1.1.174 The LLCA is in a good condition and comprises a built-up town with conservation area and strong nationally important cultural associations. It is representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 87 East Anglian Chalk. It is considered to be of national value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.175 The LLCA is a built-up settlement, i.e. developed, balanced with a defined settlement pattern, such that it is of high susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.176 The combination of the national value and high susceptibility results in a high sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 42: Newmarket Heath (LLCA 42)

1.1.177 With reference to Figure 10-10, LLCA 42 is located at the southern part of the study area. The Scheme is not within the LLCA.

Key Characteristics

- a. Open chalk grassland of Newmarket racecourses;
- b. Flat topography rising to the south;
- c. Iconic and historic racecourse of cultural importance;
- d. Defined by Devil's Dyke to the west; and
- e. Limited recreational links.

Landscape Value

1.1.178 The LLCA is in a good condition and is covered by a SSSI designation and is of significant cultural importance as a racecourse. It is representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 87 East Anglian Chalk. It is considered to be of national value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.179 The LLCA is open grassland such that it is of low susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.180 The combination of the national value and the low susceptibility results in a high sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 43: West Fen (LLCA 43)

1.1.181 With reference to Figure 10-10, the LLCA is located in the south-west part of the study area. Part of Cable Route B crosses the LLCA.

Key Characteristics

- a. Open arable landscape;
- b. Very gently undulating topography;
- c. Limited tree or vegetation cover; and
- d. Crossed by the Devils Dyke.

Landscape Value

1.1.182 The LLCA is an open arable and low-lying landscape but is not covered by any landscape designations. It is representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 46 The Fens. It is considered to be of local value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.183 The LLCA is a flat and open agricultural landscape such that it is of low susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.184 The combination of the local value and low susceptibility results in a medium sensitivity to the Scheme.

LLCA 44: Swaffham Prior (LLCA 44)

1.1.185 With reference to Figure 10-10, the LLCA is located at the western edge of the study area. The Scheme is not located in LLCA 44.

Key Characteristics

- a. Nucleated village settlement pattern;
- b. Slightly elevated in relation to the fens to the north;
- c. Vegetation cover around village includes trees, tree belts and woodland;
- d. Swaffham Prior Conservation Area;
- e. Extensive number of listed buildings;
- f. Swaffham Prior House parkland (Registered Park and Garden); and
- g. Good recreational links to surrounding areas.

Landscape Value

1.1.186 The LLCA is in a good condition and comprises a built-up rural village with conservation area and heritage parkland designations. It is less representative of key characteristics within National Character Area (NCA) 87 East Anglian Chalk. It is considered to be of regional value.

Landscape Susceptibility

1.1.187 The LLCA is a built-up rural settlement which is predominantly parkland such that it is of high susceptibility to the type of development proposed.

Landscape Sensitivity

1.1.188 The combination of the regional value and high susceptibility results in a high sensitivity to the Scheme.